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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear colleagues, distinguished partners, and friends,

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign has a proud history of collaborating with world-class institutions around the globe to create an environment where innovation can move freely across geopolitical, cultural, disciplinary, and academic borders. Global Relations works closely with campus partners who engage in global work to facilitate and support successful collaborations. In 2021-2022, Global Relations:

• Managed over 400 active institutional agreements in 53 countries.
• Facilitated 86 new/renewed agreements in 35 countries.
• Welcomed visitors from 10 countries since international travel resumed.
• Facilitated new collaboration opportunities with Panama for Grainger College of Engineering and College of Education.
• Hosted a joint online lecture titled Racism and Apartheid in South Africa and the United States between the Departments of History at Illinois and the University of Johannesburg.

Additionally, we are pleased to share that twelve scholars from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign were awarded Fulbright awards for 2021-2022 — making the university the top doctoral institution in terms of numbers of scholars offered grants.

In this report, we invite you to explore the data and stories about all university partnerships, visits hosted by Global Relations, exceptional Fulbright scholars, and highlights from the colleges and institutes across campus that are engaging in global work.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sammer Saleh Jones, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Director for Global Relations
The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign engages in institutional agreements with other universities, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private corporations to support the unique goals of the university and facilitate the mobility of students, faculty, and staff as they make meaningful contributions to the world’s most pressing challenges.

The University of Illinois currently has more than 400 institutional agreements in its international portfolio. The next four pages provide an in-depth breakdown of all active institutional agreements.

**AGREEMENTS BY TYPE**

- **STUDENT EXCHANGE**: 116
- **GENERAL MOU**: 83
- **STUDY ABROAD**: 52
- **COOPERATIVE EDUCATION**: 50
- **VIRTUAL GLOBAL EXPERIENCE**: 17
- **RESEARCH (MOU)**: 17
- **OTHER**: 17

**“Other” includes: internship agreements, fellowship agreements, collaboration agreements, services agreements, and etc.**

**AGREEMENT BY COLLEGES AND INSTITUTES**

- **ENGINEERING**: 117
- **LAS**: 85
- **ACES**: 78
- **BUSINESS**: 42
- **LAW**: 33
- **FAA**: 32
- **OTHER**: 17

*The numbers represent the number of agreements by college and institute.
PARTNER INSTITUTIONS BY # OF AGREEMENTS

1. National Taiwan University  
2. Zhejiang University (including ZJUI)  
3. Campus Brasil Turismo e Intercambio Educaional Ltd  
4. Illinois in Vienna Programs  
5. National Chengchi University  
6. Peking University  
7. Universidad Pontificia Comillas  
8. Waseda University  
9. City University of Hong Kong  
10. Dublin City University  
11. Georgia Sermamoglu-Soulmadi  
12. KU Leuven  
13. Nanjing University  
14. National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University  
15. Stockholm University  
16. Universidad San Francisco de Quito  
17. University of New South Wales  
18. VinAcademy (VinUniversity)  
19. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
20. Yonsei University  
21. National Tsing Hua University

# of Agreements
NEW INITIATIVES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

A key priority of Vision 2030, the global strategy for the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, is prioritizing just, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable engagement for impact in the Global South.

- The University of Illinois System opened its first office in Mexico City, on the campus of Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM). This is part of the University of Illinois System Mexican & Mexican-American Students (I-MMÁS, pronounced I-MAS) initiative to strengthen ties to Mexican higher education, industry, and government to explore areas for greater cooperation.
- The University of Illinois Board of Trustees approved the plan to establish a System liaison office in New Delhi, India, and a branch office in Bengaluru (Bangalore) to further develop relationships with academic and corporate partners and alumni, as well as support student recruitment.
The number of agreements we have with the top 10 countries almost takes up 70% of our total number of international agreements.

* USA was not counted for the number of total countries we currently have agreements with (53).
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE

Kyushu University, Japan
- $100,000 matching seed grants established to support and promote the partnerships in the following areas:
  - Smart Grid and Sustainable Energy
  - Environmental Economics
  - Data Science/Data Management and Curation (includes Mathematics)
  - Humanities
  - Library Science

BRIDGE Strategic Partnership with the University of Birmingham (UoB), United Kingdom
- Hosted the first Research Leaders Program visiting delegation from UoB since 2019.
- Resumed BRIDGE Seed Funding and awarded 13 faculty on each campus.
- Established new BRIDGE Water Research Fellowship.

National Taiwan University (NTU), Taiwan
- Renewed the strategic partnership MOU with NTU.
- Planning for an incoming delegation from NTU lead by the Associate Vice Chancellor for International Affairs.

Zhejiang University, China
- Celebrated 20 years of the partnership virtually.
- The second cohort of the ZJUI students graduated.

INSPIRE: Illinois–Sweden Program for Educational and Research Exchange with KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm University and Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- Met with a delegation from KTH Royal Institute of Technology lead by the Vice President for Global Relations that visited our campus to explore collaborations in Engineering.
Global Relations works with colleges and departments to coordinate on-campus visits for international guests, prospective and current international partners, visiting scholars, and consular offices as well as providing support for outgoing visiting delegations. On-campus visits resumed in Spring 2022.

**INCOMING VISITS**

- **21** VISITING DELEGATIONS
- **125** DELEGATIONS MEMBERS
- **10** COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

**VISIT BREAKDOWN**

- **23** TOTAL IN-PERSON VISITS
- **21** IN-PERSON
- **2** OUTGOING
- **14** VIRTUAL

Visit by University of Johannesburg
The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.” Global Relations works with faculty pursuing Fulbright opportunities while students are served by the National & International Scholarship Program.

**FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS**
- **INCOMING**: 9
- **OUTGOING**: 7

**FULBRIGHT STUDENTS**
- **INCOMING**: 40
- **OUTGOING**: 9

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**Story Highlight**

The University of Illinois is a Top Producer of Fulbright U.S. Scholars

Twelve scholars from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign were awarded Fulbright awards for 2021-2022 — making the university the number one doctoral institution in terms of the number of scholars offered grants.

“The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is known for extending its research, education and engagement around the world,” said Chancellor Robert J. Jones. “We are proud of our reputation as a global university with exceptional scholars who are working to make a significant, societal impact.”

**CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL STORY**
College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS)

- In the Department of Recreation, Sport, and Tourism, several faculty members engaged in collaborative activities:
  - Toni Liechty served as lead guest editor for a special issue of World Leisure Journal in Fall 2021 with co-guest editors from Canada and Brazil.
  - Miki Sato collaborated with 13 faculty members based in Australia, Canada, China, Iran, Japan, and the United Kingdom on research activities.
  - Bill Stewart completed a three-year ENVISION research project directed at inclusive conservation of protected areas to enhance biodiversity and human well-being. Project lead based at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, with co-PI’s at the University of Illinois and universities in Germany, Spain, and the Netherlands.
  - Monika Stodolska completed pilot interviews in Poland for a project on Ukrainian’s refugees experiences and adaptation in Poland, and on the roles of leisure in helping them deal with the war trauma and foster their establishment in the host country.
  - Sharon Zou worked with UK faculty and the director of Cambridge Half Marathon on their runners and spectator’s behaviors and consumption data.
  - Jules Woolf collaborated with the Caribbean Regional Anti-Doping Organization in addition to conducting research at the inaugural Caribbean Games in Guadeloupe.
- In the Department of Speech and Hearing Science, Associate Professor Marie Channell co-presented her research on Down syndrome to parents, practitioners, and other researchers at the annual Down Syndrome Research Forum hosted by the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom (March 2022) and Assistant Professor Brian Monson gave a talk at the Acoustics of Ancient Theatres Symposium in Verona, Italy, highlighting his research on singing voice acoustics and extended high-frequency hearing.

College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES)

- ACES hosted visitors from the Government of Indonesia to discuss developing cooperative activities in education and research (October 2022) as well as a delegation of French Senators focusing on developing collaborative platforms in the digital agriculture space (April 2022).
- ACES strengthened two key partnerships in 2021-2022. A virtual expert exchange with the Federal University of Lavras in Brazil continued throughout the academic year and the longstanding partnership with Chungnam National University in South Korea was expanded to include the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (LAS). The latter will result in a student mobility program and active faculty exchange between the two institutions.
Gies College of Business (Gies)

- Gies and the Illinois Economics Department signed a joint MOU with the Kyiv School of Economics in Ukraine. As a result, 20 Ukrainian students will take up to 12 hours of any Gies iDegree course free of charge. Gies is also offering five $5,000 non-residential fellowships for faculty and graduate students living in Ukraine.
- Gies has curated a course in analytics to be offered in collaboration with ABRACICON, the educational partner of Brazil’s CFC (Conselho Federal de Contabilidade). The course is “Introduction to Accounting Data Analytics and Visualization” and is taught by Ron Guymon. Gies has customized the content for CFC’s professional accountant members (including translating the content to Portuguese), expanding Gies’ global presence. The CFC has accredited the course for its members’ continuing professional education requirements, thereby creating a relevant upskilling opportunity for its over 140,000 members.
- For the “Smart Leaders – Smart Cities” study abroad program, 58 Gies Scholars worked with students from the Vienna University of Economics and Business (Wirtschafts Universität Wien or WU) and four Brazilian students. They discussed global megatrends as well as pressing questions about smart and sustainable living at WU. In addition to lectures, there were topic-based excursions in and around Vienna, as well as a day trip to Smart City Graz. Because smart and sustainable business is an essential component of this program, students also visited local startups and learned how leaders make an impact in a more sustainable society.

College of Education

- In alignment with the university’s Vision 2030: Global Strategy, the College of Education established a new study abroad program in Panama, where Illinois preservice teachers pursue global fieldwork in schools.
- The College of Education’s virtual exchange laboratory, iGlobal, was expanded to include 700 middle school students from 13 countries. Preservice teachers develop both global and digital competencies as they lead students in projects and activities focused on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Joined a university delegation to Panama to explore partnership opportunities, which resulted in a student teaching practicum program.
Grainger College of Engineering (Grainger)

- Grainger initiated an educational and research collaboration with Insper, a university located in Sao Paulo, Brazil. This multi-year collaboration focuses on computer science and data science, and involves curriculum development, exchange of graduate students and postdocs, research collaborations between faculty, and undergraduate research experiences.
- In collaboration with Vin University in Hanoi, Vietnam, Grainger recently started the VinUni-Illinois Smart Health Center (VISHC) led by Professor Minh Do from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Organized around ten collaborative research teams — and involving up to 10 postdocs, 50 PhD students and 50 Master’s students — the center focuses on the development and implementation of scientific methods and technologies in areas ranging from smart health devices to machine learning and environmental studies.
- Grainger’s joint undergraduate degree program with Zhejiang University (ZJU) — located at their International Campus in Haining, China — awarded 135 students with both Illinois and ZJU Bachelor’s degrees in Spring 2022, making it the largest degree class since the program’s inception.

College of Fine and Applied Arts (FAA)

- Professor Stephen Fairbanks hosted a Summer Music Residency at the University of Cambridge for four weeks in July and August 2022 with undergraduate and graduate students.
- The School of Architecture continues to host an academic two-semester residency for around 30 undergraduate and graduate architecture majors each year with The Vallès School of Architecture (ETSAV) of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya · BarcelonaTech (UPC).

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (LAS)

- In May 2022, the LAS Global Leaders Program hosted its second annual Social Innovation Forum at the University of Antioquia in Medellin, Colombia. Throughout the year, LAS students worked with local and international organizations including NGOs in Colombia, using human-centered design principles to address issues of mass incarceration and food insecurity.
- LAS developed a new partnership with National Tsing Hua University (NTHU) in Taiwan. With funding from Taiwan’s Ministry of Education, the department of East Asian Languages and Cultures will host a visiting lecturer in Mandarin and provide scholarships for University of Illinois students to study Mandarin at NTHU.
- In fall 2021, LAS International Programs launched a Global Classrooms faculty training and support program. Open to all faculty campus-wide, the program provides Global Classrooms instructors and their international partners with an asynchronous and self-guided online training as well as office hours to discuss course development. The training covers everything from instructional design, technology, and academic resources to assistance in identifying an international teaching partner.
School of Information Sciences (iSchool)

- Faculty at the School of Information Sciences lead the development and signing of a joint MOU with 2 leading universities in Bogota, Colombia: The University Javeriana and the University del Rosario. It has also seeded a third MOU with Colombia's largest public university - the National University of Colombia. As a result, visiting researchers from Colombia will be hosted at the iSchool in the Spring 2023. Additional funding from the Global Studies Center and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies was also acquired to support programming and travel between the campuses for the next 3 years.
- Faculty at the School of Information Sciences developed a planning workshop with more than two dozen faculty from across the campus to seed an interdisciplinary Certificate in Global Technology, Culture and Digital Equity. The meeting occurred in the Fall 2022, and faculty across 6 colleges as well as from the Colombian campuses were also virtually present. With more than a dozen courses initially proposed as part of its interdisciplinary curricula, it aims to responds to growing demands to strengthen new professional literacies and evolve methods for interrogating the relationship between information and communication technologies in global context, structural inequality, and social change.
- iSchool co-hosted Kyshu-Illinois Colloquium with University and Grainger Libraries to explore past, present and future collaborations in library, information and data sciences, data curation and digital humanities.
- Reopened our Visiting Scholars and Research Fellows program after COVID-19 shutdown. Scholars and Fellows from Australia, Austria, China, Germany, Japan and Brazil have participated in iSchool research and engagement activities.

School of Labor and Employment Relations (LER)

- The Harry & Pola Triandis Ph.D. support fund was finalized in fall 2021. The funding is intended for a Ph.D. student performing cross-cultural or international human resources research. Additionally, LER established a K-PAL fund in spring 2022 to specifically support Korean students pursuing Ph.Ds. This current use fund is populated by annual gifts from 10-12 Korean alumni.
- Cory Hatfield and Brian Neighbors prepared quarterly emails to share news with LER’s internationally based alumni, who primarily reside in Asia. LER is also partnering with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement’s international team to connect with international alumni.
- LER’s International Peer Advisor hosted two international alumni panels on early career opportunities and job search best practice strategies in non-US countries with alumni reps located in China, Singapore, South Korea.
Carle Illinois College of Medicine

- The Carle Illinois College of Medicine engaged in meetings with representatives from South African universities over the past academic year, specifically with the University of Johannesburg in April 2021 and the University of KwaZulu-Natal in September 2021.

College of Media

- The Charles H. Sandage Department of Advertising established a 3+2 collaborative education agreement with the Department of Media and Communication at City University of Hong Kong.
- Dr. Margaret Ng, an assistant professor of Journalism, is a research associate with United Nations Global Pulse, an innovation initiative of the UN Secretary-General to harness big data and emerging communication technologies for sustainable development and humanitarian action. Ng is applying machine learning and data analysis techniques to study misinformation on YouTube and hate speech on African radio stations, among other projects.
- In spring and summer 2022, College of Media students studied abroad in Spain, Denmark, Chile, and Italy.

School of Social Work (SSW)

- Led by Professors Hellen McDonald and Lindsey Trout, the SSW developed an international internship site in Japan. A current MSW student is completing an internship in Japan due to through the agency, TELL Japan, a mental health service provider that serves primarily English-speaking clients, who have immigrated to Japan or who reside there temporarily.
- Professor Ben Lough led several international engagement activities in Norway, which resulted in the publication Unpacking reciprocity in international exchange cooperation (Førde, Norway: Norec.) as well as several presentations.
- Ben Lough and his colleagues edited a special issue of the journal Voluntaris, which contains articles from data collected from volunteer-involving organizations in 10 countries of the Global South. The articles are all written by emerging scholars from the Global South, whom they were mentored to conduct the research.
Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology (Beckman)

- In February 2022, Beckman welcomed Rebecca Powers, who is on a Marie S. Curie Individual Global Fellow. She is working with psychology Professor Aron Barbey to study the relationship between nutrition and brain health and cognition, and specifically differences between men and women. She is using Beckman's Biomedical Imaging Center’s 3 Tesla human MRI scanners for this work, as well as the 7 Tesla MRI campus co-owns through the Carle Illinois Advanced Imaging Center. Her work is meant to stimulate interdisciplinary collaboration and bi-directional transfer of knowledge between the university and the Nutrition Research Centre Ireland at Waterford Institute of Technology in Ireland.
- In fall 2021, Luisa Ciobanu visited as a Beckman Institute Senior Fellow. She is a magnetic resonance imaging expert and innovation extraordinaire and collaborated with researchers in Beckman's Biomedical Imaging Center to advance the institute’s endeavors in MRI. Ciobanu is a research team head at NeuroSpin, Commissariat à l’Energie Atomique in Saclay, France.

C3.ai Digital Transformation Institute (DTI)

- C3.ai DTI added KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden as an academic partner in the institute. As a partner, KTH have a representative on the Executive Committee of the institute, which helps shape the research agenda of the institute. The DTI has also provided research awards to teams consisting of researchers from the University of Illinois and KTH.

Cancer Center at Illinois (CCIL)

- CCIL fosters basic science and engineering innovations to spur scientific discovery into the nature of cancer and to develop interventions that can help clinicians across the world prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer, both cost-effectively and at scale.
- During 2021, members of the CCIL were actively engaged in partnerships with colleagues at international universities and organizations in Australia (UNSW Medicine), Austria (Medizinische Universität Graz, Medizinische Universität Wien, and Medizinische Universität Innsbruck), and Canada (Onatario Veterinary College, Max Rady College of Medicine, Hospital for Sick Children University of Toronto, University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, and Mount Sinai Hospital of University of Toronto). These partnerships are evidenced through intellectual exchanges demonstrated via research articles, white papers, and other generated publications.
Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB)

- With support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, IGB has developed a cutting-edge program in agricultural research that spans multiple sites in the United States, United Kingdom, and the African continent.
- IGB has partnered with the Africa BioGenome Project for scientific exchange and capacity building. The Africa BioGenome Project is a major pan-African initiative to leverage genomics for advances in medicine, agriculture, and conservation.

Center for Social and Behavioral Science (CSBS)

- Kevin Leicht, Professor in Sociology, is the PI on a CSBS grant to undertake a research project tracking and identifying the nodes of misinformation regarding COVID-19 origins, spread, and treatment to (a) provide coherent and up-to-date information on the networks through which false information is spread, and (b) to provide scientists, policy makers and journalists with potential places to concentrate their efforts to mitigate the effects of misinformation as the pandemic unfolds. This research team collaborates with Dr. Scott Hale, who is based in the United Kingdom at Oxford University.
- Matt Winters, Professor in Political Science, is the PI on a CSBS grant that is supporting a research team to conduct an online survey among high-skilled migrants living in Singapore. The survey asked about respondents' participation in Singaporean politics and home-country politics and asked a variety of questions about their incorporation into Singaporean society more generally. The research team is working on a manuscript based on this survey data that looks at the relationship between home-country and host-country political participation.
ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS BY INSTITUTES

Humanities Research Institute (HRI)

• Professor and Chair of Near Eastern Studies Department and Director of Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies at Princeton University, Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi, spoke about revolution and crisis at HRI in Fall 2021.
• Dr. Magdalena Novoa E. (Department of Urban and Regional Planning), HRI Summer Faculty Research Fellow in 2021, conducted preliminary research to design, manage, and construct a memory site and documentation center in the Malleco National Forest Reserve, Chile.
• Dr. Eda Derhermi (Department of French & Italian) and David O’Brien (Art + Design), both HRI Summer Faculty Research Fellows in 2022, conducted research in Greece and France respectively.
• HRI partnered with the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER), based in Johannesburg, South Africa to co-host a session of their public positions series. The series assembles talks that demonstrate the importance of knowing how to better interweave projects of political order with technoscientific equipment to maintain planetary life for all. Symptoms of Crisis: “Fanon After Fanon” was hosted in fall 2021.
• Drs. Eugene M. Avrutin and Valeria Sobol, co-directors of the HRI’s Research Cluster Russia and the Global Color Line, hosted a research workshop that raised exploratory questions about the meanings and functions of racial identifications/categories in Russia from a global perspective.
• HRI and the Women & Gender in Global Perspectives Program co-hosted an annual International Women’s Day Celebration.

Institute for Sustainability, Energy and Environment (iSEE)

• Prof. Yong-Su Jin (Food Science & Human Nutrition) and Prof. Wen Shan Yew (Biochemistry, National University of Singapore) are leading a proposal to the Singapore National Research Foundation to establish a new center at the Campus for Research Excellence and Technological Enterprise (CREATE). The proposed Centre for Precision Fermentation and Sustainability (PreFerS) will provide technological solutions for the cost-effective and sustainable production of safe, nutritious, and delicious foods through precision fermentation and food/bioprocessing enabled by synthetic biology and systems-level optimization.
• iSEE’s Alvin H. Baum Family Fund Chair and Director Madhu Khanna was recently awarded one of 13 BRIDGE seed grants to compare the pathways to net zero carbon emissions for the University of Birmingham (UoB) and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The project led by Khanna will assess prospective technical and non-technical options, governance processes, and novel approaches the two campuses can share for reducing carbon emissions — including carbon capture technology at Illinois and thermal energy storage at UoB.
Illinois Global Institute (IGI)

- Six area and global studies centers within IGI will receive almost $13.2 million in competitive Title VI federal grants during the next four years to advance educational opportunities, programming, and public engagement. The University of Illinois is one of this year’s top Title VI funding recipients in the country. $6.17 million of the funding will come from the centers’ designation as Title VI National Resource Centers (NRC) by the U.S. Department of Education. The centers will also receive Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grants totaling $7 million over four years.
- The six centers named NRCs and receiving FLAS grants this year include the Center for African Studies, Center for Global Studies, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Center for South Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, European Union Center, and the Russian, East European and Eurasian Center. In addition, the Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies continues programming this year from its 2018 Title VI award, while the Women & Gender in Global Perspectives Program prepared its first applications for Title VI and FLAS support.
- The International Studies Research Lab (ISRL) provides community college faculty with resources to foster greater cultural understanding in the context of globalization. Participants in this hybrid residential / virtual research lab work to develop global studies curricula and instruction in less commonly taught languages, expand library collections, or establish international education programs at their home institutions. ISRL is led by the Center for Global Studies and co-sponsored by partner Title VI Centers at the University of Illinois. The program has grown each year, and in 2022, ISRL hosted 18 participants from 7 states.
National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA)

- NCSA is a leader in the global research software engineering (RSE) movement, which seeks to build community around the role of software development and maintenance in the context of research. NCSA actively promotes the lessons it has learned from having one of the five largest groups of RSEs in the world. NCSA’s Chief Scientist, Daniel S. Katz, co-founded the US-RSE organization, and is a member of the International Council of RSE Associations.
- NCSA established an international community built around the ERGO multi-hazard risk assessment framework a decade ago and this community is now merging with Interdependent Networked Community Resilience Modeling Environment IN-CORE project funded by NIST where NCSA helps, supports, and consults with this community to perform research with open-source projects ERGO and IN-CORE.
- NCSA was one of the founding members of the International Association of Supercomputing Centers (IASC) which was established at the International Supercomputing Conference in Hamburg, Germany in May 2022. The IASC will help connect publicly funded supercomputer centers to collaborate and navigate worldwide issues and research while fitting into the current network of regional and national entities that already exist.
- NCSA is actively engaged in the establishment of an international open-source community around its Clowder scientific data management framework. International partners include the Cyprus Institute, the Research Computing Centre at the University of Queensland, the National Center for High-performance Computing in Taiwan, and industry engagements such as Foxconn headquartered in Taiwan.

Prairie Research Institute (PRI)

- Tim Larson, a retired geoscientist from the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS), brought his four decades of experience in locating groundwater in Illinois to help connect people in Malawi to fresh water, where nearly 4 million people lack access to clean water.
- The Illinois Sustainable Technology Center is working with the Swiss company Climeworks on two direct air capture/carbon (DAC) removal projects supported by funding from U.S. Department of Energy. The first will develop preliminary designs and determine feasibility for the first commercial-scale DAC and storage system in the U.S., assessing how different climate conditions across the U.S. affect the DAC process. The second is a front-end engineering and design study of DAC and storage in connection with a geothermal energy facility in California, which will provide the thermal energy to drive the DAC process.