

# GLOBAL EDUCATION OFFICE

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## **Jill Blondin, Ph.D.**

Executive director

The Virginia Commonwealth University Global Education Office advances the university's three global priorities:

- Improve the recruitment and retention of international students and scholars
- Increase the global engagement of VCU students and faculty
- Expand VCU's global footprint through research, teaching and service
  - especially as they impact global health

The Global Education Office is home to five units and programs that advance the internationalization of the university.

## **Units and programs**

### **Education Abroad**

GEO's study abroad office offers student advising and placement in a full range of programs abroad, as well as academic unit support in developing, operating and evaluating study abroad programs.

### **English Language Program**

The fully accredited intensive English program offers beginner to advanced levels of academic preparation. This large and growing program concentrates on academic preparation and study skills that equip students for success in their educational and career pursuits.

### **Global Outreach**

The global outreach team supports the university's academic units in identifying and pursuing global priorities within the context of Quest for Distinction by facilitating international institutional agreements, coordinating the universitywide Global Advisory Network, supporting international faculty development and providing funding opportunities for global initiatives.

### **International Student and Scholar Programs**

This program offers students, scholars and visitors a full suite of services that include academic and immigration advising, student engagement activities and campus and community orientation. The program equips faculty and staff with expertise and tools to support international students and scholars through workshops, faculty academies and individualized pedagogical consulting.

### **VCU Globe: A global education living-learning community**

One of only 25 Peace Corps Prep programs in the nation and recognized by the 2015 Senator Paul Simon Award for Innovation in International Education, VCU Globe prepares undergraduates in all majors to live and work in a 21st-century global environment. In addition to completing a rigorous, globally focused curriculum, students live together in the West

Grace North residence hall and participate in community-engagement and leadership-building activities.