



Bryant University International Business Program

Our program, ranked No. 18 nationally in the 2023 U.S. News & World Report, immerses students in real projects with real companies fostering an exceptional international experience. Offered as a major and a minor.

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CONGRATULATIONS BRYANT IB! NOW RANKED #18 NATIONALLY BY 2023 U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

In Good Company: Bryant Hosts CUIBE Conference



CUIBE Group at Bryant University

Bryant University is a member of the Consortium for Undergraduate International Business Education (CUIBE), a group of distinguished IB schools in the U.S. and abroad.

We hosted the CUIBE Fall Governance Meeting at Bryant in October. Highlights of the conference are featured in this issue.

Fall 2022 IB Semester Abroad

The IB Semester Abroad is a key component of the Bryant International Business Program. Equipped with a sound foundation in international business and foreign language, IB students spend a semester studying and interning abroad during their junior year.

This fall, IB majors ventured to France, Italy, and Spain. Please enjoy the stories and photos from the study abroad experiences featured in this issue.



IB Spain Fall 2022

From the IB Director

By **Jacqueline Saslawski**

The focus of this fall newsletter is “in great company.” I think this is a fitting theme because our IB program is in the wonderful company of other IB programs in the U.S. We are once again nationally recognized by the U.S. News & World Report. We rank #18! I am proud of this accomplishment and our continued rise in rankings. This achievement wouldn’t be possible without our innovative curriculum, which in turn is anchored in the interdisciplinary collaboration of faculty, our relationships with alumni and with the business community, and the support of the university.

The best company we keep are our IB students. During my past three years here at Bryant I have had the joy of accompanying students on their IB journey. It is amazing to see their development throughout the program milestones. From their early days as first-year students in Global Foundations of Organizations and Business (GFOB) to studying and interning abroad on the IB Integrative Block, and finally IB Practicum - the progress is profound. I attribute the interdisciplinary nature of the IB program and the academic rigor that it requires to the student development and ultimate success.



J. Saslawski with IB students in Singapore

Just before the start of the fall semester, I had the pleasure to lead the IB class in Madrid, Spain – preparing students for their semester abroad. Our group enjoyed each other’s company so much that we spent quite a few afternoons and evenings together outside the program agenda.

People who know me hear me talk a lot about transferable skills development from global experiential learning. My Madrid group embraced the scaffolded assignments and came away from the class not only learning about international business in Spain and Europe, but also with meaningful stories about their experiences. They set goals, reflected on company visits, cultural experiences, challenges, and identified cognitive, interpersonal, and intrapersonal skills they wanted to further develop. During their internships in Seville, where they spent the semester, they continued to work on their professional development. Please read about some study abroad experiences starting on page 3.

In October, we hosted the Consortium for Undergraduate International Business Education (CUIBE). Bryant is in wonderful company with consortium members from distinguished IB schools in the U.S. and abroad. Having attended CUIBE meetings at member schools, it was an utmost pleasure to host the group here at Bryant and in Rhode Island. Please see some memories from that conference and information about CUIBE on pages 8 and 9.

In November, I had the privilege of



J. Saslawski (second from the left) with IB students in Madrid.

traveling with one of the IB Practicum teams to Singapore. How more international can a global consulting project be? Read about the field trip on page 11.

The undergraduate student organization International Business Association (IBA) was very active this semester. In addition to regular meetings, members presented during several campus events and held their traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Read more on pages 16 and 17.

I am also very proud of our recent IB alumna who is involved with the Building Belong Taskforce. Read about it on pages 14 and 15.

Enjoy this newsletter and please have a happy start of 2023.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Saslawski

Jacqueline Saslawski, JD, MPIA
Director, IB Program
Lecturer, Department of
Management

Fall 2022 Study Abroad: Student Perspectives

This fall, three groups of Bryant IB students spent a semester abroad in France, Italy, and Spain.

A faculty-led program kicked off the experience in Madrid, Spain. Then, students studied at local universities and completed professional internships. The IB Study Abroad Semester is a vital and transformative component of the Bryant IB Program. Their IB and language classes prepares students for the global experience, and the immersive semester deepens their knowledge in an applied international setting. Following are perspectives from some of the students who went abroad this semester.



Lindsey Valeri in Madrid

By **Lindsey Valeri** ('24) IB Global Supply Chain Management and Spanish

"From a young age, I always knew that I wanted to study abroad, experience different cultures, places, foods, and ideas. Studying abroad in Sevilla, Spain was an unforgettable

experience that I believe will impact me for the rest of my life. As I reflect on my experiences, I realize how important this experience has been for my personal development. I was given the opportunity to use many transferable skills like my language skills, teamwork, communication, and having a global mindset through many of the situations that I faced in Spain. Whether the problem be directions, the language, culture shock, and more - I was forced to navigate through these problems by myself, which

has made me more confident in my abilities. During my time in Spain, I have developed an open mind to other cultures and ways of life. This experience also enhanced my love for travel and different cultures, and a global view. During my time abroad, I had the privilege of meeting people from around the world who all have a different point of view from the next person. Traveling across Europe has allowed me to get a taste of many different cultures. After going to landmarks, tasting foods, speaking to the locals, I was able to develop an understanding of European culture.

Our first few weeks of the semester we spent in Madrid with Professor Saslawski where she helped us adjust to the new lifestyle. It was really comforting to have a Bryant Professor with us as soon as we landed in Spain. We did a class where our group all got to meet each other, learn about the Spanish culture, and

adjust to get comfortable with our new environment. We did many excursions like the Reina Sofia Museum, visits to neighboring cities, and a tour of the Madrid airport. We were able to see so much in that small period of time. We then transitioned to Sevilla. During my time in Sevilla, I got the chance to take three internationally focused classes at Universad Pablo de

Olavide. I also worked as a marketing intern at a small showroom firm called República 38.

During my time at República 38, I completed a business plan project where I developed several new marketing strategies to implement into the company. This project allowed me to apply many skills I have developed in my IB classes and gain a hands-on experience in the business world. I am very grateful to have had this opportunity because it opened my eyes to the type of company that I see myself working at in the future.

Overall, I know these four months will not be forgotten. After coming home, I will talk about the amazing food I ate, all the countries I traveled to, my experience working in small company in Spain, all the amazing people I met, and so much more. This experience is truly a dream come true and I will forever be grateful for the Bryant International Business Program for changing my perspective on the world and giving me memories to last a lifetime."

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Abroad cont'd



Patrick Roth in Montpellier

By **Patrick Roth** ('24) IB Marketing and French, Minor Economics
 "Having recently returned from my semester abroad in Aix-en-Provence, I have had some time to appreciate and understand my experiences in France and the impact they had on me as an individual and on my education within the International Business Program at Bryant University.

One question I have been faced with quite often is how my actual experience compared to my expectations for the program in France. While I can honestly say that I tried to arrive without any expectations because I genuinely did not know what it would be like, I feel as if my study abroad experience far exceeded any expectations I would have had. The last four months of my life have been such an incredible learning experience and an opportunity to

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The classes I took while I was abroad were general elective courses in such areas as international relations, economics, and history. However, what made my academic experience so unique was that the perspective of these classes was different than that from courses I had previously taken.

For example, international relations are something that I had only ever discussed from the point of view of the United States, but my class allowed for much open discussion and allowed me to see

complex issues within the existing international order from different perspectives and to learn from the thoughts and opinions of others. I

think that the most important thing I was able to learn from all of these classes is the importance of appreciating differences, whether they be linguistic, cultural, ethnic, or racial differences and whether they be between individuals or even whole nations. International business is not about overcoming these differences; it is about recognizing them, learning about them, and appreciating them in order to effectively be able to conduct business on an international level.

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While taking my classes, I was also working on an internship at a French enterprise. This experience gave me an opportunity to dramatically improve my ability to communicate in French with other members of the team that worked there, but it also gave me valuable insights into the way that business is conducted in

France and how business there differs from the United States. A company is comprised of people, so the attitudes and opinions of those people tend to create the culture of the company. I noticed many differences between my internship here and the one that I had previously completed in the United

States. The way in which people interacted and the time spent socializing or working towards creating a sense of conviviality was something that I immediately noticed. In France, there is a very clear separation between work and personal life, while in the United States the two are often blended together, though many are seeking a better balance. My internship abroad taught me so much and was an invaluable experience in developing my professional skills within the field of marketing and my ability to communicate effectively with others.

In addition to these valuable academic and work experiences, I was so grateful to enjoy the many other benefits of study abroad. I travelled to many incredible places

and was able to learn about and experience the daily life in each of the places that I visited. The ability to travel so easily between countries really made me realize how much of the world I still have to see. During the nearly four months that I spent abroad, I met so many incredible people and made new friends that I would never have met if I had not had the opportunity to study abroad.

I will forever remember and appreciate every part of this experience and am so grateful for the lessons that I learned and the people I met along the way.”



By Kierra Kurtyka ('24) IB Accounting, Minor Spanish

“As my study abroad experience in Seville, Spain comes to an end, I reflect upon my personal and professional growth and development since arriving in August. When arriving I was so excited but nervous at the same time. Luckily, I

found support within the great group of IB students I was studying with. For my first three weeks in Spain, our group stayed in Madrid where we went through a faculty led class with Professor Saslawski. During this time, Professor Saslawski highlighted cultural differences and ways to adapt during her class.

She also taught us valuable ways to use challenges and difficulties to further develop ourselves personally and professionally. I learned

the importance of transferable and soft skills and worked hard to use my experiences in positive ways to develop my communication, teamwork, and tolerance to ambiguity skills.

For the last four months after my time in Madrid I have studied, worked, and lived in Seville. I was placed with a great host mother who had a big impact on my life. She was so kind and guided me through challenges I faced while adapting to the culture. As well as taking three

classes at the Universidad Pablo de Olavide Sevilla, I worked as an intern at Autismo Sevilla in the finance and accounting departments. This experience allowed me to practice my Spanish and see first hand how a business operates in Spain. Although my tasks within the company were fairly basic, I was exposed to finance and accounting in a new way. Often

times I would sit with my boss as he would work within the accounting software and he would explain what he was doing and why. The times I spent with him and at my internship are very valuable to me as I expanded my understanding of both Spanish and accounting.

I learned the importance of transferable and soft skills and worked hard to use my experiences in positive ways to develop my communication, teamwork, and tolerance to ambiguity skills.

I am leaving Seville changed. My host mother showed me the importance of kindness while also fully emerging me into the Spanish culture. I will

forever have a special place in my heart for her and I know she changed me personally for the better. My internship allowed me to flourish while trusting me to work in the finance and accounting departments and practice my language skills. Lastly, I fell in love with travel this semester. On long weekends and time off I traveled through Europe

My internship allowed me to flourish while trusting me to work in the finance and accounting departments and practice my language skills.

with other Bryant students and friends I made along the way. In every country I went to I was blown away by the culture. I was able to visit many

beautiful places, try delicious foods, and expand my knowledge on the importance of culture. I am so thrilled and fortunate to have had this unforgettable experience through the Bryant International Business Program.”

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Abroad cont'd



Alex Palermo in Morocco

By **Alex Palermo** ('24) IB Finance, Minor Spanish

"Looking back at my study abroad experience this past semester, I can confidently say that I've grown professionally and personally. From making new friends, to traveling around Europe and even Africa, this has been the most memorable semester for me. I started my journey in Madrid, where Professor Saslawski

led our Bryant faculty led class for three weeks. The main goal was to help us grow our cultural intelligence, which helped me immensely once I started my

internship in Seville. We also toured museums, had a cooking class, and participated in various cultural activities. This class was a perfect way to start the semester off. With Madrid being much larger than Seville, I was able to adapt to my new environment

rather quickly.

For my internship, I worked at a company called Asociación Pádel (Paddle)

Integra, where I was a part of their marketing team. While marketing is

not my concentration at Bryant, I was able to diversify my studies, which will help me stand out for potential job opportunities. Paddle is a sport that is very popular in Spain, and I had the opportunity to also participate in playing along with my colleagues. The goal of Asociación Pádel Integra is to help individuals with physical and mental disabilities stay active and grow their physical and social skills. My bosses Javi and Grego were very patient, and helped me grow my skills in Spanish and other important soft skills. It was very rewarding work, and I'm grateful for the experience the IB program has provided me.

If anyone is contemplating not traveling abroad for whatever reason, I highly recommend stepping out of your comfort zone and doing it. You will grow more as a person abroad than you can imagine.

differences in work culture. I've had some unforgettable experiences while being in Spain. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to explore Morocco, as it is very close to Seville. Having the

With my goal being to work abroad in the future, this internship helped me learn how businesses in Spain operate and the differences in work culture.

With my goal being to work abroad in the future, this internship helped me learn how businesses in Spain operate and the

ability to visit these beautiful places has made my semester abroad a time in my life I'll cherish forever. My host

mother Teresa helped me fall in love with Seville and the Spanish culture, and I'm sure we'll keep in touch for the rest of my life. I will be forever thankful to the IB program, my professors, friends, and family for guiding me through the study abroad program. If anyone is contemplating not traveling abroad for whatever reason, I highly recommend stepping out of your comfort zone and doing it. You will grow more as a person abroad than you can imagine."



Tyler Champagne in Spain

By **Tyler Champagne** ('24) IB Marketing and Global Supply Chain Management, Minor Spanish

"Being able to study abroad in Spain was a very transformative experience.

I had a three-week course in Madrid with Professor Saslawski before I traveled to Seville, where I would study for the remainder of the semester.

While in Seville I had the opportunity to study at the Universad de Pablo

Abroad cont'd

Olavide, where I made countless friends and was able to meet many Spaniards who helped me improve my Spanish, which was not the best going into my trip.

I also had a marketing internship at a company called Bengala Spain which is the largest hookah retailer in Spain. During my internship, I worked on a variety of different projects which ranged from industry research to contacting international clients. Not many of my co-workers at Bengala spoke English which made communication difficult at first, but overall it drastically helped me to improve my Spanish speaking ability.

Even though studying abroad in a foreign country may seem like an intimidating prospect at first, I assure you that it will be one of the most rewarding adventures you will ever embark on.

Even though studying abroad in a foreign country may seem like an intimidating prospect at first, I assure you that it will be one of the most rewarding adventures you will ever embark on. Of course there will be good days and bad days.

Being in a country with a different language and culture takes some time to adjust to. Yet it is this adjustment that is so rewarding. As I adapted to my new environment, I changed the way I spoke, the way I presented myself, and most importantly the way I thought. By the time I returned home I could finally see the world through a new perspective, and I haven't looked back since."



Spain



France



Spain



France

Bryant Hosts CUIBE Fall Governance Meeting

In October 2022, a group of international business academics from the continental U.S., Hawaii, and Colombia gathered for the Fall CUIBE Governance Meeting in Rhode Island. Hosted by Bryant University, participants had a productive Friday on Bryant's campus and enjoyed a fantastic luncheon keynote with **Manny Montalvo** ('94), Senior Vice President for Strategic Global Business Development, L'Oréal Professional Products Division. They experienced Providence at night during the Thursday welcoming reception and Friday night dinner event, conducted a fruitful strategy session on Saturday morning, and concluded the conference with a Saturday afternoon in Newport.

We greatly enjoyed hosting our CUIBE colleagues!

CUIBE is a consortium of schools and universities that have undergraduate international business programs.

The mission of the Consortium for Undergraduate International Business Education (CUIBE) is to:

- Promote high quality undergraduate international business education.
- Enhance and support universities' capabilities in the development and delivery of educational programs that will develop the appropriate skills and knowledge in graduates to enable them to function effectively in global business.
- Identify and disseminate best practices and innovations in undergraduate international business education.
- Share experiences and lessons learned in the building and management of high quality undergraduate international business education programs

Learn more about CUIBE at <https://cuibe.net/>



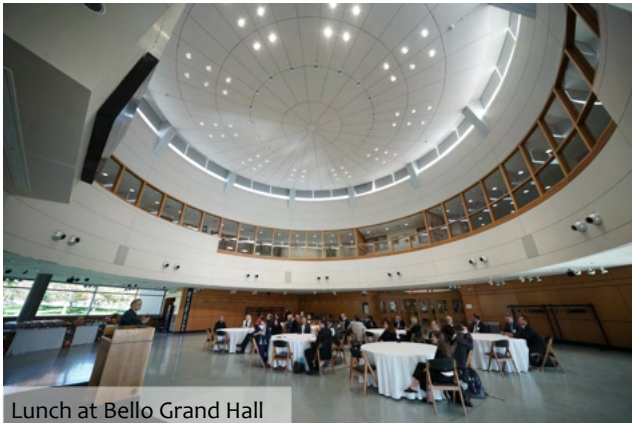
At the Bryant Academic Innovation Center (AIC)



Conference Sessions in the AIC



Conference Sessions in the AIC



Lunch at Bello Grand Hall



Dinner Event at the University Club of Providence



Manny Montalvo Luncheon Keynote



Dinner Event at the University Club of Providence



At the Breakers in Newport



Dinner Event at the University Club of Providence



Welcome Reception at the Graduate Hotel



Bryant Campus

Fall 2022 IB International Business Practicum

Fall 2022 IB Practicum

The International Business Practicum is the capstone course for IB majors. This experiential course allows students to apply the IB concepts that they have acquired during their studies at Bryant to an actual global business challenge. Students operate as consultants for a broad range of clients recruited by the International Business Program.

The projects require students to apply the interdisciplinary approach so inherent to international business, while considering leadership and teamwork issues.

This capstone provides students the opportunity to think critically, synthesize research, apply analytical tools, and solve problems. Most importantly, they strive to add value to their client.

These client companies provided valuable international business experiences to Bryant IB students in fall 2022: AVTECH, Darlington Fabrics, Hope Global, MediMynds, and TCExpress.

IB Program Director **Jacqueline Saslawski** who also teaches the Practicum class, hosted several guest speakers. **Keith Schneider** ('85) Chief Operating Officer for Goffa International discussed his international professional journey. **Manny Montalvo** ('94), Senior Vice President for Strategic Global Business Development, L'Oréal Professional Products Division shared his international career journey at L'Oréal with the students.



Manny Montalvo

Midterm presentations receive feedback from Bryant judges and class peers. Final presentations are judged by external judges.

We thank the judges for the midterm and final presentations. The midterm presentations were judged by **Michelle Baffoni**, Director, Systems Services and Support, Fidelity Investments, Adjunct Professor of Management; **Russel Sylvia**, Executive Coach & Career Consultant, Lee Hecht Harrison, Adjunct Professor of Management; and **Linda Woulfe**, International Trade Consultant and Trainer, Adjunct Professor, International Trade and Logistics at Bryant University. The final presentations were judged by **Heather Masera**, Talent Acquisition Consultant, Fidelity TalentSource and **Will Nye** (IB'21), Production Expeditor & Customer Relations Associate, TechniMetals.

Fall 2022 IB Practicum Awards

Each semester, the best final presentations and the best final written report receive awards.

Best presentations:

1st place - AVTECH

Louise Barro, **Holly Chadwick**, **Raghav Chandak**, **Emma Jasper**, **Darling Michell Pagan Antunez**

2nd place - TCExpress

Brianna Catino, **Aidan Smith**, **Michael Trask**, **Alejandro Vaquerano**, **Elena Vittori**

Best paper:

Hope Global

Abby Acone, **Clara Cole**, **Emily Magri**, **Aimee Parenteau**, **Jenna Russo**

Fall 2022 IB Practicum International Field Work

Team TCIEExpress traveled to Singapore in November to conduct international field work for their project. The students were sponsored by TCIEExpress. **Chander Agarwal** ('01), Managing Director of TCIEExpress traveled to Singapore to host the Bryant group. Accompanied by Professor **Saslawski**, **Brianna Catino**, **Aidan Smith**, **Michael Trask**, **Alejandro Vaquerano**, and **Elena Vittori** had various business meetings in Singapore, while also exploring the local culture. A trip across the border to Malaysia proved better understanding of the border crossing experience of commercial drivers.

The trip, says Aidan Smith, added even greater depth to what was already an invaluable course. "It was amazing to travel to Singapore and actually see and feel the culture rather than just reading about it," says Smith. "It was extremely helpful to experience the border crossing between Singapore and Malaysia ourselves so we knew exactly what TCIEExpress's trucks would experience, and it helped us to go one step further in our proposal."

"Through the trip we were better able to understand the region's current infrastructure, regulations, cultures, and policies," says Alejandro Vaquerano. "Traveling to the region allowed us to fully grasp the different elements of research that we had been conducting for the previous two months."



IB Practicum Projects in Partnership with the Rhode Island Israel Collaborative

The Bryant IB Program has partnered with the Rhode Island Israel Collaborative (RIIC) to offer one IB Practicum project per semester, for five semesters, which works with an Israeli startup that aims to establish a presence in Rhode Island and the New England region. The Consulate General of Israel in Boston is sponsoring these RIIC-sourced projects.

"The IB practicum program is extremely helpful to Israeli companies as the students will assist them in establishing their marketing goal towards the U.S. market," says **Avi Nevel**, President & CEO of RIIC. "This is absolutely a win/win. The Israeli startup will receive the benefit of the market research and the students receive the exposure to the international market and the commercial market."

"These are the types of collaborations that result in experiences that I love for my students," says IB Practicum faculty and IB Director **Jacqueline Saslawski**. "Students get to consult a client who wants to invest in the U.S., who is in a different time zone, and who has a different business culture."

In spring 2022 we completed a project with Kinetix and in fall 2022 with MediMynds.

Fall 2022 IB International Business Practicum Pictures

Final Presentations



The whole group plus judges **Heather Masera**, Talent Acquisition Consultant, Fidelity TalentSource and **Will Nye**, Production Expeditor & Customer Relations Associate, TechniMetals



AVTECH

Left to right: **Jacqueline Saslawski**, **George Gill** ('20), Supply Chain Analyst, AVTECH, **Holly Chadwick**, **Darling Michell Pagan Antunez**, **Emma Jasper**, **Louise Barro**, **Raghav Chandak**, **Rick Grundy**, President and COO, AVTECH

What the Client Says

"Excellent job! Congratulations on first place. We're really happy with the results and even happier that it translated to a successful project for your team for the semester. The work you put in will be immediately actionable for us as we work to accelerate our growth in Europe in 2023 and beyond."

"There were some unique insights presented that we did not anticipate, and they were backed up by real data. The conclusions can be effectively adapted to our business and put into practice in a very practical manner. The team asked good questions, and their responses and presentation showed they were active listeners."

Rick Grundy, President and COO, AVTECH



Darlington Fabrics

Left to right: Steven Perry, Senior Vice President, Darlington Fabrics, Jacqueline Saslawski, Raquel Perez Alvarez, Ana Gallardo De La Cruz, Verónica Cruz Torresola, Blanca Chasco Maso, Samantha Eastman, Mindy Earleywine, Director of Sales—Medical/ Specialty, Darlington Fabrics, Jack Boyd, Director Of Business Development, Darlington Fabrics



Hope Global

Left to right: Jacqueline Saslawski, Jeffrey Agonia (MBA '14), Director of Engineering, Quality & Excellence, Hope Global, Aimee Parenteau, Emily Magri, Clara Cole, Jenna Russo, Abby Acone



MediMynds

Left to right: Emily Robinson, Matthew Kiernan, Arana Torres, Bo Rinkus, Juliette Sasso, Jacqueline Saslawski



TCIExpress

Left to right: Jacqueline Saslawski, Michael Trask, Alejandro Vaquerano, Elena Vittori, Brianna Catino, Aidan Smith

Is Your Organization Interested in Doing an IB Practicum Project?

Please contact Jacqueline Saslawski, jsaslawski@bryant.edu, +1-401-232-6940 to learn more about the projects and discuss how an IB senior student team might provide actionable solutions to your organization.

Would You Like to Become a Judge for Future Presentations?

Our students greatly benefit from the judge's feedback and it is a great way to get involved with the program. Please contact Jacqueline Saslawski, jsaslawski@bryant.edu, +1-401-232-6940 to learn more.

IB Alumna Follows Her Passion While Pursuing Her MBA



By Paris Flynn MBA'23 Candidate in General Management, Bryant University, Bryant IB'22 Marketing Concentration and Italian Minor. Building Belonging Task Force Graduate Assistant. Founder and Executive Director of the Wave Foundation.

"Before I started my college career, my free time had been largely consumed with my passion for art, culture, and volunteer work with nonprofits. I learned from my many hours studying nonprofits the importance of having a formal business education and knowledge, on top of passion and drive. This led me down the path of researching different business schools in New England. Once I discovered Bryant, specifically its prestigious International Business program, I knew it was where I wanted to be.

I have always had an affinity for travel, experiencing new places, exploring different arts and cultures, and meeting people from different backgrounds. The Bryant IB curriculum and semester abroad component seemed like the perfect way for me to blend my interest in business with my passions. Throughout the years, so many great opportunities have been presented to me because of my participation in the program. I met some of my best friends in my IB classes and appreciated the unique experience of getting to study abroad in Italy, and tour eight countries in

Europe while I was there.

In the spring of my senior year, I enrolled in Diversity Management 357 with Professor Eileen Kwesiga. Within the rigidity of the IB curriculum, I had just a few opportunities to pick my own courses during my undergraduate career. My final semester was the first chance I had to explore a bit beyond my major. With the matters of diversity, equity and inclusion being very integral to both my core values and weaved into my prior volunteer and internship work, I jumped at the opportunity to learn more. This decision ended up being crucial, as the knowledge I gained from the course completely transformed my perspective and invigorated my passion for working in the DEI sector. In the course, I worked with a few peers to explore the experiences of women-identified students at Bryant, looking specifically into instances of microaggressions against women. In our research, we found that there was a large disparity between the experiences of men and women on our campus. I also found that my program of International Business actually had one of the highest rates of gender equality. I realized how my experience of having classes with a relatively even number of male and female students was different compared to other majors.

After we completed our research, we were able to present our findings to many influential members of the Bryant community. My decision to pursue my masters through Bryant's MBA program was largely informed by this work.

I feel so fortunate to be able to do work on what I love while furthering my education.

Towards the end of that spring semester of 2022, the president of the university worked with a few other community members to create the Building Belonging Task Force. This effort was designed with the mission to better understand the female experience at Bryant and identify methods to improve it. I was pleased to learn the university was

taking these matters seriously and was extremely honored to be invited to serve as a member of the committee.

On the committee, my role as the graduate assistant is to assist in the research and data collection for the task force. I have been able to apply not only the knowledge I gained through my diversity management course, internship and volunteer experiences, but also the research and understanding I developed through my IB practicum project. I

worked with my team to devise a corporate social responsibility strategy for RI-based travel company Collette. Though our practicum research and final strategy looked holistically at all 17 of the United Nations Sustainable

Development Goals, incorporated in those 17 goals are #5 gender equality, #10 reduce inequalities, and #16 peace, justice and strong institutions. These goals align so closely with my personal values, and I am eager to help incorporate them into Bryant's mission and operations.

This past fall, the Building Belonging Task Force completed its initial phase of research, which included conducting interviews, focus groups, coding existing data provided by the university, and hosting workshop sessions on the Day of Understanding. We have studied other institutions, as well as members from all corners of

our community, including female and male staff, students, faculty, administrators, and coaches. Through our initial findings, we have been able to flesh out a strategy for how the university can move forward in a direction that is more inclusive and welcoming for its female population, both staff and student.

By serving on the committee and simultaneously receiving my masters from the university, I am able to make a

I have been able to apply not only the knowledge I gained through my diversity management course, internship and volunteer experiences, but also the research and understanding I developed through my IB practicum project.

positive impact on a community that I hold dear to my heart while also developing my professional knowledge and skills. I feel so fortunate to be able to do work on what I love while furthering my

education. My hope is to help leave this institution as a better place than how I found it. I also hope that through this experience, I can get closer to my goal of expanding my nonprofit and continue to improve the communities around me through empowerment, service, generosity and understanding.”

About the Building Belonging Task Force

The Building Belonging Task Force Committee is sponsored by the Office of the President and chaired by Kelly Boutin, Assistant Director, PwC Center for Diversity and Inclusion; Director, Women's Center and Pride Center and Veronica McComb, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The committee is charged with the mission of developing a better understanding of the experiences of women-identified members of the Bryant community and making recommendations towards improvement. In late fall, the committee hosted several focus groups. The objective of these sessions was to facilitate meaningful dialogue regarding the university culture and experience through the lenses of students, faculty and staff; providing community members with an opportunity to be heard.

International Business Association Fall 2022 Activities and Events

The International Business Association (IBA) is the IB student organization.

The IBA's mission is to improve general business awareness of students in the International Business program. Through the development of strong relationships with the surrounding community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and other business professionals, IBA helps IB students develop a global understanding and appreciation for the complexities of studying International Business.

Following are some of the events that IBA hosted in fall 2022.

September

IBA hosted an IB welcome session during **Welcome Week**. IB Program Director Jacqueline Saslawski prepared a video message from Madrid, Spain that welcomed the students at the session. IB students Sara Curry, Emerson Swartz, Veronica Levesque, and Giana Amaral recorded a video message from Aix-En-Provence, France.

IBA hosted a table at the **Student Involvement Fair**.

IBA welcomed returning and new members to the club during their **first IBA general member meeting**, which featured ice breakers, games and raffles.



Raffles continued during each meeting this semester.

IBA co-hosted the **IB First Year Welcome**.



October

IBA co-hosted the **IB Tailgate** and **IB Tent** during **Homecoming**.



IBA participated in October **Open House**.



IBA hosted the semi-annual **IB Headshot Event**. Students took professional pictures in front of the IB backdrop.

November

IBA participated in November **Open House**.



IBA hosted a **Study Abroad Experience Panel**. 28 IBA members enjoyed live presentations from IB students abroad in France (Giana Amaral and Veronica Levesque) and Spain (Alex Palermo and Lindsey Valeri)

IBA hosted its annual **IB Thanksgiving Event** at Condesa. IB students and faculty gathered to celebrate the holiday.



International Business Association E-Board

2022-2023 IBA Officers

President—**Holly Chadwick** ('23),
IB Marketing, Minor Spanish

Vice President—**Alex Palermo** ('24),
IB Finance, Minor Spanish

Director of Community Relations—**Lindsey Valeri** ('24),
IB Global Supply Chain Management and Spanish

Director of Events—**Emilia Wojciechowska** ('25),
IB Global Supply Chain Management and Marketing, Minor Spanish

Director of Finance—**Julian Serrano** ('23),
IB Finance, Minors Economics and Information Systems

Director of Marketing—**Patrick Roth** ('24),
IB Marketing and French, Minor Economics

Director of Operations—**Emma Jasper** ('23),
IB Marketing and Spanish, Minor Team and Project Management

Events and Activities Summer 2022—Fall 2022

May/June—NAFSA 2022 Annual Conference & Expo

Jacqueline Saslawski, JD, MPIA, Director of the IB Program and Lecturer at the Department of Management at Bryant University and William McShane, MPIA, Associate Director for Integrated Learning at the University of Pittsburgh's Katz Graduate School of Business, presented their poster "Meaningful Global Skills Development - On and Off Campus."



Jacqueline Saslawski also presented a poster "Global Experiential Learning that Builds Competencies for Enhancing Social Value."



NAFSA: Association of International Educators is the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to international education and exchange. NAFSA's 10,000 members are located at more than 3,500 institutions worldwide, in over 150 countries.



July—Résumé Boosters: Connecting Study Abroad to Career Prospects

IB Director Jacqueline Saslawski, JD, MPIA was interviewed by the NAFSA International Educator magazine for an article on career outcomes of study abroad. Read the whole article at: <https://www.nafsa.org/ie-magazine/2022/7/12/resume-boosters-connecting-study-abroad-career-prospects>.

July—AIB 2022: Best Paper Award in Emerging Economies Research

The Bryant IB Program sponsors this annual award at the annual AIB conference.

After review of the nominees, a committee at Bryant selected: Arzi Adbi, National University of Singapore and Siddharth Natarajan, Chinese University of Hong Kong *Saving for Microenterprises: The Complementary Role of Mobile Money and Banks for Marginalized Individuals in Low and Middle Income Countries*

For other IB awards recognizing exceptional scholarship, visit <https://www.aib.world/news/congratulations-to-our-aib-2022-miami-award-winners/>

The Academy of International Business is the premier global community of international business scholars. Thirteen global chapters serve the AIB membership community. Crystal Jiang, Ph.D., Professor of Management at Bryant University, is the Chair of the Northeast Chapter of AIB.

September—Bryant Welcome Week

IBA hosted an IB welcome session during Welcome Week. IB Program Director Jacqueline Saslawski prepared a video message from Madrid, Spain that welcomed the students at the session. IB students Sara Curry, Emerson Swartz, Veronica Levesque, and Giana Amaral recorded a video message from Aix-En-Provence, France.

September —IB First Year Welcome

On September 21, 2022 IB first years met fellow IB students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni. A quick-paced, in-person and tightly packed program provided an engaging overview of the IB experience at Bryant.

We thank the presenters who provided meaningful insights. In alphabetical order: Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D., Dean, College of Business, Professor of Management; Holly Chadwick ('23), IBA President; Ross

Gittell, Ph.D., President; Patricia Gomez, MA, Senior Lecturer of Modern Language; Terri A. Hasseler, Ph.D., Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Professor of English and Cultural Studies; Ganga Hewage, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Marketing; Cindi Lewis, MA, Executive Director of Global Education; Peter Nigro, Ph.D., Professor of Finance; Will Nye ('21), Production Expeditor & Customer Relations Associate, TechniMetals; Cedric Joseph Oliva, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Modern Language; Rupendra Paliwal, Ph.D., Provost and Chief Academic Officer; Elzotbek Rustambekov, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Management; Wendy Samter, Ph.D., Associate Provost, Professor of Communication; Jacqueline Saslawski, JD, MPA, Director of the IB Program, Lecturer of Management; Rebecca Senna, M.Ed., Senior Academic Advisor; Srđan Zdravković, Ph.D., Professor of Marketing and International Business; Cathy Zheng, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Finance.

October—Homecoming

IB alumni, students, and faculty met at the tailgate event on October 15.



Left to right: Jacqueline Saslawski, Eric Handa ('97), Keith Schneider ('85), Alex Chace ('20, MBA '21)

September/October—PLAFF

The IB Program was one of the sponsors of the 30th Annual Providence Latin American Film Festival (PLAFF), which was held virtually from September 23 to October 1. Bryant has been part of PLAFF since 2010. Other Bryant sponsors included the College of Arts and Sciences, Modern Languages, Communications, English and Social Sciences, BUSCO, ISO, MSU, and CDI.

October—CUIBE Fall Governance Meeting

We hosted the Fall Governance Meeting of the Consortium for Undergraduate International Business Education October 20-22. *Read about it on pages 8 and 9.*

November—Bryant Day of Understanding

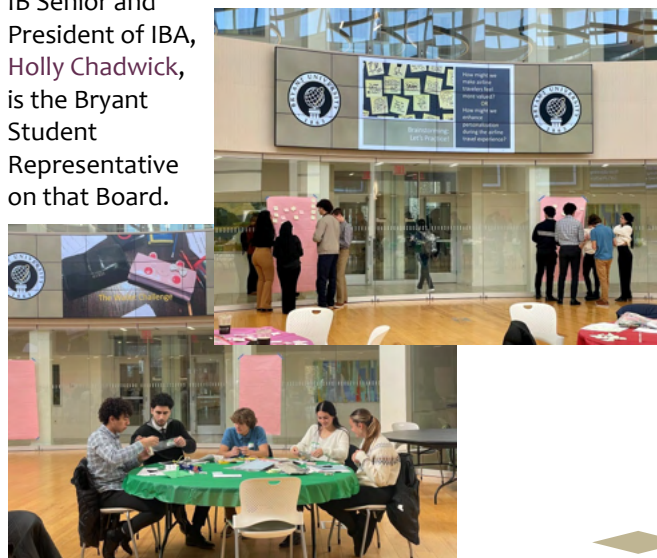
Bryant's third annual Day of Understanding focused on "Building Community." IB Program Director Jacqueline Saslawski, JD, MPA; Robert Massoud, MBA, Lecturer of Management; Christopher Ratcliffe, MBA, Lecturer of Management; and Russ Sylvia, MBA, Adjunct Professor of Management, presented on "Building Community in the Workplace—What Can a New Hire Do?" The session, which was open to students only, featured a discussion on how a new hire can enhance their professional experience by finding and building their communities. Presenters used real world experiences to inform how to successfully engage with communities in the workplace.

November—Lincoln High School Design Thinking Workshop

Around 30 Lincoln HS students participated in a Design Thinking Workshop that was led by Allison Butler, Professor of Psychology at Bryant University. Several of the participating students are in LHS' International Business Career and Technical Education Program.

IB Program Director Jacqueline Saslawski and IB Juniors Darling Michell Pagan Antunez and Brice Sinnett presented on their experiences in the International Business Program.

Jacqueline Saslawski is a member of Lincoln High School's International Business Program Advisory Board. For 2022-23, IB Senior and President of IBA, Holly Chadwick, is the Bryant Student Representative on that Board.



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We thank all contributors.



Stay in Touch

Bryant IB Alumni LinkedIn Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2904961/>