Gallaudet has taken a major step in reaffirming its aim of being an epicenter of research and outreach globally by joining the Internationalization Laboratory for 2017-2019 with 10 other universities. The objectives of Gallaudet’s participation in the laboratory are to review current international activities across the University, clarify institutional goals, recommend internationalization goals and priorities, and develop a strategic action plan.

The laboratory, an initiative of the American Council on Education (ACE), is an invitational learning community that assists participating institutions in developing goals and strategy for comprehensive internationalization. ACE defines comprehensive internationalization as a “strategic, coordinated process that seeks to align and integrate policies, programs, and initiatives to position colleges and universities as more globally oriented and internationally connected institutions.” With more than 50 nations represented on the Kendall Green campus, and expectations for Gallaudet’s students to become global citizens and agents of positive change, there is a need for systematic attention to the University’s international dimension.

ACE’s six pillars of internationalization -- all areas that dovetail with implementation and infrastructure actions supported by Gallaudet’s three-year general strategic plan -- are: articulated institutional commitment; administrative leadership, structure, and staffing; curriculum, co-curriculum, and learning objectives; faculty policy and practices; student mobility, both education abroad and international students on campus; and collaboration and partnerships.

The fact that only 127 institutions of higher learning have sought ACE’s expertise since the Internationalization Laboratory’s inception in 2002 is evidence that Gallaudet is in the forefront among visionary educators who are actively making an investment to help ensure a bright future for the global community.

Other colleges and universities in the cohort are: Arkansas Baptist College, Clark Atlanta

Continued on page 12

New Fulbright Scholar Named

Lisanna Grosso of Italy has been named a Fulbright Scholar at Gallaudet for the 2017-2018 academic year. Grosso, a graduate student, will receive a full scholarship from the Fulbright-Roberto Wirth Grant in Deafness and Florence R. Foerderer Fellow Fund at Gallaudet. Her academic program and financial support is being handled by Graduate School and Continuing Studies Dean Gaurav Mathur and Assistant Dean Elizabeth Gibbons.

Dawes House Introduces International Reception Room

Room 104 of Dawes House is newly renovated as a place to welcome Gallaudet’s international visitors, including students and families, educators, dignitaries, and anyone else who shares the University’s zeal to empower deaf people around the world through education. On the wall is a photo of Dr. Isaac O. Agboola, who passed away on February 22, 2017 at the age of 60, and was a distinguished alumnus of Gallaudet University. A native of Nigeria, Agboola was inspired by another great Gallaudet alumnus, Dr. Andrew J. Foster, who founded 31 deaf schools across the African continent. Agboola received his early education at one of the schools, the Ibadan Mission School for the Deaf, which gave him the incentive and the ambition to continue his studies at Gallaudet and carry on in Foster’s footsteps.
Two worthy awardees of the prestigious Gallaudet-Nippon World Deaf Leadership Scholarship Fund have received a Gallaudet education, beginning with the fall 2017 semester. The knowledge and leadership skills these scholars acquire will enable them to fulfill the primary requirement of the scholarship that they return home to help empower other deaf and hard of hearing people.

As WDL scholars, Raphael V. Domingo, Manila, Philippines, will pursue a Ph.D. in linguistics, and Olaolu Ige, Abuja, Nigeria, will enroll in the Master of Public Administration and International Development program. The WDL scholarship covers their full tuition, room, and board, plus provides a stipend for personal expenses. Both scholars have been granted a leave of absence from their jobs to further their education at Gallaudet.

Mr. Domingo leads the learner-centered Education Access for the Deaf section at De La Salle-College of St. Benilde in Manila. When he graduates from Gallaudet, he will become the first deaf Filipino Ph.D. Dr. Miako Rankin, an associate professor in the Department of Linguistics, will serve as Domingo’s mentor during his studies at Gallaudet as a WDL scholar. Mr. Ige is an administrative officer at the Federal Ministry of Environment in Abuja. Dr. David Penna, chair of the Department of Government and Public Affairs, will be his mentor.

Nippon Foundation, Tokyo, Japan, is the world’s foremost educational benefactor of deaf and hard of hearing people. Its mission is to create a society without barriers that stand in the way of an individual’s ability to achieve a fulfilling, productive life. Since WDL was founded in 2003, 16 scholarships have been awarded. In addition to the WDL Fund, many non-U.S. Gallaudet students benefit from Nippon’s Sasakawa International Scholarship Fund. Administration of the WDL and Sasakawa funds are the responsibility of Gallaudet’s Office of Research Support and International Affairs (RSIA).

The selection of the 2017 WDL scholars represents the first in a revised process that was adapted after surveying former WDL Scholars last year. It also reflects a top priority shared by the Nippon Foundation and Gallaudet University. Both agree that WDL scholars should have a sizable impact on the lives of deaf people once they return home. Therefore, great attention has been given to the selection process to ensure that scholarships are awarded to candidates whose personal goals fit with Gallaudet’s degree offerings, and that their desired area of study meets the needs of their country.

The process also re-emphasizes the importance of a WDL Scholar candidate’s demonstrated commitment to working with their deaf community as a vehicle of social change. This will be accomplished by encouraging deaf leaders from the scholar’s country to stay in contact with them via regular webinars.

Continued on page 8

International Student Graduation

Proudly displaying photos of themselves in graduation regalia on the morning of Gallaudet’s 147th Commencement exercises of May 12, are (from left): Sarah Iwamoto (Japan), Izumi Takizawa (Japan), Lingyu Kong (China), Phoebe Tay (Singapore), Gabriel Saucedo-Romero (Mexico), and Ayano Yamamoto, Japan. This year 37 international students received their diplomas at Commencement.
Gallaudet scholars seeking international learning experiences will benefit from the expertise of Becca AbuRakia-Einhorn, the University’s first Education Abroad Coordinator. AbuRakia-Einhorn, who holds a master’s degree in international affairs from American University, began working in the Office of Research Support and International Affairs on May 30.

AbuRakia-Einhorn is working with all campus departments involved in international study, internships, research, and other opportunities for faculty and students, to help ensure effective and enriching outcomes. She plans to interview and survey members of the campus community who have recently traveled outside the United States to enhance their knowledge to find out the positive and negative aspects of their experience. She is also in the process of developing a database using Terra Dotta software to streamline the time-consuming process of preparing for an international learning experience.

AbuRakia-Einhorn hopes to develop new internships based on student interest, promote existing programs that have been successful, and address those that have proven to be problematic.

Ana Arce, a former Gallaudet-Nippon World Deaf Leadership (WDL) scholar, is one of eight individuals whose outstanding work in the disability community throughout Asia has been recognized by the organization Special Education Network in Asia (SENIA).

The SENIA Advocacy Award for 2017 went to Rhodora Fresnedi, executive director of UNILAB Foundation, whose programs are geared towards providing health access to Filipinos. Arce and the others received SENIA Advocacy Honorary Award citations. The awards honor those who exemplify SENIA’s mission to advocate on behalf of people with disabilities in Asia.

Since earning a master’s degree in deaf studies in 2014, Arce has fulfilled WDL’s mandate to return home after graduation and begin working to improve the lives of deaf people through education, advocacy, and partnering with different people and organizations so that together, they can change lives. She is employed in the School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies at De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde, Manila, Philippines, as deaf studies and general education coordinator in the Center for Academics, and deaf studies instructor in the Applied Deaf Studies Program.

Arce has always felt a calling to share her knowledge with the Filipino deaf community. Growing up, she was a passionate advocate for deaf people, always seizing any opportunity she could. She set up a program for deaf youth after Mass at the Catholic church she attended, and later as an undergraduate student at the College of Saint Benilde, she volunteered teaching literacy to deaf people of all ages. As a WDL scholar, she worked on a project to train deaf people how to communicate in a business environment. Building on this theme, her master’s thesis addressed changing attitudes and perceptions among Filipino employers so they can see the many benefits deaf workers have to offer.

The WDL Scholarship makes it possible for deaf and hard of hearing leaders from developing nations to attend Gallaudet University. WDL aims to empower selected individuals through the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations that a higher education brings so that they can make significant contributions to their deaf community and nation. WDL is funded by the Nippon Foundation of Tokyo, Japan.
Doctoral Students in the Department of Interpretation and Translation Go Far with International Internships

One of the most enriching experiences for doctoral students in the Department of Translation and Interpretation (DOIT) is internship coursework. Four required internship classes are designed to provide opportunities for in-depth research experience by pairing students with experienced scholars from around the globe.

Now in its seventh year, the DOIT doctoral degree has garnered national and international attention for the high-quality students in its program. In addition to placements with U.S.-based researchers, numerous international scholars have made requests to mentor doctoral students and guided their research learning. International scholars include Dr. Tobias Haug (Switzerland), Dr. Lorraine Leeson (Ireland), Dr. Jemina Napier (Scotland), Dr. Giulia Petitta (Italy), Dr. Debra Russell (Canada), and Dr. Marty Taylor (Canada). (For a complete list of contributing scholars see http://tinyurl.com/ydf6coyo.)

Doctoral student Mark Halley was an intern with Petitta and Dr. Brenda Nicodemus (DOIT professor) on a research project investigating interpreters’ management of metalinguistic references in discourse. During his internship, Halley co-presented at international conferences in Poland, Italy, and Scotland. Petitta, Halley’s primary internship mentor, made the following observation about the internships: “The Ph.D. is one time during an academic journey when students have time to think and learn. Being part of a research team and working on an actual research project is a crucial part of that process.” About his experiences, Halley states, “Working on a research team with knowledgeable scholars led me to both personal and professional growth. Under the steady guidance of my internship scholars, I was able to experience the entire research process, from designing a study to presenting and disseminating the findings. The lessons I learned along the way have been invaluable to me as I embark upon my own academic journey.”

In addition to international scholars, some U.S.-based scholars provide students with international opportunities. For example, Dr. Jeffrey Davis and Dr. Kimberly Wolbers from the University of Tennessee were conducting fieldwork in Trinidad and Tobago, and invited doctoral intern Folami Ford to join their team. Together they collected data on Trinidad and Tobago Sign Language as the first step in providing evaluation, training, and qualifications to interpreters from this small island nation off the coast of the South American mainland.

In recounting this unique internship training, Ford states, “I have always had an interest in working with Deaf and interpreting communities of the African diaspora, so my research internship was a dream come true. Interacting with the Deaf and interpreting communities of Trinidad and Tobago allowed me to see the real world application of theories I had learned about during the course of my doctoral studies. The knowledge and skills I gained on my research internship continue to pay dividends to this day and I remain grateful for the opportunity.”

Internship students engage in activities such as conducting literature searches, creating annotated bibliographies, writing survey instruments, developing web-based

Continued on page 12
Department of Interpretation and Translation Hosts Second Symposium on Research and Translation to Global Audience

Over 260 registrants from around the globe came to Gallaudet University to attend the 2017 Signed Language Interpretation and Translation Research Symposium, hosted by the Department of Interpretation and Translation (DOIT) from March 31 through April 1, 2017. This year’s symposium was preceded by the Deaf Translators’ Summit, also hosted by DOIT.

The second symposium was a rare opportunity for hearing and deaf students, researchers, educators, and practitioners to come together and learn about current research in interpretation and translation studies. Registrants attending the symposium hailed from countries such as China, Ghana, Norway, Belgium, Sweden, Brazil, Panama, and Haiti.

"Above all, the symposium was an intellectual experience for the registrants, but it also resulted in vibrant networking opportunities and idea sharing for future research,” said Dr. Brenda Nicodemus, DOIT professor and director of the Center for the Advancement of Interpreting and Translation Research (CAITR). “Based on feedback received from registrants, it was a rich experience for them to come to Gallaudet, to gather together, and to learn from one another.”

Continued on page 6

Winners of the Dr. Rachel Hartig Research Excellence Award

Dr. Khadijat Rashid (left), interim dean of the School of Education, Business, and Human Services, and Dr. Audrey Cooper (right), director of the International Development Master’s Program, winners of the Dr. Rachel Hartig Research Excellence Award, are pictured with Hartig, a retired professor from the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. The award encourages and celebrates the production of noteworthy work in the field of international deaf cultural studies. Rashid and Cooper were named award recipients at a May 9, 2017 reception.

The Late Dr. Cristina Berdichevsky, Professor Emerita, Celebrated

Family, friends, and colleagues from the Department of World Languages and Cultures (WLC) gathered on May 12, 2017 to raise a toast in celebration of Dr. Cristina Berdichevsky (“Birdy”), who was recognized posthumously as Professor Emerita at Gallaudet’s 2017 Commencement exercises. Berdichevsky, who passed away in 2014, taught French and Spanish for 20 years. She was well known for her dedication to her students, for spearheading the Gallaudet international internship program, which to this date continues to open opportunities for Gallaudet students to work with deaf communities all over the world, and for her approach to teaching and learning. WLC thankfully acknowledges the contributions of everyone who contributed to granting Berdichevsky the well-deserved honor of Professor Emerita status.
Department of Interpretation and Translation Hosts Second Symposium

Continued from page 5

Nicodemus, who served as symposium coordinator, said that this year’s event far exceeded her expectations with the number and quality of presentations. The 2017 symposium received three times as many presentation proposals as in 2014, when the inaugural symposium was held, resulting in an event comprising 36 presentations and 32 research posters. The topics covered prosody, workplace interpreting, trust, social and pragmatic considerations, linguistic flexibility, and many other studies that investigated the complex work of interpreting and translating. Nicodemus credited the success of the symposium to campus leadership and its dedication to research activity at Gallaudet. “The symposium would not have been possible without their encouragement and support every step of the way,” she said.

President Roberta J. Cordano, Provost Carol J. Erting, Graduate School and Continuing Education Dean Gaurav Mathur, and College of Arts and Science Dean Genie Gertz joined DOIT Chair Melanie Metzger in welcoming this year’s attendees.

“Interpreters provide an invaluable professional service in allegiance with the deaf community worldwide,” said Cordano. “We are proud to be the home of three levels of interpreter education: bachelor, master, and doctoral-level training, all of which include research in their curriculum. This research is conducted with the ultimate goal of providing outstanding language services for individuals, both deaf and hearing, who do not share the same language.”

continued on page 12

International Coffee Hour

International students discuss campus issues at an April 28, 2017 International Coffee Hour (ICH), hosted by the Office of Research Support and International Affairs. ICHs, which were held three times during the 2016-17 academic year and will continue in the 2017-18 year, offer a venue for international students to share feelings and concerns about living and studying in a culture that is often very different than what they are accustomed to. These events help ease international students’ adjustment to life in the United States and at Gallaudet University from their time of arrival to full integration into academics and other aspects of campus life. The University hopes that events such as these show international students that they are a valued part of the Gallaudet community.

Saudi Vision 2030

Graduate student Hamad Alhamad presented “Saudi Vision 2030. What Does the Saudi Vision 2030 Mean to the United States?” on February 18, 2017 to an audience of faculty, students, staff, and visitors. This presentation, along with a dinner, was hosted by the Saudi Students Organization at “Ole Jim.”
Students Enriched by Global Summer Internships - 2017

The University Career Center and supervising academic departments recognize the following students who served in international internships over the summer:

Changmai, Thailand (International Studies, World Languages and Cultures)
Christine Marshall
Laurel Peterson
Jade Delao

These students worked at the Anusarnsunthorn School for the Deaf in the Muang District of Changmai. They taught ASL and English to deaf and hard of hearing students at elementary, middle, and high school levels, and assisted teachers with activities in and out of the classroom.

Guam (International Studies, World Languages and Cultures)
Darriyan Thomas
Connor Baer
Angela Rogers
Myra Aguon

These students interned in the Oasis Empowerment Center, including work in a Summer sign language camp, working with older youth and adults with various needs, and organizing community events for the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Xalapa, Mexico (Spanish majors, World Languages and Cultures)
Cassidy Flagg
Bianca Mendoza

These students secured internships at the Resurrección de Sordos, A.C. in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. They conducted literacy skill development activities for members of the deaf community. Already fluent in Spanish, the interns also took classes in Mexican Sign Language during their internship.

Mexico City, Mexico
Claudia Hopkins

Hopkins interned at Alas de las Artes. Having dual citizenship in the U.S. and Mexico, she taught Mexican Sign Language to students and worked to empower and educate deaf Mexican citizens about their civil rights.

Liberia, Africa (International Studies, World Languages and Cultures)
Dominique Yeboa

Yeboa interned at the Liberian American Deaf Association in Monrovia, Liberia. She helped design programs and participate in training for various groups within the Liberian deaf community, including women’s health issues, advocacy, and organizational development.

New Delhi, India
Ethan Sonnenstrahl
Lianne Fahmie

These students interned at the Centum-Global Reach Out agency in New Delhi, India. During the 10-week internship, they worked closely with trainers at the agency to provide guidance on working with deaf clients and to institute deaf empowerment training. They assisted English instructors in the classroom, as well as helped the agency create a marketing strategy through the use of social media platforms.

Dong Da, Vietnam (Master of Public Administration)
Jarvis Grindstaff

Grindstaff interned at the World Concern Development Organization, a non-profit organization. During his 10 week internship, he learned how to manage at an international level and gained an understanding of how non-profits work with international government offices. Grindstaff also collected data related to accessible technology for deaf people in Vietnam to be used in his Capstone project for the fall 2017 semester.

Kingston, Jamaica (International Studies, World Languages and Cultures)
Krista Whitaker

Whitaker participated in a six-week internship at the Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf. She worked as an assistant teacher, presenting curriculum content in the classroom, engaging with students in after-school activities, and learning about deaf education and deaf culture in Jamaica, and Jamaican Sign Language.

Bogotá, Colombia (Education major, Spanish minor)
Joshua Aldredge

Aldredge interned at the National Institute for the Deaf of Colombia, under the Colombian Ministry of Education, as part of his Spanish minor studies. He learned about policy and administrative aspects of education while expanding his knowledge of another culture and international perspectives on education and deafness. Already quite knowledgeable in Spanish, he immersed himself in both Spanish and Colombian Sign Language.

Continued on page 8
Students Enriched by Global Internships - 2017

Continued from page 7

VIETNAM

Jarvis Grindstaff (second from right) who interned at World Concern Development Organization, Dong Da, Vietnam, is pictured with staff from the Hanoi Association of the Deaf during a meeting with representatives of the Hanoi Association of People with Disabilities to explore new strategies for supporting people with disabilities in Vietnam.

MEXICO

Bianca Mendoza (right) and Cassidy Flagg (left) interned at Resurrección de Sordos, A.C. in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico, conducting literacy skill development activities for members of the deaf community. They are shown meeting with Carolina Calderon Dis, an administrator at the school, to develop lesson plans.

INDIA

Ethan Sonnenstrahl (center) and Liane Fahmie (right) interned at the Centum-Global Reach Out agency in New Delhi, India.

GUAM

Darryn Thomas, Myra Aguon, and Angela Rogers host a makeshift booth during a fiesta on their final day of camp for deaf children in Guam.

Newest WDL Scholars

Continued from page 2

This year’s field of 338 applicants was screened for the first time by a committee made up of members of the campus community representing academic programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels. The committee pre-screened applications, determined eligibility, selected semi-finalists, narrowed the field to two finalists, and identified faculty mentors. The last step in the process was a site visit conducted by the mentors and WDL staff in the finalists’ countries to confirm that they had community and employer support for educational study in the chosen degree.

“The WDL staff deeply appreciates the work of the steering committee and the mentors in helping select this year’s WDL scholars,” said Danilo Torres, WDL committee chair and international liaison specialist in RSIA. “Their efforts were instrumental in identifying two outstanding WDL scholars for the 2017-2018 academic year. We all wish Rafael and Olufemi the best of luck and look forward to their success at Gallaudet and upon their return home as leaders in their communities.”

Gallaudet’s Global Connection newsletter is a publication of Gallaudet University’s Office of Research Support and International Affairs (RSIA), a unit of the University’s Academic Affairs division.

Dr. Carol J. Erting - Provost
Dr. Charles Reilly - Executive Director, RSIA
Todd Byrd - Editor
Sarah Magida - Designer

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Danilo Torres, international liaison specialist in Gallaudet’s Office of Research Support and International Affairs, talks about his life growing up in Colombia before moving to Miami, Fla., as a teenager and working in low-skilled jobs before a Gallaudet education led him on a path to success. Mr. Torres, who is deaf, and other self-advocates with different disabilities, were invited to share their personal experiences in accessing quality education and employment, the challenges they faced, and the strategies they used to overcome them, on the first day of a May 4 to 5 United States Agency for International Development (USAID) conference in Washington, D.C., entitled “Nuts and Bolts for Designing Disability Inclusive Education Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean.” According to its website, USAID’s goal is “ending extreme poverty and promoting the development of resilient, democratic societies that are able to realize their potential.”

On December 1, 2016, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invited Drs. Khadijat Rashid, interim dean of the School of Education, Business and Human Services, Audrey Cooper director of the M.A. Program in International Development, as well as Erin Moriarty Harrelson (Ph.D. candidate, American University), to participate in their “Innovation Conversation” program. They focused on the question: “How the UNDP can increase accessibility, become a truly inclusive employer, and be more effective in engaging with people with disabilities in our programming?”

Rashid presented “Inclusion Conundrums: Deaf Experiences with Inclusion,” emphasizing that inclusion is not “one size fits all.” She also encouraged UNDP partners to draw on the experiences of deaf people worldwide in the design and implementation of policies and programs that champion the full range of human diversity and capacity.

Following the panel, Liz Huckerby, chief of integrated talent at UNDP, facilitated a question and answer session with UNDP Human Resources staff. The day concluded with a tour of the United Nations with UNDP staff, interns, and volunteers.

Sandra Lopez (second from right), a graduate of the M.A. in International Development program, presented “Myth Buster: People with Disabilities” at the UN Development Programme’s Bureau of Policy and Programme Support (BPPS), at its New York City headquarters on May 24, 2017. The presentation addressed nine myths about people with disabilities related to social, economic, linguistic, and political issues, and their resulting negative impacts. Lopez, co-panelists, and a standing-room-only audience discussed these and the human-interactional, policy, and programmatic implications of understanding disability as a “cross-cutting issue.” Pictured (from left) with Lopez are panelists Maria Teresa Lago Lao (Bureau for Management Services), Lucy Richardson (front, BPPS GP Cluster), Sarah Poole (back, BPPS deputy director and panel moderator), and Sarah Rattray (BPPS Disability Focal Point).

United States Agency for International Development Conference
Gallaudet’s International Visitors

Gallaudet attracts a large number of international visitors every year. Many are aware of the University’s reputation and want to see it for themselves; others want more in-depth exposure to Gallaudet’s programs and services. All are welcome! In the past year, the Office of Research Support and International Affairs welcomed 160 visitors from 38 countries. Here are some examples:

Martha Lilia López Aquilera de Núñez (seated, second from right), president of the Citizen’s Council of the social welfare group DIF Tabasco and wife of the governor of the State of Tabasco, Mexico, is shown with other officials of DIF Tabasco during a March 27, 2017 visit to campus to collect ideas for developing a state-of-the-art after school program for deaf children in Tabasco. Also pictured are Dr. Maribel Garate (standing, second from left), chair of Gallaudet’s Department of Education, and Dr. Consuelo Manero Soto (standing, left) a Gallaudet alumna.

Daegu University President Duckryul Hong receives a gift from Gallaudet University President Roberta J. Cordano during a July 14, 2017 visit by a delegation from the university, which is located in Gyeongsan, South Korea. The educators visited Gallaudet to discuss the possibility of an exchange program between Daegu and Gallaudet.

Adam Kosa, the first deaf member of the European Parliament and a native of Hungary, visited Gallaudet University on April 18, 2017, where he was given a tour of the Brain and Language Laboratory for Neuroimaging, Motion Light Lab, Technology Access Program, and Visual Language and Visual Learning. Kosa’s visit concluded with a reception at the Office of the President, where he was welcomed by President Roberta J. Cordano.

Danielle Thompson-Ochoa (third from left), assistant professor in the Department of Counseling, and Danilo Torres (second from left), international liaison specialist in the Office of Research Support and International Affairs, pose for a photo with members of the Ukrainian technology company “BeWarned,” who visited Gallaudet on March 27, 2017 to test a new iPhone app they are developing that detects sounds of potential danger in real time and informs a deaf or hard of hearing user about it with the help of flashing lights and vibration signals.

Continued on page 11
Gallaudet’s International Visitors  Continued from page 10

Heather Harker (left) chief of staff in the Office of the President, and Dr. Charles Reilly, executive director of the Office of Research Support and International Affairs, meet with educators from Miriam College - Southeast Asian Institute for the Deaf, the first total communication school in the Philippines. The group came to campus on June 28, 2017 to learn more about Gallaudet’s initiatives and bilingual philosophy.

Chinemeze Nnadi (left), deputy chief of the Voice of Disability Initiative, is shown with English Language Institute English as a second language trainers Mary Dakim and Umar Tukur during a May 17, 2017 campus visit by Nnadi and other Nigerian government officials and non-governmental organization leaders. The group came to Gallaudet as part of a 10-day project in the U.S. under the auspices of the State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program to acquaint the Nigerian officials with efforts by the U.S. Government and private sector to ensure that public policy and practices honor the rights of people with disabilities.

President Roberta J. Cordano (seated, center) hosted a farewell reception for participants of the 2017 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders Initiative on August 2, 2017, at House One. The participants — five deaf and two hearing — will return to their respective countries after taking part in six-week training programs at various academic leadership institutes at universities across the U.S. Before they embarked on the training programs, they had taken part in a pre-institute program at Gallaudet June 9-16, the first of its kind.

Educators from North Africa and the Middle East pause for a photo at Kendall Demonstration Elementary School during a July 26, 2017 campus tour. The visit was hosted by the U.S. Department of State and World Learning, a nonprofit organization with programs in more than 100 countries that works to empower people and communities and strengthen institutions through education, sustainable development, and exchange programs. Also pictured are Glenn Lockhart, Director of Public Relations and Communications for the Clerc Center, Anna Ramach, coordinator of teaching and learning at Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, and Jonathan Cetrano, coordinator of outreach dissemination at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf.
Internationalization Initiative
Continued from page 1

University (Georgia), Kent State University (Ohio), Southern Connecticut State University, The University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa, The University of Arizona, Universidad El Bosque (Colombia), University of Nebraska Medical Center, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse, and West Chester University (Pennsylvania).

Participation in the ACE Internationalization Laboratory represents, “...a tremendous opportunity for these institutions to share lessons and challenges as they undergo a cultural transformation over the coming months,” said Dr. Robin Helms, director of ACE’s Center for Internationalization and Global Engagement, and Gallaudet’s primary advisor in the Internationalization Laboratory process.

Using a participatory approach over the upcoming year, and site visits by ACE experts, Gallaudet will review current international activities and clarify institutional goals. Next, a strategic action plan, tied to the University’s general strategic plan, will be developed. The campus effort is being led by an internationalization leadership team co-chaired by Dr. Caroline Solomon, a professor in the Department of Science, Technology, and Mathematics, and chair of the Faculty Senate; Dr. Charles Reilly, executive director of the Office of Research Support and International Affairs; Gregoire Youbara, an instructor in the Department of World Languages and Cultures, and William Hughes, assistant treasurer in the Division of Administration and Finance.

The first meeting of the Internationalization Laboratory was held on August 30, 2017 at ACE’s offices in Washington, D.C. It was attended by Heather Harker, chief of staff in the Office of the President, as well as the four co-chairs.

Gallaudet will participate in additional meetings with ACE staff this year and in 2018 to review progress, share experiences, and discuss subsequent steps. ACE will then organize a peer review by three external members who will visit the University to write an evaluation report and offer suggestions.

All members of the University community are welcome to participate in the review and planning effort. They can express their interest by emailing global@gallaudet.edu.

Doctoral Students Go Far

Continued from page 4

instructional platforms, collecting and coding data, preparing Institutional Review Board applications, learning the annotation tool ELAN, and academic writing, among others. The partnership between the scholar and the student may only last one semester, while at other times, the collaborations last four semesters, or even throughout their professional lives.

The level of connection in the internships varies based on the scope of work on the project and the degree of student contribution. Sometimes the scholar may write an acknowledgement for student work in a publication; at other times, students may be included as a co-author on a publication or present findings with the scholar at conferences. Occasionally, students receive some compensation for their work, if the scholar has funding support.

“The research internships were designed with the hope of bringing doctoral students excellent real-world experience with active scholars in the field, and with the hope that having doctoral-level interns would advance active scholarship in the field of signed language interpreting and translation studies,” said Dr. Melanie Metzger, outgoing department chair. “Feedback from students and scholars has been overwhelmingly positive. Now we see our Ph.D. graduates entering the field with international connections that will have a positive impact on interpreting and translation studies, and the international Deaf and hearing communities that are served, for many years to come.”

Department of Interpretation and Translation Hosts Symposium

Continued from page 6

“This is a rich opportunity to engage with information and research from all over the world, as well as participating in detailed analysis of interpreting and translation work, the process behind it, and social engagement,” said Metzger during her opening remarks.

The symposium included three keynote addresses. Dr. Beppie van den Bogaerde, a Dutch-Sign Language of the Netherlands interpreter and linguist, presented “Introducing research to sign language interpreter students: from horror to passion.” Dr. Xiaoyan Xiao, a professor from Xiamen University in China, who has taught Chinese-English interpretation for over 20 years, presented “Sign Lan--age on Chinese TV: Aw--eness and Ac--s, But Still M--sing the Mark.” Dr. Robert Adam, director of Continuing Professional Development at the Deafness Cognition and Language Research Centre at University College London, gave a presentation titled “Mind the gap: what is missing for Deaf interpreters and translators?”

The research presentations and posters represented a variety of topics, including more traditional topics of discourse and linguistic analyses, but new trends were seen by an increased focus on translation, ideologies, cognitive processes, and deaf interpreting. Each is an emerging area of research in Interpretation and Translation Studies, and will continue to shape thinking in years to come.

As in 2014, the 2017 Symposium will result in a volume of selected papers published by Gallaudet University Press and co-edited by DOIT faculty members Dr. Danielle Hunt and Dr. Emily Shaw. CAITR will continue deep research engagement in the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral programs, continue developing its Research Chats video series, host its annual Colloquium Lecture Series, and guide many other activities.