

*Preparing Students
for the Global Workplace*



**The International
Engineering Program**
at the University of Rhode Island

IEP 1987-2006

The International Engineering Program



1987-2006

- 5-years – two degrees
- B.S. in an engineering discipline
- B.A. German, French or Spanish (Chinese is next!)
- Six-month paid internship abroad
- Semester study abroad



Five Year BA/BS Program

■ Bachelor of Science

Engineering Field

- Biomedical
- Chemical
- Civil
- Computer
- Electrical
- Industrial
- Mechanical
- Ocean

■ Bachelor of Arts

German, French or Spanish
(and...Chinese!)



Our Students

- **200+ Students** (120 German; 40 Spanish; 35 French; Chinese 10)
- **20% of all engineering undergrads** at URI are in the IEP. All will study and intern abroad, and earn a second degree in a foreign language.
- **30% are women** (as compared to 17% of all College of Engineering undergrads)
- **53% are Presidential Scholars**
- **240 Graduates**



Languages Majors at URI

- French – 105 (1/3 IEP;)
- German – 120 (90% IEP)
- Italian – 25
- Spanish – 135 (1/4 IEP)

(other languages taught: Ancient Greek, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, Portuguese, Russian,

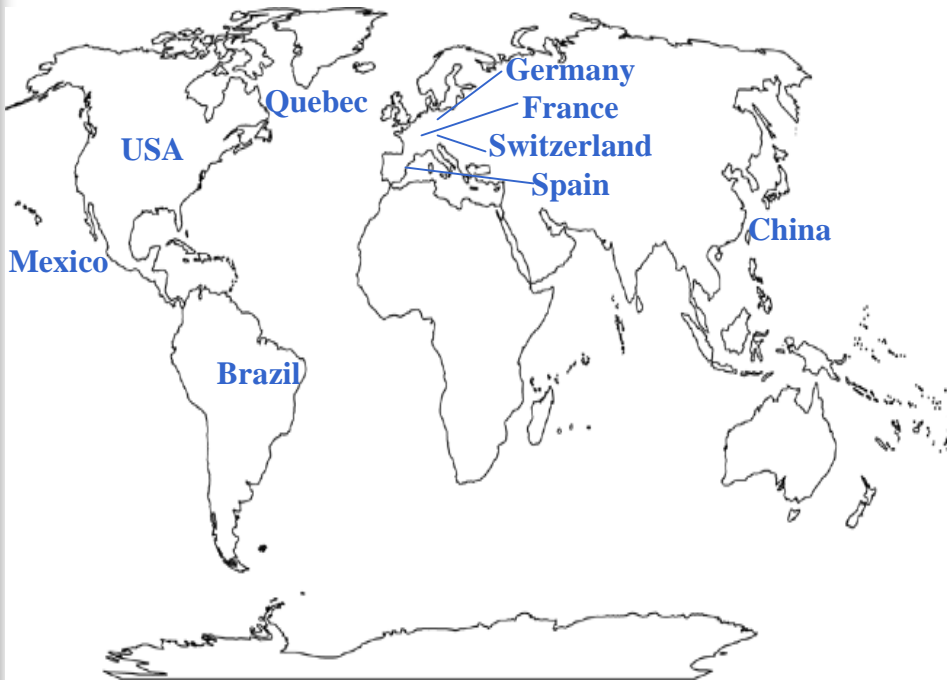


Six-Month Professional Internship Abroad

- Develop language skills in native situation
- Develop intercultural skills
- Experience engineering in other contexts
- Subsistence wage and housing provided

- Career placement

Internship Placements





Academic Exchange

- Reciprocal exchange model

- Technische Universität Braunschweig (Germany)
- ITESM – Toluca, Monterrey Campuses (Mexico)
- Universidades de Zaragoza, Navarra, Cantabria & Valladolid (Spain)
- Université de Technologie de Compiègne (France)
- Université Laval (Canada)
- Zhejiang University (Hangzhou, China)

Student Exchange with Technische Universität Braunschweig

| | URI to TU-BS | TU-BS to URI |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1995-1996 | 5 | 5 |
| 1996-1997 | 9 | 9 |
| 1997-1998 | 12 | 12 |
| 1998-1999 | 14 | 12 |
| 1999-2000 | 15 | 16 |
| 2000-2001 | 13 | 13 |
| 2001-2002 | 22 | 25 |
| 2002-2003 | 16 | 15 |
| 2003-2004 | 20 | 16 |
| 2004-2005 | 21 | 15 |
| 2005-2006 | 10 | 14 |
| 2006-2007 | 24 | 14 |
| Total: | 181 | 166 |

Total # of Students Exchanged: 347



Dual Degree Masters Program

- MS/Diplom
- Based upon recognition of equivalency
- Based upon joint acceptance of thesis
- Supported by German Transatlantic Program
- Supported by DAAD scholarships
- Supported by industry scholarships
- TU-BS students completing MS: 46
- URI students in the pipeline:
 - One complete
 - Six in process



Dual Degree Doctoral Program (proposed)

- Open to all engineering programs
- Supported by NSF PIRE grant
- Ph.D. / Dr.-Ing.
- Minimum one-year residency abroad
- Common thesis
- Two advisors, two committees, two defenses
- All requirements met for both schools



Chinese IEP Initiative

- **University Partnership**
 - Visits to Chinese universities in 2005-6
- **Chinese Internship Program**
 - Based on existing corporate contacts
 - e.g., Zf Friedrichshafen, Texas Instruments, Siemens, Volkswagen, Pentair, Saint-Gobain
- **University Student Exchange**
 - Summer language programs (2006)
 - American students to China
 - Chinese students to Rhode Island
 - Dual Degree Program? MS/MS

Summer 2006 in Hangzhou





Why? - New Demands on Professionals

- Global teams
- Ability to work cross-culturally
- Ability to work in other cultures
- Flexibility
- Mobility
- Interdisciplinarity
- Life-long learning



How? - What Makes It Work?

- Right People at Right Time (Chemistry)
- Benefits for all Participants (win/win/win)
- Funding Sources
- Rigorous Networking
- Rigorous Recruiting
- Persistence and Hard Work
- Institutional Flexibility
- Integrated and Comprehensive Program

The IEP House



**A Learning
Community for
Students & Faculty**

Former Fraternity House

***IEP* HOUSE**
International
Engineering Program



67 UPPER COLLEGE ROAD

IEP House



A learning and living
community

The Kirk Duffy Center



Heidi Kirk Duffy
Center
for
International
Engineering
Education

Planned for 2007



Barriers and Hurdles

- Turf

- *What's she/he doing over here?*
- *What's she/he doing over there?*

- Traditions

- *The world speaks English!*
- *Humanists don't teach engineers!*
- *You can't do that!*

- Rewards System

Come visit us!

A decorative horizontal bar consisting of a series of vertical rectangular segments in various colors including blue, teal, yellow, and black, arranged in a slightly wavy pattern.

www.uri.edu/iep