



# UNBC INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

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## INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AT UNBC

The International Education (IE) Office at UNBC would like to welcome you to the very first issue of our newsletter! We are excited about this opportunity to share with the UNBC community a quarterly newsletter that will highlight some of the many international activities taking place within UNBC and around the globe.

The IE department works in conjunction with other departments at UNBC through a collaborative process on behalf of the University and our students. We are a support department for all of UNBC that works with, for and on behalf of our university in the international sphere. The IE office provides support to all international students

who attend UNBC, inbound and outbound Exchange students, UNBC faculty and staff, and to our international partners and agents.

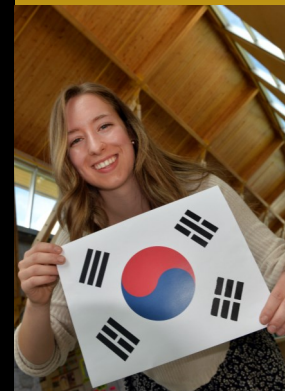
As the hub of international activity at UNBC, we help facilitate international exchange agreements, Memoranda of Understanding and other international agreements as they arise.

International Education is comprised of two blended departments (formerly International Operations and English Language Studies) working together to form a new cohesive unit. We are happy to serve UNBC on the global stage and we look forward to working with all departments at UNBC.



The view from the hill.

## GLOBAL KOREA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT: HEALTH SCIENCES UNBC STUDENT ALISHA ALGER



## UNBC STUDENT AWARDED KOREAN SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Alisha Alger who is the recipient of the Global Korea Scholarship resulting from her recent acceptance to Chonnam National University (CNU) as an exchange student. She is the first student representing UNBC at Chonnam National University and in Korea. Alisha was also awarded an additional exchange bursary

from UNBC to assist with her Korean travels.

CNU is a South Korean university located in the city of Gwangju. Dr. William Owen, Vice-Provost, Student Engagement and Sylvester Chen, Director of International Education visited CNU last fall. UNBC had the pleasure to host Ms. Shinhye Kang, a representative

of CNU, on our campus earlier this year. CNU is a new addition to UNBC's global partnership roster.

For more information about UNBC's Exchange Partners, visit our website: [www.unbc.ca/international-education/international-partners](http://www.unbc.ca/international-education/international-partners) or email [unbcexchange@unbc.ca](mailto:unbcexchange@unbc.ca).

## FEATURED PROGRAM: UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

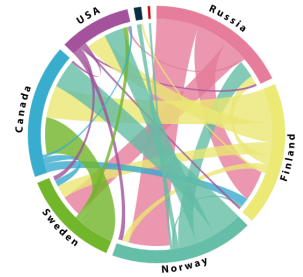
The University of the Arctic is a consortium of over 170 member institutions that was originally established as a way to provide online access to post-secondary courses for students living in Arctic regions around the globe. UArctic has since expanded its original mandate to include collaborative research across the UArctic members who work together to promote opportunities and to develop

programs beneficial to students and institutions.

At UNBC, UArctic activities are headed by Dr. Gary Wilson, who is UNBC's Representative on Council of UArctic. The Northern Studies program at UNBC, (<http://www.unbc.ca/northern-studies>) coordinated by Dr. Wilson, is an interdisciplinary BA Program that facilitates UArctic coursework and allows the student to fully ex-

plore issues and developments across the circumpolar north.

The Student Mobility program at UArctic (north2north) is coordinated by the International Education office through Student Exchange. The Study Abroad Fair held every October highlights the exchange program opportunities through the north2north program.



north2north exchange mobility throughout the UArctic membership.  
<http://education.uarctic.org/mobility/about-north2north/>

## CLASS CHAT: CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS BY CHRISTINA INGRAM, ELS ASSOCIATE

Drawing on Gevena Gay's notion of Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT), which is particularly useful in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) contexts, I created a unit on learning styles that culminated in a writing assignment for English Language Studies (ELS) Level 50 students at UNBC in the fall of 2014. CRT is the idea that culture is inseparable from teaching and learning (G. Gay, 2000)\*,

and that both the instructor and the students inevitably bring their culture with them into the classroom (T. Guy, 2009)\*. Consequently, CRT suggests that instructors should find ways to incorporate diverse teaching techniques in order to appeal to the diverse learning styles of their students.

This makes teaching in EAP contexts challenging since the purpose of EAP is to pre-

pare students for academic study, for which they may have no previous experience. Using CRT in an EAP context, my colleague, Kefyn Watkins, and I coordinated with the Academic Success Centre to help students understand their unique learning styles, which helped to enhance their writing and study skills.

\*references available by request

## INTERNATIONAL TRENDS: BCCIE REPORT BY RICHARD FOO, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

At BCCIE's recent summer session, IE learnt that BC's leading international student sources are mostly from China, India, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Japan. Since 2003, international inbound students have increased by 50%. However, these sources also send many students to other major education desti-

nations such as: United States, Australia, and United Kingdom. With increasing competition from these major education destinations, BC universities that have benefited from positive core competition factors, including high standards and quality programs, the attractiveness of BC (and Canada) as a study

destination, and competitive tuition fees, are now under tremendous pressure. Furthermore, today's international students (along with their agents) are increasingly tech and research savvy. The top three student decision drivers are cost, ranking and social media presence. BC universities who adopt their

international admission and recruitment strategy to the changing international landscape and student's decisions factors will be well positioned to be a leading international student destination.

### International Opportunities:

Teaching opportunities at BC Offshore High Schools  
B.Ed. Graduates: are you interested in gaining international teaching experience while honing your craft as a Certified BC teacher? There are many positions available for September 2015.  
Please email  
[Richard.Foo@unbc.ca](mailto:Richard.Foo@unbc.ca) for more information.

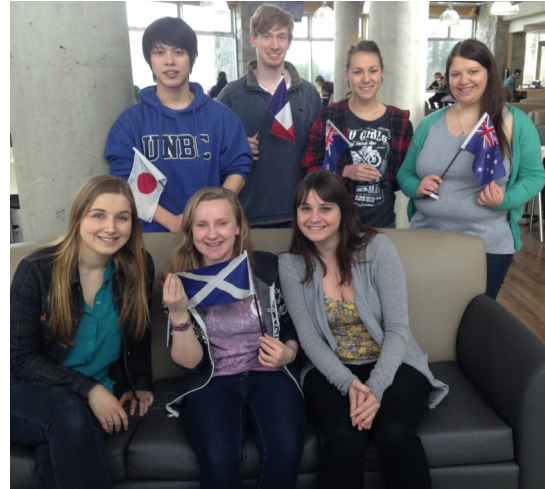
**FEATURED INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: OUTGOING EXCHANGE**

This fall, four UNBC students will be heading out on academic exchanges to Scotland, Japan and Korea.

Last April, outbound exchange students met with IE's staff for a Pre-Departure Workshop. Pre-Departure Orientation allows students to prepare for their upcoming exchange experience and discuss the challenges and opportunities they will face while studying abroad. Outbound students meet with returning UNBC exchange students as well as current inbound exchange students from other countries currently at UNBC.

**Congratulations and Bon Voyage** to: Yixiao Lyu, Linette Lubke, Rhiannon Barbour and Alicia Alger. We hope you have an amazing time abroad!

Top from left: Yixiao Lyu, Luke Lapp, Bryanna Davidson, Claire Stechishin.  
Bottom from left: Linette Lubke, Naomi Gibson, Rhiannon Barbour, Alisha Alger (not shown)



**PRINCE GEORGE AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Emerald blue skies and lakes, festivals, wildflowers and fresh wild fruit: each of these perfectly captures the spirit of Central BC in the summer months. Students are fortunate that UNBC is located in such a diverse and brilliant part of Super Natural British Columbia.

Long, hot, sunny summer days give way to perfect summer evenings spent outside enjoying great cultural and music festivals with family and friends. From family friendly Canada Day celebrations in Prince George to the diverse and ever expanding ArtsWells music and arts festival—there is something



Street Parade on Sanders street at ArtsWells Music Festival in Wells, BC.

for everyone.

After enjoying the festivals, you can spend time searching through local markets for fresh locally grown fruit and vegetables, while perusing handicrafts and sampling mouthwatering local cuisine. Our great summer climate means the local gardens are bursting with fresh flavors for you to savour.

On weekends, leaving the city behind and getting out into the wilds is a must for many. Numerous modern, well-maintained provincial parks are scattered throughout Central BC. The services available range from full-service with hot showers to no service beyond basic hike or paddle-in camping sites.

If true wilderness adventure is what you are looking for, than a trip on the world-renowned Bowron Lakes

canoe circuit is a trip to not be missed. Overall, the range of trips available are only limited by your spirit of adventure.



For some, taking it easy and cooling off is the way to go; treat yourself to any one of the abundant sunny beaches around Prince George and throughout sunny Central BC. Did we also mention that the fishing is spectacular here? Catch your dinner right from the beach and then grill it up for all to enjoy.

Central BC is the place to be for an unforgettable summer adventure.

“Long, hot, sunny summer days give way to perfect summer evenings spent outside enjoying great cultural and music festivals with family and friends”



You never know who will show up at ArtsWells Music Festival in Wells, BC.

Visit UNBC International Education

<http://www.unbc.ca/international-education>

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**UNBC NEWS**

The University of Northern British Columbia was established in 1990 and is ranked #2 in Canada for best small university. It is also proud to be one of the four exclusive research universities in British Columbia. With over 60 programs of study and more than 4,000 students from all over the world, UNBC is a dynamic place to learn and grow.

With one of the best faculty to students ratios in Canada you are assured that award winning faculty are accessible and ready to help. Last, with over 93% of UNBC graduates employed after graduation you know you are setting yourself up for success.

A recent survey of UNBC Alumni revealed that more than 90 percent of UNBC graduates were satisfied with their university experience and more than 80 percent were employed in fields related to their area of study. The two highest rated skills graduates credit to UNBC were critical thinking and the ability to independently acquire skills and knowledge.

For more information regarding this survey, visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/releases/37285/unbc-alumni-give-university-top-marks>.



**FEATURED PARTNER: ROSKILDE UNIVERSITY, DENMARK**

Roskilde University (RUC) is a Danish public university founded in 1972. Situated in the town of Roskilde, approximately 30 km west of the Danish capital, Copenhagen, RUC is home to over 9500 students and is the fifth-largest university in Denmark. Students enrolled at the university typically live in Copenhagen and commute to Roskilde by a 20-30 minute train ride.

RUC was established as an alternative to traditional Danish Universities and is well-known for its liberal arts pro-

gram and extensive collaborative projects. RUC promotes interdisciplinary experiential learning and less-well defined boundaries between academic fields.

An academic exchange partner with UNBC since 2002, RUC and UNBC have recently renewed a bilateral student exchange agreement. RUC has sent UNBC 18 Danish students over the course of the agreement.

UNBC liberal arts students should consider going on a RUC exchange to Denmark.



Roskilde University Center,  
Roskilde University, Denmark



**GLOBAL KOREA  
SCHOLARSHIP**

Beginning in 2010, The Global Korea Scholarship (GKS), seeks to encourage International students to attend academic programs in Korea. Run by the Korean Government, the GKS issues monetary awards to individual students to help offset the cost of going abroad. The scholarship program is being offered again in 2016 and UNBC students should consider Korea as an exchange destination option. This year, UNBC student Alisha Alger was the recipient of this prestigious award.