



Kirkwood Receives Prestigious International Education Award

The only two-year institution among elite universities recognized by NAFSA

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (March 13, 2019)-Kirkwood Community College has been named as one of eight higher education institutions across the nation to receive the prestigious 2019 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization by NAFSA, the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to international education. The college will receive the award at an event in Washington, D.C., during International Education Week in November.

Named after the late Senator Paul Simon of Illinois, the NAFSA Simon Awards recognize outstanding innovation and accomplishment in campus internationalization.

Five colleges have been awarded the "Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization" which recognizes colleges and universities for excellence in integrating international education throughout all facets of their campuses. The award recipients are:

- **Brown University** (Providence, Rhode Island)
- **Kirkwood Community College** (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)
- **West Virginia University** (Morgantown, West Virginia)
- **Miami University** (Oxford, Ohio)
- **Dickinson College** (Carlisle, Pennsylvania)

The "Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award" recognizes a specific international program or initiative that contributes to internationalization on campus. The 2019 Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award schools are **SUNY Buffalo State** (Buffalo, New York), **Virginia Tech** (Blacksburg, Virginia), and the **University of Evansville** (Evansville, Indiana).

According to Kirkwood Dean of International Programs Dawn Wood, the award is the result of an ongoing, concerted effort to promote international education across the entire college.

"Kirkwood has long recognized the importance of connecting global learning to our local community and industry needs," said Wood. "For years, this college has recognized the significance of providing a global intercultural experience for all of its students, faculty and staff. This is significant for our community to grow and thrive in this globalized economy."

The International Programs department at Kirkwood has made its impact felt on a local, national, and worldwide scale. The college is ranked fifth nationally in number of study abroad students for two-year colleges nationwide and consistently attracts a diverse range of international students from countries around the world. The institution has put an emphasis on innovative international experiences for all students, both in and out of the classroom, due to the global commitment of its board, administration, faculty, staff and students.

For more information about International Programs at Kirkwood, go to www.kirkwood.edu/international.

In This Issue

- ◆ Kirkwood Receives Prestigious International Education Award
- ◆ Student Message
- ◆ International Student Calendar of Events
- ◆ F1 Student Features
- ◆ Kirkwood Graduation Information
- ◆ Optional Practical Training (OPT) for Graduates
- ◆ Graduate Luncheon
- ◆ Global Spotlight country of the month
- ◆ Eagles Abroad News
- ◆ Agriculture and Nursing Students Study Abroad in Brazil and Belize over Spring Break
- ◆ Alumni Spotlight
- ◆ **General Info (pg. 4)**
Cedar Rapids & Iowa City

Student Message:

Graduation Information

Please make sure to check out the information about graduation on page 2

International Programs Calendar of Events

- ▶ **April 1st – Spotlight Country** ⇒ Congo
- ▶ **April 5th – Performing Arts Scholarship Auditions** ⇒
Audition date for 2019/2020 school year. Please contact arts@kirkwood.edu for more info.
- ▶ **April 9th – Spring Study Abroad Fair** ⇒ 11:15am to 12:15pm, Iowa Hall, 2nd Floor café
- ▶ **April 11th – Kirkwood Annual Awards Banquet** ⇒ at the Hotel Kirkwood – 6:30 pm.
- ▶ **April 13th – Study Abroad Orientation** ⇒ 9:30am to 1:00pm, Iowa Hall, 3rd Floor
- ▶ **April 18th – Lunch & Learn Presentation** ⇒ Spotlight Congo presentation in 3059 Cedar Hall at 11:15
- ▶ **April 19th – Outstanding Student Reception** ⇒ 3:00pm–5:00pm at the Kirkwood Center
- ▶ **April 25th – Grad Fair** ⇒ 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Last chance to get your cap and gown for commencement! Located on the 2nd floor of the bookstore.

F1 Student Features

- Graduation will be held on Saturday, May 11th at the US Cellular Center. All graduates are invited to a luncheon after the ceremony – see the invitation included in this newsletter.
- Summer and Fall enrollment are now open! Make sure you get registered for classes as soon as possible to ensure you get the classes and times you want!
- Summer is a vacation term for F1 students which means you do not have to be enrolled full-time. Also during the summer, you can take more than one online class if you would like.

Kirkwood Graduation Information

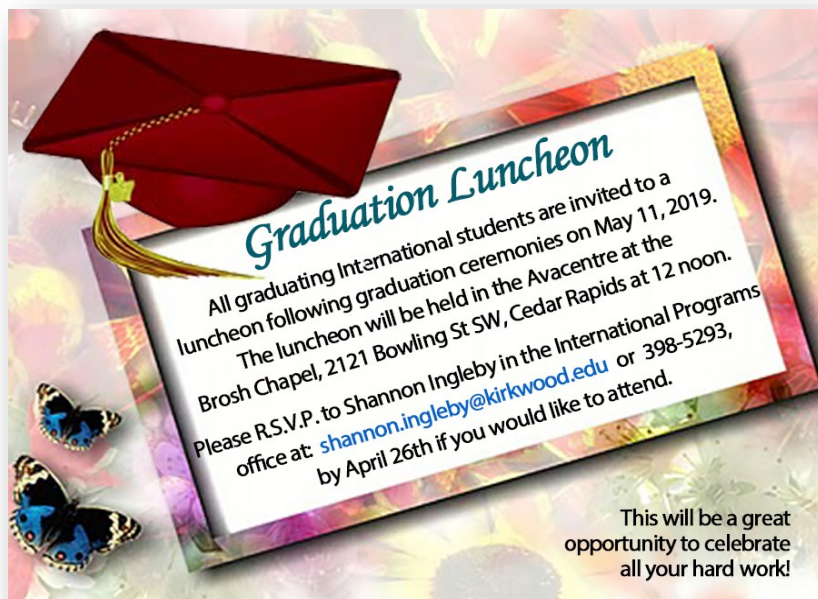
Graduation will be at 10:00 am on May 11, 2019, at the U.S. Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids. Please see the following link for more graduation details: <http://www.kirkwood.edu/graduation>

Graduation is not automatic – You must apply for graduation at the link above. You will then receive information regarding the purchase of your cap and gown as well as information regarding the ceremony.



International Student Transfer Fair a Success!

Thirteen schools were represented and plenty of great information on transferring after Kirkwood was given to students. Thanks so much to all who helped!



Global Spotlight Country of the Month:

Congo – Thursday, April 18, 11:15-12:15 Cedar Hall 3059

Kirkwood's International Programs features a different country each month for our "Global Spotlight". This is an opportunity for our international students to showcase their country and its culture.

For more information about Global Spotlight contact Jane Ann Rix at:

319-398-7663 or email to jane.rix@kirkwood.edu

Eagles Abroad News

• **Kirkwood and Jordanian Students Win Global Sustainability Challenge:**

40 students and faculty from community colleges and universities in the U.S. and Jordan met this March in Washington, DC to create innovative business solutions for sustainable hospitality and tourism. Kirkwood, and Luminus Technical University in Amman, Jordan, teamed up to win the business pitch competition with their concept for Sustainable Water Solutions. Kirkwood faculty team leaders were Sondra Gates and Lori Merlak. www.jordantimes.com/news/local/jordanian-us-students-compete-together-pitch-sustainability-solutions

• **Kirkwood Recognized For Gilman Accomplishments:**

On March 5, at the Diversity Abroad Conference in Boston, the official announcement was made that Kirkwood has been recognized nationally for outstanding engagement with the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program. Kirkwood was recognized in 6 categories:

- Top Two-Year (Associate's Degree) Colleges and Universities
- Top Producers: STEM Students
- Top Producers: Students with Disabilities
- Greatest Growth: Two-Year (Associate's Degree) Colleges and Universities
- Greatest Growth: Most Unique Destinations

Agriculture and Nursing Students Study Abroad in Brazil and Belize Over Spring Break

Over Kirkwood spring break 24 students and 3 faculty leaders, made the most of their time by participating in a study abroad experience!

In Brazil, 18 students and faculty leaders Josh Henik and Scott Ermer explored the agriculture scene around, Lavras, a city in Southern Minas Gerais state. Kirkwood collaborated with Universidade Federal de Lavras (UFLA) who helped to coordinate site visits for crop science and animal science. The group enjoyed spending time with Brazilian students, campus life, touring, hiking waterfalls and meeting local agriculturalists. They concluded in Rio, where they dripped their toes in the sand and experienced the big city.

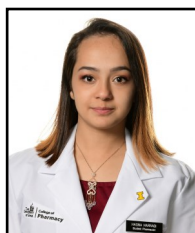


In Belize: 6 students and faculty Leader, Trisha Swartzendruber completed a project with the Ministry of Health and Kaya Responsible Travel. Their work included nursing placements in local clinics and hospital in the community of San Ignacio. Students shadowed local doctors and nursing staff. Kirkwood students got involved by taking blood pressures and heart rates, doing glucose checks and assisting with other administrative tasks. They also enjoyed some cultural experiences such as exploring ancient Mayan site Xunantunich and discovering the underground world of the Actun Tunichil Muknal (ATM) Caves.



Alumni Spotlight

International Student Alumni of the Month



Hasna Harrabi is the International Alumni for April. Hasna completed her Associates of Science degree from Kirkwood in the spring of 2018. She is currently attending the University of Iowa's College of Pharmacy. Hasna says she is really enjoying her time at the University of Iowa and her program keeps her very busy. Hasna grew up in Saudi Arabia.

She has gotten her brother to attend Kirkwood and is hoping to convince her younger sister to attend as well. She wanted to thank all of her professors and advisors because they helped her get one step closer to being a pharmacist. Advice she has for Kirkwood students is "Being away from home is hard but it is an amazing once in a life time adventure" and that "you can live multiple stories" so make the most of your time both in school and in life.

Study Abroad Alumni of the Month



Allison Cole is the Alumni featured in our Spotlight for April. Allison is from Cedar Rapids and received her Associates of Science from Kirkwood in 2017. Right now she is studying Civil Engineering with an Environment focus as well as a Sustainability certificate and a Global Health Minor at the University of Iowa. Her study abroad

trips at Kirkwood included Costa Rica in 2015, Cambodia and Singapore in 2016, and Dominican Republic in 2017. She recommends study abroad because learning about other cultures is important and being able to immerse oneself in that culture is an amazing experience. Allison said she made some of her best friends doing study abroad and hopes others can have that experience as well.

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
Ph. 319-398-5579
www.kirkwood.edu

GENERAL INFO

Iowa City

Iowa City Resources for International Students

Kirkwood students in Iowa City, if you would like to practice speaking English informally with a conversation partner or small group there are opportunities for you. Please go to the website for [community resources](#) with opportunities listed.

International Advisors at Iowa City Campus

Schedule of dates advisors will be on Iowa City Campus

April 2 — 11:00am—4:00pm

April 3 — 8:00am— 4:00pm

April 9 — 11:00am—4:00pm

April 10 — 8:00am— 4:00pm

April 16 — 11:00am— 4:00pm

April 17 — 8:00am— 4:00pm

April 23 — 11:00am—4:00pm

April 24 — 8:00am— 4:00pm

April 30 — 11:00am—4:00pm

Community Resources

Have questions regarding the resources available to the community at the Iowa City Campus?

Please contact

Brooke Strahn-Koller, Interim Executive Dean - 319-887-3614

brooke.strahn-koller@kirkwood.edu

Betty Adams, Center Coordinator
319-887-3610

betty.adams@kirkwood.edu

Contact us

Phone - 319-887-3658

Address: 1816 Lower Muscatine Rd.,
Iowa City, IA 52240

Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. - Noon

Cedar Rapids

Info for Cedar Rapids City Bus Users

If you're waiting for the bus and wonder where it's at, simply go to Ridecrt.com. Click on the route number and an arrow will show exactly which street or intersection your bus is at.

Please remember, that you may ride the bus on routes **7** and **11** for free when you show your Kirkwood Eagle card with the bus sticker on it.

The bus is FREE on Saturdays.

Tax Forms Reminder

2018 Income Tax Forms for F1
Visa Students

All non-resident F1 visa holders are required to file both 1040NR and the 8843 forms. Even if you did not earn any wages, these forms still must be completed. Click on <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040nr.pdf> and <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf> to download and print the forms.

If you have any questions, please stop by 1154 Linn Hall, for assistance.

Mentor Families

If you are a new or continuing international visa student and are interested in finding a mentor family,

contact Shannon Ingleby at 319-398-5293 in the International Programs office for information.

Facebook!

Don't forget to check us out on Facebook!

Click on this icon



Prayer Room for Students

Prayer Room is available Monday-Friday from noon to 2:00pm each day in Cedar Hall room 3041.

Kirkwood Alert

is an alert system that allows Kirkwood to contact you during an emergency by sending text messages to your: email accounts and cell phone, pager or smartphone.

To Sign up if you are not on the Kirkwood Alert:

Or

Kirkwood Alert is powered by Cooper Notification's Roam Secure Alert Network

This application requires Cookies to be enabled. Please enable cookies before proceeding.