Greetings from URI, where the IEP is still going strong! While language programs in other US institutions have been discontinued at a worrisome pace, the IEP has been crucial in driving language major enrollment and as a model of interdisciplinary engineering education adopted by several other URI colleges and a dozen institutions nationwide. Since its visionary launch by Dr. John Grandin in 1997, we have continued to move forward in new directions.

Already in full swing in Berlin is a new German-STEM Immersion Summer School, in new directions. A dozen institutions nationwide. Since its adaptation by several other URI colleges and universities, the IEP has continued to attract new participants and interest. The program has seen significant growth in recent years, with a growing number of students enrolling each year. The program is designed to provide a unique opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the German language and culture while gaining valuable experience in their field of study.

This spring, both the IEP's former and current Executive Directors were recognized for their exemplary work within the program. On May 15th, the URI Foundation presented its 2019 Excellence Awards, recognizing distinguishing achievement and excellence. Among the recipients were former IEP Executive Director Dr. Sigrid Berka and current Executive Director Dr. John Grandin, who was awarded an honorary doctorate from the College of Engineering.

Alumni Association for Educational Exchange.

We are fortunate to be able to rely on our dedicated alumni network in RI and worldwide. Alumni have supported the IEP for years, by participating in high school outreach programs, serving as panelists or speakers, and attending events such as the URI Alumni gala in late October. It is through the generous support of our alumni network that the IEP is able to continue to offer a high-quality program to new students each year.

Alumni Feature: Filip Losowski

‘09 IEP Grad & New IEP Board Member

IEP / Civil Engineering

Cultivating the Next Generation of IEP Students

For the continued success of a long-standing program such as the IEP, finding innovative ways to connect with new generations of prospective students must always remain an important issue. During the most recent academic year, the IEP connected with high school students in a variety of ways. Though different in nature, each form of recruitment relied on the expertise and experiences of the IEP community to generate student interest.

One way in which students learned about the program was through visits by IEP representatives to several schools. While each of these visits followed a slightly different format, the goal of all of them was the same - direct engagement. High school students and their teachers had the opportunity to speak with IEP staff, ambassadors, students, and alumni board members one-on-one, in small themed groups or during panel discussions, with their questions providing the guiding force behind conversation. In this way, these informative sessions were more personalized and interactive in nature.

Another method used was to invite those who are interested in the program to URI to meet with IEP representatives. After a visit request was submitted through a new link on our website, staff worked with these individuals to tailor their schedules to their interests. In turn, they were able to speak with IEP directors and other URI faculty and staff, pick the brains of current students, and have lunch with exchange students living in the IEP LLC. In addition, many shadowed classes, learned about seniors’ capstone projects, and toured technical labs both on and off campus. This combination of activities provided a more comprehensive overview of what the IEP really is about and gave attendees a more tangible feel for the benefits of participating in the program.

Finally, in several combined efforts spearheaded by Dr. Niko Tracksdorf, Associate Director of the German IEP, high school students have been involved in activities that serve a direct pipeline to the IEP. In fall of 2019, the first German-STEM Immersion Day took place on campus, engaging students in hands-on STEM activities through the use of German. This year, the IEP has continued to expand these activities, with more IEP students participating in German IEP exchanges.

IEP graduates, of which we have many, manifest in areas of your life where you may have least expected. The IEP is one of the best opportunities for taking advantage of this growth.

What was your biggest takeaway from participating in the IEP? How would you describe your work at Supfina.

IEP.

What advice do you have for current or future IEP students?

Passions manifest themselves in many forms. When you begin to take an active role in growing yourself both personally and professionally, those passions will begin to manifest in areas of your life where you may have least expected. The IEP is one of the best opportunities for taking advantage of this growth.

Attendees of the annual IEP Advisory Board meeting tour the new engineering building.

During the most recent academic year, the IEP received an honorary doctorate from the German Academic Exchange Program. This award was presented to Dr. Sigrid Berka, who has been instrumental in the success of the IEP and has contributed significantly to the URI community.

Overall, the IEP has continued to grow and evolve in the last year, with new initiatives and partnerships being established. The IEP is committed to providing a high-quality program that prepares students for success in their future careers.

Alums have supported the IEP this year by participating in high school outreach programs, serving as panelists or speakers, and attending events such as the URI Alumni gala in late October. It is through the generous support of our alumni network that the IEP is able to continue to offer a high-quality program to new students each year.

We are fortunate to be able to rely on our dedicated alumni network in RI and worldwide. Alumni have supported the IEP for years, by participating in high school outreach programs, serving as panelists or speakers, and attending events such as the URI Alumni gala in late October. It is through the generous support of our alumni network that the IEP is able to continue to offer a high-quality program to new students each year.

We are fortunate to be able to rely on our dedicated alumni network in RI and worldwide. Alumni have supported the IEP for years, by participating in high school outreach programs, serving as panelists or speakers, and attending events such as the URI Alumni gala in late October. It is through the generous support of our alumni network that the IEP is able to continue to offer a high-quality program to new students each year.

We are fortunate to be able to rely on our dedicated alumni network in RI and worldwide. Alumni have supported the IEP for years, by participating in high school outreach programs, serving as panelists or speakers, and attending events such as the URI Alumni gala in late October. It is through the generous support of our alumni network that the IEP is able to continue to offer a high-quality program to new students each year.
**Alumni News: What’s New?**

**Rachael Browning** (‘11 CIEP/CHE) and her husband welcomed their baby boy to the world in January 2019.

**Amanda Junkins** (‘16 FIEP/BME) writes: I have been promoted to Client Project Manager at the headquarters of medical technology company, Mentice. Moving into the research and development team is very exciting and rewarding. I will be part of a skilled team building software and creating new simulation training interfaces for surgical procedures, which will enhance the practice of physicians across many disciplines. All the while, I’m still enjoying living abroad in Gothenburg, Sweden.

**Meghan (Bellows) Peterson** (‘06 GIEP/CHE) and her husband Luc are happy to announce the birth of their second child, James Allan DeWitt, on March 29, 2019.

**James (right) with older sister Madeleine (left)**

**Scenes from Abroad: 2018-2019**

IEP students studying in Spain met up with SIEPers in Munich, Germany during last year’s Oktoberfest

SIEP’s Sabrina Mondena in Zaragoza, Spain with Dr. Fernando Cacho Baito (IQE) and Dr. Miguel Menendez Sastre (CREG/UNIZAR)

IEP student Abagayle Hilton visiting the Atacama Desert in the northern portion of Chile

Students in URI’s new German-STEM immersion summer school in Berlin on an educational excursion to MTU in Munich

View from FIEP student Sandra Deel’s office at French Energies Marines in Brest, France

**Graduation 2019**

Between August 2018 and August 2019, the IEP will have graduated 54 students, bringing the total number of IEP graduates to-date to 662!

**Graduation by the numbers:**

- 2019 Total: 54
- Total Graduates as of 2019: 662

**By Language:**
- Chinese: 3
- French: 10
- German: 32
- Italian: 3
- Japanese: 1
- Spanish: 5

**By Engineering Program:**
- Biomedical: 4
- Chemical: 9
- Civil: 6
- Electrical: 6
- Industrial & Mechanical: 20
- Ocean: 7

14 of these students have an additional minor or major!

**IB/PICS:** an additional 4 graduates serviced

2019 Dual Master’s/MBAs from TU Braunschweig/TU Darmstadt: 14

**Male: 67%**

**Female: 33%**

**RI students: 59%**

**Out-of-state: 41%**

**Average GPA of May 2019 graduates:** 3.27

In 2018-19, global internships were completed at a total of 43 different companies and laboratories across 7 different countries!

**IEP show of force – all students shown here standing in line waiting to cross the Keaney stage are members of the IEP!**

**IEP’s Sabrina Mondena in Zaragoza, Spain with Dr. Fernando Cacho Baito (IQE) and Dr. Miguel Menendez Sastre (CREG/UNIZAR)**

**SIEP student Abagayle Hilton visiting the Atacama Desert in the northern portion of Chile**

**Students in URI’s new German-STEM immersion summer school in Berlin on an educational excursion to MTU in Munich**

**View from FIEP student Sandra Deel’s office at French Energies Marines in Brest, France**

**By Engineering Program:**
- Biomedical: 4
- Chemical: 9
- Civil: 6
- Electrical: 6
- Industrial & Mechanical: 20
- Ocean: 7

14 of these students have an additional minor or major!

**IB/PICS:** an additional 4 graduates serviced

2019 Dual Master’s/MBAs from TU Braunschweig/TU Darmstadt: 14

**Male: 67%**

**Female: 33%**

**RI students: 59%**

**Out-of-state: 41%**

**Average GPA of May 2019 graduates:** 3.27

In 2018-19, global internships were completed at a total of 43 different companies and laboratories across 7 different countries!

**IEP show of force – all students shown here standing in line waiting to cross the Keaney stage are members of the IEP!**

**IEP’s Sabrina Mondena in Zaragoza, Spain with Dr. Fernando Cacho Baito (IQE) and Dr. Miguel Menendez Sastre (CREG/UNIZAR)**

**SIEP student Abagayle Hilton visiting the Atacama Desert in the northern portion of Chile**

**Students in URI’s new German-STEM immersion summer school in Berlin on an educational excursion to MTU in Munich**

**View from FIEP student Sandra Deel’s office at French Energies Marines in Brest, France**

**By Engineering Program:**
- Biomedical: 4
- Chemical: 9
- Civil: 6
- Electrical: 6
- Industrial & Mechanical: 20
- Ocean: 7

14 of these students have an additional minor or major!

**IB/PICS:** an additional 4 graduates serviced

2019 Dual Master’s/MBAs from TU Braunschweig/TU Darmstadt: 14

**Male: 67%**

**Female: 33%**

**RI students: 59%**

**Out-of-state: 41%**

**Average GPA of May 2019 graduates:** 3.27

In 2018-19, global internships were completed at a total of 43 different companies and laboratories across 7 different countries!

**IEP show of force – all students shown here standing in line waiting to cross the Keaney stage are members of the IEP!**

**IEP’s Sabrina Mondena in Zaragoza, Spain with Dr. Fernando Cacho Baito (IQE) and Dr. Miguel Menendez Sastre (CREG/UNIZAR)**

**SIEP student Abagayle Hilton visiting the Atacama Desert in the northern portion of Chile**

**Students in URI’s new German-STEM immersion summer school in Berlin on an educational excursion to MTU in Munich**

**View from FIEP student Sandra Deel’s office at French Energies Marines in Brest, France**

**By Engineering Program:**
- Biomedical: 4
- Chemical: 9
- Civil: 6
- Electrical: 6
- Industrial & Mechanical: 20
- Ocean: 7

14 of these students have an additional minor or major!

**IB/PICS:** an additional 4 graduates serviced

2019 Dual Master’s/MBAs from TU Braunschweig/TU Darmstadt: 14

**Male: 67%**

**Female: 33%**

**RI students: 59%**

**Out-of-state: 41%**

**Average GPA of May 2019 graduates:** 3.27

In 2018-19, global internships were completed at a total of 43 different companies and laboratories across 7 different countries!

**IEP show of force – all students shown here standing in line waiting to cross the Keaney stage are members of the IEP!**

**IEP’s Sabrina Mondena in Zaragoza, Spain with Dr. Fernando Cacho Baito (IQE) and Dr. Miguel Menendez Sastre (CREG/UNIZAR)**

**SIEP student Abagayle Hilton visiting the Atacama Desert in the northern portion of Chile**

**Students in URI’s new German-STEM immersion summer school in Berlin on an educational excursion to MTU in Munich**

**View from FIEP student Sandra Deel’s office at French Energies Marines in Brest, France**