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### Faculty Lend Valuable Global Business Perspective

For today's college students, merely a keystroke or mouse click can virtually bring the world to their door. For Kelley business students, however, an up-close understanding of global business doesn't require a computer or wireless Internet. Informed, timely perspective is available right in the classroom from Kelley faculty with extensive experience in international business.

Barbara Flynn, manufacturing management professor at Kelley Indianapolis, is the director of a high performance manufacturing research project that has been going on for more than two decades. With colleagues at universities around the world, Flynn collects data on a variety of topics related to manufacturing plants in the U.S., England, Japan, Korea, China and other global destinations.

The data, which spans such business areas as accounting, technology, strategy, human resource management and information systems, has been used in more than 250 research projects worldwide. Flynn has traveled across the globe as part of the project and finds ways to incorporate what she's learned into her teaching at Kelley.

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"Because of my experiences with this research project, I have a wealth of experience with manufacturing practices in companies around the world, which I work into class discussions," explains Flynn. "I also have a strong network of colleagues at universities globally and resources I can draw on to make my classes more internationally focused."

### Well-rounded perspective benefits students

According to Roger Schmenner, professor of operations management, having faculty with international business experience can only benefit students who will one day work in an increasingly international market. Schmenner spent four years teaching and consulting in Switzerland and says more than half of the business cases he currently discusses with students deal with international business.

"International experience rounds out a professor's skill set, offering him or her a chance to see which characteristics of business are universal and which are uniquely American," Schmenner says. "In turn, students benefit from faculty members' insight and experience into the nuances of international business."

Charles Dhanaraj, an expert in international business globalization and professor of management at Kelley Indianapolis, also looks for opportunities to pass along his international perspective to

students.

"Kelley was one of the first to include international business study as a necessary component of the business curriculum," says Dhanaraj. "We were pioneers in this area and are very well known for our international expertise."

### Eye to the future of business

"International perspectives are threaded throughout Kelley's curriculum," adds John Hassell, an accounting professor at Kelley. "Several courses in management, finance and marketing are directly targeted to international issues."

In 2004, Hassell spent several months at the University of Melbourne in Australia learning more about International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) – a set of accounting reporting rules adopted by many countries.

"I gained experience with and appreciation for IFRS and some of the differences between these rules and the GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) we use here in the United States," says Hassell. "Because of this international exposure, I am better able to incorporate IFRS issues and am able to keep students up to date on how our country is moving toward convergence with IFRS."

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