

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

## Enabling Internationalization: University of Illinois Global Academy

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Office of International Programs

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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[illinois.edu](http://illinois.edu)

# Land grant mandate

Apply highest quality research, teaching, and extension to pressing social issues.

Issues are International, Transdisciplinary, and Span the Land Grant Missions



=>Barriers to Relevant Research and Engagement

# Barriers and Friction

Identification of sponsors

Atypical sponsor processes

Atypical sponsor expectations (cross-mission)

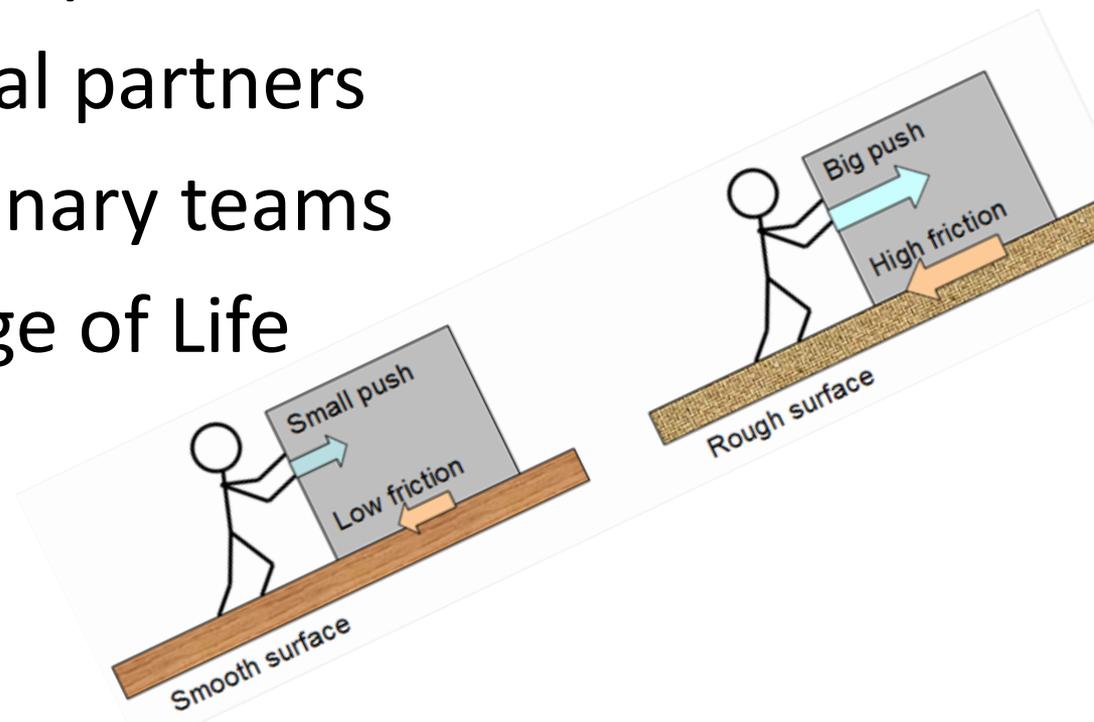
Need for in-country expertise

Need for international partners

Need for interdisciplinary teams

Time, Travel and Stage of Life

Gestation periods



# Illinois Context

## Historical Engagement

19<sup>th</sup> Century in Brazil

1960s Africa, South Asia and Middle East

1990s Study abroad

By 1990-2005, research capacity  
focused more inward.

More basic science

More local relevance

(“**Locally Relevant and Globally Preeminent**”)

2005

Big international alumni network

Strong global reputation

Relatively little international  
engagement

## Major Milestones in Animal Sciences History

1867

University of Illinois opens



1901

Department of Animal Husbandry established

1902

Department of Dairy Husbandry established;  
Both departments housed in Davenport Hall

1905

Round Barns Built



1922

Mumford Hall Agricultural Building built

1947

Animal and Dairy Husbandry adapt new names:  
Animal Sciences and Dairy Sciences

1952

Animal Sciences Laboratory built



1982

Meats Science Lab opened

1985

Animal and Dairy Sciences departments merge

2001

Centennial celebration for Animal Sciences

2004

New Beef Research Unit dedicated

2007

New Poultry Research Unit dedicated

# Global Academy

**Launched in 2006 to internationalize faculty**

## **Build Capacity of Faculty to Work Internationally**

Raise awareness of opportunities & programs

Raise familiarity with agencies & institutions

Raise awareness of services & partnerships

Identify needs for services

Facilitate collaboration within our campus

Share experiences in partnerships to address costs

## **Build Institutional Capacity through Partnerships**

Raise awareness of ACES/Illinois with agencies etc.

Increase understanding of/by partners

Build more substantive and multidimensional partnerships  
across levels, themes and missions

# Global Academy: Structure

Announce Theme and Partner Institutions

Solicit Applications to Participate

Faculty at all stages of career are eligible

Faculty from all 7 departments of College

Representation from Extension

Department Head's endorsement required

Include "veterans" consistent with theme and institution

# Global Academy: Activities

## On Campus Workshops (fellows only)

- Campus resources for international work
- Internationalizing the syllabus & classroom
- Presenting research to interdisciplinary groups
- Conversations with sponsors and partner institutions

## On Campus Seminars (open sessions)

- by sponsor representatives
- from relevant agencies (FAS, USAID, NIFA)
- by partner institution representatives

DC Trip, if needed (fellows only)

International Trip (fellows only)

Competitive internal funding for follow up

# Global Academy: Activities

## **International Immersion Experience**

Joint Symposium w/ host institution  
or series of seminars

Individual meetings

Institutional orientations

Administrative meetings

multilevel, multidimensional partnerships

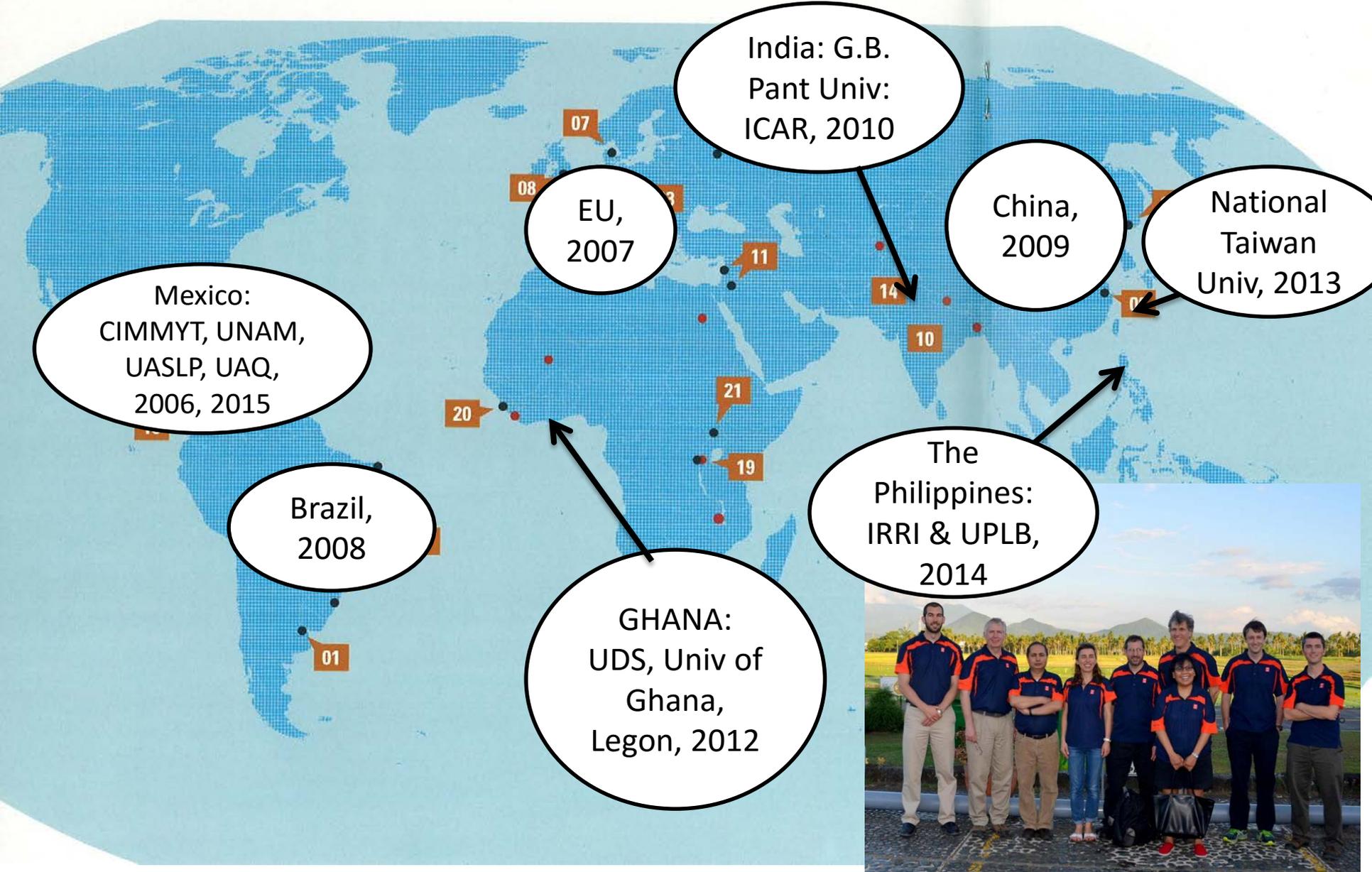
## **Follow up**

Matching grants/seed grants

Second year symposium

Open seminars

# ACES' IMPACT AROUND THE GLOBE



# Program Evolution

2006

Junior faculty in ACES

40% mechanics & landscape

20% internal relationships

20% external relationships

emphasis on quantity

10% concepts

Discrete experience

Introducing international

2016

All faculty campus-wide

(Restrictions on non-ACES)

20% mechanics & landscape

20% internal relationships

40% external relationships

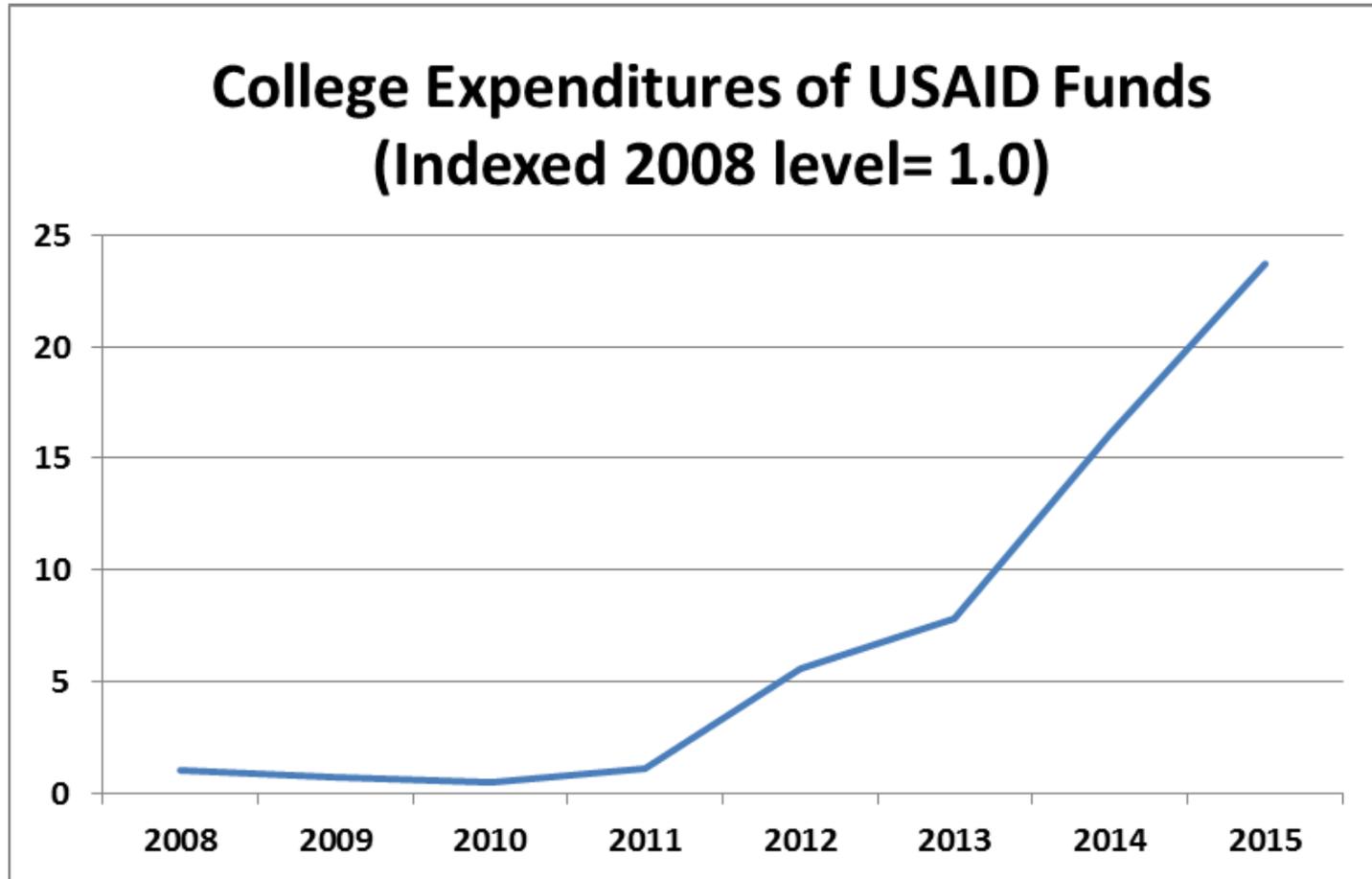
emphasis on quality

20% concepts

Integrated into program

Intensifying international

# Global Academy Outcomes



Poised to take advantage of opportunities

# Global Academy: Outcomes

## Testimonials

“The ACES Global Academy will have a long-term impact on my professional career. I have already been invited back to UPLB to teach a short course and I am working with colleagues at IRRI to...” (2014 cohort)

“As a result of the ACES Global Academy, I created a professional and social network with staff, students and alums from the National Taiwan University and have several sustained and emerging collaborations” (2013 cohort)

# Global Academy Outcomes

## External Funding

- 40% of participants report receipt of funding attributable to Global Academy experience

## Teaching

- 1 undergraduate course influenced per participant

## Research output

- 40% of participants report that Global Academy contributed to at least one published paper.

# Global Academy Outcomes

## International Mainstreaming

Integrated into annual performance reporting

## Strengthened Partnerships for Institution

IRRI, UASLP, UDS, etc

USAID, USDA-FAS, World Bank, FAO etc

## New Dimensions/Directions in Research

Matching grants (IRRI)

Faculty/scholar visits/exchanges (NTU, UPLB)

Graduate student pipelines

Joint symposia, research, and publications

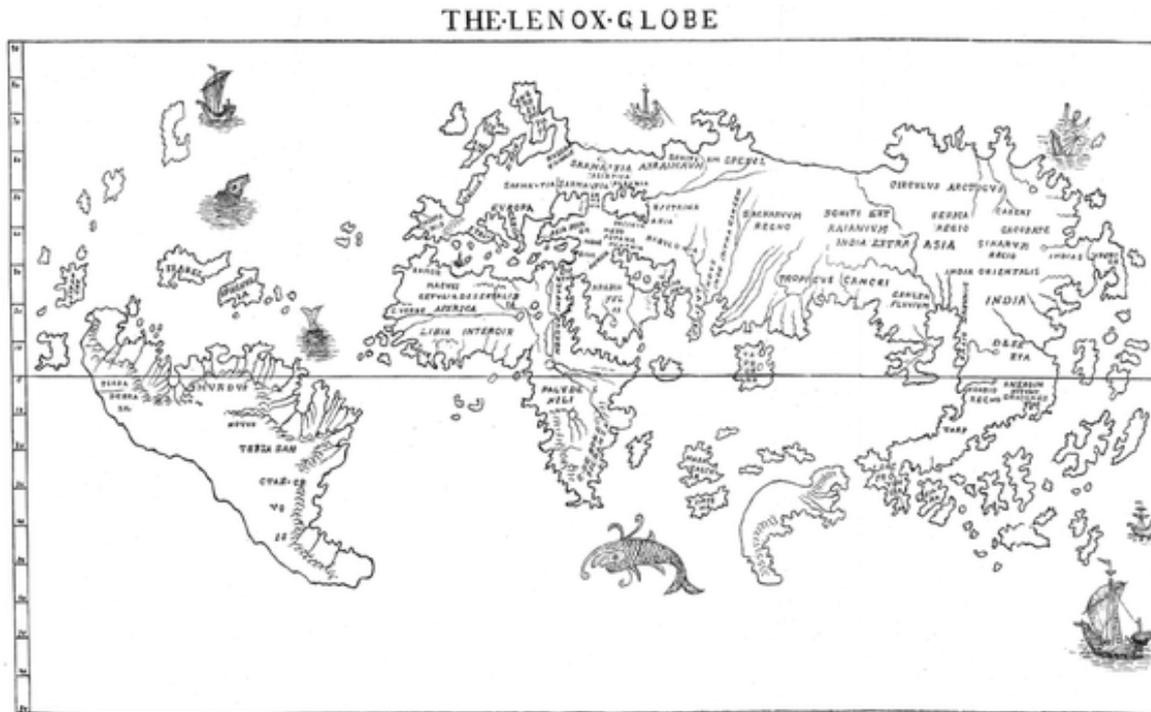
New research initiatives, often interdepartmental

# What worked

- Strategic choices of partners and themes
  - To build substantive institutional ties
- Integrated programming
  - Preparation, travel, follow-up
- Multi-level teams
  - Inclusion of administration in travel
- Interdisciplinary teams
  - Build relationships and content awareness
- Intergenerational
  - Inclusion of experienced or senior members for social learning
- Endowment helps!
  - But not absolutely needed.

# Challenges

- Strategic choices of partners and themes
  - Don't have full information on starting point
- Multi-level teams
  - Hard to ensure “right” people are at the table or aware of priorities, activities and constraints (see above)



# Challenges: Self Awareness

<https://intlprograms.aces.illinois.edu/oip-impacts-map-view>

Collaborations and top keyword concepts use

Click dots and donuts to bring up details.

<https://experts.illinois.edu/>

The screenshot displays the ACES Office of International Programs website. The header includes the text "ACES Office of INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS" and the "GIVE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS" logo. A navigation bar lists "ABOUT", "INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS", "RESOURCES & SERVICES", and "INTERNATIONAL FOOD SECURITY". Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb "HOME » INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS" is visible. On the left side, there is a search interface with a "Search by Title" input field, a "search" button, and a list of filters: "Country/Countries", "Topic Area(s)", "Involvement Type(s)", and "Department(s) Involved". The main content area features a map of Southeast Asia and South Asia. The map shows several countries with circular data points of varying sizes and colors (grey, blue, green) overlaid on them, indicating the frequency or intensity of collaborations or keyword concepts. Countries labeled include India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, and Indonesia. Major cities like Mumbai, Bangkok, Hanoi, and Jakarta are also marked. The map is credited to Google and includes a copyright notice for 2014.

# Challenges

- Institutional Self Awareness
- Integrated programming
  - Not consistent with band width and multiple objectives
- Interdisciplinary teams
  - Hard to move beyond the superficial
  - Impose “irrelevant” activity
  - Battle for recognition of “quality” output
- Intergenerational
  - Match both international experience and interest area constrained
- Funding
  - Must continuously make the case and continuously evolve

# Know Thyself

What is Illinois good at and willing to apply internationally—non-exhaustive list

Crop Genetics—Rice, Corn, Soybeans, Feedstock

Animal Nutrition and Reproduction

Development Economics

Data Analytics

Soybean Value Chain Development

Postharvest loss prevention

Extension Strengthening

Food Safety

Mechanization

Water Quality