Spring 2008

International Office News, Spring 2008

Illinois Wesleyan University

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World Pieces

In a joint effort, IWU’s International Society Student Organization (I-Society) and the International Office have launched World Piece, a series of hour-long student-led discussions focusing on current global issues.

World Piece discussions are held the first Monday of each month that IWU is in session in Kemp Hall (International House). Fall semester topics included a discussion on modern China, “Understanding Islam — A Cultural Perspective,” and an exploration of international celebrations. The first World Piece session of the spring semester will be the evening of February 4.

I-Society is a student organization that promotes cultural awareness on the IWU campus, brings together students of various ethnicities, and encourages IWU students to study abroad. I-Society also sponsors the I-Carnivale, an annual festival that celebrates the multiple cultures on campus.

I-Society President Hoang Nguyen says, “With an increase in international students [at IWU], the time is right to expand the scope of I-Society. In recent years, we have focused our energy on the I-Carnivale in the spring, but we’re taking time this year to do other activities and ‘World Piece’ is one of them.”

International Departures

This spring sees 56 students setting out for a semester of study abroad. Eighteen will be living and studying in Madrid with Associate Professor Diego Mendez-Carbajo as part of the IWU Madrid Program. The others will be heading to programs from Australia to Russia, from Ghana to Greece. Two will be interning with members of the Irish Parliament in Dublin; one will be participating in an archeological excavation in Greece; many will be taking courses directly at a foreign university; and all will be earning credit toward their IWU degrees.

We wish them all a bon voyage! ☀️☀️☀️

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<td>Tuhin Abner</td>
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Featured Study Abroad Program
SIT Summer Program in China: Public Health and Traditional Chinese Medicine

[From the SIT catalog]

From barefoot doctors to traditional remedies, the Chinese public health system has drawn increasing attention in the West. In this program, students have the unique opportunity to study traditional Chinese medicine and public health issues by working with professionals in the field in both urban and rural settings. Students will have the opportunity to observe traditional practitioners of herbal medicine, acupuncture, and massage therapy, and, in some cases, receive practical training.

Based in the city of Kunming in Yunnan Province, China, and run in conjunction with the Yunnan Provincial Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine, the program provides an introduction to the ancient philosophy, theory, history, and practices in traditional Chinese medicine, one of the world’s oldest, best-known, and most-developed medicinal systems, placing it in the social context of public health in China.

To facilitate their health-related academic work, students on this program also undertake the study of Mandarin language and Chinese culture.

International Studies Events

"Consuming the World"
Upcoming IS Colloquia

January 17, 4:00  
“Visualizing the Globalization of Consumption through the Asian Lens,” presented by Professor Abigail Jahiel (Director, Environmental Studies).

February 7, 4:00  
TBA

March 6, 4:00  
TBA

April 3, 4:00  
The Latin American Studies and Development Studies Teams will sponsor a joint faculty-student panel discussion.

The IS Colloquium theme for 2008-09 will be Art and Resistance. Faculty and student groups hosting events or speakers that might relate to this theme are encouraged to contact the International Studies Program.

Technos International Week
In cooperation with Technos International College of Tokyo, IWU each summer sends two

Program Highlights
Credits: 8 semester hours (2 IWU units)

Program Dates: 6 weeks (early June to mid-July)

Program Base: Kunming, Yunnan Province

Language Study: Mandarin

Educational Excursions: The Kunming area; the traditional towns of Dali, on the shores of Erhai Lake; and Lijiang, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to the Bai and Naxi peoples.

Prerequisites: At least two semesters of college level work at the time of application and previous college-level coursework or other significant preparation in the health sciences or a related field, as assessed by SIT.

The Peoria Area World Affairs Council (PAWAC) Conference
February 15-16, 2008
The 38th Annual Central Illinois World Affairs Conference, “Geopolitics of Climate Change: Competition for Limited Resources,” will be at the Hotel Pere Marquette on Feb. 15 and 16.

The International Studies Program will pay to send a student delegation to this conference. For more information, please contact Professor William Munro (wmunro@iwu.edu, x3629/x3375).

Scholar-at-Risk Lecture
On February 13, at 4:00 in the Beckman Auditorium in The Ames Library, Professor Taye Woldesmiate will present "Globalization and the Crisis in the Horn of Africa" as part of the Social Science Division Lecture Series.

Prof. Woldesmiate, from Ethiopia, is a visiting associate professor of political science. He joined the faculty for 2007−08 as a Scholar at Risk.

IWU is a founding member of the Scholars-at-Risk Network, an international group of over 80 colleges and universities in the U.S. and around the world that promotes academic freedom and defends the human rights of scholars worldwide.

Above: Trentemoult, Nantes (Becca Segal, IES Nantes, Spring 2007)

Below: IWU London Program students (Sarah Stumpf, IWU London, Fall 2007)
Faculty Opportunities
Summer Faculty Development Seminars in Spain/Morocco and Jordan

As part of an effort to increase faculty knowledge of Islamic cultures and regions, Provost Cunningham is offering to fully fund participation for two IWU faculty members in one of two CIEE International Faculty Development Seminars that explore Islamic issues. Details on those seminars are below.

The Faculty Development Committee will review faculty proposals after January 18. The proposals should include a current CV and a 500-word statement that addresses three questions specified by CIEE:
1) How does the program content relate to your present and future academic and career goals?
2) What aspects of your personal experience—for instance, relevant coursework, job experiences, previous travel, or study in the host country—have prepared you to live and study in a foreign country? Please specify any particular experience with the culture of the host country.
3) What are your objectives for your time overseas with CIEE?

Interested faculty should submit six (6) copies of your proposal to Jenny Hand by the January 18.

Faculty may also consult with Stacey Shimizu in the International Office for more details on the programs and about the CIEE eligibility requirements and application. For more information, please

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Spain & Morocco:
Exploring the Coexistence and Challenges of Neighboring Cultures

Itinerary
This 12-day seminar begins and ends in Seville, Spain, and includes Cordoba (Spain), Algeciras, Tangier, Asilah, Rabat, Chefchaouen, and Ceuta (Morocco).

Rationale
In our current world climate, there is symbolic meaning to crossing the Strait of Gibraltar, 12 miles which separates Africa and Europe. Morocco and Spain, the Muslim and Western worlds. This seminar explores the links between Morocco and Spain on a variety of levels: the rich cultural and historic heritage from the Al Andalus era, the intersection of the “developing” and the “developed” worlds, and the global impact of terrorism and increasing animosity between historically Muslim and Christian societies. This seminar seeks to discuss the relevant issues of diversity and co-existence, religious and cultural pluralism, history, globalization, economic inequalities, and immigration.

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Jordan:
Middle East Conflict and Cooperation
June 8–15, 2008

Itinerary
This 8-day seminar begins and ends in Amman, Jordan and includes a 3-day excursion to Jerusalem.

Rationale
The association between the Middle East and conflict is known. It is hard to imagine a day in recent history when the news from the region was not filled with stories of ongoing violence, political intransigence, and diplomatic deadlock. What grabs fewer headlines are the countless examples of cooperation that take place everyday on an individual, national, and regional level.

This seminar approaches the Middle East from the unusual perspective that cooperation not only exists but in many areas is rapidly becoming the regional norm. Participants receive an historic overview of the major sources of conflict in the region. Then the seminar shifts gears to reviewing real life examples of how conflict management has evolved into ongoing cooperation in areas such as environmental protection, education, economic development, and interfaith dialogue.

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Faculty Site Visit Grants

The International Office will continue to offer small Faculty Site Visit grants ($500, reimbursable) to allow faculty who already plan to be abroad an opportunity to visit an affiliated study abroad program. A call for applications will go out this spring to support up to 4 site visits during May Term or over the summer.

Two Faculty Site Visit Grants were awarded last fall for visits early this semester. Congratulations to Doran French, who will be visiting the CIEE program at East China Normal University in Shanghai, and Diego Mendez-Carbajo, who will visit two affiliated programs in Greece.

Previous Faculty Site Visit Grants have been given to Hiroko Furo (Tokyo), Irv Epstein (Santiago, Chile), Tom Lutze (Beijing), Marina Balina (St. Petersburg), Sonja Fritzsches (Berlin), William Munro (Cape Town), and Christina Isabelli (Granada, Spain).

Previous recipients will talk about the programs they visited and about the Site Visit Grant application process at the February 4 Non-Org.

Left:
“A Refreshing Break from the City” (Krystyna Zwolinski,
Butler Costa Rica, Spring 2007)
International Office Photo Contest

Congratulations to Stephanie Panozzo (IES Beijing) for her winning photo, "A Lone Farmer at Lake Lugu," and to Thomas Yang (Yonsei University) for his second-place image of the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea. To see some of the other stunning pictures submitted to the fall Study Abroad Photo Contest, please visit the International Office website.

The spring Study Abroad Photo Contest is open to all returning to study abroad students. Students may submit up to three (3) pictures. Submission details are below.

Entries will be judged by the International Office staff and the Study Abroad Advisory Committee, and winners will be selected based on the image quality and aesthetics, individuality of perspective, and the image’s ability to capture an experience, location, or event abroad. The winner will receive a framed 8 x 10 enlargement of the winning image, and the runner up will receive a 5 x 7 framed enlargement.

Entry Requirements

- Each student may submit up to 3 images.
- Entries should be 3x5 or 4x6 prints or digital images.
- On the back of each photo, please write your name and your email address.
- Attach an entry form—available from the International Office—to each image submitted.

Deadline:
Friday, February 15, 4:00 pm, the International Office.