

20  
22



**AFRICA  
GLOBAL  
INITIATIVE**  
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

**ANNUAL REPORT**





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# 2022 IN REVIEW

Dear Friends,

This year has been an exciting 12 months for the Africa Global Initiative (AGI). The 2022 Annual Report is a testament to all that we have achieved together.

We have seen increasing cooperation with universities in Africa, including the signing of a partnership with the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa—a significant highlight. Students across the continent have a growing awareness of and enthusiasm for Northeastern University. Colleagues in enrollment have been active across Africa, enrollment is increasing markedly, and the first recipients of the African Graduate Students Access Scholarship have arrived at Northeastern.

As more students arrive from the continent, the AGI has worked to welcome and support them. Our student project managers have developed and launched a Welcome Pack for Northeastern's Boston campus, and are working on dedicated versions for other campuses. The AGI has acted as a forum for information sharing, building awareness across the university through both the AGI website and the Pan-African Group. A smaller university-wide engagement group has been meeting weekly.

Our student project managers have played a crucial role in making the AGI's activities possible. I would like to extend my profound thanks to Ademidun and Nsikak, who have done so much effectively for the AGI this year. It has been a great pleasure to work with them.

As we look toward the future, it's important we identify and focus on strategic priorities and provide the AGI with an ever more stable structure. A new executive group will take over from the engagement group, and will be supported by an incoming student project manager. Pan-African group meetings will occur at regular intervals, at the start of each semester. Newsletters will continue to be issued on a semesterly basis in the run-up to the Pan-African group meetings.

I am pleased to announce Northeastern's next Global Leadership Summit will be held in Accra, Ghana, on March 8-12, 2023. This forum will convene thought leaders, provide networking and learning opportunities, foster understanding of Ghana's historical sites and events and their global effect, and offer ways to create collective action and invest in the local community.

The dynamism of countries and peoples across the African continent will be decisive in the future of the world. The AGI is well placed to support reflection on and engagement with the continent.

Sincerely,

**Professor Andrew Ginger**

*Special Advisor to the Provost*





# ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT: GRADUATE

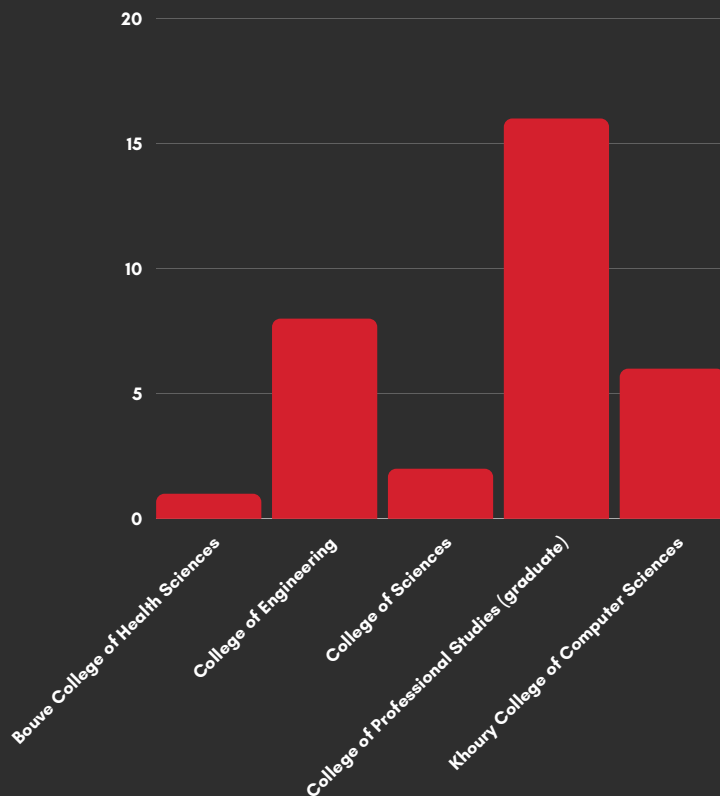
## A Banner Year for African Students

International Enrollment Management (IEM) has participated in more than 30 physical and virtual student engagement activities in Africa, and interacted with more than 3,500 students. The IEM team visited countries including Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, and Egypt to explore institutional partnerships and to train channel partners.

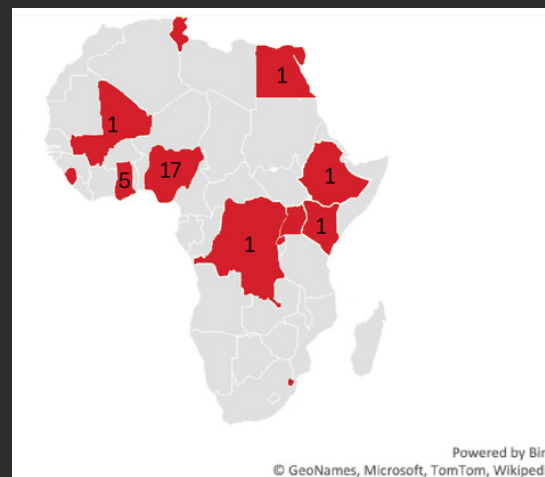
The team is currently in discussion for collaborations with Covenant University, the University of Lagos, the University of Ibadan in Nigeria, the University of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, American University in Cairo, and Ain Shams University in Egypt. IEM also has a new global team member based in Lagos, Nigeria.

In addition to Northeastern webinars and information sessions, IEM is scheduled to participate in at least six recruitment fairs in Africa in spring 2023. The team continues to connect with students through weekly virtual counseling sessions and one-on-one meetings.

### Spring 2022 Matriculation



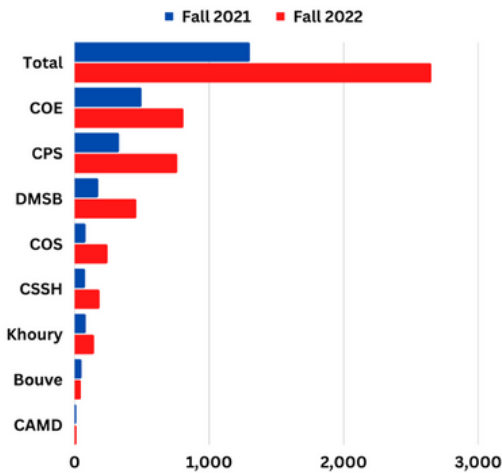
### Spring 2022 Graduate Enrollment



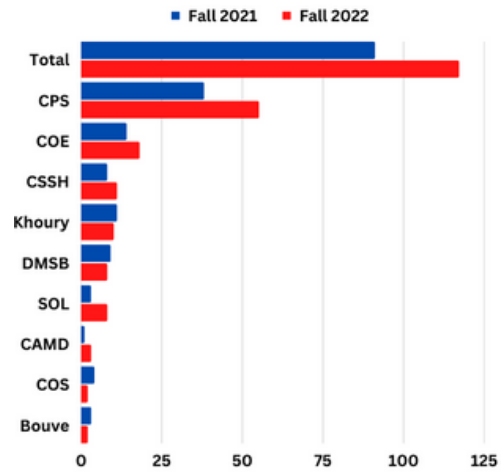
# ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT: GRADUATE

We have seen a 28% increase in graduate enrollments in fall 2022 compared to fall 2021. The highest enrollment came from Nigeria (63), followed by Ghana (14). The highest increase in enrollments was also seen from Nigeria, which was about 110%.

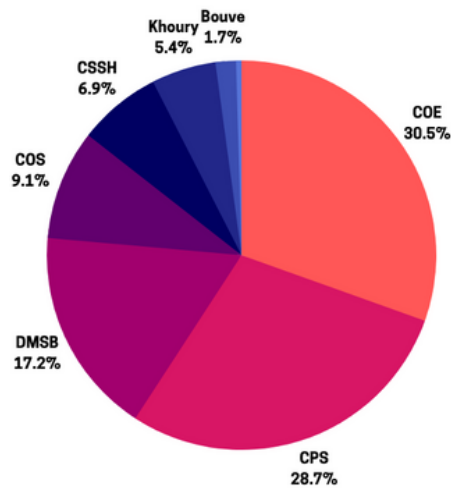
### Graduate Applications Fall 2022 vs. Fall 2021



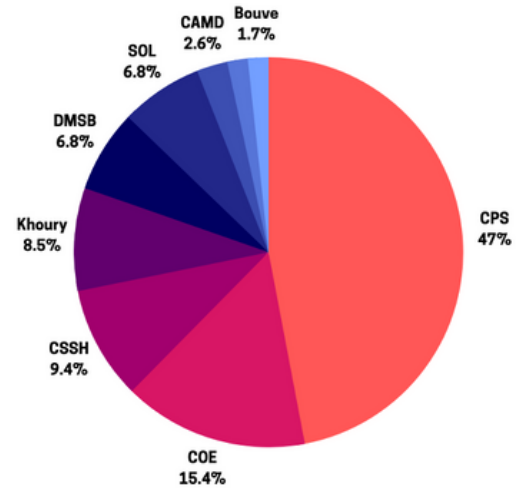
### Graduate Enrollment Fall 2022 vs. Fall 2021



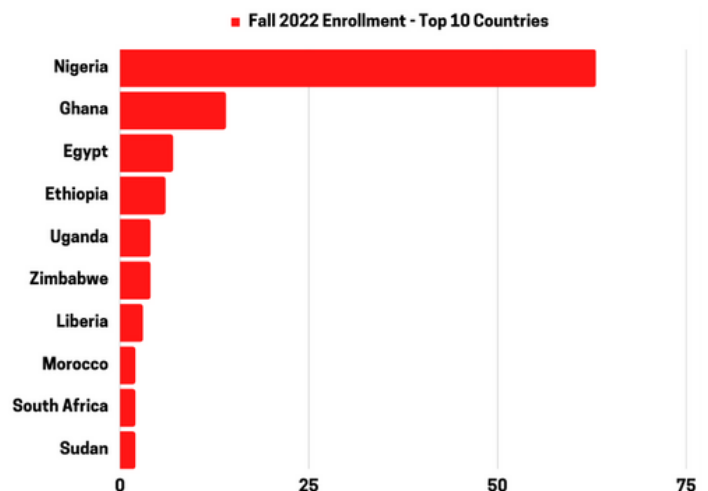
### Graduate Applications Fall 2022



### Graduate Enrollment Fall 2022



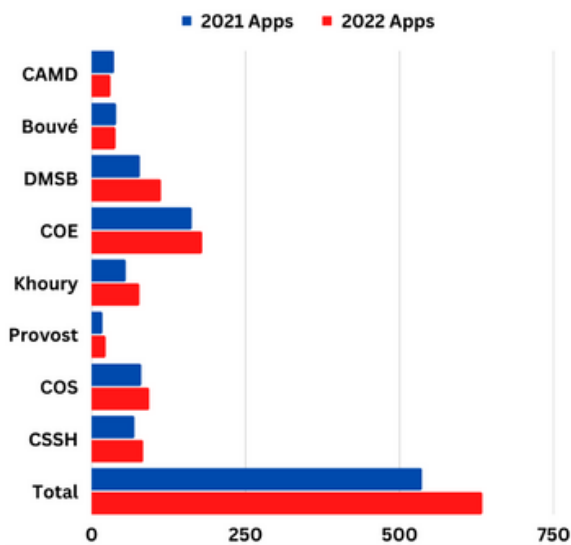
### Graduate Enrollment by Country



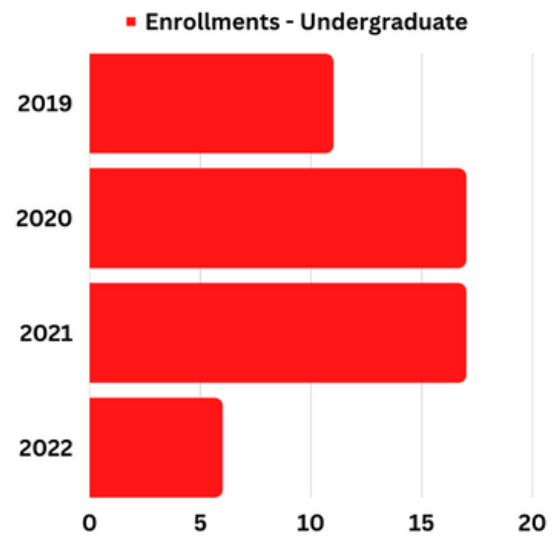
# ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT: UNDERGRADUATE

We have seen an 18% increase in undergraduate applications in fall 2022 compared to fall 2021. The highest application in fall 2022 came from Ghana (105), followed by Ethiopia (90).

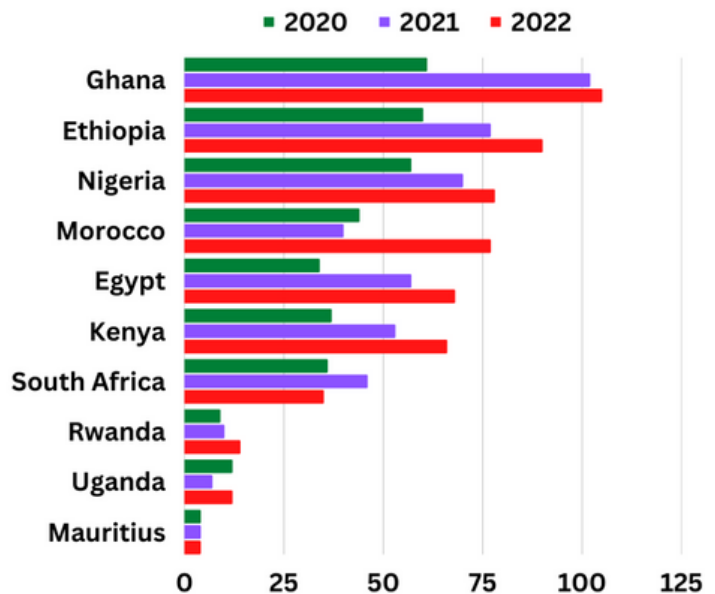
### Undergraduate Applications by Colleges



### Undergraduate Enrollments: Year on Year



### Undergraduate Applications: Top 10 Countries



# AFRICAN STUDENTS ACCESS SCHOLARSHIP



To increase enrollment from Africa, Enrollment Management, University Advancement, and Northeastern's colleges and schools created the African Students Access Scholarship, which reduces economic barriers for graduate students from Africa. Many of the first recipients have arrived on our campuses, and we are delighted to share two of their stories.



"I am one step closer to achieving my goal of becoming a solutions architect. Thanks to the African Students Access Scholarship, I will be able to design cloud solutions for society at large."

**—Nsikak-Abasi Una**  
*MS, Informatics*  
*College of Professional Studies*



"I am grateful to Northeastern for the scholarship. If I had not gotten this, my dream of studying at Northeastern University would never have been fulfilled."

**—Damilola Olojede**  
*MS, Energy Systems*  
*College of Engineering*

# UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

## GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2023: ACCRA



Northeastern will hold the next **Global Leadership Summit (GLS) in Accra, Ghana, on March 8-12, 2023**. The summit will convene thought leaders, provide networking and learning opportunities, foster understanding of Ghana's historical sites and events and their global effect, and offer ways to create collective action and invest in the local community. Attendees will hear from inspiring and dynamic speakers, create meaningful connections with one another, and spark collective action to make an impact across Northeastern's communities worldwide.

The GLS convenes an audience of global citizens, including members of the university's Board of Trustees and local alumni, parents, and students studying in the region, with a special emphasis on delivering programming for 140 Young Global Leaders (YGL). These recent graduates hail from more than 50 countries, and exhibit a commitment to advancing Northeastern's strategic priorities via their networks and philanthropy. Speakers from past GLS summits in Paris, Shanghai, and Mumbai include Arnaud de Puyfontaine, Chief Executive Officer at Vivendi; Henri de Castries of General Atlantic/formerly of AXA; Spencer Fung of Li & Fung; David Liao of HSBC China; Jian Fan of China Unicom Group; CP Gurnani, CEO of Tech Mahindra, and Anu Aga, former Chairperson of Thermax.

**Purpose of Event:** Through keynote speeches, moderated panel discussions, networking receptions, and experiential learning via in-country immersions, Northeastern's first GLS summit on the African continent will allow students, parents, faculty, and alumni to engage with business leaders and changemakers in Africa. From urban logistics to healthcare, agriculture, fintech, e-commerce, and creative industries, Africa's expanding economy promises rapid growth for tech start-ups and traditional companies—and Northeastern's focus on experiential learning fosters innovative and entrepreneurial approaches to global challenges. The GLS Accra Summit will provide exceptional networking opportunities for business and community leaders, students, and alumni interested in Ghana and its rich history and opportunities.

**Africa Global Initiative Alignment:** Northeastern's Africa Global Initiative (AGI) seeks to strengthen the university's ties with Africa by increasing research and academic collaborations on the continent, growing student enrollment, and funding scholarships. The AGI aims to create transformative partnerships with African communities and institutions for mutual empowerment, and more than four programs have been convened along with an internal and external advisory group, including alumni and students eager to support the planning and hosting of the GLS in Africa.



Moderna in Africa

Patrick Bergstedt, SVP  
Moderna  
Dean Hazel Sive, COS



## UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

CONNECTING THE AFRICA GLOBAL INITIATIVE  
WITH THE NORTHEASTERN COMMUNITY



### New Websites for the AGI and the Northeastern African Student Organization

The **Africa Global Initiative website** has a new, improved look. Explore it to see what's changed, and to read our publications, event recaps, and more. To join our mailing list, please write to [agi@northeastern.edu](mailto:agi@northeastern.edu).

[africaglobalinitiative.sites.northeastern.edu](https://africaglobalinitiative.sites.northeastern.edu)

The **Northeastern African Student Organization website** also has a refreshed look! Explore it to see what's new.

[naso.sites.northeastern.edu](https://naso.sites.northeastern.edu)

### NEWS@NORTHEASTERN

A strategic partner for the Africa Global Initiative, News@Northeastern significantly increased its coverage of the university's engagement with the continent in 2021

5+

News@Northeastern published more than five articles featuring AGI events, as well as working group members and their achievements

### AGI PUBLICATIONS

This year, the AGI published quarterly newsletters, and connected Northeastern faculty with counterparts on the African continent

# AGI EVENTS IN 2022

Building on the momentum from 2021, the Africa Global Initiative continued its regular event schedule in 2022. The first Northeastern University African Business Conference kicked off a year of exciting events.




Northeastern's Africa Global Initiative and the Center for Emerging Markets invite you to their Inaugural Africa Business Conference

A continent of over one billion people, thousands of languages, dozens of countries, and a median age of 19.5, Africa is full of opportunities for business and research collaborations alike. Africa's potential as a growth market for business remains underestimated — as does the potential for business to play a transformative role in solving the continent's biggest challenges.





Florie Liser  
Corporate Council on Africa

Dilip Pal  
Safaricom PLC

Amb. Rama Yade  
Atlantic Council

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022**  
8:30am – 11am

Interact with **Florie Liser**, President and CEO at Corporate Council on Africa, **Dilip Pal**, Chief Finance Officer, Safaricom PLC, **Ambassador Rama Yade**, Senior Director of the Atlantic Council's Africa Center, and other thought leaders and change-makers at this first-of-its-kind event.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

or follow us on Facebook Live through this link



P.S. Students: We welcome you to also attend the **NASO's** first Africa Night on **Saturday, February 19**. Stay tuned for details!

## AFRICA BUSINESS CONFERENCE

**February 16, 2022**

The conference, hosted by Northeastern's Africa Global Initiative and the Center for Emerging Markets, attracted attendees from Hong Kong, Greece, Argentina, Nigeria, Rwanda, and other countries.

In his opening address, President Joseph E. Aoun stated, "Our goal today is to chart a pathway of engagement with Africa. Africa is a continent of growth and innovation, and it is home to many of Northeastern's students, faculty, and leaders."

Read [News@Northeastern's article on the Africa Business Conference](#), and check out video snippets of the conference on the AGI website.



## AFRICA NIGHT

**February 19, 2022**

Edemed Africa Night was hosted by Northeastern's African Student Organization (NASO) at Blackman Auditorium. The event showcased a mix of poetry, cultural dance and art, fashion, and presentations to celebrate culture and community across Boston.

NASO hosted performances from African student organizations across Boston's colleges and campuses. This vibrant event embodied the global spirit of Northeastern, celebrating the unique diversity of the city's African students.

# AGI EVENTS IN 2022



**AFRICA GLOBAL INITIATIVE**  
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

**YOUNG GLOBAL LEADERS**

Northeastern University invites you to attend

**Manufacturing mRNA Vaccines in Africa:  
A Conversation with Patrick Bergstedt**  
Senior Vice President, Moderna

Introduction by David Madigan  
Provost, Northeastern University

**Wednesday, April 13, 2022**  
5 p.m.–6 p.m. ET

The Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Complex  
805 Columbus Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02120



**Patrick Bergstedt**  
Senior Vice President,  
Moderna



**Hazel Sive**  
Dean, Northeastern's  
College of Science

In March, Moderna announced it will build a manufacturing facility in Kenya, its first in Africa, to produce messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines, including COVID-19 shots. The pharmaceutical company will invest \$500 million in the Kenyan facility, and supply as many as 500 million doses of mRNA vaccines to the continent each year.

Join Hazel Sive, dean of Northeastern's College of Science and chair of the Africa Global Initiative, for a question and answer session with Patrick Bergstedt about positioning the continent to respond to future health crises, and how he envisions Moderna playing a role.

Following the lecture, guests are invited to attend a reception with a light dinner.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Register here or follow us on Facebook Live through this link



## Moderna in Africa

**April 13, 2022**

Northeastern University hosted a conversation between College of Science Dean Hazel Sive and Patrick Bergstedt, senior vice president of commercial vaccines at Moderna.

Bergstedt discussed Moderna's plans to invest \$500 million to set up a manufacturing facility in Kenya, supplying as many as 500 million doses of mRNA vaccines to Africa each year. [Read more.](#)



## Career Event for African Students

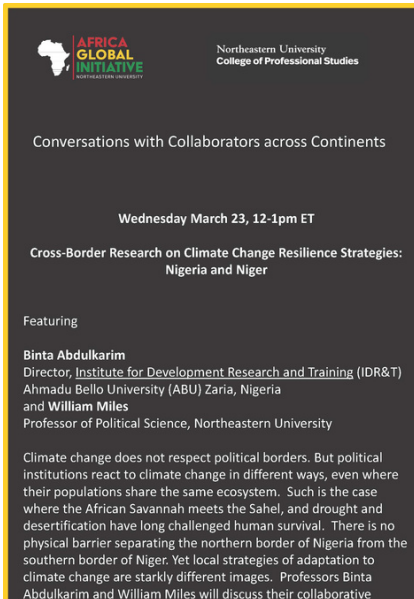
**April 21, 2022**

In partnership with the Northeastern African Student Organization and the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute, the AGI hosted an event for African students that focused on navigating careers, co-op, the job search process, and next steps after graduation.

Students interacted with representatives from Employer Engagement and Career Design, the Office of Global Services, and a panel of African students who spoke about their job search experiences.



# AGI EVENTS IN 2022



**AFRICA GLOBAL INITIATIVE**  
Northeastern University  
College of Professional Studies

Conversations with Collaborators across Continents

Wednesday March 23, 12-1pm ET

Cross-Border Research on Climate Change Resilience Strategies: Nigeria and Niger

Featuring

**Binta Abdulkarim**  
Director, Institute for Development Research and Training (IDR&T)  
Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria, Nigeria  
and **William Miles**  
Professor of Political Science, Northeastern University

Climate change does not respect political borders. But political institutions react to climate change in different ways, even where their populations share the same ecosystem. Such is the case where the African Savannah meets the Sahel, and drought and desertification have long challenged human survival. There is no physical barrier separating the northern border of Nigeria from the southern border of Niger. Yet local strategies of adaptation to climate change are starkly different images. Professors Binta Abdulkarim and William Miles will discuss their collaborative

## Global Studies and International Relations Speaker Series

**March 23, 2022**

The AGI and Northeastern's Department of Global Studies and International Relations hosted three conversations between Northeastern faculty and their African counterparts.

Each session discussed faculty research, the logistics of joint research interests across continents, and much more. We look forward to hosting more sessions in the future.



**AFRICA DAY 2022**

JOIN THE STUDENT LEADERS OF THE AFRICAN COMMUNITY AT NORTHEASTERN TO DISCUSS A RANGE OF TOPICS FROM LIFE AS AN AFRICAN AT NORTHEASTERN, COMMUNITY RESOURCES AVAILABLE, THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ALUMNI AND CURRENT STUDENTS AND LIFE AFTER NORTHEASTERN.

**FEMI LAMPITEY**  
PRESIDENT, NASO

**MAGGIE MWANGI**  
CO-VICE PRESIDENT, NASO

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25  
10AM - 11AM

## Celebrating Africa Day

**May 25, 2022**

The AGI collaborated with the Northeastern University African Student Organization's (NASO) leaders to host a conversation titled "Life as an African at Northeastern University."

The virtual event was well attended by prospective students from all over the continent, who asked many questions about life at Northeastern, the resources available on campus, and more.



**NASO & AGI**  
presents

**Thanksgiving Dinner**

Thursday  
November 17th  
2022  
6 PM

The Cabral  
John D'O Bryant  
Institute

RSVP

**Eat, Drink, and Be Thankful!**

## Thanksgiving Dinner

**November 17, 2022**

The AGI collaborated with NASO to host Thanksgiving dinner, a festive gathering that was attended by more than 100 African students.

# Professor Zeblon Vilakazi, Vice Chancellor of the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, visits Northeastern University



In September 2022, David Madigan, Northeastern University Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Zeblon Zenzele Vilakazi, Vice Chancellor of the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) expressing a mutual desire to work together and find areas of collaboration and opportunity.

The University of Witwatersrand is the alma mater of Nelson Mandela and a top-two university in Africa. It is internationally ranked, research-intensive, and dedicated to advancing the public good. As part of this visit, there was a fireside chat with the Vice Chancellor co-hosted by Dean of the College of Science Hazel Sive titled "The Crucial Role of Universities in the Future of African Countries: The University of the Witwatersrand as a Paradigm."





# EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT AND CAREER DESIGN

## Global Work Citizen Program

Employer Engagement and Career Design, in collaboration with Global Co-op Faculty, run the brand-new Global Work Citizen summer badge program for Northeastern students. This immersive month-long virtual program was designed especially for first-year learners. It introduced Huskies to global partners early in their university journey, and encouraged students to cultivate a global mindset during and beyond their time at Northeastern.

During sessions with global employers, universities, and agency partners, students interacted with, learned from, and engaged in meaningful conversations about global challenges and differences in professional cultures. Elements of global agility, cultural humility, teamwork, and innovation were discussed in guided reflection sessions. During the Africa week, students engaged in in-person dialogues with staff and students of two great organizations:

- **Right To Dream** is a Ghanaian football academy that started in 1999 to train a small number of boys in Accra, and grew into a residential school and training center.
  - **The High Atlas Foundation** is a Moroccan association and a United States 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2000 by former Peace Corps volunteers committed to furthering sustainable development. HAF supports Moroccan communities to take action in implementing human development initiatives, and promotes organic agriculture, women's empowerment, youth development, education, and health. Since 2011, HAF has held Consultancy Status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council.
-

## CO-OP EMPLOYER: ROOTS

At Roots, we place international students with small, grassroots organizations in Africa—and soon in South America and Asia, too! During their co-ops, students become a large part of a small team doing impactful work on a humanitarian or environmental level, which suits Northeastern students exceptionally well.

We've been hosting Northeastern students for more than six years. We've come to know them as people with great skill and creativity, an extraordinary ability to adapt to foreign environments, and a passion for doing purposeful work. Northeastern seems to attract or encourage (or both) an exceptional type of global citizen.

We do a little happy dance when an application from a Northeastern student comes in, as we feel confident that we can turn it into a life-changing situation for the student—and one of enormous value to the nonprofit they'll be joining.

**—Marleen Lammers**

*Director*

*Talitha van der Waerden*

*Nakeisha*







## CO-OP EMPLOYER: CAIRO REVIEW

We've hosted three students on three separate rounds at the Cairo Review, and they have been indispensable to our work. Not only are they integral members of our core team, which is small by magazine standards, but they also contribute to the journal's growth which is strategic for AUC. The American University in Cairo aims to be a premier university in the region and having an unparalleled policy journal to serve that purpose is a strategic and important goal.

Northeastern co-op students bring a unique perspective and exceptional skills to the role, which helps sharpen our mission and production in great and unexpected ways. They are also well-positioned within a global university located in Egypt, where they are immersed in a unique learning environment. We hope to continue this collaboration.

**—Nadeen Shaker**

*Cairo Review Senior Editor*



 **The American  
University in Cairo**

School of Global Affairs  
and Public Policy  
Department of Journalism  
and Mass Communication

# STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



I am rising fourth-year majoring in mechanical engineering, and minoring in film production. For my second co-op, I am working at Forges Tardieu in Port Louis, Mauritius, as a mechanical engineering intern. Forges Tardieu is an engineering company that offers specialized engineering services to the sugar cane, oil and gas, marine, and mining industries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. I am working in the design department and my work mainly involves using AutoCAD and looking at engineering drawings. It is mostly an office job, but sometimes I go on site surveys and assessments.

I always wanted to do at least one global co-op after I got into Northeastern. Since I lived in Korea for half of my life, I understand how important it is to experience different cultures and how it can shape and help me grow immensely. Since Northeastern also supports global co-op through Presidential Scholarships, I decided to do a global co-op for my second co-op without hesitation.

At first, I looked at engineering internships in Germany, France, England, and the Netherlands. However, this engineering internship in Mauritius popped out in my NUWorks job portal. I remember pondering this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for weeks, and creating a pros and cons table to help me decide. Later in the semester, I decided to go to Mauritius for my second co-op.

**—Kevin Yoon**

*Fourth-year mechanical engineering major with a minor in film production*



Cairo is synonymous with chaos, in a good way. This mega-city is the heart of the Arab world and the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region. The moment that I passed through the airport customs gate, it all began: the nail-biting, novel, and exciting experience that I encountered during my global co-op in Africa with the Cairo Review, at the American University in Cairo. This co-op provided me with an unparalleled learning experience that has made me a stronger, smarter, and more equipped individual, ready to tackle any job opportunity that life delivers.

I knew that Egypt was a different country, but the culture shock is still intense. My dream job is to become a diplomat, so this immersive experience in Cairo was a key steppingstone in my career path. Western journalists, leaders, and policy analysts may have strong opinions about Africa and MENA, but I truly believe that they need to walk in the shoes of someone from this region to attain a new global perspective.

For anyone to truly be a champion for African countries, an involving opportunity is needed, which is why my co-op in Africa was so important to me. Cairo is unlike any other place in the world, and I invite you to experience it with an open mind and a free spirit.

**—Jamie Ruchser**

*Master of Science, Public Policy*

# STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

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While at Northeastern, I was fortunate to participate in two global co-ops in Africa.

My first experience was in Livingstone, Zambia, where I worked as a Social Development Project Coordinator at a preschool and community center. Throughout my co-op, I had the opportunity to work directly with the staff and female empowerment groups to lead weekly activities and write two books that strengthened and inspired the women and girls within the community. I initiated weekly activities for school-aged students focusing on science, art, literature, and self-empowerment to inspire and strengthen the community around me. What made the internship better than imaginable was receiving immense support from my supervisor, the staff, and other interns.

My second experience was based in Kisumu, Kenya, where I worked as an NGO management intern and delved into the many different departments and areas of specialty the organization offered. I coordinated weekly activities and meetings for interns and volunteers at our main partners. Additionally, the other interns and I conducted weekly visits to counsel children in contact with the law and led sessions on life skills, problem solving, and emotional wellbeing. I planned and facilitated trainings at other small grassroots organizations in the local area, working toward a similar mission of empowering youth through education, counseling, and life skills to co-create a better world.

The internships granted me new opportunities to continue my passion for learning about different cultures, working with youth, and empowering the next generation. I did all this while surrounded by fantastic nature, where you can explore surrounding national parks and immerse yourself in the different cultures.

**—Kathryn Oliver**

*Bachelor of Science, Cultural Anthropology*



## AGI PARTNERS

Our accomplishments in 2022 could not have been possible without the generous support of these organizations.

## News@Northeastern



### Northeastern African Student Organization



Northeastern University  
*Office of Global Services*

**Africana Studies  
Program**

**N** Northeastern  
**John D. O'Bryant**  
**African American Institute**

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



**Hazel Sive**

Dean, College of Science,  
and Chair, Africa Global  
Initiative



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**Andre Kostousov**

Project Manager, Africa  
Global Initiative



**Thanh Duyen Nguyen**

Global and Domestic  
Liaison Co-op Student



**Ademidun Mary Ajibade**

Project Manager, Africa  
Global Initiative



**Nsikak Abasi-Una**

Assistant Project Manager,  
Africa Global Initiative