

Self-Reflection and Growth: Mid-Career Bolashak Scholars' Personal and Professional Development at the University of Illinois

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the personal and professional development of 46 mid-career Bolashak scholars in the Pedagogy group at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign during the 2024–2025 academic year. Funded by the Government of Kazakhstan, the Bolashak Program supports scholars in advancing their expertise at leading global universities. Through a mixed-methods analysis of self-evaluation reports, this work-in-progress explores scholars' reflections on their academic growth, cross-cultural learning, and professional development. Key findings highlight the impact of mentorship, interdisciplinary collaboration, and cultural exchange on scholars' pedagogical practices and research skills, contributing to Kazakhstan's goal of developing a skilled workforce.

ALISE RESEARCH TAXONOMY TOPICS

Continuing education, Pedagogy, Publishing, Education programs, Knowledge management

AUTHOR KEYWORDS

Knowledge sharing; Pedagogical Innovation; Professional development; Cross-Cultural Collaboration; Scholarly Practices

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