Our engagement with North America
A warm welcome from the University of the Year

At Birmingham, we are proud not only of our roots but of our ambition. Our recent recognition as University of the Year 2014 by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* cements our place in the top 100 universities in the world; acknowledging Birmingham as a forward-thinking institution with civic roots, national eminence and global reach.

We believe Birmingham is a truly global university; a prestigious institution boasting global experts who address the future challenges facing the modern-day world. Our global footprint is both distinctive and expanding. We are developing our international presence and collaborations across academia, industry, culture and government across all continents.

With almost 5,000 international students from more than 150 countries, and a third of our academic staff from overseas, our campus is truly a diverse and global place. Our researchers are instrumental in collaborating and creating impact with partners across the globe; from medical advances and scientific innovations to influencing policy and enhancing cultural understanding. This broad international perspective enables our graduates, academics and professionals to develop into individuals with the knowledge, skills and qualities to fulfil their potential as global citizens.

Our international strategy is evidenced to date by numerous significant initiatives including our landmark Birmingham Guangzhou Centre, a novel partnership with the municipal government in Guangzhou; our considerable joint investment with The University of Nottingham in Brazil; extensive engagement with partners in Chicago and the American Midwest; and our permanent presence in New Delhi, Shanghai, Nigeria and Brussels.

Our ties with North America are of key importance and have flourished over recent years with extensive strategic engagement in both the USA and Canada. These include, for example, a signature partnership with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and strong links with eminent universities such as The Ohio State University through our membership of the Universitas21 consortium. This brochure will give you a flavour of the wide variety of activities the University of Birmingham is engaged with in North America and the thriving network of partnerships we are proud to be a part of. Our connections and partnerships in North America are varied, ranging from student exchanges and teaching partnerships to joint research on global issues and cultural engagement.

As the world of higher education continues to change at an unprecedented rate, Birmingham continues to adapt to meet the global challenges and opportunities ahead. We will continue to develop the quality and distinctiveness which defines us locally and represents us as a global university.

This means continuing to attract the brightest and best international students and staff, and expanding our portfolio of leading international partners.

It is this that will enable us to become one of the world’s great universities.

Malcolm Press,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer
Chair, International Board

Contents

- Our global engagement
- The value of UK–North American partnerships
- Chicago and the Midwest
- Research
- Collaborative rail research and education
- Cultural engagement
- Creating global citizens
- Global connections and partnerships
Our global engagement

We are a leading global university linking people, organisations and places to opportunities and discoveries across the world.

Fundamentally, everything we do in terms of our global partnerships is about enhancing our research, creating real-world impact and providing opportunities for the reciprocal sharing of knowledge.

It is through these partnerships – formed both in the UK and internationally – that we work to address emerging global challenges. Although our partnership activity is truly global, we have identified China, India, Brazil and North America as the key strategic regions where we will seek to focus our engagement. Our position in the ‘knowledge’ heart of Europe is also increasingly strong; further enhanced by the opening of our office in Brussels in 2010 – making us the first UK university to have a dedicated presence in the political nerve centre of the EU.

Within these strategic regions, we work collaboratively, through mutually beneficial partnerships, to produce groundbreaking research, deliver innovative teaching and create opportunities for our students and staff to gain meaningful international experience.

Through our wide-ranging international networks, we engage in collaborative opportunities on many levels with universities, governments and companies, and create global experiences for students and employees.

From industry to individuals, much of our work with international partners delivers discernible global impact – tackling issues such as the planet’s future energy demands, healthy ageing and world poverty.

Our partnerships allow the collective sharing of knowledge and expertise at the highest level; from medical advances and scientific innovations to influencing policy and enhancing cultural understanding. We have international partnerships across all continents and are continually developing our international presence and collaborations, seeking mutually beneficial partnerships to complement our significant existing global footprint.

“At Birmingham, our approach is to develop distinctive, long-term international partnerships that are sustainable and mutually beneficial. From individual academic engagement to institutional partnerships our networks are not only wide ranging, but profoundly instrumental in addressing the worldwide challenges of today and tomorrow. We make meaningful global connections – linking people, organisations and places with knowledge and opportunity.”

Andréa Edwards, Director of International Development and Mobility

Birmingham is a founder member of Universitas 21 (U21), an eminent consortium of world-leading research-intensive universities that promotes international engagement among its 27 member institutions across 17 countries. The U21 network enables collaboration between member universities on a scale none would be able to achieve even through bilateral alliances.

Among our key sponsorship partners is the UK government’s global Chevening scholarships programme, which brings the international leaders of tomorrow to Birmingham.
The value of UK–North American partnerships

Our ties with North America have flourished over recent years with extensive strategic engagement particularly in the USA and Canada.

Given the equivalent notable quality and ambition of universities in North America, we recognise the potential to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with leading institutions in North America, with collaboration including activities such as:

- Long-term research collaborations
- Researcher mobility
- Doctoral training
- Educational collaboration and mobility of staff and students
- Interactions with industry in both North America and Europe to enhance research
- Business engagement and knowledge transfer

The United Kingdom and North America enjoy the most productive bilateral higher education relationship in the world. Enhancing dialogue with partners in the UK and North America offers a major opportunity to build meaningful partnerships, promote knowledge exchange, educate new audiences and support global engagement for partner organisations on both sides of the Atlantic.

Our North America strategy grew from the recognition that UK–North America partnerships would generate a wealth of mutually beneficial outputs, including:

- Transatlantic research networks that generate high-quality, impactful publications, and increase exposure to world-leading researchers on both sides of the Atlantic
- Strong UK–North America relationships to increase access to major transatlantic and international research funding, including EU, NSF, and NIH research funding, and competitiveness for national research council grants
- Expanded and invigorated exchange networks between the UK and North America – each the most popular destination for study abroad for the other – creating distinctive opportunities for students
- Prestigious and exciting transatlantic opportunities that provide attractive ways to engage prospective students and academic staff

The University of Birmingham was honoured to welcome His Excellency Matthew Barzun, Ambassador of the United States of America to the United Kingdom, to campus in early 2014.
At Birmingham we are making significant investment to support academic engagement in North America. As part of our engagement we have developed a flourishing network of faculty relationships with leading academic institutions, generating research results and funding successes. Exciting educational opportunities have been established for students through new exchange partnerships, prestigious internships and collaborative teaching arrangements.

We have had tremendous success in developing positive strategic partnerships in the US. Our strategy has been an innovative ‘platform approach’ involving city, regional and cultural engagement initiatives. Through a series of signature partnerships we have strengthened our global reach, with this impact transcending sector, discipline and geographic lines.

In Canada we have developed strong partnerships with a number of leading universities, including McGill University and the University of British Columbia, as part of the Universitas 21 network. Our academic community leads a number of faculty-to-faculty engagements with leading Canadian universities in a wide range of disciplines. For example, we have strong research links with the University of Toronto in varied areas such as Cancer Studies, Bioethics and German and European Studies.

The North American team

**Andréa Edwards**
Director International Development and Mobility, Strategic Lead for the Americas

Andréa is Director International Development and Mobility at the University of Birmingham, where she has responsibility for leading the University’s global engagement in key regions, including the Americas, with one of the largest UK higher education teams responsible for international partnership development and student mobility. She has over 18 years’ experience of working in higher education, initially within UK and international student recruitment, before focusing on partnerships, development and international relations more broadly.

Email: a.c.edwards@bham.ac.uk

**Erica Arthur**
International Development Manager (North America)

Erica is the International Development Manager for North America at the University of Birmingham and is the administrative lead at the University for the North America region. Erica holds a PhD in American and Canadian Studies and supports international partnerships and collaborative opportunities in North America for the University of Birmingham. Her work involves advising on and facilitating international partnership development, programming incoming overseas delegations, and exploring funding opportunities for international activity.

Email: e.d.arthur@bham.ac.uk

**Angela Turton**
Head of International Mobility

Angela is the Head of International Mobility at the University of Birmingham. Angela manages incoming and outgoing study abroad and exchange activity, including developing new exchange partnerships and managing existing ones, particularly those with partners in North America.

Email: a.e.turton@bham.ac.uk
Chicago and the Midwest

We have developed a series of strategic partnerships in the city and region of Chicago, Illinois, in recent years. Building on the 20-year Sister City relationship between Birmingham and Chicago, we have identified the greater Chicago region as a specific regional focus for engagement within our broader North America strategy.

The Sister City relationship is based on a similar background and outlook. Both Birmingham and Chicago are second cities (albeit Chicago is actually the third-largest city in the USA), with their own distinct identities, recognised for their industrial heritage and for their cultural and artistic contributions.

Both cities and their environs also house prominent universities, including the University of Chicago, Northwestern University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign around Chicago; and the University of Birmingham in Birmingham. Along with the presence of various cultural centres, museums, research facilities and a range of large and small industrial companies this produces an environment ideal for collaboration. Whether it be exchange of students to ensure continuing linkages between the two cities, or development of high-technology solutions for industrial problems, we support and contribute towards the Sister City relationship.

We have had tremendous success in developing positive strategic partnerships in the Midwest. Over the last few years considerable progress has been made in building and developing relationships not only with universities, but also with museums, charities, and government organisations in the greater Chicago region, all of whom are now working with the University of Birmingham to increase knowledge and find practical ways to apply research expertise.

The US Midwest, centred on Chicago, is home to some of the best universities in the world, and is rich in potential for academic collaboration at all levels. Despite these possibilities it remains relatively unknown territory for most British universities. A great exception has been the University of Birmingham, which has made systematic and successful efforts to expand its presence across the arts and sciences, including developing partnerships with leading US institutions, offering Chicago internships to Birmingham students, providing expertise to Chicago institutions, drawing in Chicago alumni and supporting the Birmingham Sister Cities relationship. It has been a terrific example of academic diplomacy in action, and is reaping significant benefits at each end.

Robert Chatterton Dickson, Outgoing British Consul General, Chicago
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Birmingham has leveraged civic links to establish signature partnerships in the greater Chicago region.

Our Institute of Local Government Studies and Public Services Academy have well-established partnerships with the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs and The Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The two institutions collaborate with senior colleagues from Birmingham City Council, the City of Chicago and Cook County to share common challenges between UK and US local government, particularly city management, finance, immigration, education, social services, and policing.

More broadly, we have developed a strong partnership with the British Consulate in Chicago and are viewed as leading the way in British university engagement in the region.

INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

A network of faculty–faculty relationships is progressing with leading academic institutions in the Chicago region, generating research results and funding successes. By working together, we aim to attract transatlantic and international funding as well as generating a wealth of teaching and mobility opportunities for students and staff.

Our most wide-ranging research links exist with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), a globally elite public research-intensive university. By working together, Birmingham and UIUC are forming a broad and deep partnership through which a number of key research and teaching outcomes have already been achieved.

CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

Birmingham’s success in building a distinctive partnership with the City of Chicago is underpinned by a significant ‘cultural engagement’ dimension. Enhancing dialogue across our respective arts and academic sectors offers a major opportunity to build meaningful partnerships, promote knowledge exchange, educate new audiences, and support global engagement.

Heritage must be presented to the next generations in ways that surpass their expectations, that inspire, entertain, enthuse and engage audiences. Only in this way can we impart the relevance of heritage and culture to the generation who will become responsible for it.

Dr Richard Clay, Co-Director of the Digital Humanities Hub University of Birmingham

The British Consulate team in Chicago annually hosts a Birmingham student intern.

The Bullring in the heart of the city of Birmingham

A Chancellor-led visit from the University of Illinois to Birmingham
Research

At Birmingham we have a tradition of innovation. Our early research has had a lasting impact on lives, culture, industry and society: our current research aspires to do the same.

Our pioneering, collaborative research with global partners means we see benefits locally, nationally, and internationally. From world-class cancer research to pioneering the development of new fuels and technologies; our combined academic expertise continues to address the key challenges facing the modern-day world. We work to confront the problems of tomorrow, finding innovative solutions to a myriad of issues that affect us nationally and internationally. From advising and informing political states in support of conflict resolution and diplomacy, to research into disease and the immune system to better understand the ageing process; we are jointly leading the way in challenging and preventing problems on the global horizon.

Our collaborative research with partner institutions in North America is hugely significant, with research involving areas as diverse as Ethnomusicology with Yale University, Vulnerability and Social Justice with Emory University, International Security with the University of Pittsburgh, Cancer Studies with the University of Toronto, and Arctic research with the University of British Colombia.

UNRAVELLING THE FUEL CELL CATALYST DEGRADATION

One of the scientific pillars of both the UK and the US governments is the development of low-carbon technologies. One of the most promising sustainable energy power productions is the Polymer Electrolyte Fuel Cell (PEFC). Improving the long-term performance of the PEFC is crucial to making cost-competitive devices for automotive and stationary applications. The University of Birmingham–University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) collaboration involves the development of new catalysts for fuel cell applications, a strategic milestone of the energy programme not only for Birmingham and UIUC, but also the European Union, the UK and the US.

CRITICAL RACE THEORY AND ADVANCING RACE EQUITY IN EDUCATION

One of the most dramatic developments in educational studies over the last decade has been the emergence of Critical Race Theory (CRT) as a key branch of enquiry. Scholars at UIUC and Birmingham are among the recognised global leaders in researching the extent and nature of racial injustice in education. In an exciting new initiative, colleagues are exploring a range of possible synergies that will help advance shared interests in research and teaching in this vital area.

SEEING WITH SOUND

Academics from the University of Birmingham’s School of Electronic, Electrical and Computer Engineering are working in collaboration with colleagues from The Ohio State University on a project entitled ‘Seeing with Sound: Developing an Echolocation Device Based on Sensing Principles Derived from Human Users’. The project, funded through the UK-US Global Innovation Initiative government funding scheme, uses human behaviour as a model system to create foundational knowledge for echolocation-based artificial perception and cognition. The marriage of the behavioural science and engineering disciplines facilitates an approach able to distil relevant cognitive processes and developing artificial forms of cognition.
PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS

Colleagues in the University of Birmingham’s Medicine, Ethics, Society & History (MESH) research group are focused on delivering excellence in empirically informed and policy-relevant research with international reach. MESH’s Director, Professor Angus Dawson, is a global expert on bioethics and, in recent years, has been particularly focused on public health ethics and the use of empirical evidence in moral arguments; for example vaccinations and issues related to lifestyle choices. Professor Dawson has many collaborative research projects across the world, with particularly strong ties with Canada and the US. He has worked on projects for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the US, the World Health Organisation, and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN STUDIES

Academic staff in the University’s Department of American and Canadian Studies are at the forefront of research in this field. The Department’s multi-disciplinary approach links history, literature, politics and cultural studies to produce innovative and challenging work.

Scott Lucas, Professor of American Studies, is a specialist in US and British foreign policy. His research interests also cover current international affairs, especially North Africa; the Middle East and Iran; New Media; and Intelligence Services. He is the founder and editor of EA WorldView, one of the leading news and analysis sites on US foreign policy and international affairs, especially in the Middle East, and is a frequent contributor to American, British, and international media.

MATERIALS IN MEDICINE

This research theme links together complementary research in the area of materials in medicine being undertaken at Birmingham and UIUC. The research expertise is broad and includes material characterisation, multi-scale modelling, tissue engineering and engineering design. The research also involves collaborators at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham and is divided into three main areas: mechanical properties of tissues; regeneration of tissues and replacement of tissues.

WATER: PROVIDING SUPRA-DISCIPLINARY SOLUTIONS TO THE SCIENCE OF WATER

Water is a theme central to research at Birmingham and UIUC, with substantive links ongoing since 2005. To date, this collaboration has resulted in: the award of a significant NERC grant, two NSF projects, five UK Research Council projects, construction of a new porous media flume facility and placements of postdoctoral researchers and graduate students. The overriding philosophy behind this collaboration recognises that we need to work beyond traditional disciplinary cultures and blend cutting-edge field, laboratory and modelling technologies if we are to solve some of the outstanding, classic, water-related problems.

Find out more about our global research. Visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/research
Collaborative rail research and education

The Birmingham Centre for Rail Research and Education (BCRRE) and the RailTEC group at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) have formed collaborative links and have jointly bid for a number of rail asset management and traffic management projects to be funded by key government and industrial partners. These projects will bring benefits to the operation of high-speed railways and urban systems on both sides of the Atlantic.

BCRRE is the largest railway research centre in Europe and RailTEC at UIUC is the largest centre in North America. In 2012, UIUC’s RailTEC group was awarded a five year ($3.5 million) project by the US Department of Transportation (DoT) to lead a US-based multi-university research consortium.

The successful relationship between BRCCE and RailTEC is being further strengthened by working together on collaborative funded research projects. Recent progress includes being selected by the US Federal Railroad Administration to be members of their research framework and agreed support from Hitachi Europe (a funder of BCRRE) for a feasibility project on visual inspection of railway vehicles that will include information exchange with UIUC.

Furthermore, Network Rail (a strategic partner of BCRRE) has agreed to support joint work on international benchmarking of railway simulation tools. Both groups have also attended collaborative meetings with the US Federal Railroad Administration to discuss responsive mode projects (with co-funding from the UK Railway Safety and Standard Board).

Our academics regularly exchange research ideas, including work to consider track measurement in the US and to develop a collaborative funded project by URS, a US company with offices in the UK that supports BCRRE.

PhD students have also been given the opportunity to undertake collaborative research in the area of railway capacity.

Railway Operations Management

Joint working is taking place on Railway Operational Modelling and Simulation projects, including a benchmarking study of Berkley Simulation’s RTC Simulator.
Cultural engagement

In recent years a significant ‘cultural engagement’ dimension has evolved with our partners in North America.

Recognition of our expertise in cultural engagement across Chicago’s arts and academic sector particularly, has effectively positioned the University of Birmingham as a key cultural partner, contributing to policy development, shaping academic dialogue and advancing cohesive knowledge transfer between two culturally ambitious cities.

Initiatives include:
- A landmark partnership with the National Public Housing Museum in Chicago
- Internships for Birmingham students at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Chicago’s Baroque Band, and The Moth in New York
- A jointly organised symposium entitled Local and Global Cultural Engagement, after which Birmingham was invited to contribute to Mayor Emanuel’s Chicago Cultural Plan

THE CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER AND THE SHAKESPEARE INSTITUTE

The University’s Shakespeare Institute, based in Shakespeare’s hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon, has been the jewel in the crown of Birmingham’s Department of English since its establishment in 1951: a world-renowned research centre for the study of Shakespeare’s works, times, lives, and afterlives.

The Institute enjoys an increasingly close relationship with the Royal Shakespeare Company, with its PhD students now serving regularly as part-time research assistants to RSC directors, RSC actors, and other personnel regularly teaching guest classes at the Institute.

These links have now been extended to Chicago, where a close relationship between the Shakespeare Institute and the Chicago Shakespeare Theater has developed. Along with the exchange of staff and research, the Chicago Shakespeare Theater hosts summer interns under our Global Challenge programme, offering the experience of working with prominent American Shakespeareans to University of Birmingham students.

THE NATIONAL PUBLIC HOUSING MUSEUM OF CHICAGO

Birmingham has established an ongoing relationship with the new National Public Housing Museum in Chicago, the first cultural institution in the United States dedicated to interpreting the American experience in public housing.

Prior to its opening, a team of researchers from Birmingham visited the museum to carry out laser scanning of the building, to preserve a record of the historic site as it stood before further development for perpetuity. Not only does this demonstrate the cutting-edge technologies available to Birmingham scholars and the novel ways in which they can be used, but it also shows our commitment to participate in all aspects of Chicago’s public life in a positive and supportive fashion.

CULTURAL HERITAGE: IRONBRIDGE AND CHAMP

As part of our Midwest initiative, the Ironbridge Institute is forging links with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), which has developed a highly successful interdisciplinary centre focusing on Cultural Heritage – the Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy (CHAMP). This mirrors the University’s Ironbridge Institute, with its own focus on the management and investigation of heritage sites.

As part of our global engagement strategy, we continue to build links with Chicago and the partnership with the National Public Housing Museum is one of a growing number of exciting initiatives by the University of Birmingham with partners across the state of Illinois.

Professor Malcolm Press, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Knowledge Transfer)
Creating global citizens

At Birmingham we strive to create global citizens, forming a truly international community thanks to the opportunities, networks and partnerships we have established across the world.

We recognise that today’s leading graduates, academics and professionals are those able to operate internationally. We are building our transatlantic links and attracting the brightest talent from North America to enhance and encourage a network of truly global citizens among students and staff.

**Global internships**
To meet the increasingly competitive global employment market, we have developed a number of transatlantic student internship opportunities with organisations including the British–American Business Council, The Moth in New York, and the British Consulate in Chicago.

**University of Birmingham and the Fulbright Commission**
Birmingham is proud to participate in a number of schemes in partnership with the Fulbright Commission to help foster mutual educational understanding between the US and the UK through academic exchange.

**Fulbright Distinguished Chair**
Our strong partnership with the Fulbright Commission has led to us being awarded the Fulbright Distinguished Chair. We are one of only three UK institutions to have been selected to host this prestigious award over the next four years.

This award offers the opportunity for a prominent US professor to be based at the University of Birmingham for six months to undertake research and build links in the United Kingdom.

**Fulbright Researcher opportunities**
Birmingham offers one Fulbright Scholarship annually, whereby a researcher based at a US institution may visit the University of Birmingham for a period of three to nine months to conduct research in any subject.

We are also happy to host holders of Fulbright Scholar Awards (all disciplines) who wish to come and conduct research in the conducive environment of the University and its campus.

“I felt as though I was contributing to the work of the British Consulate and also that of the wider network, in the Embassy. It was inspiring to see how British diplomats go about their daily duties and to be included in their work for six weeks was an honour.”

*Claire*, British Consulate-General intern, Chicago, USA, through Global Challenge

“Working and living alone in a different country will really help with any job application due to companies being more and more globally aware and focused.”

*Alana*, Chicago Shakespeare Theater intern, Chicago, USA, through Global Challenge
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarships
The Fulbright-University of Birmingham Award is offered to a US postgraduate student to study for one year at Birmingham.

"I chose the University of Birmingham because I felt it would provide an opportunity for me to not only grow as a roboticist, but also allow me to meet other students from all over the world in a friendly and welcoming environment. You get a truly international education by attending the University of Birmingham."

Emmanuel Johnson
2013–14 Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar

Fulbright International Education Administrators Conference
We are proud to have been one of a small number of institutions invited by the Fulbright Commission to host a pilot programme of the Fulbright International Education Administrators Programme in the UK in August 2013.

The programme enabled senior level administrators from 20 prestigious US institutions to visit the UK to establish links with their counterparts and build understanding, with the aim of increasing collaboration between US and UK institutions.

Birmingham’s programme focused around our cultural engagement offer and provided a platform for the University to showcase our excellent place-based assets and how we use cultural engagement to define the student experience.

Birmingham Marshall Scholarships
Birmingham offers an established joint award with Marshall Scholarships, which finances young Americans of high ability to study for a degree in the United Kingdom. As future leaders, with a lasting understanding of British society, Marshall Scholars strengthen the enduring relationship between the British and American peoples, their governments and their institutions.

The Birmingham–Marshall Scholarships support students to pursue graduate study in any subject at either Masters or Doctoral level at the University of Birmingham for a period of up to two years.

"Upon my arrival at the University of Birmingham, it was clearly apparent to me that this is a world-class research university, progressive and forward thinking. There is a spirit of collaboration here at Birmingham which is inspiring; members of the administration, staff, and faculty are immensely helpful and accommodating."

Paul Hardin Kapp
Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2013–14 Fulbright Scholar
Global connections and partnerships

As a leading global university we continuously strive to expand our global connections and establish mutually beneficial partnerships to complement our existing global footprint.

We are proud of the connections we have developed with partner organisations in North America and are continually developing our transatlantic partnerships and collaborations. These connections and partnerships are varied, ranging from student exchanges and teaching partnerships to joint research on global issues and cultural engagement.

Student exchange and study abroad

Birmingham is delighted to welcome a large number of students from all over the world who have chosen Birmingham as their study abroad or exchange destination.

It is possible for students from North America to study abroad at Birmingham via two routes:

- The International Exchange programme – for international students studying at one of our partner institutions
- The Study Abroad programme – our fee paying programme for students who don’t come on an exchange programme

Further information on these opportunities can be found at www.birmingham.ac.uk/studyabroad/studentmobility

Exchange programme

We have a well-established transatlantic student exchange programme, with over 45 partner universities in North America alone. Each year approximately 70 Birmingham students participate in an international exchange programme with universities in the USA and Canada. Larger numbers from North America are welcomed onto our campus, with more than 120 exchange and study abroad students from the USA and Canada coming to Birmingham each year.

Study abroad

The Birmingham fee paying study abroad programme has a long-standing reputation for attracting high-quality students from across the globe, particularly from the United States. Each year we welcome undergraduate students from around the world to participate in our semester or year-long Study Abroad programme.

There are also opportunities for Masters and PhD students from universities abroad to spend a term or year at the University of Birmingham, as well as opportunities for our own PhD students to study abroad.

Learn more about studying at Birmingham: www.birmingham.ac.uk/studyabroad

Key facts

- We have 225 Partners for International Exchange, 45 in North America
- We have over 70 outgoing exchange students studying in the USA and Canada
- Each year we host over 120 incoming exchange and study abroad students from the USA and Canada
- We are proud to have close to 3,000 alumni in the USA and nearly 1,700 in Canada

International Summer School

The Birmingham International Summer School has been designed to offer students an opportunity to immerse themselves in the culture of another country and to study in one of the most diverse cities in the UK. The 2014 Summer School is ideal for students based overseas who would like to experience studying abroad for a short period, while gaining a valuable insight into the fascinating culture and heritage of Britain. The theme of the 2014 Summer School is Cultural Heritage. Participants study an exciting programme, exploring the best of British heritage while immersing themselves in the art, architecture, literature, music, design and popular culture that form the basis of Britain’s culture and heritage and continue to shape its identity today. The International Summer School is particularly attractive to students from partner institutions who are also able to apply for a scholarship or fee discount.

www.birmingham.ac.uk/biss

Universitas 21 North America Mobility Awards

Each year the University of Birmingham offers a number of North America Mobility Awards to students from U21 partner institutions. Bursaries are awarded to incoming exchange students from U21 members in the USA and Canada to support them in their studies.

Birmingham as a city has a lot to offer and the University is a great institution that helps its students in every way. I would highly recommend it and have loved my time here.

Megan, English Literature student from The University of Connecticut
Our footprint in North America

We are working with over 30 partner institutions in 23 states in the US and 15 partner universities in six provinces and territories in Canada. In addition, Birmingham alumni are active in 18 states across the US and four in Canada.

A selection of our exchange partners:
University of Alabama, AL
Arizona State University, AZ
Bellarmine University, KY
University of Illinois at Chicago, IL
University of Kansas, KS
The University of Maine, ME
University of Pittsburgh, PA
Rutgers University, NJ
Dalhousie University, NS
University of Saskatchewan, SK
Simon Fraser University, BC
University of Waterloo, ON

A selection of our strategic and research partners:
The Ohio State University, OH
University of Maryland, MD
University of Virginia, VA
University of Connecticut, CT
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL
McGill University, QC
University of British Columbia, BC
University of Toronto, ON

A selection of our alumni networks and activities:
California       Texas
Massachusetts    Georgia
New York         Virginia
Washington DC    British Columbia
Pennsylvania     Ontario