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Illinois Wesleyan University

International Office News

"Bringing the world to IWU"

Fall 2010
Volume 5, Issue 1

Upcoming Events

Sep 2 — Study Abroad 101 for Faculty, 12:00, Davidson Room

Sep 2 — Study Abroad Fair, 4:00-6:00, the Dug Out

Sep 7 — Financing Study Abroad, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium

Sep 8 — Taking the Road Less Traveled, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium

Sep 9 — Welcome Back Picnic for International Studies majors and minors, international students, and IS faculty associates

Sep 21 — Workshop for faculty interested in developing May Term travel courses. Location and time TBA

Sep 27 — Career Center Workshop, "Bringing It Home: Making Study Abroad Work for You," 4:00, Welcome Center auditorium

Oct 1 — Deadline for Spring 2011 study abroad applications

Oct 6 — Pembroke Program information session, 4:00, CLA 205

[Continued on back page]

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IWU Welcomes New Students

Illinois Wesleyan welcomes 18 new international students from 10 countries to campus. IWU now hosts 83 students from 22 countries.

The students began arriving in mid-August, a week before the other first-year students, to give them a chance to settle in and to undergo an orientation to life in the United States and in Bloomington-Normal before diving into "Turning Titan" activities with IWU's other new students.

Please join us in welcoming the following students to campus.

Iyinogooluwa "Iyin" Ajayi	Nigeria
Anton Arnold Asjes	Netherlands
Ulrike Bialas	Germany
Manh Dao	Vietnam
Mohamed ElKabbash	Egypt
Takumi Kamioka	Japan
Chan Kyung "Jim" Lee	South Korea
Boxiang "Jollie" Liu	China
Paola Lopez-Baena	Spain
Xinran "Sophie" Ma	China
Mana Narita	Japan
Zongda "Derek" Tu	China
Onyinye Udenze	Nigeria
Ruiying "Lily" Xu	China
Xinlin "Shirley" Xu	China
Jiacheng "Jorvik" Zhang	China
Xuewen "Maggie" Zhou	China

Top: 2010 International students in front of the international garden. Bottom: Arnold Asjes and Jim Lee play Jenga during orientation

Please join us in also welcoming the following international faculty members:

Dr. Shokouh Hadaddi (Iran-Canada), Adjunct Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies and Chemistry
Dr. Min-hyung Kim (South Korea), Assistant Professor of Political Science
Dr. Vadoud Niri (Iran-Canada), Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry
Carola Ramirez-Castello (Peru), Adjunct Instructor of Biology

New International Features Blog

In spring 2010, the International Office launched a new blog to highlight international events and people on campus.

Each week during the semester, the International Features blog will post "A day in the life of…," which will follows the daily activities of an IWU International student.

Other posts focus on campus events, such as the annual I-Carnival; international celebrations, such as the Bulgarian holiday of Martenitsa; and community activities. In the fall, we plan to expand the blog to include posts from and about students and faculty abroad.

If you have an event or item you would like us to share, please contact either Reenie Bradley (rbradley@iwu.edu) or Stacey Shimizu (sshimizu@iwu.edu) in the International Office, and visit the blog at blogs.iwu.edu/internat/.

Featured Study Abroad Program

DIS's Sustainability in Europe Program

Denmark is a world leader in reducing energy consumption:

- In Denmark, biomass—organic matter, including waste, that can be converted to fuel—is the most important source of renewable energy and constitutes close to 70% of the country's renewable energy consumption.
- Over one third of the people in Copenhagen commute to work by bike, saving 90,000 tons of CO2 emissions each year.
- Denmark's deposit-and-return system for packaging materials means that they produce approximately 390,000 tons less waste each year.

Want to learn more? Then the Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS) program on Sustainability in Europe may be just right for you.

The Sustainability in Europe program is designed for students of environmental studies, environmental science, management, public policy, and students generally interested in environmental affairs. Through the core course—Sustainable Development: Environmental, Political, and Social Issues—looks at the concepts and philosophies of sustainability; the roles of individuals, communities, business and government in shaping sustainable development; and Danish and European experiences and perspectives on sustainability.

As part of the core course, students will participate in two study tour, one to other parts of Denmark and another weeklong tour in Britain. Through these tours, you will be introduced to a broad range of Danish and European stakeholders currently shaping the sustainability agenda. You will visit Danish and British local community projects, NGOs, green technology companies, and governmental institutions, highlighting topics studied in class.

To complement the work you do in the core course, you can select any combination of classes from among the 130+ other courses offered by DIS. For a full list of DIS courses, visit dis.dk/study-abroad/semester/courses/.

Program Overview

The Sustainability in Europe program is designed for students of environmental studies, environmental science, management, public policy, and students generally interested in environmental affairs.

Core Course:
Sustainable Development: Environmental, Political, and Social Issues

Study Tours:
- A short study tour in Denmark
- A longer European study tour to Britain

Elective Courses:
Possible courses include the following
- Environmental Economics
- Environmental History of Europe
- Environmental Microbiology
- Greenland: A Scientific Expedition (0.25 IWU units)
- Integrated Sustainability
- Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Sustainability in Austrian Architecture
- Sustainable by Design

IWU Spain Program Moves to Barcelona for 2011

In spring 2005, Illinois Wesleyan opened its own semester abroad program in Madrid, Spain. But in Spring 2011, the University is relocating the program to the many-faceted and multicultural city of Barcelona.

Though the program in Madrid had been successful, economic considerations led the University to suspend the program for 2010. A review of the program design and costs undertaken by Associate Dean of Curriculum Zahia Drici, suggested that relocating the program to Barcelona would not only address the University's financial concerns, but also offer new curricular and co-curricular opportunities for the program.

The 2011 IWU Spain Program (formerly the IWU Madrid Program) will be directed by Professor Kevin Strandberg (Art). Strandberg, who has led several May Term courses in Barcelona, says that although "Madrid is the quintessential Spanish city-- the national capital [where] only pure Castilian is spoken," Barcelona has much to offer students.

"Barcelona is city with a much more international feel. It is on the Mediterranean, close to the French border, and is the capital of the Spanish province of Catalunya (though the Catalans would like to believe that it is a separate country)," he says.

The second largest city in Spain and the sixth largest urban area in the European Union, Barcelona is a global city important in finance, media, trade, and entertainment.

Arguably of more importance to Strandberg, however, is Barcelona's artistic history: "Where Madrid houses an enormous collection of traditional art, Barcelona has always been the home of the Spanish *avant garde*."

The city's landscape is colored by the fantastic architecture of Antoni Gaudí and the works of "edgier" architects from Spain and around the world. Barcelona also houses museums dedicated to Picasso, Dalí, and Miro, as well as the world-class National Museum of Art of Catalonia and the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art.

More than anything else, though, Barcelona is a cultural meeting place. Here, natives are bilingual, speaking both Catalan and Castilian Spanish. Because of its welcoming attitude, the city is home to an enormous international community, with large Asian and Arabic populations, and more recently an influx of people from all over Latin America.

For students of Spanish, Strandberg believes Barcelona is a rich venue for learning the language. "If anything," he says, "students will hear all types of Spanish spoken—from Argentine Spanish laced with Italian expressions to the more formal Madrileño Spanish to the other variants of Mexican and Latin American Spanish."

Students interested in learning more about the 2011 Spain Program should contact Prof. Strandberg (strandbe@iwu.edu).

Applications for the 2011 program are available in the International Office and are due by 4:00, September 17, 2010.

Study abroad students Christine Anderson (with friend, left) and Xinyi Wu (right) in Barcelona.

Show Me the Money: Study Abroad Scholarships

IWU students received over $15,000 in outside funding to support their study abroad plans for summer and fall of 2010.

Among the recipients are Jessica Meyer and Tiara Thomas, who each received prestigious Benjamin Gilman Scholarships (see below) worth $4,000 each. Congratulations, Tiara and Jessica!

✷ NEW ✷

SIT Pell Matching Grants

The School for International Training (SIT) has announced a new scholarship program for undergraduate Pell grant recipients.

Beginning with fall 2010 programs, SIT will automatically match a student's Pell award used for a semester program with SIT.

More than 30 SIT programs across the globe are eligible for the new Pell match scholarship. For a full list, visit the International Office.

NSEP Boren Scholarships

Boren Scholarships provide up to $20,000 to US students to study abroad in areas of the world that are critical to US interests, including Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin American, and the Middle East.

Boren Scholarships are funded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), which focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to US national security.

In exchange for scholarship funding, all Boren Scholars must agree to the NSEP service requirement, which stipulates that recipient work in the Federal Government for one year in a position with national security responsibilities.

For more information, please contact Professor William Munro (wmunro@iwu.edu).

Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarships

The Gilman Program provides over 1,700 scholarships of up to $5,000 for study abroad to US citizen undergraduates who receive or are eligible for Pell grants.

Students receive a Gilman Scholarship may receive an additional $3,000 for the study of a Critical Need Language.

For more information, visit the International Office.

Central College China Travel Voucher

Central College Abroad is partnering with the online travel agency StudentUniverse.com to offer $1,000 travel vouchers for its Spring 2011 study abroad program in Hangzhou, China. Vouchers may be applied to airline tickets purchased through StudentUniverse.com for travel to China destinations only.

Limited offer is good only while supplies last. Additional application materials may be required.

IWU Alumna Receives 2010 Fulbright Scholarship

Lauren Ostrowski ('05) has been awarded a Fulbright US Student Program scholarship for 2010–11. As part of her award, she will teach English part-time at a secondary school and continue her graduate studies at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

Ostrowski graduated with a degree in English-writing and Hispanic Studies, and is currently pursuing secondary-education Spanish teacher certification. While in Madrid, she will take graduate coursework at as part of her work toward a master's degree in Spanish.

In addition to her studies at the Complutense, Ostrowski will be teaching English at Instituto de Educación Secundaria Fortuny, a high school in the Rubén Dario area of Madrid).

At IES Fortuny, she plans to organize a creative writing workshop for English language learners. "Creative writing in a second language allows students to focus on utilizing the language as a means for communication and expression rather than simply providing a 'right' answer," she said.

Ostrowski is one of more than 1500 applicants to receive a 2010–11 Fulbright Student award. The Fulbright Student Program is the largest US international exchange program and offers fellowships for US graduating college seniors, graduate students, young professionals, and artists to study or conduct research abroad for one academic year.

For the past four years, Ostrowski has worked for IES: The Institute for the International Education of Students, a study abroad organization based in Chicago. She credits her work with IES, as well as her study abroad experiences at IWU, for her decision to apply for a Fulbright.

The grant and the work it supports will allow "[me to] combine my professional and academic interests, my love of cultural and linguistic exploration and my enthusiasm for the Spanish language and culture," she says.

For information on how to apply for a Fulbright scholarship, please contact Professor Sonja Fritzsche (sfritzsc@iwu.edu) in the fall or Professor Christina Isabelli (cisabell@iwu.edu) in the spring.

Harper Participates in Ecuador/Galapagos Seminar

Professor Given Harper (Biology/Environmental Studies) spent 11 days last March in Ecuador as part of an environmental studies seminar hosted by IES: The Institute for the International Education of Students.

The first portion of the seminar consisted of a series of presentations at the IES Study Center in Quito. Later in the first week, Harper and colleagues journeyed to the Amazon River Basin, traveling on the Napo and Tipitini rivers, visiting the Tiputini Biodiversity Station, and doing a canopy walk for a bird's-eye view of the rainforest.

For the last 4 days, he and small cohort then went to the Galápagos Islands, about 525 nautical miles west of Ecuador.

In an interview with the *Pantagraph*, Harper said, "It was an absolutely incredible experience.[...] The biodiversity of the Amazon, evolution in the Galapagos ... It was just a phenomenal experience."

For more information on IES faculty development seminars, please contact Stacey Shimizu (sshimizu@iwu.edu) in the International Office.

Upcoming Events

Oct 11 — Study Abroad 101 for Students, 4:00, CLA 205

Oct 18 — May Term Travel Information Fair, 5:00-7:00, Main Lounge

Oct 18 — Fall Study Abroad Photo Contest deadline, 4:00, the International Office

Nov 7 — Mandatory Study Abroad Pre-Departure Meeting, 4:00-7:00, Beckman Auditorium

Faculty Appointments

Professor Marina Balina (Russian Studies) has been named Director of International Studies. For 2010–11, she will co-direct the program with Professor William Munro.

Professor Carolyn Nadeau (Hispanic Studies) was recently appointed the Byron S. Tucci Endowed Professor. She will be the first to hold this position.

Comings and Goings

As our new international students were preparing to come to Illinois Wesleyan, IWU study abroad students were preparing for their own education abroad.

This fall sees 49 students setting out for a semester or year of study abroad. We'll have students in 18 countries on 5 continents, including 2 in India, 2 in South Africa, and our first student in Belgium!

We wish them all bon voyage!

Nicole Baillie	England
Kelly Brady	England
Daniel Brinkmeier	Japan
Erin Butler	Ecuador
Jennifer Ceisel	England
Jacquelyn Connelly	Australia
Rebeca Cruz	Spain
Jocelyn Finley	Belgium
Hannah Fischer	England
Jennifer Fitton	Chile
Anne Fritsch	England
Bridget Gavlin	Ireland
Melissa Graffy	England
Michael Grumbos-Peloso	Italy
Sarah Hartman	Denmark
Elizabeth Henderlite	England
Katherine Henning	Denmark
Marissa Hoover	South Africa
Dariusz Jakubowski	England
Miles Jappa	England
Qingfan Jiang	France
Nicholas Kenaga	England
Ekaterina Kobrina	England
Vadim Kogan	New Zealand
Yelei Kong	Italy
Zahra Lalani	England
Caroline McMahon	France
Meagan Melloy	Austria
Jessica Meyer	South Africa
Ashlee Miller-Berry	Denmark
George Mitchell	France
Jonathan Moos	Japan
Erin Moran	Spain
Ryan Nielsen	India
Emily Oprins	England
Lindsay Oriold	Japan
Kathryn Rehor	Switzerland
Kathryn Risden	Denmark
Gwenlyn Robinson	India
Colin Schofield	Chile
Victoria Simmons	Denmark
Matthew Styx	Spain
Robert Tazioli	France
Scott Tesler	Netherlands
Tiara Thomas	Japan
Nicole Vavalle	Scotland
Van Vu	Australia
Allison Whitley	Switzerland
Korey Williams	England
Amanda Williams	England

Spring 2010 Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to Janelle Santos and Christy Spees, winners of our 2010 Spring Study Abroad Photo Contest!

First Place (*right*): "Deep in Thought," Janelle Santos (CIEE South Korea). "I caught a glimpse of a Shinto Priestess walking by, deep in thought. I wonder what she was thinking about … the many tourists at her temple, the next line of a prayer, or simply what dinner was going to be? We will never know."

Second Place (*left*): "Groundskeeper Trims the Lawn," Christy Spees (Butler Ireland). "With Galway being the wettest city in Ireland, the grass is always growing and plushly green. This man works alone, and likely unnoticed, to keep the lawn looking immaculate."