Four doctoral candidates and students working under the direction of Monan University Professor of Educational Leadership and Higher Education Philip G. Altbach, the founding director of the Lynch School Center for International Higher Education, are studying and analyzing higher education policies and practices abroad.

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(The above intro is already in Day, with his photo)

Kara Godwin, Ph.D. ‘12

Godwinis exploring the emergence of liberal arts education in countries like Ghana, Russia, China, and Bangladesh. “Typically, higher education in these countries was offered in specific disciplines such as math, science, or business,” she says. “I’m hoping to discover what has motivated this sea change to a broader, more liberal- arts-focused education model.”

Ivan Pacheco,Ph.D.’12

Pacheco studies the role of universities in post-conflict societies to better understand how conflict affects those institutions, and to evaluate university involvement in conflict resolution and peace building. His research in his native Colombia shows that “universities are deeply involved in achieving peace by providing social services and rebuilding social systems through training, education, and advocacy,” he says.

Yukiko Shimmi, Ph.D. ‘13

“In Japan, most students go directly into a field related to their undergraduate course of study or enter a graduate program. However, when a Japanese woman comes to the U.S. to study, she is able to explore a wider range of career tracks based on her education,” says Shimmi, who left her native Japan to research international higher education. Shimmi’s research shows that many Japanese women who study in the U.S. use their degrees to pursue career paths in the humanities and social sciences they would not have taken in Japan.

Dave Stanfield,Ph.D. ’15

Stanfield researches the motivations that in recent years have driven U.S universities to establish branch campuses overseas. He is exploring what makes them succeed or fail and how the American university model can be adapted to other cultures. “I’m hoping my research will support best practices for existing international campuses, and inform the development of new branch campuses,” he says.