



International Education Week Toolkit

SUPPORT | LEARN | ADVOCATE

International Education Week (IE Week)

Dear UCSB Community,

We invite everyone to join our International Education Week celebration! IE Week honors students and academic leaders from around the world who enrich our community through global and cultural exchange. This is a nationally recognized celebration, coordinated by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education.

This year, OISS has put together an IE Week Toolkit, with three calls to action — Support, Learn, and Advocate. Our hope is that you refer to this Toolkit before, during, and after IE Week.

In celebration,

The Office of International Students and Scholars



Why is international education important to you?



International education can be meaningful for everyone, not just those who directly belong to the international community or have studied abroad. OISS staff members consider themselves especially lucky to work closely with the international community. Read on to see how they answer the question, “Why is international education important to you?”

“Working with a diverse international population helps me be a better global citizen. It also teaches me more about my own culture through the lens of international students.”

- Erik Williams

“I have always loved to travel - to meet new people, visit new places, and see different perspectives on the world. Being involved in international education at UCSB allows me to be in a place where the world comes through the door every day - and we are all the richer for it!”

- Kayleen McDonald

“International students and scholars show me how simultaneously big and small the world can feel. They give so much to our campus community, so I welcome any opportunity to celebrate and thank them.”

- Madison Motomazie

“International Students and Scholars remind me that the world is much larger and more multi-dimensional than I can ever possibly imagine. I am regularly humbled by my interactions with UCSB's international community as they provide our campus with valuable perspectives that I would never be exposed to amongst my American family and friends. I also admire their will and determination to leave the comfort of their native cultures, travel solo halfway around the world, and face countless personal, cultural and academic challenges to join a top-ranked university such as UCSB. Our Global Gauchos are truly inspirational.”

- Ashley Rifkin



“As a domestic student, international education provided me with the opportunity to connect with the vast world that exists outside of the United States, leading me to see myself as a global citizen and to recognize my commitment to all people of the world. Now, as an international student advisor, I hope to provide that same experience by helping international students to pursue their study in the U.S and encouraging their interactions with domestic students.”

- Matthew Williams

"Many international students can feel misunderstood or marginalized and never fully welcomed into the campus, which is why we have a responsibility as staff and educators to create inclusive spaces for them. These brave students add so much to our campus by sharing their diverse cultures, learning styles, personalities and achievements. The international experience includes the challenges that domestic students face, along with additional layers of difficulty, stress, and complexity. This is why we need to develop services specifically for them, and go out of our way to consider and include them."

- Trevor Brandt

"My own daughters came to UCSB as international students, so I have seen first-hand how valuable it is to experience and appreciate cultures from around the world. By opening our doors to international students and scholars, we welcome their cultures, intellect, unique perspectives, and experiences to our campus. These contributions move us all toward a truly globalized academic institution. International education expands our entire community's world view; for that, I wholeheartedly thank the international students and scholars who graciously bring the world to UCSB."

- Simran Singh



Support

Attend events

Get involved in [IE Week events](#)! We are teaming up with various UCSB departments to host or promote an array of cultural and educational events throughout the week.



Share your spoken languages

If you are multilingual, indicate this in your email signature or on your departmental website's people directory. This lets others know you're able to communicate with them in a language that may feel comfortable, nostalgic, or useful (for practice) to them.

Share your name pronunciation

Names are often intrinsic to our identity, so it's important that we do our best to use the correct pronunciation. By using a "hear my name" tool, you can proactively share your name pronunciation anywhere your name appears (think email signature, social media, LinkedIn, etc.). You can [create your personal name badge](#) on Name Coach for free.



Show your support on Zoom

Show your IE Week support with the [Zoom backgrounds](#) we created. Download the backgrounds, then open a zoom meeting. Click on the carat next to "Start Video" at the bottom of the screen. Then select "Choose Virtual Background" and hit the "+" sign to upload an image. Select the IE Week background you just downloaded and voila!

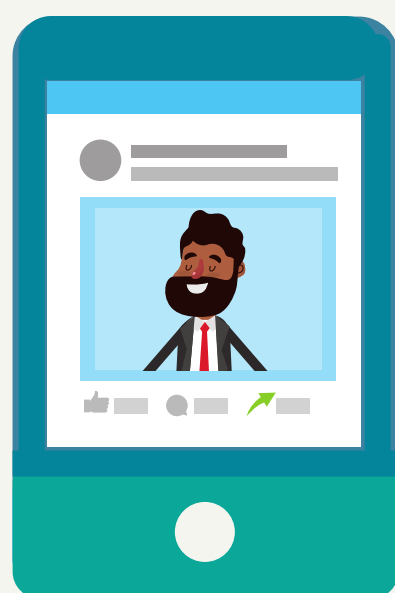
The official IE Week website also has downloadable Zoom backgrounds, which are linked within our [Box folder](#). Send a screenshot of yourself using our Zoom background to Madison Motomazie (mmotomazie@ucsb.edu) so we can share your show of support on social media!



Show your support on Facebook

Decorate your Facebook photo with an IE Week frame. Log into your Facebook account and go to your profile. Click the small camera icon on your profile photo then select, "Add Frame." Under "Choose a Frame," type, "International Education Week" into the search bar. The frames uploaded by "Exchange Programs - U.S. Department of State," titled, "2020 International Education Week (V1)" and "2020 International Education Week (V2)" are this year's frames. After selecting the frame, you can set the amount of time you would like the frame to stay on your photo.

Send a screenshot of yourself using the Facebook Frame to Madison Motomazie (mmotomazie@ucsb.edu) so we can share your show of support on social media!



Learn



What is the international experience like?

Set some time aside to learn about the life of a UCSB international student or scholar. Members of the [International Student Advisory Board](#) share their unique experiences on their blog, [International Vistas](#). One of the most recent testimonials is titled, "How Self-perception of One's English Skills Influence Interaction with Domestic Students," by Daniele Fukushima. Don't forget to hit the "subscribe" button so that you never miss a new post!

To learn more about the amazing things international students and scholars are doing across the country, check out [these profiles](#).

Whenever possible, seek international perspectives!

Understand the issues

[NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#) is the leading professional organization in the international community. The [Policy and Advocacy](#) section of their website contains informative [Policy Trends and Data](#) and [Reports](#). These resources will show you the facts about international issues.

Did you know...

Nearly one-quarter of the founders of the \$1 billion U.S. startup companies first came to America as international students.

Source: [International Students Contribute to Our Economy and American Innovation](#)

"Foreign students and their families contributed



\$ 38.7 billion & 415,996 jobs

to the U.S. economy during the 2018-2019 academic year, making international education the

fifth largest

U.S. services export."

Source: [Talking Points: Defending F-1 Optional Practical Training](#)

While international students' economic and innovative contributions are vast, they also bring immeasurable academic and cultural value to our campus and local community.

Fact sheets published by [The American Immigration Council](#) are also helpful sources of information. The [H1B Visa Program Fact Sheet](#) addresses myths perpetuated about the H-1B visa category and highlights the key contributions H-1B workers make to the U.S. economy.

Did you know...

"Research shows that H-1B workers complement U.S. workers, fill employment gaps in many STEM occupations, and expand job opportunities for all. The United States faces challenges in meeting the growing needs of an expanding knowledge-based innovation economy. **Arguments that highly skilled, temporary foreign workers are freezing out native-born workers are rebutted by the best available empirical evidence.**"



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Source: [H1B Visa Program Fact Sheet](#)



The skills that H-1B workers bring with them can be critical in responding to national emergencies. For instance, over the past decade (FY 2010-FY 2019), eight companies that were developing a coronavirus vaccine ... received approvals for **3,310 biochemists, biophysicists, chemists,** and other scientists through the H-1B program. In addition, many doctors on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic are present on H-1B visas.



Source: [H1B Visa Program Fact Sheet](#)



Advocate



Political Involvement

Folks in the international community are not always able to vote, yet must abide by federal laws and policies. In general, it's important to be an informed voter. But our request is that you keep the international community in mind when casting your ballot. NAFSA publishes [Congressional Recommendations](#) that address the legislative policy changes which would lead to a more globally engaged and welcoming United States.

[Take Action](#) by urging your lawmakers to support and protect international education, using the message templates provided by NAFSA.

Bystander Intervention

Asian and Asian-American communities have experienced heightened levels of fear and anxiety as [Anti-Asian racism spiked](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bystanders can play an integral role in de-escalating incidents of hate or bias and providing support to the targeted individual.

You can sign up for a free, virtual bystander intervention training hosted by [Hollaback!](#) Their [Bystander Intervention Guide](#) explains the Five Ds of Bystander Intervention: Distract, Delegate, Delay, Direct, Document.