

UCF

**OFFICE OF GLOBAL
PERSPECTIVES AND
INTERNATIONAL
INITIATIVES**

Overview
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About GP II

UCF Global Perspectives and International Initiatives (GP II) is designed to amplify UCF's international profile and identify international opportunities for students, faculty, and the Central Florida community.

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Areas of work

- GPII is a **think tank** that supports international programs and centers, organizes and sponsors interdisciplinary activities, and launches strategic subject-area initiatives. GPII's activities include informational events, speaker series, strategic conferences, collaborative research, broadcasts, publications, and strategic partnership-building.
- GPII **supports** the UCF Global mission to serve as the university's hub for international activities. It also leverages synergies between key international units, colleges and administration to build and carry out a strategy best suited for the rapidly changing global dynamics.
- GPII **coordinates** with colleges, faculty, staff, and community members to create and enhance international opportunities through partnership-building, collaborative research, fact finding missions, networking, and interdisciplinary activities.
- GPII **collaborates** with national and international partners on projects, publications, research, events, and initiatives.

GPPI Centers & Programs at UCF

- Puerto Rico Research Hub
- Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
- Isle of Man Small Countries Program
- Middle East Studies
- Terrorism Studies
- Diplomacy, Peace and Security Studies Program
- Prince Muhammad Bin Fahd Program for Strategic Research and Studies



Additional Internal Partnerships

GPPI also supports:

- The India Center
- Kurdish Studies Program
- Islamic Studies Program

We are currently developing:

- Morocco Center
- International Sustainability Alliance



External Partnerships

- Build and maintain strategic partnerships with academic partners across the United States and Puerto Rico, and around the globe – in Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America.
- Collaborate with prominent international think tanks on a wide range of projects. Some recent project partners include the Aspen Institute, Brookings Institution, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Center for American Progress, Council on Foreign Relations, CSIS, Hollings Center for International Dialog, Small Countries Financial Management Centre.
- Engage with US government agencies and foreign governments, including US Congress, USAID, US Departments of Defense and State, Arab Republic of Egypt, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Kingdom of Morocco, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Isle of Man, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.
- Work with cultural institutions such as the Smithsonian Institution, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, George W. Bush Presidential Center, and Carter Center.
- Establish links to NGO organizations focusing on peacemaking, climate change, gender equality, social development, human rights, and sustainable economic development.



International Conferences, Seminars, & Research

- Host and co-host international conferences in Orlando, Washington DC, and in other locations throughout the world ranging from Bhopal, India to Marrakesh, Morocco.
- Sponsor and co-sponsor briefings and seminars in Washington DC and other strategic global locations, including events held at the US Congress and UK Parliament.
- Partner with Hollings Center for International Dialog in an ongoing series of dialog conferences with participants from 16 countries on MENA-region sustainability and the water-energy-food security nexus.
- Support field research with partners in key strategic locations, particularly in the Caribbean and MENA regions.

GLOBAL perspectives



Global Perspectives Show

- WUCF TV's award-winning *Global Perspectives* is a weekly interview show which brings together authors, journalists, diplomats, political leaders, and activists to share their view of the world to Central Florida.
- Co-hosted by GPII Executive Director David Dumke and broadcast journalism instructor Katie Coronado, *Global Perspectives* dives weekly into topics of worldwide importance and local impact.



Distinguished Lecture Series

- GPII oversees the Lester Mandell Endowed Distinguished Lecture Series, which brings several high-profile speakers to UCF each year.
- Speakers provide insightful discussion for students, faculty, and the community at large.
- Recent speakers include historian Jon Meacham, Washington Post columnist David Ignatius, Smithsonian Natural History Director Kirk Johnson, former National Security Council Advisor H.R. McMaster, and White House Chiefs of Staff Andy Card and Pete Rouse.

International and Policymaker Campus Visits

- GPII facilitates numerous international expert/policymaker visits to UCF each year. Visitors participate in events open to students, faculty, and the public. They engage in-depth with the UCF community, resulting in partnership opportunities with universities, think tanks, NGO's, and government agencies.
- Visitors engage with students in “meet the pros” events designed to discuss professional development and opportunities in the international policymaking arena.
- GPII connects international partners with local government and the regional business community to build multifaceted relationships.



Program Highlights 2020-2021

- Produced and aired 30 television shows
- Produced and supported podcast series focusing on diplomacy, Puerto Rico, and India
- Hosted 18 events involving partners from 10 countries
- Organized meetings with partners from 21 countries
- Self-published Addressing Global Crisis series featuring articles written by international partners, UCF faculty, and other U.S.-based think tank and university partners
- Published 12 articles in *Cairo Review*
- Launched two major initiatives on Water-Energy-Food Nexus involving international partners
- Launched major initiative on US-Arab Relations with American University in Cairo

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Curricula Development

GPPI is developing academic offerings in the following areas:

- Human Trafficking Modern Slavery: development of certificate program
- Terrorism: Development of online certificate program
- Middle East: Development of Modern Egyptian Politics class
- Communications: Involvement of practicum students and content production on programs with partners from Egypt and Puerto Rico
- Internship and fellowship opportunities in Global Affairs for undergraduate and graduate students

Priorities for 2021-2022

- Development of the Foreign Affairs Association
- Expansion of Puerto Rico Research Hub's research and sustainability partnerships on the island
- Launch new field research projects and publish books on water-energy-food nexus and its application in the Caribbean and MENA region
- Increase impact of TV, podcast, and publications
- Expand opportunities for student and faculty participation in international programs and exchanges