IU’s newest gateway office opens in Berlin this fall. It will be the hub for the university’s activities in Europe. The office, in the Kreuzberg area of Berlin, is IU’s third; India and China Gateways opened in 2013 and 2014. Located in a facility owned by the Council on International Educational Exchange, the IU Europe Gateway provides a suite of offices and a conference room, along with access to conference and learning spaces and to dormitories within the CIEE Global Institute. The arrangement offers flexibility that can accommodate small workshops and conferences for up to 100 participants.

Setting up a gateway office in another country means scaling a mountain of logistic and legal issues. Finding space, arranging space, and filling space on the one hand. Assuring compliance with local and international regulations on the other. “Having managed these things with other gateways, we are fairly well versed in how

**EUROPE GATEWAY:**

The Next Level of Engagement

Indiana Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann (left) meets with Idalene Kesner, dean of the IU Kelley School of Business, at the IU China Gateway Office in Beijing as part of a 10-day tour of China by an 18-member delegation of the state’s agricultural and government leaders exploring closer ties with their Chinese counterparts.
to do it now,” said Alexander Batten, director of the global gateway network. “When we began planning for a gateway in Europe, Berlin was an obvious choice,” said Batten. “IU has a long history of university partnerships in the region. Berlin is affordable, and its location offers a gateway to both Western and Eastern Europe. Berlin is also a great place for young people. When I go around Kreuzberg, I think, wow, I should have spent more time here when I was twenty.”

Batten added, “Our initial focus was on space, and space is important. We are discovering that perhaps more important is having a permanent presence on the ground to engage with our partner institutions and to make new connections. While those connections are sometimes planned, we have found that it often happens through luck, for instance a chance meeting at a conference with an important government official.”

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—Alexander Batten, director of the global gateway network
Hannah Buxbaum, professor of law and academic director for the Europe Gateway, added “In Europe, there is a tremendous amount happening already at the individual faculty level and at the academic unit level. The challenge for the gateway is leveraging those relationships to get to the next level of engagement in internationalizing what we’re doing overseas and here at home. Measures of success include increasing the number of master’s and doctoral students from European institutions who spend significant time here at IU, and setting up new dual degree programs and new international opportunities that IU students would not have otherwise.”

Each new activity at the gateway yields new connections, and those connections can serve other activities that follow. Batten explained, “We had a group of IU study abroad students studying global outsourcing of instructional technology. The faculty member leading the course asked our in-country India Gateway manager to find individuals from government and industry to talk about this from the Indian perspective. She was able to attract a number of experts using connections she had made previously for a different activity. Those experts may be available for future activities. The gateways are creating a continuity of connections and networks that we did not have before. When we started we did not fully appreciate the value of this.”

As activities ramp up, gateway goals include serving our institutional partners, our alumni, and Indiana businesses. Batten outlined some of what is in store. “Our academic partners in Europe are in the same process we are, working to internationalize. Having deeper engagement with U.S. universities is part of their plan. We are interested in collaborating with our partners to provide an international experience for their students who don’t go abroad through access to opportunities at the gateways and through distance learning. Alumni will have access to gateway facilities, and closer contact will give IU students and faculty better access to alumni expertise and experience.”
While increased collaborative research and international opportunities for students are major objectives for the gateways, Batten hopes to put on public events for the local communities. “The Europe Gateway has facilities that would support a concert by students and faculty of the IU Jacobs School of Music. An expert panel discussion on transatlantic data privacy is planned for the Europe Gateway inauguration; it will be open to students at our partner institutions and to the public,” said Batten.

“The gateways are meant to support the whole university, all campuses,” Batten said. “One of the challenges has been getting the word out, letting faculty and administrators know what it is there for, how they can benefit from it.”

Buxbaum added, “We want the gateways to promote the academic priorities of the university. To me, one real success would be using them to support our research on grand challenges—to sustain meaningful engagement of our international partners in our work toward those goals.”

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### ANDREA ADAM MOORE

Andrea Adam Moore is the newly appointed director of the Europe Gateway Office. Adam Moore was previously the North American director of German University Alliance, a nonprofit consortium of Freie Universität Berlin and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, where she furthered the development of international education by fostering international student mobility, German-American scientific collaboration, and cultural exchange. She brings a wealth of experience and an extensive network of contacts in higher education in Germany and beyond.