



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE DIVISION OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



January 2020 Newsletter



Inside the Issue

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

We chatted with graduate student Callistus Ofozoba about his experience in UL Lafayette's Educational Leadership program.

NEW YEAR, NEW DECADE!

Find out about all the events that are coming up this year and how to get involved on campus.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

We list important dates you need to know for this semester and provide important resources you might need in the near future.



SPRING 2020 STATISTICS

This semester the Division of Global Engagement welcomed 495 students from 73 different countries to UL Lafayette.

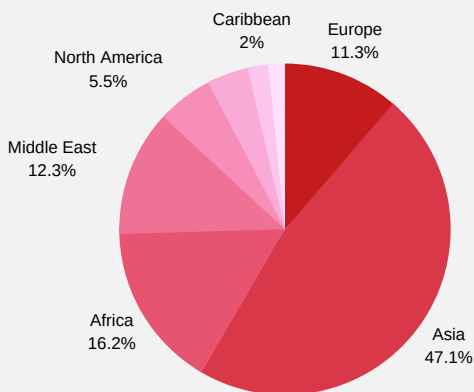
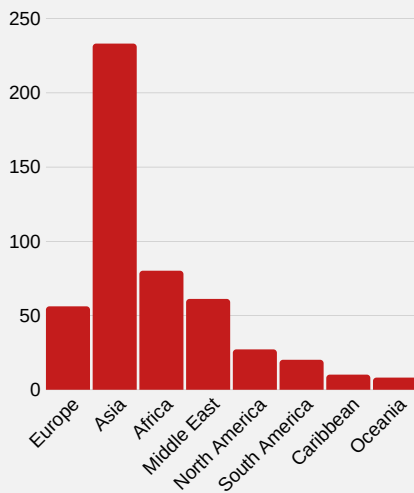
The number of nations represented on campus jumped from 69 to 73 when students from Antigua & Barbuda, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Gabon & Pakistan enrolled.



WELCOME BACK CAJUNS!

Our office is so excited to welcome everyone back to campus. This semester is not only the beginning of a new year, but a new decade! We welcomed new students from four different countries to Lafayette! A lot is happening this semester so make sure you keep up with our office's website and social media, as well as, the University's calendar for updates on events happening this Spring.

SPRING 2020 ENROLLMENT



JANUARY INTERNATIONAL HOUR/OPT INFO SESSION

The Division of Global Engagement held the first International Hour of the Spring semester on January 24th. We offered an Optional Practical Training (OPT) Information Session, but don't worry if you missed it! Our office will be holding another session covering OPT and CPT on April 3rd. In regards to any current concerns or questions about OPT and CPT, please refer to the Office of International Affairs' website. If your question cannot be answered using our website, please feel free to attend one of our International Hour Information Sessions or come to our office during, OPT and CPT advising sessions from 2 p.m- 5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday in Room 136 of the Student Union. Students graduating in the Spring 2020 semester can apply for OPT with the DGE as early as February 15, 2020 through July 7, 2020.





TAX INFORMATION

All undergraduate and graduate students who were physically present in the U.S in F or J status anytime between January 1 – December 31, 2019 are required to send Form 8843 before April 15, 2020 to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), even if no income was earned. Students who earned \$1 of U.S source income or greater during 2019 must file a federal tax return (Form 1040NR) and a state of Louisiana tax return. The Division of Global Engagement partners with Sprintax, a company that specializes in non-resident tax preparation. Please be sure to check your university email as our office will soon send information to all F and J students with step-by-step instructions on how to use Sprintax tax preparation software. To learn more about the U.S. tax system and understand your tax filing obligations, please attend our next International Hour Tax Information Session on February 14th located in the IEP Building (413 Brook Avenue).



CAMPUS CUPBOARD

The Campus Cupboard is a resource for UL Lafayette students who require short-term assistance to meet their food needs.

The pantry provides free, nonperishable items to students. It's located in UL Lafayette's Intensive English Program building at 413 Brook Avenue next to The Saint Street Inn. This is an organization that thrives with volunteer support. The Campus Cupboard is open on Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Students who visit the Campus Cupboard will be asked to present their University IDs.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: CALLISTUS OFOZOBA

Meet your classmates!



Obinna Callistus Ofozoba is a graduate student from Nigeria pursuing a master's degree in Educational Leadership at UL Lafayette.

What is your favorite part of the program you're studying?

It is structured in such a way that although courses are different, content is harmonized to prepare very effective and efficient educational leaders. Moreover, I greatly appreciate the internship part of the program which affords students the opportunity to translate theory into practice.

What has been your fondest memory of your time at UL Lafayette?

My fondest memory so far was the celebration of The World at Lafayette. The event served as an opportunity for me to interact with students of other nationalities and learn new things about their countries.

Why should other international students choose to attend UL Lafayette?

I believe other international students should attend UL Lafayette because of the University's absolute commitment to quality education and its strong emphasis on student-centered learning. The mix of cultures in the state and at UL will help broaden one's view and perception of life.

STUDENT RESOURCES & IMPORTANT DATES

Take advantage of these campus resources.

IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS

Mardi Gras Holiday - February 24th-26th

Spring Break - April 10th-19th

OPT Application Deadline - February 18th



INTERNATIONAL HOUR EVENTS

February 14th- Income Tax Info Session

As an F-1 or J-1 Student, it's important to understand the tax requirements of your visa and filing obligations with the IRS. Basic tax info will be covered.

March 20th- CPT Info Session

Come to the Spring 2020 CPT Info Session to learn about the process for internships for F-1 students just in time for summer.

April 3rd- OPT & CPT Info Session

The last International Hour of the semester includes a presentation of the various types of work authorization for F-1 Students.

IEP SESSION DEADLINES

<u>2020 Sessions</u>	<u>Deadline for Students outside the U.S.</u>	<u>Deadline for Students inside the U.S.</u>
Spring I 2020 (January 9 – March 13)	November 29, 2019	December 13, 2019
Spring II 2020 (March 19 – May 22)	February 7, 2020	March 9, 2020
Summer 2020 (June 4 – July 31)*	May 1, 2020	May 25, 2020
Fall I 2020 (August 6 – October 2)*	June 26, 2020	July 31, 2020
Fall II 2020 (October 8 – December 4)*	September 4, 2020	October 5, 2020

SAVE THE DATE

May 11-
2020 Farewell Reception
All 2020 graduates and their families are invited to attend this event honoring new alumni of the University.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



UL Lafayette Division of Global Engagement

International Student Council at UL Lafayette



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