



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIEA Recognizes Krishna Chaitanya Rao Kathala with the 2025 Harold Josephson Award for Professional Promise in International Education

Houston, TX (March 3, 2025)—The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is pleased to announce Krishna Chaitanya Rao Kathala, Senior Global Engagement Assistant in the International Programs Office at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, as the recipient of the 2025 Josephson Award for Professional Promise in International Education.

The Josephson Award honors the memory of Dr. Harold Josephson, a long-time leader in AIEA who passed away in 1998. Josephson served as Associate Vice Chancellor of International Programs at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The award recognizes deserving graduate students for outstanding contributions to the field of international education.

With more than 8 years in AI, Data Sciences and Analytics and 3 years directly in global engagement work, Krishna is an accomplished professional in higher education. He has developed a strong focus on global engagement, international education research, and data governance. His expertise includes designing AI and data science skilling programs focusing on responsible and ethical AI, integrating this perspective into education and administrative practices.

Krishna is the Senior Global Engagement Assistant in the International Programs Office where he leads the international student support & engagement (SSE) and education abroad (EA) teams. Serving as the Program Manager: AI and Partnership, he plays an increasingly strategic role in the college's internationalization goals including leading strategic initiatives such as developing the Global Engagement Dashboard which enables data-driven decisions that enhance international partnerships and increase enrollment efficiencies and fosters collaborations between academia and community organizations, creating impactful AI education initiatives.

In addition to his outstanding professional work, Krishna is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Learning Sciences and Technology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and holds an advanced degree in data and computer science. His interdisciplinary approach combines learning theories, AI applications, and quantitative and qualitative methodologies.



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Krishna has also made significant contributions academically by co-authoring numerous research publications on ethical AI, computational thinking, and machine learning applications, and holding multiple patents in diverse fields, including cybersecurity, education, and agriculture. He has also served as a mentor and judge for various hackathons and STEM competitions supporting students' growth and development. Krishna is also an active reviewer and advisor for academic journals, conferences, and research initiatives. His commitment to international education is evident in the work that he does as a founding member of the University of Artemis Educator Alliance, EAIE and AIEA. demonstrating his commitment to advancing knowledge in his field.

AIEA congratulates Krishna Chaitanya Rao Kathala for this year's Josephson Award recipient.

About AIEA:

The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is a member organization that equips leaders to shape the future of higher education in a global context.

AIEA advances strategic transformational approaches to internationalization of higher education; empowers those who lead such efforts; convenes global conversation on key issues; and partners with other organizations around the world to develop sustainable, forward-looking perspectives.
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