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The past year saw international travel grind to a near halt, forcing many students to postpone study abroad plans. But attaining a global education at Carolina is about so much more than travel. While the challenges presented by the global pandemic have been disruptive, they have also provided UNC Global the opportunity to create new and innovative ways for Carolina and its students to connect with the world.

In fact, we now find ourselves even better positioned to fulfill the University's Global Guarantee: our promise that every undergraduate student can have access to a transformative global education. This speaks to the ingenuity, resilience and commitment of our students and faculty, and to the strength of our strategic partnerships around the world.

One success story has been the emergence of Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) classes. Carolina's longstanding global partnerships provided a foundation for our faculty to work virtually with global counterparts to design courses that bring students together to complete group projects, share societal and disciplinary perspectives, and exchange scholarly or creative work. During the 2020–21 academic year, more than 430 Carolina students participated in COIL classes. We are striving to offer 1,000 Carolina students a place next year in 40 COIL courses.

While we remain committed to offering as many in-person opportunities as safely possible, COIL offers an accessible, inclusive-by-design option for all students as part of their global education at Carolina. Beyond the pandemic, we will sustain and strengthen the COIL program as a core part of the portfolio available to students seeking a transformative global education.

Global education matters now, more than ever.

This past year has underscored the interconnected nature of the challenges our world faces. A global education that opens avenues of collaboration, understanding and shared leadership is essential if we are to prepare future generations to solve our most pressing problems.

Please consider a gift to the Chancellor's Global Education Fund.

We hope you will join us as we ensure that every student here at Carolina has access to a robust global education. Your support of the Chancellor's Global Education Fund will help UNC Global bring the world to Carolina and Carolina to the world.

Sincerely,

Barbara

Barbara J. Stephenson, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Global Affairs and Chief Global Officer

U.S. Ambassador (Retired)