



**Association of International Education Administrators**  
*Leaders in International Higher Education*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: AIEA Secretariat  
secretariat@aieaworld.org  
[www.aieaworld.org](http://www.aieaworld.org)

**AIEA Presents the 2025 Innovative Excellence in Internationalization Award to the University of California, Davis (UC Davis)**

Houston, TX (March 3, 2025)—The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is pleased to present the Innovative Excellence in Internationalization Award to the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) in recognition of their UC Davis Sustainable Development Leadership Initiative (SDLI).

Since 2020, UC Davis has been at the forefront of the global higher education sector in institutionalizing and advancing the 2030 Agenda and the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Over the past five years, UC Davis has carefully crafted a step-by-step, intentional approach that fully embraces the underlying principles of this agenda. Due to visionary leadership, entrepreneurial champions, innovative partnerships that have created new models and paths to global engagement, and intentional strategy, the institution has implemented numerous projects and programs in a highly cost-effective and impactful way. Joanna Regulska, Senior International Officer (SIO), and Jolynn Shoemaker, Director of Global Engagements, lead the SDLI's vision and strategic direction and are deeply involved in designing opportunities to integrate the SDGs across multiple aspects of internationalization efforts. UC Davis has focused on (1) strengthening institutional commitment to the SDGs, (2) building local and global partnerships and collaborations to advance the SDGs, and (3) expanding learning and leadership opportunities for students and faculty.

In Fall 2024, UC Davis will formally launch the initiative, which has evolved from five years of work to purposely build a commitment, framework, partnerships and activities around the SDGs. It provides an umbrella for ongoing programs while creating space to generate new ideas and opportunities to educate students, engage our faculty and collaborate with our partners locally and internationally. This offers an opportunity to enhance capacity for SDGs in research and teaching; advancing student leadership and global engagement; supporting staff professional development; facilitating SDG-focused projects; documenting SDG progress; and supporting the role of higher education in advancing SDGs. We look forward to the next exciting phase of contributing to this global vision and preparing the next generation for leadership.



**Association of International Education Administrators**  
*Leaders in International Higher Education*

AIEA congratulates the University of California, Davis as this year's Innovation in Internationalization 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.  
###