



# International Students at UCI

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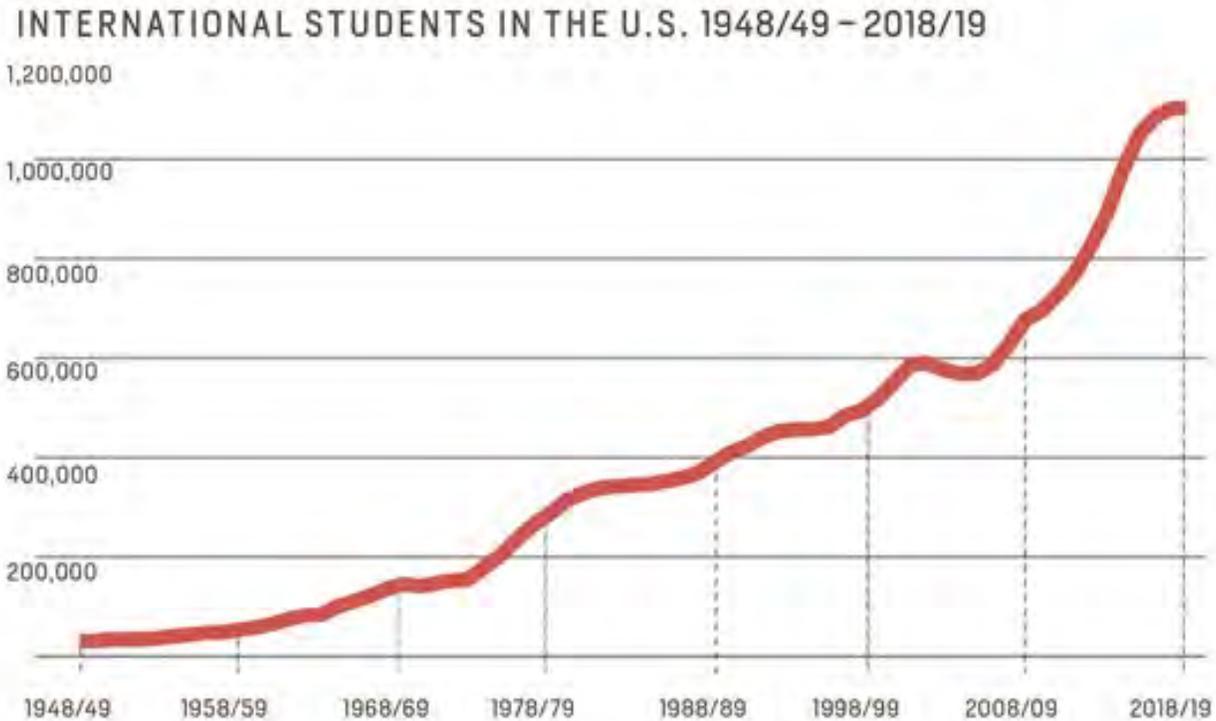
Associate Dean of Curriculum and Student Services, School of Humanities

Professor of History

“Is UCI serving international student and scholar communities well? How can we improve?”  
- Starting questions from OIE (the Office of Inclusive Excellence)

- Growth of Int’l Students: Also a story about the pursuit of the American dream in the American Century that started in the 1940s.
- Intellectual Contributions of International Students
- Economic importance of international students
- Parallel between int’l students & home country’s economy: the Chinese case
- Educational exchange has been an integral part of America’s relationship with other countries – China as example
- An example of the fast-changing landscape: recent growth of international students at UCI
- International Student Excellence Programs
- International Week and other activities with the support from various units and councils, including the advisory Council on Campus Climate, Culture and Inclusion, the Advisory Council on Int’l Student Pedagogy, and the Faculty International Student Network.
- Conclusion.

Growth of Int'l Students: Also a story about the pursuit of the American dream in the "American Century" that started in the 1940s. In 2019, there were 1,095,299 international students, representing [5.5% of the US higher education student population](#).



In 2018/19 there was an **increase of 0.05%** over the prior year in the number of international students in the United States.

Source: Open Doors: Report on International Educational Exchange is a comprehensive information resource on international students and U.S. students studying abroad. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and is published by IIE. For more information visit [www.iie.org/opendoors](http://www.iie.org/opendoors)



# Intellectual Contributions of International Students: Nobel Prize Winners in US -2000-2019

- Source: Stuart Anderson, "Immigrant Nobel Prize Winners Keep Leading The Way For America" in Forbes.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Immigrant</b>	<b>Native-Born</b>	<b>Percentage of Immigrant Winners</b>
<b>Physics</b>	14	19	42%
<b>Chemistry</b>	12	21	36%
<b>Medicine</b>	10	19	35%
<b>TOTAL</b>	36	59	38%

8 of them  
are ethnic  
Chinese

- Yang Zhenning (Chen-Ning Franklin Yang) and Li Zhengdao (Tsung-Dao Lee ) (physics, 1957);
- Ding Zhaozhong (Or Samuel Ting ) (physics, 1976);
- Li Yuanzhe (Or Yuan Tseh Lee) (chemistry, 1986);
- Steven Chu (physics, 1997 – born in US to parents who came to US as international students);
- Cui Qi (Or Daniel Chee Tsui) (physics, 1998);
- Qian Yongjian or Roger Yonchien Tsien (chemistry, 2008);
- Charles Kuen Kao (physics, 2009)

Economic  
importance  
of  
international  
students

- Nearly 1 in 4 US billion-dollar startups are founded by ex-international students.
- **International Students Contribute \$44.7 billion to the U.S** - according to the Annual Open Doors Report (Nov. 18, 2019) of the Institute of International Education (IIE)

## ● IMPORTING STUDENTS

The number of Chinese students at the University of Illinois' Urbana-Champaign campus had been rising for a decade before it peaked in 2017.

### **Chinese students enrolled at University of Illinois**

For graduate and undergraduate students at the Urbana-Champaign campus



Source: University of Illinois

Economic importance for universities:  
In 2017 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign spent \$424,000 for a 3-year insurance policy against a 20% drop in revenue from Chinese students in 2 (business and engineering) schools.

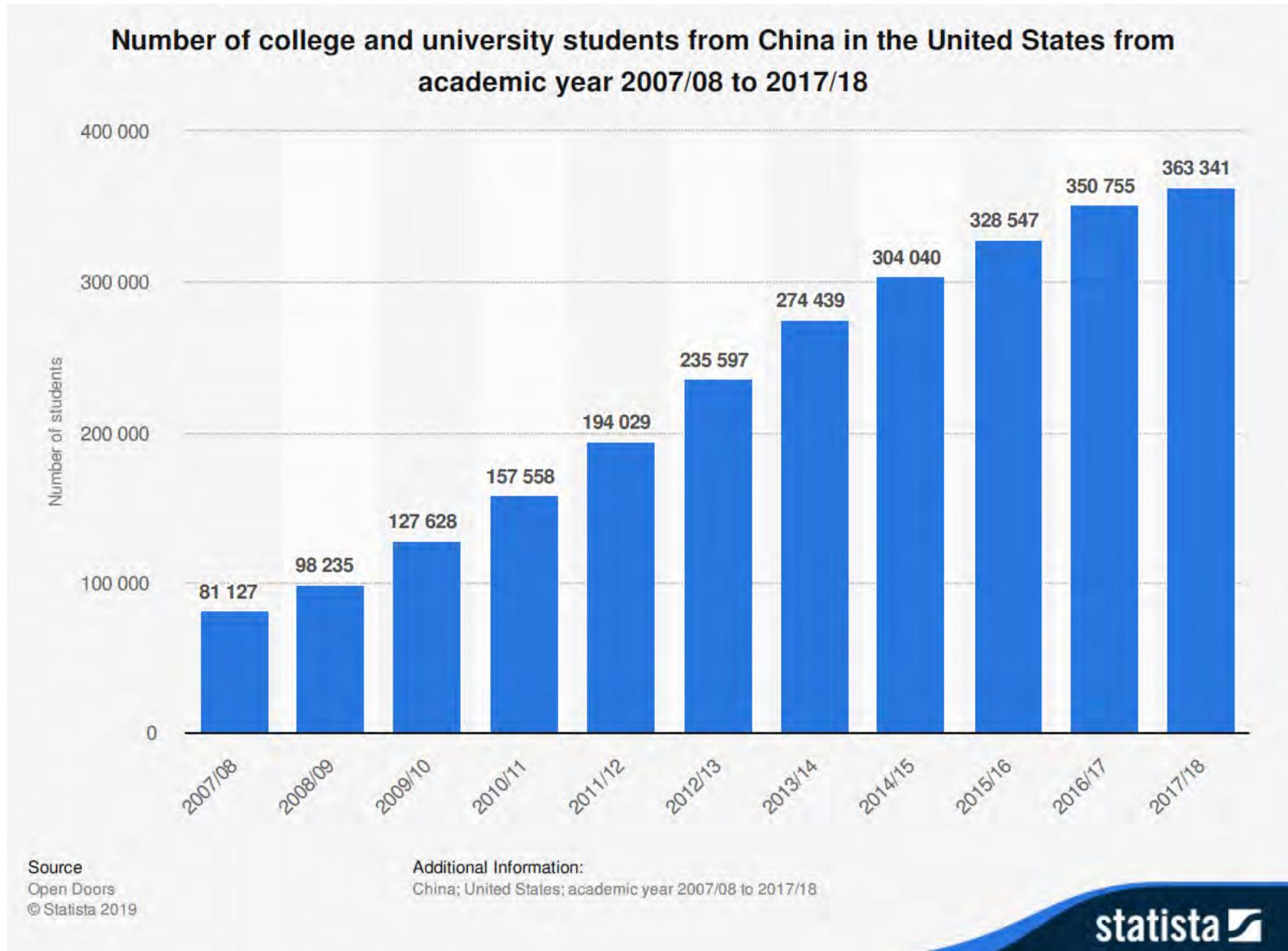
Educational exchange has been an integral part of America's relationship with other countries – China as example

“The most striking phenomenon in the relations between the United States and China in the twentieth century was the emergence of educational exchange as **the strongest tie** despite sharp differences in their cultural, political, and economic systems.” – Hongshan Li, *US-China Educational Exchange*.

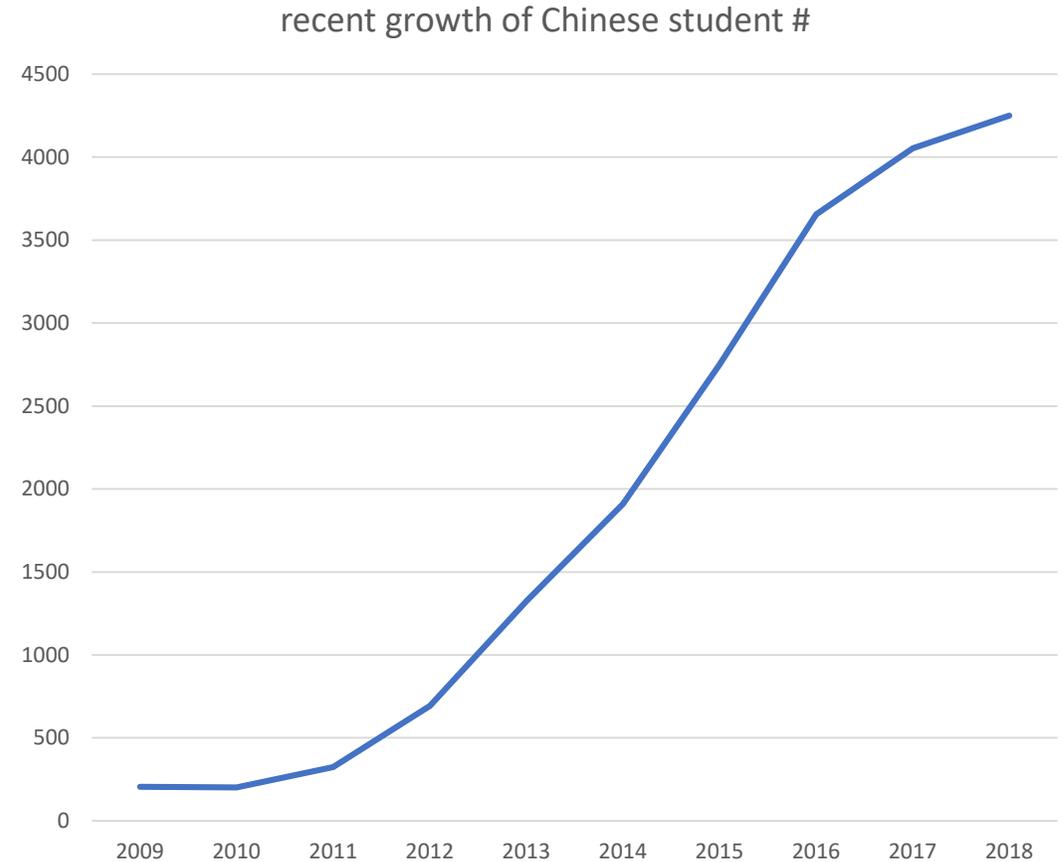
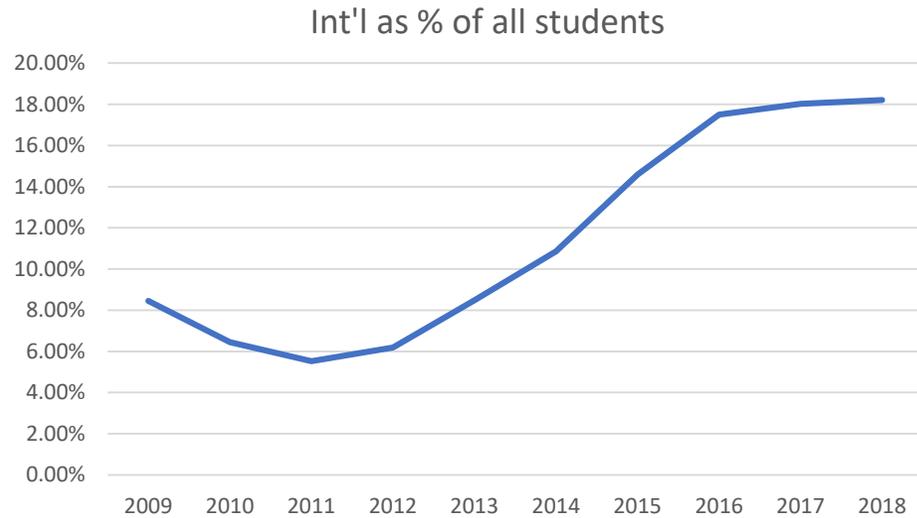
Such exchange has an important part of the relation between the two countries from the very beginning since the arrival of US missionaries in China in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. And students were among the early Chinese to arrive in the U.S.

The resumption of educational exchange between US and China was initiated and proposed by the US government when the two countries started to normalize their relationship.

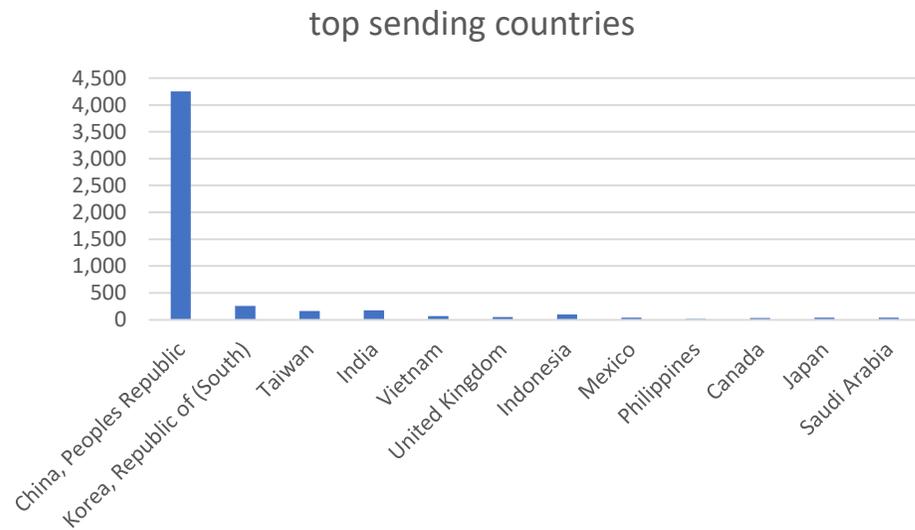
Parallel between int'l students & their home country's economy (esp. at undergrad level): the Chinese case – a result of the Chinese economy expansion in the 21<sup>st</sup> century



# An example of the fast-changing landscape: recent growth of international students at UC Irvine



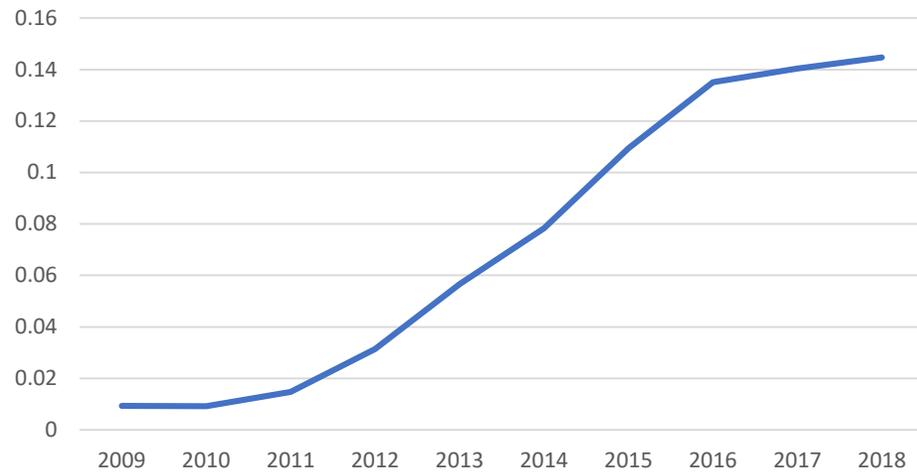
# # of international students at UCI, 2018



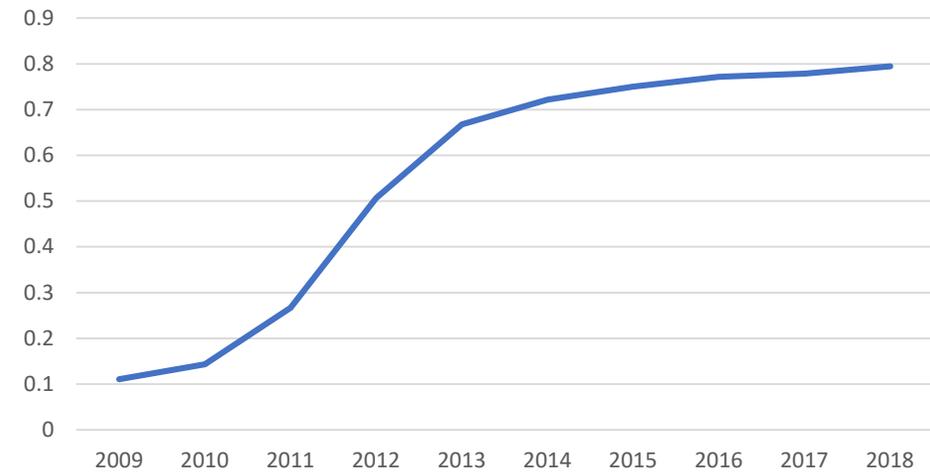
China, Peoples Republic	4,251
Korea, Republic of (South)	256
Taiwan	166
India	177
Vietnam	67
United Kingdom	49
Indonesia	98
Mexico	37
Philippines	18
Canada	32
Japan	42
Saudi Arabia	40

# Chinese Students as % of all students & Int'l Students at UCI

Chinese students as % of grand total



Chinese students as % of all int'l



# International Student Excellence Programs (ISEP) - IPG

- Housed within DUE, ISEP has been in existence since the fall of 2015 and was developed as an expansion of what IPG International Peer Group had accomplished since its own inception in 2010-11. This expansion consisted of an increased effort for International Students to further their academic engagement and enrichment on campus, and to develop a robust set of services and opportunities that enabled the International student community to thrive in their academic endeavors. In 2018, ISEP was absorbed under the umbrella of student success initiatives in order to further the engagement of international students with other distinct student populations and to take advantage of the unique benefits that SSI provides for students in transition, students needing academic support, and students who seek guidance from the professional counseling staff (summary provided by Kevin Huie)
- IPG (International Peer Group Scholars Program) scholars include peer coordinators, mentor, and mentees -- a total of 208 students.

# STAFF



**Kevin Huie**

Executive Director, Student Success  
DUE



**Dr. Yong Chen,**

Faculty Advisor, ISEP  
Associate Dean for Curriculum & Student Services,  
Professor of History & Chancellor's Fellow, School of Humanities



**Dr. Jonathan Alexander**

Associate Dean, DUE  
Chancellor's Professor of English & Informatics,  
School of Humanities

# STAFF



**Dr. Sei Young Lee**

Counselor-Coordinator,  
International Student Excellence Programs (ISEP)



**Stefani Tran**

Program Coordinator,  
International Peer Group Scholars Program (IPG)

# UCI Schools & Programs Represented by IPG Scholars\*

Undergraduate/Undeclared	66
Social Sciences	54
Phys Sciences	39
Humanities	14
Engineering	11
Social Ecology	10
Biological Sciences	8
Education	6
ICS	6
Business	5
Pharm Sci	5
Art	3
Public Health	1



\* September 2019

# 2018

**UCI** Advisory Council on Campus Climate, Culture & Inclusion

## UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY

Celebrating International Connections



### APRIL 23rd - 26th

**MONDAY**

**4.23 Hip-Hop Artist FreeLoader MC**  
6 pm - 8:30 pm - Barclay Theater -  
Performance and meet and greet

**TUESDAY**

**4.24 "Talk to Me" Pizza in the Park**  
12 pm - 2 pm - Fun activities about offices that can help  
you get involved in the campus community  
- Aldrich Park

**WEDNESDAY**

**4.25**  
12 pm - 2 pm - Name pronunciation and other cultural  
exercises  
"Cultural Intelligence," by Khary Hornsby, Assistant  
Dean for L.L.M. and International Programs, UCI School  
of Law Humanities Gateway 1030



**7 : 15 pm - 7 : 45 pm - Theatre WOKS and Brown Bag**  
Theatre - Green Room Patio Cafe - Claire Trevor School  
of the Arts

**8 : 00 pm Hypercolor Concert - A fresh take on jazz**  
Winifred Smith Hall

**THURSDAY**

**4.26**

**6 pm - 7 : 30pm - Conversation Kitchen:**  
International Street Foods



**EVENTS ARE FREE FOR UCI STUDENTS**

Sponsored by:

**UCI Illuminations**  
The Chancellor's Arts & Culture Initiative

**UCI** Office of the Vice Provost  
for Teaching and Learning

**UCI** Campus  
Recreation

UCI's first international week (2018) – a result of collaborative efforts by colleagues from many different units with the support from the Advisory Council on Campus Climate, Culture and Inclusion.

The Campus Council on International Student Pedagogy, 2017-;  
The Faculty International Student Network, 2018-

Workshops only not for students (on topics like graduate applications) but also faculty and staff on cross-cultural interactions and communication, language use in classrooms, and how to pronounce names of international students, etc.

Numerous units serve int'l students. The writing center offers 3000 appointments a year – 40% from int'l students. New Internship class in DCP in collaboration with DUE.

# Photos of events during UCI's first International week







# Are we serving our international students well? How can we improve?

- We have made much progress as a campus in our effort to help and support international students.
- We need your input help, support, and participation – please contact me if you have any further questions or suggestion and if you would like to contribute to the on-going efforts.
- Education of international students is an important issue locally at UCI. It is also closely connected to national and international socioeconomic, political, and cultural trends.