



EAST WEST CONNECTION

DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT BRYANT UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2020

International Experiences @ Bryant



From left to right: Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Bradford Martin, Senior U.S. Senator from Rhode Island Jack Reed, Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley, Dean of the College of Business Madan Annavarjula at a Global Trade Forum organized by the Chafee Center for International Business.



Student panelists share their stories and perspectives during Bryant's "I Am an Immigrant" panel held in the Academic Innovation Center forum on November 22, 2019.



Members of the International Student Organization welcome the Class of 2023 during Convocation on September 4, 2019.



Bryant students Zongxi "Daniel" Xie '20 and Yuelan Zhai '19, MPAC '20 perform a song during a concert organized by the Chinese Music Organization as part of Bryant's annual Mid-Autumn Festival.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

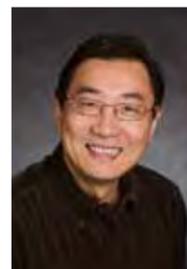
Alumnus Creates Innovative Company to Meet International Demand.....	3	Major Events in Photos	8-9
Bryant Zhuhai Expansion Approved ...	4	International Education Week 2019	11

Bryant University

DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Letter from the Vice President

Dear Friends,



Comprehensive internationalization at higher learning institutions can be translated into comprehensive services and opportunities for faculty, students, alumni, and surrounding communities both in and out of classrooms. Bryant University believes that such opportunities and experiences are essential and requires the Division of International Affairs to bring the world to campus while providing overseas opportunities for these key university constituents. In this issue, you will read articles that highlight remarkable achievements of faculty overseas scholarly activities, students' international experiences, and alumni and community international programs that are connected to the Bryant community.

Faculty at Bryant University is truly world class – it is measured by both diverse representation from 22 different countries and by their active participation in academic conferences and collaborative research across the globe. Page 12 includes only a small fraction of their presentations at international conferences since the summer of 2019, highlighting the diverse topics and contributions to the world's academic community. Bryant University's academic programs are also enriched by the contributions of visiting scholars from various countries. Page 14 provides an example of a visiting professor's classroom visit to share her most recent research.

Bryant's students gain international experience by actively participating in on-campus international-related programs and by

engaging international activities off campus, either domestic or international. Page 13 tells a story of American and Chinese students who joined together to participate in a climate workshop over the summer in the Pacific Northwest to explore the impact of present and future climate change. Page 5 illustrates an example of how international students can take the advantage of a wide range of student programming to gain leadership skills through involvement. The newly formed Chinese Music Organization (Page 7) offers another example of international student activity.

International student programming provides an opportunity to enhance diversity, inclusion, and internationalization through student and faculty participation as well as international education that benefits the community. The annual International Education Week (IEW) programs (Page 11) on campus provide an excellent example of the wide range of campus programs and activities celebrating internationalization and globalization. The Division of International Affairs took the opportunity to kick off the *Global Scholar Stories* series, providing a new platform for faculty members to share their international-related experience and stories (Page 6).

This issue also includes three alumni stories, presenting their success overseas and their close connections to our community in Smithfield. Page 3 offers a snapshot of a successful alumnus Artem Fedyaev '12, who has started an innovative business that helps consumers shop more easily across borders. On page 6 is the story of Benjamin Murphy '19, who received scholarships to enroll in an international business master's degree program at Tianjin Foreign Studies University. The two wedding announcements on page 10

exemplify how Bryant can change the lives of its international students.

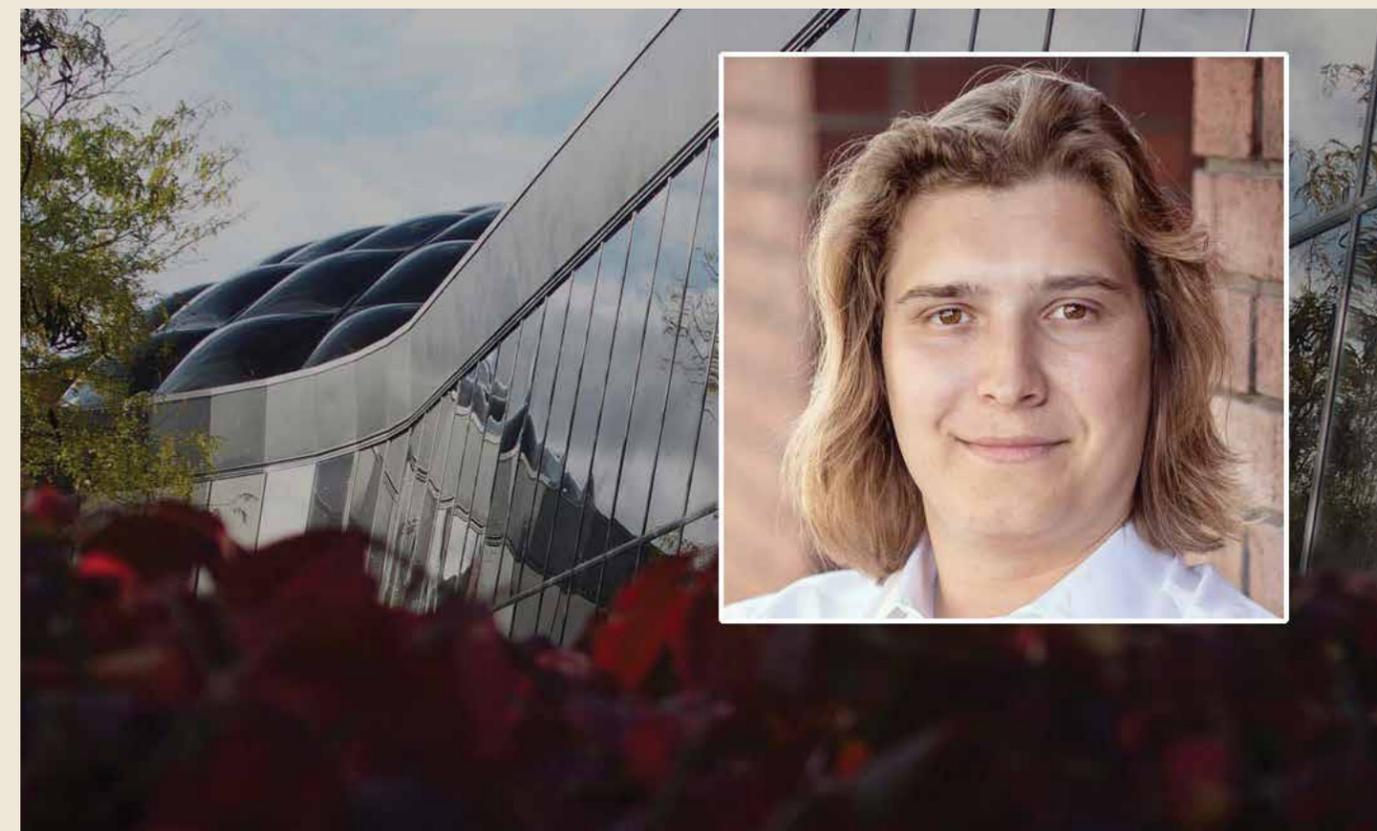
After graduating its inaugural class this summer, Bryant Zhuhai's program was evaluated, and subsequently granted unconditional approval by the Chinese Ministry of Education, a milestone event that both confirmed our success and offered opportunity for further expansion (Page 4). Page 13 provides an example of how faculty and staff at Bryant Zhuhai help new students transition into the all English academic environment.

Finally, in November, President Machtley delivered a speech at the Convocation event welcoming Bryant Zhuhai's Class of 2023 and signed an additional memorandum of understanding during his latest trip to China (Page 14.) I would like to invite the community to participate in exciting programs and upcoming events, including a newly designed Lunar New Year celebration on Feb 7, 2020.

Hong Yang, Ph.D.

Vice President for International Affairs
Charles J. Smiley Chair Professor

Alumni Creates Innovative Company to Meet International Consumer Demand



Artem Fedyaev '12

Artem Fedyaev '12 knew there was an opportunity waiting for a disruptive solution.

"Every time we went [back home] to Russia, family and friends wanted us to bring something back – Apple items, or special shampoos from CVS – they couldn't find there," explains Fedyaev, who also watched other Bryant international students buy consumer goods to take home to their families. "So many people around the world don't have the access that we do in Europe and the United States – we're spoiled."

He and his wife and co-founder, Daria Rebenok, were named to the 2019 Forbes 30 Under 30 list for their innovative startup, Grabr, which has, to date, benefited an international peer-to-peer marketplace community of more than 500,000 people.

Grabr.io matches international travelers with consumers who seek products they can't get locally. Shoppers post their desired products. Travelers respond with an offer, and both agree on terms of in-person delivery and compensation. Once the product is delivered and accepted, the traveler is compensated through the Grabr platform.

The San Francisco-based company facilitated the delivery of products to 72 countries last year, with no marketing or advertising beyond word-of-mouth. While not yet profitable, the 35-person startup, which launched in 2016, has secured more than \$14 million in venture capital. Sales grew threefold between 2017 and 2018, and are projected to do the same in 2019.

His Bryant International Business degree program helped shape his entrepreneurial desire. In class, "we looked at big companies like Starbucks, and I got inspired," recalls Fedyaev. "I wanted to build something of my own." In fact, as students, he and his roommate **John Michael Gonzalez '12** developed a social discovery browser, mywebroom, which earned attention from Google's Daydream VR platform. Though that venture didn't endure, Grabr is today enabling a new kind of commerce worldwide.

Fedyaev learned that building a strong team is essential for any startup to grow. "Be very smart about who you hire," he advises. "You're hiring long-term."



Bryant Zhuhai Expansion Approved

After four years of successful operation and graduating the inaugural class last summer, Bryant Zhuhai received a comprehensive evaluation by a team of education experts organized by the Chinese Ministry of Education. The joint program was granted unconditional approval. Bryant Zhuhai can now expand the number of offerings to students, including adding majors to the current accounting major, widen its geographical recruitment footprint, and grow its student body population. The Ministry of Education, which regulates and oversees all aspects of education in China, recently granted approval for Bryant Zhuhai's program to expand under the relevant Sino-Foreign Cooperative Education regulations.

The approval was based on a rigorous six-month evaluation conducted by the International Cooperation and Exchange

Department under the Ministry of Education. Education quality, pedagogy, faculty attributes, hiring practices, and student success were all examined during the process.

Graduates of the Bryant Zhuhai program have begun careers with companies including EY, KPMG, Bank of China, Agricultural Bank of China, and China Aviation Chengfei Civil Aircraft Co., Ltd. Since 2015, many Bryant Zhuhai students have completed their undergraduate studies or enrolled in graduate programs at Bryant's Smithfield campus. Approximately seventy percent of the first graduating class of 2019 went on to pursue graduate studies abroad, including at top universities in Australia, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.

Since 2011, Bryant University and the Beijing Institute of Technology, Zhuhai (BITZH) have worked to establish this joint educational collaboration. In 2015, the Ministry of Education approved our application to establish a Chinese-For-foreign Cooperatively-Run Program offering a four-year, dual-degree program for a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration - Accounting. The proposal and its curriculum design were endorsed by Bryant University's accrediting bodies in the U.S., the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), and by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

Bryant Zhuhai's first class enrolled in the fall of 2015. The program has created many opportunities for faculty and student exchanges and has enhanced the international programs of both universities.



Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley (left) with Alicia Kennedy '12, Yijia Wang '14, Vice President for International Affairs Dr. Hong Yang, and Kuan Lu '14 at the Bryant Zhuhai Convocation in 2015.

International Student Profile - Weili "Steve" Lin



Weili Lin '19 MBA'20

Now in his third year at Bryant University in Smithfield, Weili Lin '19, '20 MBA, also known as Steve, has participated in new experiences that have impacted the ways he interacts with his peers.

After transferring from Bryant Zhuhai, Lin served as a member of the Bryant Senior Advisory Council (BSAC) and the International Student Organization at Bryant Smithfield.

"Many BSAC members became my friends as we worked together on campus," Lin says. "The leadership and alumni on the council are approachable and enthusiastic. The experience has given me a deeper understanding of Bryant's leadership philosophy. The time spent talking with faculty and alumni has benefitted my networking skills."

BSAC members serve as student leaders on campus and share student perspec-

tives with University leadership about campus affairs as well as studying and living at Bryant. The council also provides opportunities to connect with University leadership and alumni that help build their professional networks.

Serving as Asian Chair for the International Student Organization, Lin appreciated the enthusiasm and vitality of campus life at Bryant. He helped organize izi and Extravaganza, both large-scale campus events.

"The experience left me with unforgettable memories. It was a lot of behind-the-scenes work, but I made a lot of good friends and learned valuable skills along the way."

Weili is now enrolled in Bryant's Master of Business Administration program concentrating in Business Analytics. He says the Bryant experience is preparing him to make an impact when he enters the workforce.

Bryant Holds *I am an Immigrant* Panel Discussion

The PwC Center for Diversity and Inclusion hosted an *I Am an Immigrant* panel discussion in the Academic Innovation Center in November. The panel provided an opportunity for international students to share their experiences as immigrants in the United States and as students at Bryant.

Panelist Ramon Luis Fille '22 chose to get involved "because I wanted to share my immigrant story with the community." He says that "events like these help Bryant to become an even more inclusive community and (I) wanted to be a part of the steps towards inclusivity."



Ramon Luis Fille '22

Fille noted, "the way Bryant embraces different cultures and promotes diversity and inclusion makes me feel more welcomed and appreciated. The fact that there are resources and organizations on campus makes life even better because I am able to find my people and feel supported."

The *I Am an Immigrant* campaign encourages all Americans to celebrate the enormous contributions that immigrants make to our country. "Participating in the panel," Fille says "creates a stronger community."

Bryant Alumnus Credits International Programs for Opening Doors of Opportunity

After graduating from Bryant University's International Business program, **Benjamin Murphy '19** set off to continue his education by pursuing a Master's Degree in International Business at Tianjin Foreign Studies University in Tianjin, China. His studies are, in part, made possible by the Sino-U.S. Scholarship that is awarded to fewer than 10 American students each year.

As a Bryant IB student, Murphy studied abroad for a semester in Zhuhai, China and secured internships in both Shanghai and Qingdao. He also served as a program assistant for three years at the U.S.-China Institute, where he was instrumental in organizing and contributing to on-campus cultural events and engaging with the community.

"Bryant has built a bridge connecting students to China," he says. "They recognize China's ever-important role in business and provide students with opportunities to learn the language, understand the culture."

Murphy attributes his passion for China to Bryant's prestigious International Business program, ranked No. 3 by *USA Today/College Factual*. "The most fitting way to describe IB is rewarding," Murphy says. "Bryant's IB program is intensive and challenging, but I graduated feeling competent, confident, and eager to make a difference in the field of international business."

He was inspired by **Crystal Jiang, Ph.D.**, Professor of Management and Director of the IB program at Bryant. "Professor Jiang is my mentor," he says. "She helps students realize their potential to become leaders both in and out of the classroom. She is well-

respected and loved by the community."

When Murphy completes graduate studies in 2022, he hopes to embark on a career in the field of international business and work between the United States and China.



Benjamin Murphy '19 outside of Volkswagen in Tianjin, where he plans to intern this spring.

From Iran to Belgium to Bryant - Alidadi Featured at Inaugural Global Scholar Stories



Professor Katayoun Alidadi sharing her experience during the inaugural session of Global Scholar Stories.

Assistant Professor of History and Social Sciences **Katayoun Alidadi, Ph.D.**, was the inaugural featured

Alidadi was born in post-revolutionary Iran in the 1980s, before moving to Belgium as a child. She shared insights about the transi-

speaker at a new series titled Global Scholar Stories. Sponsored by the Division of International Affairs, the series provides a forum for professors and other scholars to share their diverse backgrounds with the Bryant community.

tion from attending a university in Europe to pursuing her law degree at Harvard. She encouraged students to take advantage of international opportunities, including Bryant's distinctive Sophomore International Experience. Alidadi also spoke about how her own experiences and identity continue to inform her research on human rights and religion and the choices she made to pursue a career that she is passionate about.

"I could not envision a better way of starting this program," said **Tomas Ballester '20**. "Professor Alidadi captured everyone's attention and delivered an engrossing and moving narrative of her impressive transcontinental and global journey."

Chinese Music Organization Brings New Sounds To Campus



Brandon Yu '22 and Brian Yu '22 play ruans during a concert held in Janikies Theatre on October 5, 2019.

Brandon Yu '22 and **Brian Yu '22** are working hard to bring their love for traditional Chinese music to the Bryant community. The twins, who were raised in China, created the Chinese Music Organization (CMO) at Bryant in 2018. The group of 15 has performed at the Festival of Lights and Confucius Institute Day.

Performances feature the ruan, a Chinese lute, comparable to banjos, guitars, or ukuleles that is made in various sizes.

The group's upcoming schedule includes a performance at Bryant's 2020 annual Lunar New Year celebration on Feb. 7 in the Janikies Theater. Any student interested in joining the group should contact byu@bryant.edu, or

attend its general meetings held Fridays at 4:30 pm in the U.S.-China Institute or Ronald K. and Kati C. Machtley Interfaith Center Community Room.

Major Highlights in Pictures



Newly enrolled graduate students from Bryant Zhuhai visit Boston during an ExtraMILE orientation program.



Students build new networks and engage in team building during this year's 4MILE program.



Bryant University President Ronald K. Machtley speak at the Bryant Zhuhai Convocation in November.



Mai Anh "Maya" Nguyen '22 and members of the International Student Organization welcome the Class of 2023 during Convocation.



Professor De'an Chen from the Sichuan Provincial Cultural Relics and Archaeology Research Institute speak about the Sanxingdui archaeological site with interpretation provided by Boyang Ding '19 China Programs Assistant at the U.S.-China Institute.



Kongli Liu, Assistant to Vice President of International Affairs, met with parents of Bryant students in Guangzhou, China.



Marisa Andreozzi '21 from Shanghai to Zhuhai, takes in the Bryant Zhuhai IDEA program.



President Ronald K. Machtley and Mrs. Kati Machtley kept a time-honored tradition going at this year's Festival of Lights.



Rhode Island Senator Jack Reed answers questions during a Global Trade Forum organized by the Chafee Center for International Business.



Mr. Lei Liu of the Sichuan Opera Academy performed traditional Face Changing at the 2019 Mid-Autumn Festival.



Students represented the countries of Latin America at i2i, which featured a lineup of creative and vibrant performances again this year.



Twenty-five international students and scholars Festival. the annual Thanksgiving brunch hosted by Dr. Hong Yang, Vice President for International Affairs, on Thanksgiving Day.

Lifelong Connections

Zixuan Wang '18 and Zhuochao Zhong '17 were married in Jiangmen, Guangdong, China on Aug. 19, 2019. Zixuan, an accounting major, has obtained her CPA certification and is looking to start her career. Zhuochao, who majored in actuarial mathematics, is pursuing a graduate degree at Boston University.



Zhuochao Zhong '17 and Zixuan Wang '18



Sompetch Katisomsakul '17 MBA and Thunyathorn Penbumrungvong

Sompetch "Pack" Katisomsakul '17 MBA and Thunyathorn "Fah" Penbumrungvong were married in Bangkok, Thailand on Nov. 1. Katisomsakul is a co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of SNEAK, a visual-based travel planning platform that helps travelers reduce hours of planning into minutes utilizing artificial intelligence and a visual-driven experience.

International Education Week 2019

Bryant's International Student Organization, the PwC Center for Diversity and Inclusion, and the Division of International Affairs hosted a series of events for the campus community to celebrate International Education Week in November. A joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, International Education Week is held on campuses nationwide to highlight the benefits of international education and exchange.

tions and our communities. The discussion featured **Kathleen Walsh**, Professor of National Security Affairs at the US Naval War College, whose research focuses on China and the Asian-Pacific region.

Body Language Speaks was presented by Counseling Services and the Amica Center for Career Services. The session covered the importance and differences of body language in different cultures.

Wednesday, November 20

International Jeopardy tested students' knowledge of international trivia including general knowledge, geography, and popular culture.

Thursday, November 21

Nadje Al-Ali, Robert Family Professor of International Studies at Brown University, discussed *Gendering Authoritarianism & Resistance: The Significance of Body Politics in the Middle East*. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Hochberg Women's Center, Alliance for Women's Awareness, and the Global Studies Program, and International Affairs Division.

Friday, November 22

Assistant Professor of History and Social Sciences **Katayoun Alidadi, Ph.D.** was the first speaker in a new series, *Global Scholar Stories*. Her discussion, *From Iran to Belgium to Bryant: Journey of a Scholar* highlighted her life's journey and how her experiences brought her to Bryant.

The *I Am an Immigrant* Panel discussion provided an opportunity for students to share their experiences in the United States. The *I Am an Immigrant* campaign encourages all Americans to celebrate the enormous contributions that immigrants have made, and continue to make, to our communities.



Coordinator for International Student Integration Emily Collins-Garcia and Evie O'Callaghan '20 MBA at *The World Awaits!* photo competition and passport info session.

Friday, November 15

izi, an annual dance show celebrating the creativity and vibrancy of cultural dance, kicked off the week of events. The theme of this year's performances was "Festivals."

Monday, November 18

The U.S.-China Institute and the Chafee Center for International Business co-hosted CHINA Town Hall to discuss the Sino-American relationship and the issues impacting us, our businesses, our educational institu-

Tuesday, November 19

The World Awaits! was held in the fireside lounge at the Fisher Student Center. Everyone who stopped by voted for their favorite study abroad photo and could apply for a passport. Students could also learn about opportunities for international experiences offered at Bryant including study abroad, Sophomore International Experience, and internationally focused events on campus.



The best study abroad photo, as chosen by the Bryant community, is of the Atacama Desert in Chile. Photo taken by Alex Mangione '20.

Bryant Faculty Present at International Conferences

Bryant's faculty are world-class scholars who present their research at top conferences around the world. Here's some examples of their participation and contributions to recent global conferences.

ISPIM Innovation Conference – Florence, Italy

Management Professors **Crystal Jiang, Ph.D.**, Director of Bryant's International Business Program, and **Dirk Primus, Ph.D.**, represented the University at the International Society for Professional Innovation Management's (ISPIM) 30th annual conference, held in Florence, Italy.

Jiang led the discussion, "Does organizational diversity matter and how does it impact firms' innovation activities?" and Primus ran the session, "How can Biometric Signals be used in Innovation Management Research?"

Academy of International Business Annual Meeting – Copenhagen, Denmark

Marketing Professors **Sukki Yoon, Ph.D.**, and **Srdan Zdravkovic, Ph.D.**, collaborated with faculty from the University of Split, Southern Methodist University, and Dongguk University to present research on "What's Funny to Me Is Not Funny to Them: A Three Country Study Delineating the Impact of Provocative Humor in Advertising."

Elzotbek Rustambekov, Ph.D., chaired the session "Dynamic Issues in Global Strategies," and also presented his strategies and insights for "Risk Taking Behavior During Crisis," while **Andres Ramirez, Ph.D.**, joined a panel that discussed the "Inter-Institutional Association for the Advancement of IB Education."

Goldschmidt 2019: International Conference of Geochemistry – Barcelona, Spain

As part of an ongoing National Science Foundation-funded research project, Professor of Science and Technology **Qin Leng, Ph.D.**, presented her paper "Variations of stomatal frequency in *Taxodium* and *Meta-sequoia* populations at the mid-Miocene Clarkia Lake deposits: Implications for atmospheric CO₂ reconstruction" co-authored with colleagues from Bryant and Texas A&M.

International Conference on Management and Marketing – Athens, Greece

Marketing Professor **Stefanie Boyer, Ph.D.**, presented "Adaptability Insights for Sales Leaders" at the 17th annual International Conference on Management and Marketing at the University of Athens, in Greece.

University of Texas. **Erim Ergene, Ph.D.**, and co-authors from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and ESSEC Business School, presented their paper on "Customer Co-production, Service Complexity and Human Capital in High Captivity Service Firms."

Marketing Professor **Eileen Kwesiga, Ph.D.** co-organized the session "Tribal Identity and the Challenge of Building Inclusive Organizations" on behalf of the Africa Academy of Management and participated in the session, "The Extended Family as an Entrepreneurial Asset in Collectivist Cultures."

The Beijing Forum – Beijing, China

Dr. Hong Yang, Ph.D., Charles J. Smiley Chair Professor of Environmental Sciences and Vice President for International Affairs,



Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Business (left) and Management Professors Diya Das, Ph.D. (second from right) and Crystal Jiang, Ph.D. (right) presented the "Best Paper Award in Emerging Economies Research" to Juan Bu of Indiana University (second from left), at the Academy of International Business Annual Meeting, in Copenhagen, Denmark, on June 25.

Academy of Management Annual Meeting – Boston, Massachusetts

Marketing Professor **Kathryn Ostermeier, Ph.D.**, presented a research paper, "Lead me away: The influence of managerial turnover on subordinate departures and unit performance," in collaboration with co-authors from the University of North Texas and the

University of North Texas and the University of Texas. He delivered a presentation on "Climate crisis in the changing world: Unprecedented rate of change and unmatched impact on the future of civilizations."

Science Majors and Chinese Graduate Students Explore Climate Change in Pacific Northwest

A group of Bryant University science majors and Chinese graduate students traveled through the beautiful landscape of the Pacific Northwest in Washington and Idaho last summer as participants in the 2019 workshop and travel program *Climate Change: Facts, Forces, and Future*. As part of a U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) funded research project, the weeklong workshop brought students, faculty, and research scientists together in the field to study climate change.

Bryant Science and Technology professors **Qin Leng, Ph.D.**, and **Hong Yang, Ph.D.**, led the workshop. Through interactions with research scientists and faculty from Bry-



Workshop participants grouped at the edge of the Columbia River Plateau overlooking the towns of Lewiston and Clarkston in commemoration of Lewis and Clark.

ant and Texas A&M University, students observed the impact of past carbon dioxide changes, and discussed future climate change and its biological and social impacts.

The trip took students to spectacular landscapes in the area to observe field evidence

of past climate changes and learn how these geological analogs can guide scientists to better predict future climate change. These students also participated in the ongoing NSF research project at the world-renowned Clarkia fossil bed in northern Idaho.

The Bryant NSF project investigates short-term carbon dioxide emissions by volcanic activity related to the Columbia River Basalt in the Pacific Northwest around 16 million years ago and their impact on the ecosystem.

Students designed climate change public awareness programs during the workshop, leading to discussions in their classes, art or slide shows in the local community, and presentations to be made at next year's Research and Engagement Day.

Zhuhai English Language Initiative Helps Students Transition

At Bryant Zhuhai, through the Zhuhai English Language Initiative (ZhELI), students are preparing to be global citizens from day one. The program is designed with the goal of helping first-year students adjust to an English instruction class environment, become engaged members of the community, and transition into a new education environment.

The program begins with an intensive boot-camp style activities including four days of workshops, assignments, presentations, and exams. The boot-camp concludes with final presentations and a semi-formal dinner for students. Over the semester, the ZhELI course continues to challenge students and help them adjust to their new learning environment with classes meeting twice weekly.

"I had to challenge myself and do many things that I haven't tried before. We grew a lot during ZhELI and have become more confident express-

ing our ideas in English. I feel very lucky that I can come to Bryant University-BITZH to study."

Hongxi Chen '23

At the end of the semester, students are expected to communicate effectively in reading, writing, and speaking English and also be

better equipped to excel at the undergraduate level in an all English teaching-learning environment. For most of the Chinese students, this is a brand new skill set.



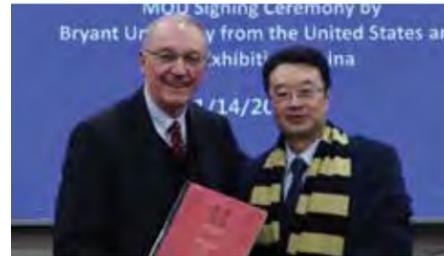
Bryant Zhuhai students and staff pictured at the Bryant Zhuhai Academic Center for Excellence.

President Machtley Expands Partnerships in China

Bryant University President **Ronald K. Machtley** and the Director of Art Exhibitions China **Mr. Ping Tan** signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Beijing during President Machtley's recent trip to China in November. Director Tan highlighted the cooperation and exchanges between China and the United States. He believes that the relationship between Bryant and Art Exhibitions China will create new cooperation between his organization and American institutions. The organization hopes to enhance Bryant University's goals to help cultivate a global vision, professional competence, and global perspectives for its faculty and students. President Machtley said that the various cultural activities sponsored by Bryant University through its U.S.-China Institute and

Confucius Institute have had tremendous impact in the mutual understanding between the United States and China, especially among youth groups.

President Machtley and Bryant's Vice President for International Affairs **Dr. Hong Yang, Ph.D.**, also visited China University of Petroleum (CUP) in Qingdao, Shandong



President Machtley with Ping Tan, Director of Art Exhibitions China, after signing the Memorandum of Understanding in November 2019.

Province during the trip. CUP President **Fang Hao** introduced the Bryant delegation to the history, development, and character of CUP. The conversation focused on the school's teaching, research disciplines, and the potential for international collaborations. President Hao noted that the school attaches great importance to educational partnerships with universities and academic institutions around the world. The purpose of this MOU is to foster collaboration between the two schools and to establish an academic link for mutual benefit. President Machtley hopes that both educational institutions can take this opportunity to actively promote meaningful cooperation and to explore the feasibility of new and creative exchange programs.

Visiting Scholar Shares Research With Professor Kim's Econometrics Class



Visiting professor Junyan Qi, from Tianjin University of Finance and Economics (center left) with Department of Economics Chair Professor Jongsung Kim (center right) and his class.

Professor **Junyan Qi**, a visiting scholar from Tianjin University of Finance and Economics, presented her research "How Do Service Trade Restrictions Affect the Services Trade Flow," to students in Professor Jongsung Kim's Econometrics class during the fall semester. During her presentation, Qi introduced the background of her research, discussed

theoretical analysis, and shared empirical results based on 10 service sectors in 33 countries from 2014-2016.

Students questioned Qi about the opening of China's services sector and the impact that this has had on the U.S. - China trade relationship. Qi is looking forward to more opportunities to collaborate on research with colleagues at Bryant.

Through the State Department's J visa category, the Division of International Affairs at Bryant routinely hosts visiting professors, research scholars, and exchange students. Current visitors are from Brazil, China, South Korea, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

Visiting Scholars Join Bryant Community



Michele Aparecida Nepomuceno Pinto

Michele Aparecida Nepomuceno Pinto

Michele Aparecida Nepomuceno Pinto, a Ph.D. candidate at the State University of Maringá, Brazil, has joined the Center for Global and Regional

Economic Studies at Bryant University as a visiting scholar for six months. Pinto's research interests include economic growth, structural change, and the economics of education. In addition to conducting research, Pinto hopes to visit New York, Washington D.C., and Miami, and improve her English language skills while at Bryant.



Young Woo Lee

Young Woo Lee

Young Woo Lee, Ph.D., joined the Bryant community in March 2019. Lee is a researcher at the Institute of Management at Kyung Hee University in Seoul,

South Korea. He will be primarily working with Economics Professor and Chair **Jongsung Kim, Ph.D.** Lee's research interests focus on consumer behavior in the global automobile market, where he is researching the relationship between consumer attitudes and economic growth.

SABEH Summer 2019: Bringing Teaching Alive

The Sino-American Bridge for Education and Health (SABEH) sent two teams of teachers to partner schools in China, including four teachers to Beijing #35 High School and eleven teachers to Zhoushan Greentown Yuhua International School.

In partnership with the U.S.-China Institute at Bryant University, SABEH brings teachers from around the United States to China each summer to share innovative education strategies.

Mike Barrett returned to Zhoushan Greentown School, and reflected on the impact this experience has had on teachers since 2010 when SABEH first visited the school.

"Working for nearly ten years with the Greentown organization has been life changing. Our teachers have formed friendships and memories that will last beyond the program. Through our partnership, we have been able to develop our own teaching skills while also sharing our passion for teaching



Participants spent a day exchanging ideas and exploring the Forbidden City in the heart of Beijing.

with educators in China. I think everyone involved would agree it is an experience unlike anything else in the world of teaching."

Rob Mahoney, new to the Beijing site this summer, reflected about how his experience impacted his development as an educator.

"During my time in Beijing, I was able to work with teachers from some of the top schools across the country. Through the classroom experiences as well as the cultural outings with the Chinese teachers, I was able to engage in meaningful conversations about teaching pedagogy and the values that both American and Chinese culture have in common."

SABEH is currently recruiting teachers from across the country to participate in the summer 2020 programs. If you would like an opportunity to participate in this amazing experience, please visit SABEH.org.



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Upcoming Events

Lunar New Year Celebration – Friday, February 7, 6:30 PM

This annual cultural celebration, which enriches the campus community through multiculturalism and celebration, which student performances and raffle prizes.

Spring Break Cultural Exchange Trip

The annual Spring Break travel program to the Western United States offers student the opportunity to visit some of America's most beautiful national parks while making life-long friendships. Space in the program, sponsored by Division of International Affairs, is limited, so apply early. For questions, please contact Colleen Balk at cbalk@bryant.edu.

Global Scholar Stories

Members of the Bryant community are invited to share their global experiences. Community members interested in sharing should contact Kongli Liu at kliu1@bryant.edu. Check the Bryant Events Calendar for the schedule of upcoming Global Scholar Stories.

Global Community Hour

This Bryant signature educational activity helps build cultural competency by taking the audience to new countries around the globe each semester. Presented by international students and scholars, Global Com-

munity Hour includes a presentation about the focus country's culture and is followed by a small sampling of local cuisine. Seats are limited. For more information, contact the Office of International Students and Scholars at oiss@bryant.edu

HSK Test

This is a six-level, international standardized Chinese proficiency test designed to examine students' ability in the application of the Chinese language in their studies and personal lives.

YCT Test

This is a four-level, international standardized test of Chinese language proficiency, designed to help young students evaluate their Chinese language skills.

Registration Deadline

10 Days prior to the exam date

For more information, please contact Ping Wang at pwang2@bryant.edu or visit china.bryant.edu and click on "Test Services" through the Confucius Institute tab.

The Division of International Affairs supports the university mission to meet its global strategies. The division provides support to international students and scholars for their cultural immersion, academic success, social networking, and career preparation throughout their educational experience at Bryant.

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