

Here for Students,
Teachers, Nurses,
Artists, Entrepreneurs,
Designers, Dentists,
Doctors, Engineers,
Architects, Employers,
Countries, Governments,
Communities, Good

Laureate Global Impact Report 2015



LAUREATE
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITIES*



HERE
FOR
GOOD

As the largest global network of higher education institutions, we're united by a belief in the power of education to change lives.

In addition, we're serious about making an enduring commitment to the communities we serve.

To us, this is about purpose and permanence.

This is what we mean by *Here for Good*.

I've always been interested in how we measure and communicate our impact at Laureate.

At the heart of what we do is a commitment to providing access to quality higher education for students around the world. This in itself creates undeniable public value in countless communities.

We believe society is best served when our students, faculty, and our entire organization use our collective skills and experience to create positive and lasting change.

Our students and graduates are improving lives and making our world better. Our institutions are providing the critical skills, knowledge and support to help make this happen.

This year we celebrate the remarkable milestone of having **one million** students currently enrolled in Laureate institutions. The magnitude of what these students can achieve is profound.

Our 2015 Global Impact Report highlights many of the great achievements of our students and celebrates the accomplishments of our Network.

I am proud to share these stories with you and invite you to explore how Laureate is "Here for Good."

Douglas L. Becker

*Founder, Chairman and CEO,
Laureate Education, Inc.*

Year In Review

28

COUNTRIES

80+

INSTITUTIONS

200+

CAMPUSES



Free and low-cost health services provided to over **150,000** people

1,000,000+
STUDENTS



\$700,000,000

in scholarships and discounts

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Our Students

Matheus Ladeia

Universidade Salvador
Pastar



“In order to do big things, you must have big dreams.”

Matheus Ladeia, a mechanical engineering student at Universidade Salvador, experienced firsthand the effects of the devastating drought in northeastern Brazil in 2012 and 2013. His father, a longtime farmer, estimates that due to deaths of animals, he lost approximately \$60,000 USD. And he was not the only one with such losses.

Matheus observed that farms relatively close to his father’s, and to those of other farmers struggling to find places to pasture their animals, had unused natural pastures that were unaffected by the drought. There was only one problem.

“Because of a lack of information and communication, no one could make that connection,” Matheus said. No one knew that fields that could save their animals lay only a few miles away.

Matheus set out to solve this problem, creating the application *Pastar* (which in Portuguese means “to graze”) with two partners. It is a web-based platform that connects farmers looking for places to pasture their

animals with those who have available land, often at no cost to the farmer in need. It has expanded to include connecting farmers who might be in desperate need of a new animal with those looking to sell. In just 12 months, *Pastar* has provided a platform for transactions valued at close to \$3 million and has saved 10,000 animals. Over 600 farmers have directly used the application.

With the help of a business incubator at Universidade Salvador, Matheus and his partners received invaluable business training and support that helped them grow the application. The local government is showing an interest in partnering with the group to expand the model to make it more broadly available.

“If we can save just one animal, then the project has done its job,” Matheus said. “But we won’t stop there.” He says that he feels a responsibility to his community, feels this is deeply gratifying work, and strongly believes there is still much to be done.

“My goal is that no animal would die, anywhere in the world, because of



a lack of information,” he said. He hopes to continue finding ways to centralize information, and dreams of taking his application to other countries, even other continents.

“I know that this is a big dream,” Matheus said. “But in order to do big things, you must have big dreams.”

Matheus Ladeia is on his way to accomplishing the lofty goals he sets for himself, and it doesn’t seem as if he plans on stopping anytime soon.

Laura Bulluck

Walden University
Hope's Crossing



150+

Number of women
Hope's Crossing has
served in four and a
half years.



While working for a major health-care company, Laura Bulluck often questioned whether her work was really making a difference. She rarely saw an end result, let alone interacted with patients, so she started wondering whether a career change could remedy this.

She made the decision to pursue a master's degree in Nonprofit Leadership and Management at Walden University and hasn't looked back. Laura already had an interest in helping women caught in difficult circumstances, and the program at Walden gave her the tools to build a

comprehensive plan for how she could effect change in this area. The result, a nonprofit called Hope's Crossing, provides a unique approach to helping women leaving incarceration.

"We believe in a method of ongoing support," Laura said. As part of this, her organization focuses on providing women with moments to celebrate, helping clients see their own value and giving them hope for the future.

"We have seven-week intervals in our program, and every seven weeks we have a graduation," Laura explained. "Those are the most memorable moments for everyone." She be-

lieves these periodic celebrations are among the key reasons her program is so successful in keeping women from falling back into criminal activity. The national average for recidivism is 75 percent; for those in Laura's program, it is just 9 percent.

"We help women change their belief system and how they deal with daily situations," Laura said. Through a combination of life-skills training, job readiness, mentoring and coaching, women are surrounded by an environment of support and healthy challenge.

Laura is fully committed to Hope's Crossing, serving as executive director

of the group, which has served over 150 women in four and a half years. She says connections with Walden University alumni have given her a worldwide network of support, helping to fuel her motivation to expand the Hope's Crossing program nationwide. In the end, she is still motivated by the daily changes she sees in women's lives.

“The real reward is seeing them recognize they can do it, and hearing them say that they want to go and help other women.”



Laura's nonprofit, Hope's Crossing, provides a unique combination of services to women leaving incarceration.

José Danilo Diógenes

Universidade Potiguar
Sistema de Auxílio ao Deslocamento
para Deficientes Visuais (SADDV)



José Danilo Diógenes, a 21-year-old computer engineering graduate of Universidade Potiguar in Brazil, has been fielding many versions of the same questions since he developed his SADDV (System of Displacement Aid for the Visually Impaired) “assistive technology” last December. But when he answers them, his responses are often unexpected.

The questions he receives, such as how he came up with the idea for this technology, are often met with a chuckle from him, and then his quiet and considered response.

“People always ask if I have a blind or visually impaired relative,” Danilo said. “And the answer is no. I just observed what was going on around me and decided to develop something that would help with that problem.” The problem he observed was how hard it is for those with vision impairments “to live their own lives,” and he started to think about new ways to address this.

This problem-solving mindset was spurred on by professors who supported the young student throughout the process, which eventually evolved into his final project before receiving his engineering degree. The technology involves a walking stick that is equipped with three sensors to detect objects above, below and at mid-height. It then employs vibrations and audio feedback to alert the user to

any physical barriers. SADDV is in the prototype and testing stages now, but Danilo says that users already have told him that they feel “much more comfortable and independent.”

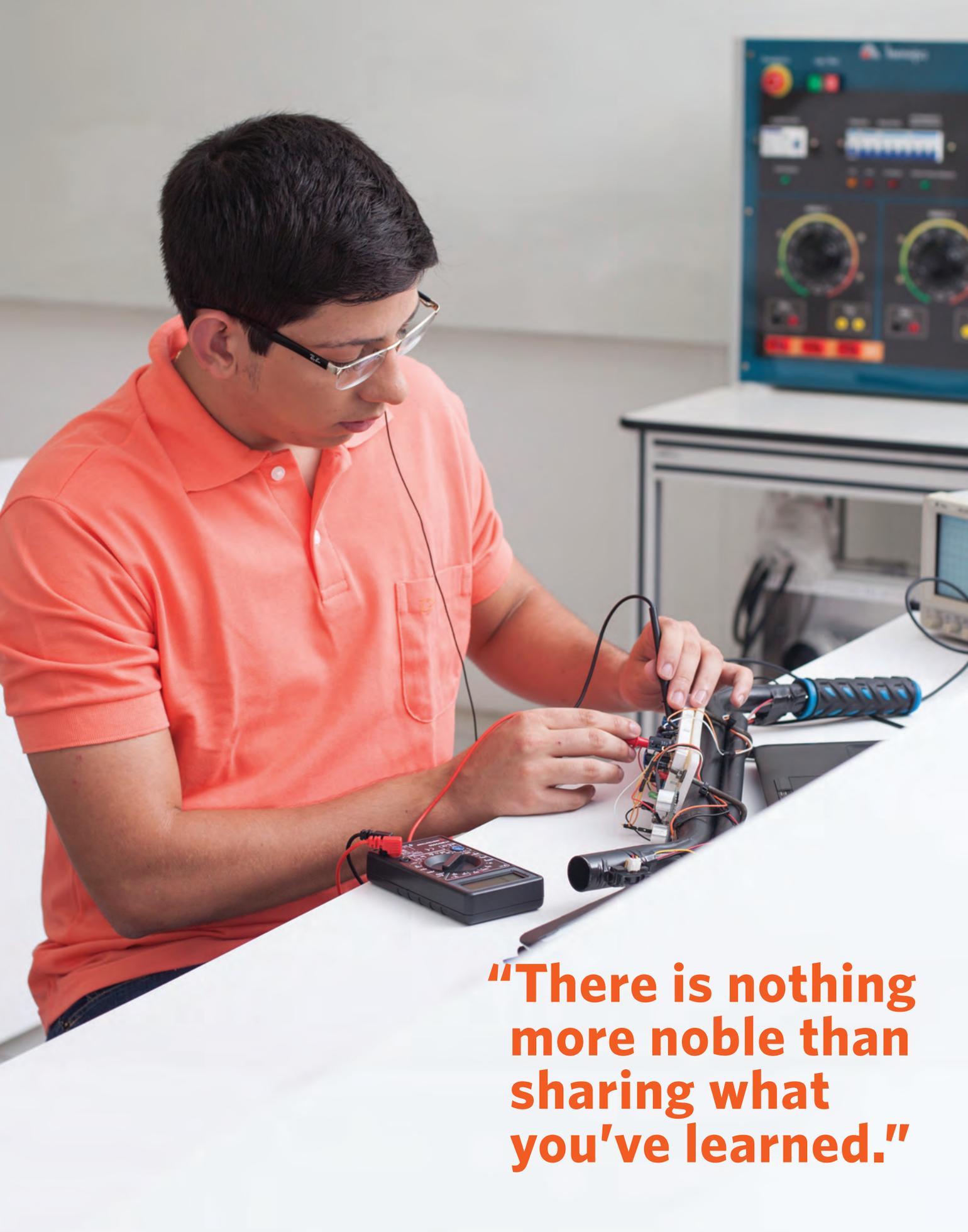
Another question people often ask Danilo is what he plans to do with the technology—whether he will sell it, or market it in some other way—and his answer, again, is often unexpected.

“I am more interested in making a useful technology rather than one that is chic or expensive,” Danilo said. He explained that he built the system using an “open access platform” and that there are similar products on the market, although none as complete as his. But his central wish is that this technology will be available to anyone who needs it. For this reason, once testing is done, the specifications of the project will be available online for those who want to build their own model, using materials available to them.

In the end, this upside-down business model may be unexpected, but it reflects the theme woven throughout Danilo’s story, that of giving back. This is also reflected in his future plans, which he hopes will include getting a master’s degree and becoming a teacher. He is extremely grateful for all of the help and encouragement he has received from his own teachers, and, in his words, “There is nothing more noble than sharing what you’ve learned.”



José developed the SADDV technology after observing the many difficulties those who are visually impaired face in daily life.



“There is nothing more noble than sharing what you’ve learned.”

Nigel Majakari

University of Liverpool
Chilasa Venture Philanthropy



When he entered the online MBA program at the University of Liverpool, Nigel Majakari was simply looking for a practical course that would help him expand his skills and possibly bring something new to his work. At the time, Nigel was working for a boutique consulting firm that advised clients on policy, advocacy and public health initiatives, often in India. The idea of doing “something new” snowballed into what is now Chilasa Venture Philanthropy, an innovative group that looks to provide small enterprises in developing countries with the tools they need to grow and succeed.

During his work on the thesis project for his MBA, Nigel was able to take a step back from the consulting work he had done for many years. He examined small enterprises through the eyes of the entrepreneurs, most often women. And he focused his project on entrepreneurs in small villages in India, where he already had an extensive network. He found that many small-time entrepreneurs didn't see themselves as entrepreneurs at all. “They were just trying to survive.” But they often had the drive and skills to move the business forward. Nigel started asking how these people could be better equipped to be successful and identified key business challenges



inherent in most small enterprises in developing countries. From this, Chilasa was born.

“The MBA program was the catalyst for the whole idea and let me do preliminary research,” Nigel said. “I found the courage to start something, to build something.” He had always felt the tension between investing long-term in helping a community and just “parachuting in” to solve a problem then getting out, which was often what he did while consulting. His thesis project helped him identify a way to provide the long-term solutions that he knew small enterprises needed.

By addressing the array of challenges small-time entrepreneurs

face, not just one or two, Chilasa gives them an “ecosystem of support.” Over 70 percent of small enterprises “have unmet demand for financial and business-building support,” and Chilasa looks to fill those gaps. Nigel's group believes that investment in small enterprises and their owners generates jobs and economic growth, providing a “new and disruptive solution to poverty.”

“I want to spend the rest of my life helping entrepreneurs solve problems in their communities,” Nigel said. With growing investment and interest in his initiative, and the hope that it can expand outside India, it's clear Nigel's new direction is just beginning.

Duygu Başak Gürtekin

Istanbul Bilgi University
Colors Matter for Health



Seeing her grandfather in the hospital with cancer gave Duygu Başak Gürtekin direct exposure to the poor conditions in many public hospitals in Turkey. Başak observed that one of the most significant service gaps was in the area of psychological health, particularly when it came to children and their families.

Başak was particularly moved when she saw children dealing with the prospect of dying. For Başak, sadness turned into an unwavering commitment to take action, and inspired her to launch Colors Matter for Health. The program now operates in 11 hospitals in Istanbul, is completely volunteer-led, and provides arts-based activities to educate, distract and empower children with long-term illnesses.

Başak says one of her proudest moments is when she sees children come to understand their rights as patients. Başak works to make children and families feel empowered and informed. She hopes to see long-term improvement in the physical and psychological health of the children she works with.

“When their parents and doctors tell us children’s symptoms have changed in a positive way after participating in our programs, we know we are making a difference.”



“We know we are making a difference.”

The great work of Colors Matter for Health would not be possible without the support of Bilgi University. The university continues to provide financial support, a shuttle service, access to meeting rooms, and a range of other resources, most of which are provided through the Student Support Center. Furthermore, many of the volunteers engaged in the program are students at Istanbul Bilgi University.

Başak is currently working towards her master’s degree at Istanbul Bilgi University with a focus on child

patient rights and wants to be a leader in developing new health policies in Turkey, which has suffered from a lack of attention to this important area.

In the meantime, Başak will continue to make a positive impact on young people with long-term illnesses—one child at a time.

“When the children smile, start talking about their dreams for the future, and they cling to life—I’m the happiest person in the world.”

Alejandra Contreras

Universidad del Valle de México
Ekokitchen/Somos Más Decididos



For Alejandra Contreras, a 22-year-old law graduate of the Universidad del Valle de México (UVM), her innovative work on the Ekokitchen project in Veracruz was just one effort among many. The initiative provides a solution to a pollution problem the area has had for a long time, caused by the disposal of used cooking oil into the Papaloapan River. The oil clogs the drainage system and pollutes 1,000 liters of water each time a liter of waste oil is disposed. Through Alejandra's project, the used oil is recycled into soap, which also provides a useful product for the community.

For Alejandra, this is just the kind of project that she likes to support through her nonprofit *Somos Más Decididos*, which she started in her final year of law school at UVM.

"Everyone can participate in a project like this," she said. "Children, students and adults can volunteer and see that they can give back." That is exactly the vision of *Somos Más Decididos*, a group that supports and develops many similar projects and has the goal of empowering and inspiring young people in Veracruz to participate in social initiatives.

"We want people to identify the small actions young people can take to help," Alejandra said. Building on her passion for volunteer and social change work, she has now devoted herself full-time to the group. The organization, which started in 2010, has received substantial recognition



"We want people to identify the small actions young people can take to help."



The oil causes clogging of the drainage system and the pollution of 1,000 liters of water each time a liter of this waste is disposed.

Projects like Ekokitchen give Alejandra's organization a way to engage local youth in meaningful volunteer work.

for its work, including UVM's Award for Social Development in 2014. *Somos Más Decididos* also received the "Greenovators" award from the Inter-American Development Bank and recently signed an agreement with the United Nations to implement the UN's Millennium Campaign in Veracruz.

The mission statement of *Somos Más Decididos* reads, "Our vision is to become a key part of the social and sustainable development of Veracruz and to encourage the participation of various sectors of society." With projects like Ekokitchen, Alejandra's group is doing just that.





“The aim is to create a somewhat disturbing experience that moves from aesthetics to moral reflection.”

Rohan Chhabra

Pearl Academy
Project Endangered



Rohan Chhabra is redefining the connections among fashion, art and advocacy. He has quickly become a widely celebrated and respected designer and producer of clothing that challenges our expectations, our sense of personal responsibility, and the connection we feel to the world around us.

“The rate at which animals are becoming extinct is now 1,000 times faster than at any other point in history. This is due to human activity, hunting, and severe exploitation of the physical environment,” said Rohan. This striking realization inspired Rohan to use his work in fashion and product design as a platform for action.

Meeting Cora Goettmann, head of design at Pearl Academy, was

a turning point for Rohan. With a long-held interest in product design and development, Rohan was initially unsure how he would approach his study in the world of fashion. Cora, however, challenged his thinking and opened up a world of possibilities that have set Rohan on a path he had never imagined.

“Cora understood and supported me like no one else could. After four years with Pearl Academy, I was more confident, outspoken, ambitious, and had defined and developed my own aesthetic and methodology,” Rohan said.

“Cora gave me the freedom to see and explore fashion not just as a particular style, but as products and as a platform. This helped me understand

fashion was less about designing a look, and could in fact be about significant emotional and ethical connections. This really allowed me to start developing a new narrative for my work and for my future.”

Rohan describes his collections as “design for debate.” For example, as part of his Project Endangered line, Rohan has designed leather pants that transform into a cow, and hunting jackets that show the story of the hunter becoming the hunted.

Project Endangered aims to explore the issue of extinction of endangered species like the elephant, the mountain gorilla, the tiger and the rhino. By designing a series of hunting outfits that turn into representations of the animal under threat, Rohan

reminds us of our complicity in the problem. The aim is to create a somewhat disturbing experience that moves from aesthetics to moral reflection.

Rohan's work has received many international awards, including Best Design Project featured in *Vogue Italy*, the Grand Prix at the Asia Awards, Best Young Creator at Tokyo Designers Week, and the Wildlife Artist of the Year (Endangered Wildlife Category) organized by the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation in London.

"I've taken my own path and have dedicated myself to something I really believe in."

In the future, Rohan plans to continue to promote his latest collection online, develop a relationship with an international wildlife protection foundation, and inspire a reduction in the unnecessary killing of animals.



"The rate at which animals are becoming extinct is now one thousand times faster than at any other point in history."

Project
Endangered
named *Best
Design Project* by
Vogue Italy



Project Endangered is an example of the kind of “design for debate” aesthetic that Rohan pursues with his work, using design to create space for discussion about important issues.





Drawing on her own experience living with a disability, Valeria created a nonprofit to advocate for disability rights in Chile.

Valeria Valdés González

Universidad Andrés Bello
Líderes con Mil Capacidades



When asked for advice about creating change in the community, Valeria Valdés González of Universidad Andrés Bello tells people to “believe in yourself and have the courage to do it.”

“I used to ask myself why I was born with an intellectual disability. I’ve since learned that I’m here to teach people we can achieve things, just like anyone else.” The roles of teacher, advocate and champion are ones Valeria takes very seriously. Having faced years of discrimination and seen firsthand the multiple barriers to access and participation, Valeria is determined to lead by example.

Working alongside President Michelle Bachelet of Chile as part of the first Presidential Advisory Committee on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, Valeria campaigns strongly for the rights of people with disabilities. Valeria is the youngest member of the committee and the only member with an intellectual disability. Both of these factors are at the front of Valeria’s mind when she considers the message she wants to convey.

Valeria feels fortunate to be part of one of Chile’s only diploma programs in Work Competency, which was created by Universidad Andrés Bello in response to demand from parents

and prospective students. The course prepares students for finding meaningful ways to contribute in industries as diverse as veterinary science, childcare, business administration and gastronomy.

Valeria is the founder and president of *Líderes con Mil Capacidades* (Leaders with a Thousand Skills), an organization that began seven years ago. The mission is to promote the rights of people with a disability and has a specific focus on those with an intellectual disability. Valeria is unwavering in her commitment to change society, fight discrimination and abuse, and challenge misconceptions. “We even



“Believe in yourself and have the courage to do it.”



need to change the language people use when they talk to or about us,” says Valeria.

Líderes con Mil Capacidades facilitates workshops and seminars, and develops campaigns. It is entirely self-managed, including the fundraising. Valeria and her team recently lobbied for more empowering language and the use of different logos within the rail system and for a more accessible approach to voting.

“We have so much more to do. Companies still have a fear of disability, and we need to keep running workshops for parents and for employers to challenge their perception of what

we’re capable of.” Valeria wants to see less bureaucracy, paperwork and excuses when it comes to employment, and a greater commitment to equality and accessibility.

Valeria firmly believes that all she has achieved would not have been possible without her parents and the incredible support she has received from her university. This support extends far beyond academic assistance, and includes a scholarship that covers 90 percent of her annual tuition costs, and professors who actively promote and contribute to the work of *Líderes con Mil Capacidades*. Having advocates throughout the university has given

Valeria the confidence and inspiration required to be one of Chile’s most significant change makers.

Valeria is a fellow of Universidad Andrés Bello’s YouthActionNet program (2014).

Gema Monge Vílchez

Universidad Latina de Costa Rica
Proyecto Gerontovida



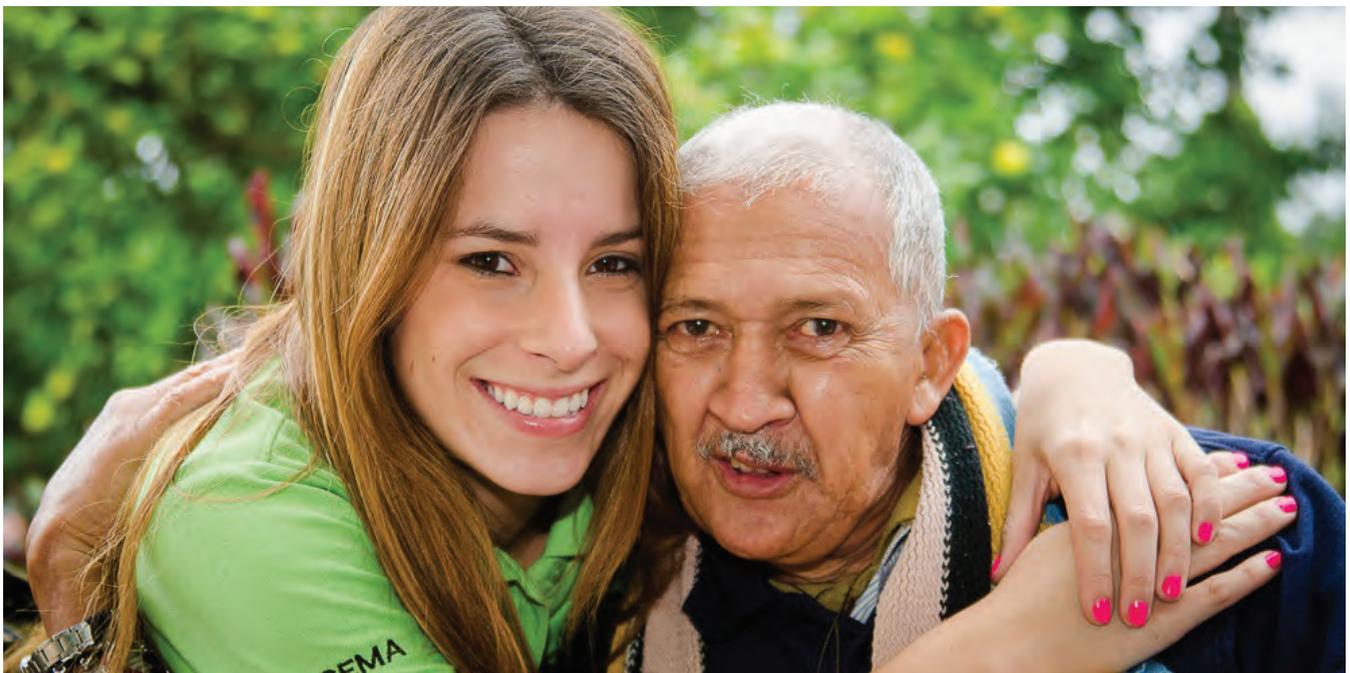
The death of a family member, especially one as beloved as Gema Vílchez's grandmother, a well-known artist in Costa Rica, can bring many responses: sadness, guilt, desperation. For Gema, a 2014 psychology graduate of Universidad Latina de Costa Rica, it was a call to action.

Her grandmother was “like a second mother” to her, and Gema, who was already an active volunteer with many nonprofit organizations, took her grandmother’s death as a prod to start her own initiative. As a psychology student, Gema was especially conscious of the neglect and abandonment that the elderly population often face, leading to many mental health problems. A study by Universidad Latina found that among those living in 27 of the 55 senior care centers in the region, 75 percent of the seniors had been abandoned.

“This problem is not taken seriously like it should be,” Gema said. The psychological side effects of abandonment and disconnectedness are severe, and include depression, low self-esteem and loss of the will to live. The type of psychological care needed is “not part of the current care regimen” in any senior center in the country. Gema has set out to change that.



Seeking to provide a community of support to seniors, Proyecto Gerontovida addresses the all-too-common problem of abandonment and isolation in senior centers in Costa Rica.



75%

of seniors living in 27 local senior care centers in the region had been abandoned.

“I am passionate about doing more and helping more people.”



Proyecto Gerontovida, her initiative, aims to provide “psychological stimulation” and “a community of support” to seniors who otherwise would have no such network. The project sends psychologists and support staff to spend time one-on-one with seniors and help them build networks of friendship and support. Already, the organization is working with six local senior centers, affecting approximately 300 elderly people so far. The organization has been recognized nationally and regionally, has formed partnerships with more than 10 universities and has ambitious plans for further expansion.

Gema cited how hard it was at first to get people to take her project seriously, but the assistance of her university, particularly in the form of leadership courses and business advice, has been key. And for Gema, *Proyecto Gerontovida* is not just an award-winning nonprofit, but a daily reminder of how hard work can bring positive social change as well as personal joy and fulfillment.

“This is the best job that I think I could have,” Gema said. “And I am passionate about doing more and helping more people.”

Gema is a 2014 Fellow of Universidad Latina de Costa Rica’s YouthActionNet program (2014).

Lebo Nnoi Patience Sekhotla

Monash South Africa
Tomorrow Starts Today



By Christy Macy

It only takes 20 minutes to drive from her home in Itsoseng, a sprawling informal settlement of makeshift wooden houses and dirt roads on the outskirts of Johannesburg, to the wide lawns and large glass and steel buildings of Monash South Africa. But for 23-year-old Lebo Nnoi Patience Sekhotla, who next March will become the first member of her family to graduate from college, that drive symbolizes a far longer and more arduous journey.

Like so many people living on the margins, Lebo's parents were forced to constantly uproot their growing family as they struggled desperately to find work. Soon after she was born, Lebo's father lost his job in the mines of Lesotho, and for the next decade and a half, Lebo would live intermittently with her grandmother or other relatives in various towns across the country. Her father suffered from schizophrenia and would disappear for months, sometimes years, leaving her mother, Julia, the sole breadwinner for her three young daughters. "It was a very tough time," Lebo remembers. "With all the moves and being in different schools, I began doubting myself and who I was." Lebo was 17 when her mother lost her job on a farm and moved her family to the settlement.

Today, their two-bedroom house, painted bright blue and bordered by flowerpots and a well-tended vegetable garden, still has no electricity or running water.

When Lebo graduates from Monash South Africa in 2016, she will be the first in her family to receive a college degree.





The philosophy of *Ubuntu*, which literally translates into “human-ness” but reflects a much broader spirit of interconnectedness and mutual caring, is deeply imbedded in South African culture. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu once said, “You can’t be human all by yourself.” Throughout her life, Lebo has been the beneficiary of a community of caring adults. The *Ubuntu* philosophy—what you do impacts the rest of the world—is what drives her to empower others.

After completing secondary school, Lebo gathered up her courage to apply to Monash South Africa. At the time, she did not meet its requirements and was turned down. Seeing her distress, a local pastor and his wife connected her with a community-based organization called Oasis, where she regained her self-confidence, learned computer skills and then became a teacher herself. “It was the first time I realized I could

make a difference,” Lebo recalls. Still determined to further her education, she again applied to Monash South Africa and in the fall of 2011 was accepted as a bursary (needs-based scholarship) student. “It was the beginning of life for me,” she says.

During her first year at Monash South Africa, Lebo threw herself into a whirlwind of academic studies but also found time to participate in the campus-sponsored Saturday School tutoring program for local youth. The following year, she became the liaison officer between the campus and nearby Cosmo City, attending community meetings and representing the campus as a local partner. Recognizing Lebo as a rising leader, the students elected her Community Outreach Officer for the Student Association in 2014, where she helped manage the work of over 800 student volunteers on campus. The small stipend she was paid, in addition to her bursary, meant



Lebo’s mother, Julia, believed in her and understood the importance of education. Lebo now hopes to be that encouraging voice for other South African youth.

Lebo could begin to financially support her family. She was also laying the groundwork to further improve young lives.

One day over lunch in the cafeteria, Lebo began talking with two close friends about why so many young people were dropping out of school. "We have young people who fail not because they aren't clever but because they aren't motivated," she explains. "They don't understand that good grades really mean something." Lebo, who felt fortunate to have had loving and trusted adults encouraging her at pivotal times in her life, wanted her learners to have the same opportunities. The decision was made. Lebo and her friends would launch a

"At Monash, community engagement is in our DNA. We see it as a vital part of the academic experience here."

-Esther Benjamin, CEO of Monash South Africa



Through "Tomorrow Starts Today," Lebo hopes to reach other young people and inspire and equip them to better themselves through education and community engagement.

motivational program for ninth-graders called “Tomorrow Starts Today,” designed to give these young learners the life skills, confidence and career guidance they need to stay in school, apply to university and contribute to their communities.

But for the new program to truly succeed, Lebo knew she needed resources and support, which is where Monash South Africa came in. The campus agreed to provide bus transportation for the students to come to campus, full access to its classrooms and computers, plus career counseling and a free lunch. “But more than that,” Lebo says, “the kids who come here see what a campus looks like, and it gets them thinking that maybe they could come here too.”

Clearly, her students have gotten the message. “I’ve learned that without education, you are nothing,” says 14-year-old Dimakatso. Then she added, “Watching Lebo, I can see that

I can help change other people’s lives too.” During its first two years, the program will have impacted the lives of 90 disadvantaged youth.

Supporting the community efforts of hundreds of students like Lebo is at the heart of the institution’s mission. “Community engagement is part of our DNA,” says Esther Benjamin, CEO of Monash South Africa. “We see it as a vital part of the educational and student experience here—to connect and engage our students with the communities around us.” Nearly one-third of the student body chooses some form of volunteerism, and every student has an internship or a community-based experience before he or she graduates.

“These activities change the students’ mindset,” says Craig Rowe, the Director of Engagement. “After working in the community, they don’t see the barriers, they see the opportunities. We are simply the cheerleaders.”

Since it was founded in 2001,

Monash South Africa has planted deep roots in the nearby communities, strengthening its network of relationships with local leaders and working with nearly 60 partner organizations to expand opportunities for young people. Last year alone, its students completed 15,000 hours of tutoring, benefitting students in 50 schools.

For Lebo, the only way to change conditions for impoverished families is through education. “I’ve seen how my own experience has impacted my sisters and my cousins and how much more motivated they are to continue their studies,” she says. “It has made me realize that if you educate one person, you educate the whole family, and the whole community becomes transformed.” Lebo believes that the huge social and economic challenges facing South Africa are tied to lack of education. “Only education can drive social change,” Lebo says. But she admits that such transformations may also require



“If you educate one person, you educate the whole family, and the whole community becomes transformed.”

the enduring love of willful mothers.

Julia has the same breathtaking smile as her daughter, and a joyfulness that clearly lifts up those around her. But when she talks about Lebo and what she has accomplished, Julia speaks quietly, and sometimes tears roll down her cheeks. "Whenever Lebo said she wanted to quit school and help support me and her sisters, I yelled at her, 'You can do this; you must stay in school,'" Julia whispers. "Then I would close the door so she could not see me crying." Lebo is equally emotional. "My mother, who made so many sacrifices and struggled so hard, is who got me to where I am today," Lebo says. "What I am doing is what she dreamed to do herself. My graduation, it's our combined achievement."

In March 2016, Lebo will walk across the stage at Monash South Africa to receive her psychology degree with a message of love to her mother painted on her graduation cap. She will fix her radiant smile on her family, but hopes as well to see the many teachers, mentors and friends whose support over the years has meant so much. That day, Lebo will also be thinking about how she can use the knowledge and experience she has gained to help many more disadvantaged youth make that same improbable walk across the stage.

After she graduates, Lebo will hand the leadership of "Tomorrow Starts Today" over to her colleagues, and she plans to work for a youth-serving organization in the community. But her sights are set on a larger life mission. "I want to be a sister not just to my own sisters," she says, "but to young people across Africa."

In the meantime, Lebo has developed her own definition of *Ubuntu*: "Serving others; it's where growth begins."



Christy Macy is a freelance writer and communications consultant. For the last fourteen years, she was Director of Publications at the International Youth Foundation, during which time she co-authored *Our Time is Now*, a book profiling young social entrepreneurs around the world who are leading change in their communities. Before joining IYF, Ms. Macy served as a White House speechwriter for First Lady Hillary Clinton.



Yamikani 'Karni' Katunga is a 23-year-old Zimbabwean student at Monash South Africa, currently pursuing a degree in management. Karni has a love of photography and can be seen behind the camera at any campus event. Karni is also passionate about skateboarding and rapping.

Lebo is the proud recipient of the 2015 Here for Good Award. This annual award is presented to an individual within the Laureate network who is using the skills and knowledge gained from time at their university to create lasting change in the community.

Our Institutions

Health Sciences

150,000

patients received free or low-cost health services in 2014

We currently have 21 medical schools, 19 dental schools and 11 veterinary medicine schools on 145 campuses at 37 institutions in 17 countries. In 2014, there were 223,384 students enrolled in our health science programs.

Twenty-five of our medical and dental schools, in 13 countries, also offer free or low-cost services to patients from the community. In 2014, our schools provided. More than 150,000 patients around the world received free or low cost health services. We expect this number to continue to rise.



**145 CAMPUSES
37 INSTITUTIONS
17 COUNTRIES**

Demonstrating Our Impact

Universidad de Las Américas

In 2004, the health sciences department (incorporating nursing, audiology, nutrition and other related sciences) at Universidad de Las Américas in Chile launched a program of community study aimed at understanding the health and general quality of life in many Chilean communities. This was born of the belief that improving a wide range of health conditions stems from

understanding the broader community perspective and being proactive in developing local solutions.

The university also hoped to engage students in mutual learning as they interacted with community members, interviewing them about factors that affect quality of life, such as air quality, access to public transportation, working conditions and availability of green spaces. University

faculty and students then engaged in community workshops, brainstorming ways to solve issues in the area and making plans for the future.

This project will run through 2020, and has already worked in 32 neighborhoods, linked with over 50 partner organizations and involved more than 3,000 health sciences students.

Scholarships and Discounts

\$700,000,000

scholarships and discounts distributed in 2014

In 2014, we provided \$700 million in scholarships and discounts as part of our ongoing commitment to making quality higher education accessible to more students around the world.

YouthActionNet™

For over a decade, Laureate has supported the great work of the International Youth Foundation—an organization committed to creating employment, education and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth around the world. YouthActionNet™ is IYF's signature program, and has provided support to more than 1,100 young social entrepreneurs. Our institutions are always looking for new ways to connect, support and celebrate young social entrepreneurs.

So when the opportunity arose in Mexico City in 2005 for one of our institutions to establish a dedicated national center for social entrepreneurship based on the YouthActionNet™ model, we were quick to make

it happen at Universidad del Valle de México.

In 2015, we're thrilled that 12 of our institutions have a similar national model, with plans to launch YouthActionNet™ programs at additional Laureate institutions in the coming year.

These country-level programs provide training and support to young social entrepreneurs to enhance their leadership skills, expand their impact, and ensure the sustainability of their ventures. Local YouthActionNet™ fellows come from our universities and the broader community. In all cases, we seek to connect these change-makers to the expansive university network, where they share their innovations and learn from others.



YouthActionNet™ institutes on Laureate campuses provide an environment for young leaders to address a range of social issues in creative and entrepreneurial ways.

Collectively, the more than 1,100 YouthActionNet Fellows in 89 countries are impacting over 2 million lives





2014 Laureate Global Fellows



The International Youth Foundation is an organization committed to creating employment, education and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth around the world.

Laureate YouthActionNet™ Institutes

Mexico

Universidad del Valle de México (UVM)
Universidad Tecnológica de México (UNITEC Mexico)

Chile

Universidad Andrés Bello (UNAB)

Turkey

Istanbul Bilgi University

Brazil

Universidade Anhembi Morumbi (UAM)
Centro Universitário do Norte (UNINORTE)
Universidade Salvador (UNIFACS)
Universidade Potiguar (UnP)

Costa Rica

Universidad Latina de Costa Rica (ULatina)

Peru

Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC)

Spain

Universidad Europea

Honduras

Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana
(UNITEC Honduras)



“Through YouthActionNet, tomorrow’s leaders are already leading change today.”

-William Reese, President and CEO, International Youth Foundation

International Youth Foundation
President and CEO William
Reese (top right) speaks with
YouthActionNet™ Fellows.



Our Organization

Sylvan Laureate Foundation

\$23,000,000+

in grants have been provided since 1997

The Sylvan Laureate Foundation was established by Laureate (formerly Sylvan Learning Systems, Inc.) in

June 1997. The mission of the foundation, broadly defined, is to seek and support best practices in education and training throughout the world and to support the communities in which our employees live. The foundation has a strong focus on supporting the community of Baltimore, Maryland, where our company began.

The foundation offers support for elementary and secondary schools, institutions of higher learning, education-focused associations and organizations, and programs that provide

education and training services for children and adults. As a particular focus, the foundation promotes best practices and principles in teaching, teacher training and professional development for teachers. In striving to achieve its mission, the Sylvan Laureate Foundation aims to be a valuable complement to the many organizations that are dedicated to improving education for students and teachers throughout the world.

In 2014, the foundation provided over \$1.4 million to 50 organizations. This builds on the \$23 million we have invested through the Sylvan Laureate Foundation since 1997.

Laureate Global Fellows

The Laureate Global Fellows program is a signature component of the international YouthActionNet™ model, identifying 20 young leaders across the world each year, many of whom have already launched their own social enterprise, and giving them a yearlong immersion in an intense environment of learning and mentoring. The experience prepares them for a lifetime of leading social change and helps them build a network of like-minded peers.

Given Laureate's commitment to developing students and communities with an entrepreneurial spirit and the capacity to collaborate for positive social impact, the relationship between YouthActionNet™ and Laureate is

based on an alignment of values and purpose. As YouthActionNet™ continues to expand, we remain focused on providing opportunities for existing and future young leaders to create a lasting impact.

The Laureate Global Fellows program has an alumni network of over 260 current and former fellows. And collectively, the more than 1,100 YouthActionNet™ fellows in 89 countries are impacting over 2 million lives.

“Through YouthActionNet, I've made friends for life. To surround yourself with people who think the impossible is possible, is critical.”

-Katy Digovich, Laureate Global Fellow

Silvia Vargas

**Founder, Yo Hago El Cambio
Universidad Latina de Costa Rica**



With much of the cooking oil disposed of by hotels and restaurants in Costa Rica making its way into landfills and waterways, Silvia Vargas sought to curb the spread of this pollutant, while recycling it for more productive use. Through *Yo Hago El Cambio* (I Make Change), the Universidad Latina de Costa Rica graduate offers oil-recycling services to more than 30 restaurants. The used oil is picked up weekly and turned into biodiesel fuel for cars and trucks, with proceeds

from the sale of the oil reinvested into sustaining the organization's work. Silvia also offers clients recycling services for plastics, glass, electronics and paper.

In return for their “oil donations,” Silvia and her team advise restaurants and hotels on their social responsibility strategies and ways of promoting employee volunteerism. “Our goal,” says Silvia, “is to convince companies to be socially responsible and to pursue sustainable practices with respect to



the environment, their suppliers and their customers.”

Silvia was selected as a fellow of the *Premio Yo Creo* program in Costa Rica in 2013. A year later, she was honored as a Laureate Global Fellow. Reflecting on her experience, she says, “It [the fellowship] teaches you how to think as and be a leader, not only for your venture but for your country and the world. The experience of sharing with other talented and inspiring leaders was priceless.”

Silvia is a graduate of the Universidad Latina de Costa Rica.



Wiclif Otieno

Founder and CEO, Kito International



More than 300,000 young people live and work on the streets in Kenya.

Driven by his own experience of being orphaned at a young age, Wiclif Otieno founded Kito International to prepare youth on the streets, aged 17 to 24, for a better life. It's a two-month immersion program that includes training in life skills, financial literacy, entrepreneurship and basic IT, along with professional development.

Kito bases its approach on research indicating that most street-youth services focus on addressing basic needs for food and shelter, with most of the youth served ending up back on the streets. To counter this, Kito pursues a holistic youth development model, building on young people's strengths and preparing them to either start a business or secure employment. To support its activities, Kito launched

EcoSafi, a business that produces and sells shopping bags and footwear made out of recycled materials.

Wiclif credits the YouthActionNet™ training he received with giving him a deeper understanding of how the challenges Kito seeks to address are embedded within larger systems. “I gained tools to disrupt systems and drive change more efficiently,” he says. Through YouthActionNet™, he was nominated to share Kito's approach at the 2015 Skoll World Forum in the United Kingdom. Being connected to other young social entrepreneurs across the globe has been another major benefit. Says Wiclif, “Not only do I have support from the 19 fellows from my class, I have an entire community I can reach out to for help with my venture or personal leadership challenges.”

International Awards and Fellowships

The James McGuire Business Plan Competition

This competition seeks to encourage entrepreneurship among Laureate students by extending a \$50,000 low-interest loan to two winning teams. Universities across the network nominate undergraduate and graduate teams, culminating in a finals competition in which two winners are chosen. Winning projects have previously included developing ecologically friendly

building materials, providing safer and more economical housing, and finding new ways to generate electricity.

2014 Winners: Sergio Eduardo Arellano Martinez and Yessica López Coyotzi of Universidad Tecnológica de México, and Manuel Parra of Instituto Profesional AIEP.



\$500,000+ total in cash prizes and loans provided by the competition to support our student entrepreneurs

William C. Dennis Scholarship for International Studies

The William C. Dennis, Jr. Scholarship for International Studies was created to provide students from Laureate Latin America institutions the opportunity to study abroad at another Laureate institution with all expenses paid. Recent Dennis Scholars have completed study abroad programs in the United States and Europe.

2014 Winners: Ximena Barahona (Universidad Latina de Costa Rica), Carolina Bonfada (Centro Universitário Ritter dos Reis) and Miguel Malle (Universidad Viña del Mar).

David A. Wilson Award for Excellence in Teaching & Learning

This award seeks to recognize and support excellence and innovation in higher education through two annual research grants of \$50,000 to Laureate faculty. Finalists have come from Laureate institutions in every region in the network. Recent winners are studying content and language integrated learning strategies for higher education, how to improve student retention

in online courses and programs, and how to increase understanding of how students leverage what they learn after graduation.

2014 Winners: Dr. Birgit Strotmann (Universidad Europea de Madrid) and Professor Stamatis Elntib (University of Liverpool).



\$700,000+

provided in grants through the David A. Wilson Award

The Todd Benson Scholarship for Leadership in Business and Management

This scholarship was created to reward extraordinary undergraduate students whose accomplishments demonstrate their potential to excel as business leaders. This initiative provides students with a full tuition scholarship for their entire program of study, and involves universities in every part of the Laureate network.

2014 Winners: Yvonne de Passy (Laureate Germany), Nathalie Barki (Istanbul Bilgi University), Sun Zhuo (Hunan International Economics University), Mario Alberto Cortes (Universidad del Valle de México), Claudia Victoria Dávila Rojas (Universidad Privada del Norte), Blanca Olivia Cáliz Medina (Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana), Fernanda Oliveira (Universidade Salvador), Soukaina El Bouzaydy (Université Internationale de Casablanca) and Patrick Cleary (Walden University).

Thought Leadership



Mohammed Khan, Senior Education Specialist at the International Finance Corporation, speaks at the Laureate Summit on Youth & Productivity in Mexico in February 2015.

As part of its mission to be a leader in research and a thought leader on the future of higher education worldwide,

Laureate has partnered with many research and analytics groups to analyze outcomes and assess issues in global higher education.

Zogby Analytics, a leading polling organization, conducted two joint studies with Laureate. In 2014 and 2015, Zogby surveys of thousands of students from Laureate and non-Laureate institutions found that students are increasingly looking for career-oriented higher education options, especially ones that include industry partnerships and opportunities for lifelong learning. Veteran pollster John Zogby said in *Forbes*, "These results provide both a mandate for Laureate to continue its mission of relevance, change, and excellence — and, at the same time, offer a blueprint of the shape of the change to come for higher education institutions as a whole."

Millward Brown Vermeer Report on Undergraduate Employment

Expanding on previous research done with Millward Brown Vermeer, a world-renowned research firm, Laureate International Universities again set out to discover how private institutions complement public ones and contribute to the labor market. The survey included over 450,000 students at 12 Laureate institutions in six countries. The findings indicate that Laureate students are consistently finding employment after graduation more quickly than their peers and are exceeding the market benchmarks for salaries.

The numbers in Spain were particularly telling: In a country where general unemployment is 24.5 percent and 53.5 percent for young people between 18 and 25 years of age, Universidad Europea de Madrid graduates are consistently finding work and earning salaries that are 118 percent higher than the market benchmark.

IFC/World Bank Group Research on Social Mobility in Mexico

In a first-time partnership with the IFC/World Bank Group, research was conducted on the performance of Laureate graduates in the Mexican labor market and their rise in social mobility, compared with their peers from other universities. Mexico has a significant unmet demand for college degrees, but many private universities face a highly competitive market to expand their services.

The survey found that graduates of Laureate's Mexican institutions, Universidad del Valle de México and Universidad Tecnológica de México, perform better in a range of post-graduation situations than their peers at non-Laureate institutions, including finding employment more quickly, attaining higher income, overcoming gender norms and reaching higher levels of social mobility.

Global Days of Service

Created in 2006, Global Days of Service began as a single day for Walden University faculty and students to participate in activities in their communities, giving one day of service to those in need. In 2012, the service day grew to include the entire Laureate network and in 2013 was expanded to a full week of service.

In November 2014, Laureate hosted its ninth annual Global Days of Service, in which close to 9,000 students, faculty and staff from 28 institutions in 15 countries contributed more than 68,300 volunteer hours to support their communities. This is in addition to the many hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours committed throughout the year.

Students and faculty at Istanbul Bilgi University came together to participate in our Global Days of Service, joining over 9,000 participants all across the Laureate network.



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