Founded in 1972, the Lorna Sundberg International Center provides a comfortable environment for the sharing of cultures at U.Va. A division of U.Va.’s International Studies Office, the Lorna Sundberg International Center (IC) supports the University’s global education initiatives by providing programs and services to enhance the experience of U.Va.’s international students, scholars, faculty, staff, and families, as well as opportunities for intercultural enrichment for the University and the local communities. Programs and services include social and cultural events, language and cooking programs, meeting and reception space, and short-term lodgings.

The IC produces a monthly e-newsletter highlighting the events scheduled for the coming month that reaches approximately 5,500 individuals (international undergraduate and graduate students and scholars, community members, and domestic students).

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

24 Social and cultural events
30 Cooking programs
7 Language programs
78 Meeting and reception space reservations
58 Lodgings guests

2422 Mailing list subscribers
851 Facebook friends
Each month, the IC hosts several social and cultural events — activities, cooking classes, talks, movies, and local outings — in which 130 people on average participate. A total of 842 people joined in events; about one-third of participants attended multiple events. Just over half of the participants were international.

Many of the programs, such as Bharatanatyam Dance Workshop and Tango Workshop were led by international students, scholars, and family members who volunteered to share aspects of their culture with the University and local communities. IC staff organized local outings, movie nights, potlucks, and programs to experience aspects of U.S. culture, such as pumpkin carving for Halloween and a Super Bowl party.

Attendance at most events was about 15 participants with the exception of the larger special events. The Thanksgiving Meal Match program connected 92 internationals with 45 American families. Our fall, winter and spring social events had an average attendance of 100 people: the Mary Ellen Brown Family Picnic, the Holiday Lights Celebration and the Spring Bluegrass Picnic. The Holiday Lights Celebration was a festive alternative to the Annual New Year’s Luncheon. The 10th Annual Mary Ellen Brown Family Picnic was held at High Mowing Farms in Batesville and was hosted by the family of Brown, the IC’s long-time conversation group leader. A highlight of the picnic was celebrating Holmes Brown’s 100th birthday. Participants spontaneously sang to him in seven or eight different languages. The 5th Annual Spring Bluegrass Picnic featured the local band Whiskey Rebellion with dancing led by a dance caller and Southern food. See Appendix for a full list of programs.

Cooking programs continued to draw long-time and new participants to the IC. Classes were hands-on and lively, with lots of peeling, chopping, and discussion. Of the 30 volunteer-led cooking programs offered this year, six had a U.S. theme and 24 featured international cuisine.

In year two of the newly-launched Meetup Fridays program, targeted at international and American families, each month 8-10 participants engaged in cooking, crafting, and discussions about each other’s cultures. All activities were participant-led.

“I love how inclusive it is, even for Americans (I’ve lived abroad for a while). I also like the diversity of events.”

- Undergraduate Student, School of Nursing
Where are IC participants from?

The top 5 home countries are outlined in orange. In order of participant numbers - USA, China, India, South Korea, and Brazil.

Who are IC participants?

360 U.S. nationals and 482 internationals.

U.S. Internationals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>Internationals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholars</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty/staff</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family members</td>
<td>116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community members</td>
<td>119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals:

- Undergraduate (207)
- Graduate (196)
- Scholars (53)
- Faculty/staff (99)
- Family members (138)
- Community members (149)
Our longstanding English language programs for international spouses, family members, scholars, and community members continue to provide participants with an opportunity to make friends and share their cultures while improving their English skills.

To complement the English programs, we offered the University and wider community Language Jumpstart (LJS) for a third year. LJS is a short-term foreign language program in which participants learn everyday phrases, greetings, basic grammar, and alphabet phonetics and practice in small groups with native and/or advanced speakers. This year we collaborated with the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese to offer Spanish and Italian. Overall, student evaluations showed positive feedback for the program, materials, and instructors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Programs</th>
<th>Semesters</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English Language</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiskills English, CAELC</td>
<td>fall and spring</td>
<td>24 (F), 29 (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Oral Communication, CAELC</td>
<td>fall and spring</td>
<td>23 (F), 14 (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Conversation Group</td>
<td>fall and spring</td>
<td>21 (F), 12 (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Discussion Group</td>
<td>fall and spring</td>
<td>21 (F), 20 (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Conversation and Book Group</td>
<td>summer</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language Jumpstart</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>fall</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>fall</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More than 96% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they were satisfied with their experience at the IC.

What did participants like best about the IC and its programs?
- Participant diversity, variety & frequency of programs, cooking programs, staff helpfulness, friendly atmosphere, and sense of community

What did participants like least about the IC and its programs?
- Cooking program registration (hard to get in and only one per month), location/parking, timing of programs, and not enough older participants

Which type of programs would participants like more of?
- Collaborative programs, language programs, outings, conversation groups, performances, and casual socials

Responses are in order of frequency. Seventy-four participants responded to the survey.
International Education Week - The IC hosted events and IC staff served on the committee for U.Va.’s International Education Week (IEW). This year’s IEW had a variety of events, including a Passport Drive, Language Fair, Go Global Expo, international career workshop, movie screenings, cultural performances, and talks across grounds. The IC collaborated with the University chapter of the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth, the Office of the Provost & the Vice Provost for the Arts, and The Fralin Museum of Art to host “Chitrageet,” an evening of classical Indian music and art, as one of the closing IEW events.

The IC hosted four Social Customs in the U.S. workshops for groups of international students and visitors at U.Va. to help them understand and adjust to everyday social customs in the U.S. Two of the workshops were held at the IC and included a baking activity.

LORNA SUNDBERG SCHOLARSHIP

Ebob-Tabi Besong, a rising 4th year international student from London, England, was awarded the 2015 Lorna Sundberg Scholarship for her academic achievement and commitment to volunteerism. Besong, a public policy and leadership major in the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy and a French language and literature major in the College of Arts and Sciences, distinguished herself through her outstanding leadership and contribution to the U.Va. community in many areas including the Honor Committee, the University Judiciary Committee, the Sexual Misconduct Board, and the Young Women Leaders Program.

This scholarship was created in 2002 to honor the memory of Lorna Sundberg, the longtime leader of the International Center, whose life reflected a high level of personal commitment to volunteerism and community service.
Over the course of the year, the IC’s six furnished guest rooms housed 58 international visitors from 28 countries and 26 departments. They came to U.Va. for short-term study, research, and collaboration. The top four sending countries were Brazil, Germany, China, and South Africa and the top three sponsoring departments were Chemistry, Infectious Diseases, and Physics.

During this time, IC meeting and reception spaces were used 78 times by 34 U.Va. organizations. The organizations included departments with an international/multicultural focus, ethnic/cultural CIOs, and other U.Va. groups hosting an event with an international/multicultural focus.

In exit surveys of the house guests, most stated they liked sharing the public spaces as it gave them a chance to meet both local people and visitors from all around the world. Feedback from the groups using the IC showed that they enjoyed the beauty and comfort of the building and grounds. Over the summer break, the main level of the International Center was repainted. In the fall, landscaping planted flowering leucothoe shrubs along either side of the stairs to the first terrace in the back yard.

See Appendix for a full list of space users, home countries of house guests, and departments sponsoring house guests.

The people who made it all possible include: 2 full-time staff, a resident manager, 6 student staff, 3 language instructors, 10 language volunteers, 24 cooking volunteers, and 33 social and cultural program volunteers.
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EVENTS AND COOKING PROGRAMS (54)

Large Special Events
Mary Ellen Brown Family Picnic
Thanksgiving Meal Match
Holiday Lights Celebration
Spring Bluegrass Picnic

Activities
Tango Workshop
Bharatanatyam Dance Workshop
International Folk Dance Workshop
End-Of-Summer Field Day BBQ
Pumpkin Carving
Chitrageet: An Evening of Indian Art & Classical Music
Salsa Dancing
Gingerbread House Making
International Game Night
Greek Dancing Workshop

Local Outings
Bellair Farm Tour
Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection Tour
Ghosts And Mysteries Tour

Talks, Movies and Viewings
FIFA World Cup Final Match
Film Screening And Popcorn Bar: The Dish
Photographic Expedition: Gobi Desert - Baffin Island
Film Screening: Biophilic Cities
Super Bowl Viewing Party

Cooking programs
Pad Thai & Sa-Ku
Bun Rieu - Vietnamese Crab/Pork Noodle Soup
Eastern European Dishes
DECAF Vegan Cooking
Cupcakes with Fruit Filling
Breaking Down Pho
Summer Pies
Bengali Chicken Biryani
Cameroonian Sautéed Greens & Croquettes
Cordon Bleu & Crepes
Pad See Ew & Thai Dessert
Taste Of Africa
Chinese Dumplings
Spooky Halloween Desserts
Caribbean Cooking
Colors Of Italy
Indian Snacks
French Afternoon Tea
Ethiopian Cooking
Tibetan Thukpa Noodles
Bengali Pitha and Sides
Turkish Mediterranean Breakfast
Chinese Noodles and Sides
Curry Workshop
Everyday Russian Meal
Chilean Cuisine
Pie Baking Workshop
German Traditional Meal
Vegetarian Cooking at College
Turkish Traditional & Special Dishes
### Meeting and Reception Space Users (33)

**Student groups**
- Alternative Spring Break
- Black Women’s Initiative
- Darden Partners Association
- Global Development Organization
- Greens to Grounds
- La Casa Bolívar
- Latino Medical Student Association
- Net Impact
- Organization of African Students
- Second Year Council
- Slow Food at UVA
- Thai Student Organization
- United Sisters Sisterly Love

**Departments and organizations**
- Center for American English Language and Culture
- Central Virginia Fulbright Chapter
- College of Arts and Sciences COLA
- College of Arts and Sciences INST
- Education Abroad
- Housing and Residence Life
- International Hospitality Programs
- International Students and Scholars Program
- McIntire School of Commerce
- Summer Language Institute (8 groups)
- Spanish, Italian, & Portuguese
- Special Academic Programs
- Urban & Environmental Planning

### Home Countries of House Guests (28)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>Yemen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Departments Sponsoring House Guests (26)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>Materials Science and Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>McIntire School of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Biology</td>
<td>Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Global Health</td>
<td>Media Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curry School of Education</td>
<td>Neuropathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darden School of Business</td>
<td>Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrinology</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>Summer and Special Academic Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>University of Virginia Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>