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Illinois Wesleyan University

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New International Partnerships

Morocco Exchange

In December 2010, President and Mrs. Wilson travelled to Ifrane, Morocco, home of Al Akhawayn University (AUI). While there, President Wilson met with AUI President Driss Ouaouicha to formalize a student exchange agreement.

The exchange program affords IWU students a special opportunity to live and study in Morocco at an American-style university while also bringing AUI students to IWU for up to a year of study.

This past summer, IWU students Hayley Harroun and Tianxiao “Anthony” Yang spent eight weeks studying Arabic language at AUI as part of that university’s Arabic and North African Studies (ARANAS) program (see article on p. 4).

IWU Welcomes 2011 International Students

Illinois Wesleyan welcomes 34 new international students from 13 countries to campus. IWU now hosts over 90 students from 23 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 these new students to campus.

Olive Kemi Adeleye   Nigeria
Ting Cui            China
Anh “Andy” Dao      Vietnam
Dung Do             Vietnam
Emaido “Ema” Edem   Nigeria
Ene Ikpebe         Nigeria
Haotian Jiang       China
Nikolay Karnev     Bulgaria
Malika Kavadi      India
Nahee Kim          S. Korea
Yingying Kuai     China
Jailiu “Sophia” Li  China
Qiija Liu          China
Licen “Leah” Liu   China
Eline Maladry       France
Lisa Mishra        India
Chi Hnat Nguyen    Vietnam
Linh Nguyen        Vietnam
Tung Doo Nguyen    Vietnam
Hanjing Peng       China
Anh “Charles” Phan  Vietnam
Muhammed Kumbar Rizvi  Pakistan
Ryo Sakamoto      Japan
Brahim Senhaji  Morocco
Yichen “Cheyenne” Shao  China
Ihes Salzolabel-Astazaran  Spain
Sneha Subramanian  Singapore
Nii Akuetteh “Ateh” Tetteh  Ghana
Son Vu Dan       Vietnam
Da “Jack” Wang     China
Sen “Jules” Wang   China
Shanshan “Susan” Xu  China
Anqi “Anne” Zhang China
Bingjie “Sharon” Zhou  China

In return, this fall IWU welcomes the first AUI student, Brahim Senhaji, to our campus. Brahim is a computer science major from Fes. The agreement is the latest in a series of interactions between the two universities, beginning in 2006.

Hanban

Starting fall 2011, IWU will initiate a partnership with Hanban, the Chinese National Office for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, a public institution affiliated with the Chinese Ministry of Education.

As part of the agreement, Hanban provides salary and travel funds for a visiting professor of Chinese as a Second Language to teach at IWU for up to two years.
Program Highlight
IES Abroad Costa Rica

Chicago-based IES Abroad is opening two new programs in San José, Costa Rica, for the fall semester of 2012.

Social and Environmental Change
Based in suburban San José and including field study in Costa Rica’s diverse eco-regions, this English-taught program allows you to engage in experiential, hands-on learning as you examine topics in Environmental Studies, Sustainable Business Practices, or Human Rights.

Courses are taught in English and organized in a series of four modules with each new module introducing concepts to further your knowledge of Central America. The program begins with an intensive course in the Spanish language and Costa Rican society. In this module, you build your language skills and acquire the tools necessary for your time in Costa Rica. The second module allows you to choose a course focusing on Environmental Studies, Human Rights, or Sustainable Business Practices. The third module expands this focus by applying concepts you have learned to specific challenges in Costa Rican society. The final capstone module puts your newfound knowledge into action as you participate in an internship, service-learning placement, or research project.

Advanced Spanish Immersion
The Advanced Spanish Immersion Program allows you to enhance your language skills while studying alongside Costa Ricans at a leading university near San José. Courses are available in numerous disciplines including Art History, Business, Environmental Studies, History, and Spanish and Latin American Literature. A required Spanish course and optional, Spanish-taught area studies courses are offered by IES Abroad at the university. In addition to the services provided through the university, IES Abroad organizes a special orientation program, field trips, cultural events, and other activities.

Applications for both programs will become available in spring 2012. For more details, visit the International Office.

Source: IES Abroad website (http://www.iesabroad.org).
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Program Details
Social and Environmental Change
Language Prerequisite: None
Language of Instruction: English
Credits: 4 courses (1 IWU unit each)
Course Options: Biology, Business, Environmental Studies, Latin American Studies, Political Science, Sociology, Internships, Service Learning
Housing: Homestays and dormitories during field study
Highlights: Some course options include trips to the Costa Rican cloud forest or tropical rain forest, the Panamanian Islands, or to another Central American country; possible field trips to Nicaragua focused on social development; additional trips to other parts of Costa Rica

Advanced Spanish Immersion
Language Prerequisite: Four semesters of college-level Spanish
Language of Instruction: Spanish
Credits: 4 courses (1 IWU unit each)
Course options: Art History, Business, Economics, Environmental Studies, History, Literature, and Service Learning
Housing: Homestays
Highlights: Possible trip to Nicaragua focused on social development; additional trips to other parts of Costa Rica

Fulbright Says “Croeso i Gymru—Welcome to Wales!” to IWU Student

IWU student Kathryn Cannon was one of eight US students selected to participate in a six-week Fulbright Summer Institute in Wales.

The Institute, focusing on “Contemporary Wales: Economy, Culture, Politics and Change,” took Cannon and the other participants to three Welsh universities; Cardiff University, Bangor University, and Aberystwyth University.

Cannon, who returned on August 5, shared her thoughts on the experience.

Q: In your own words, how would you describe the purpose of the Wales Summer Institute?

The Fulbright Commission Wales Summer Institute is designed to immerse students in Welsh culture, while teaching students about everything Welsh, from history to politics to the economy. The program is meant to create ambassadors for study in the UK, particularly at one of the three host universities.

Q: You visited three different cities and universities as part of the program. How were they different? Did you have a favorite?

All three universities were absolutely amazing and I could not pick a favorite among them. Although Wales is so small when compared to the United States, there is still so much variety within the country. Each city and university is unique. Cardiff is a big and vibrant city; Bangor is a short drive from the beautiful Snowdonia National Park; Aberystwyth is located right along the coastline. I loved living and studying in all three cities and each offered so much to the program.

Q: What surprised you the most about Wales?

I was most surprised by just how varied the landscape is. Drive ten minutes and the landscape can be completely different! The landscape also made traveling within the country very difficult; what seems like a short distance can take forever to cover because of the hills and windy roads.

Q: You are going to London soon as part of the IWU London Program. Has the summer Fulbright changed in any way what you think your London experience will be like?

Being able to study in Wales gave me a better idea of the UK outside of London. London is a world city, and the UK is often associated simply with England or London. Having been able to visit Wales, I will definitely view London in a different light. I now know much more about the relationship between Wales and England; I hope to explore how the English view the Welsh while in London since I saw how the Welsh view the English while in Wales.

While in Wales, I had the opportunity to visit the Senedd (the Welsh National Assembly building in Cardiff) and see how devolution has evolved in the United Kingdom. I am particularly excited to see Westminster and see how it compares to the much smaller Welsh government. Overall, I will be much more aware of the United Kingdom as a whole and not just London.
**IWU Student Talks About New Zealand Earthquake Experience**

The following is an article in the June 2011 “What’s New @ IES Abroad” e-newsletter. Reprinted with permission.

In June, IES Abroad Christchurch Program Coordinator, Eunice McKessar, and IES Abroad Student, Joe Daniels, participated in the ISANA: International Education Association annual conference. ISANA is the representative body for international education professionals in Australia and New Zealand. Held in Auckland, the 2011 conference revolved around the theme of “What Bad Stuff Happens.” The earthquakes in Christchurch, and especially the effects of February’s earthquake on students and the education sector, were a major focus of the conference.

IES Abroad student, Joe Daniels (Illinois Wesleyan University) was initially enrolled in IES Abroad’s Christchurch program in Spring 2011, and relocated to Auckland after the earthquake. Joe was the speaker at the Conference dinner the first night (pictured right) and related the broad spectrum of his experiences with passion and humor. Joe spoke about the first few hours after the earthquake, the next few days, the initial disappointment of moving to Auckland, the difficulty in choosing another homestay family, his increasing enjoyment of being in Auckland, and the lessons he learned through the whole experience. Everyone was moved by his story.

The following day, Joe and Eunice were part of an eight-person panel from various educational institutions in Christchurch. The panel members discussed how they managed the aftermath of the earthquake and the lessons they learned. Eunice explained the essential teamwork exhibited between herself and IES Abroad Staff in Chicago. She detailed how they determined that students were safe; the discussion with the Spring students about the need to move to Auckland; about how they managed their transition to Auckland; and lessons learned both for students and IES Abroad staff.

For more information on Joe Daniels’ experiences, please see the August 15 article on the IWU News website (www.iwu.edu/CurrentNews/)

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**Faculty Development Opportunities**

CIEE International Faculty Development Seminars (IFDS):

Interdisciplinary summer seminars of 1–2 weeks, consisting of lectures by local faculty and experts, site visits, and opportunities to contribute to lively discussions with international colleagues. Seminars available in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East.

For a list of 2012 seminars, visit www.ciee.org/ifds/.

IES Faculty Seminars: Professional development seminars for faculty members from IES Abroad Consortium schools. Seminars are sponsored by an IES Abroad Center and bring together US faculty, international faculty, and local experts for an intellectual exchange of ideas.

2012 seminars include:

- Conflict Transformation in the 21st Century (May 28–June 8, Rome)
- Leadership Across Cultures (June 9–17, Freiburg and Barcelona)

For more details, visit www.iesabroad.org/IES/Advisors_and_Faculty/.

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**Study Abroad Alumni Updates**

**Erin Bradley, ‘10 (UINTER, Mexico; Central Granada, Spain)**

Bradley is doing outreach on women’s health and domestic violence in Nicaragua as part of a 10-week program sponsored by the University of Chicago’s Human Rights Internship Program. Her work with Casa IXCHEN, a women’s health organization, includes time in the SexMovil, a mobile health unit that travels to rural communities.

The program, which fully funds the internship, is selective, with only 24 University of Chicago students being chosen to participate. “The interns are stationed everywhere from Chicago to Kenya to Thailand and are working on a vast array of human rights issues including education, refugee rights, health care and economic rights,” Bradley says in an interview with IWU Communications.

For more details, read the August 11 article on the IWU News website (www.iwu.edu/CurrentNews/).

**Beth Dennis ’07 (IFSA Butler, Mexico)**

Dennis recently completed an internship at the US State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Currently, she is enrolled at the Universidad Torcuato di Tella (UTDT) in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Fellow ’07 alumni Patrick Beary (SIT Switzerland) and Sarah (Zeller) Julian (IFSA Butler, Argentina) helped Dennis arrange her studies: Beary completed a master’s degree at UTDT and advised her on the university, while Julian helped arrange housing for Dennis with her own study abroad host mother.

Dennis says she is “nervous but looking forward” to the experience. “When I went through IFSA-Butler as an undergraduate, I had 3 out of 5 courses with Mexican students and professors, and my host family and a couple excursions were arranged by the resident director. I guess I understood that a graduate exchange would be different, but the university has truly been ‘hands-off!’”

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**Alumni Awards**

**Emily Coles, ’11 (DIS, Denmark)**

One of three recent IWU graduates to receive a prestigious Fulbright Grant, Coles heads to Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, in September to begin a 10-month stint teaching English.

**Geoff Grimm ’11 (IWU Madrid, Spain)**

Grimm, and anthropology major who studied both Spanish and Russian and IWU, received a Fulbright Grant to teach English in Russia.

**Jason Roeschley ’11 (CIEE Guanajuato, Mexico)**

Roeschley will return to Mexico, where he studied in fall 2009, to teach English as part of a coveted Fulbright Grant.

**Megan Winkeler ’11 (Arcadia Scotland)**

In August, Winkeler began a year of post-graduate studies at the University of Cape Town (South Africa), supported by a $25,000 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship.
Upcoming Events (continued)

October 11 — 2012 May Term Travel Fair, 5:00–7:00, Main Lounge

October 12 — IWU London Program info session, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library

October 18 — Pembroke Program info session, 4:00, location TBA

October 20 — International Studies Colloquium, 4:00, CNS E102

November 15 — Hunger Banquet, 5:30–7:00, Davidson room. Student tickets $5.

November 17 — International Studies Colloquium, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library

November 20 — Mandatory Study Abroad Pre-Departure Meeting, 4:00–7:00, CNS C102.

Study Abroad: Comings and Goings

And welcome home to our spring and summer 2011 study abroad students!

- Hillary Anderson, Spain
- Elise Anderson, South Africa
- Ashley Beck, France, EU
- Sarah Boyle, Ireland
- Kathryn Breisch, France
- Daniel Brinkmeier, Japan
- Erin Butler, Spain
- Sarah Carlson, New Zealand
- Rachel Carreras, Spain
- Parker Carroll, Spain
- Jennifer Ceisel, England
- Laura Cohen, France
- Lauren Contarno, Italy
- Kimberly Conway, Australia
- Alexa Cussick, Spain
- Meara Dibadj, Botswana
- Megan George, Denmark
- Meghan Dinke, England
- Melissa Seborg, England
- Olivia Dunham, Italy
- Olivia Semeria, Chile
- Rachel Casali, Denmark
- Raven Stubbins, China
- Robert Dielh, England
- Ryan Fils, England
- Samantha Calhoun, France
- Samantha Taylor, Japan
- Sarah Takushi, Ecuador
- Savannah Davis, England
- Sean Cavenagh, England
- Shelby Jones, Austria
- Sijia Song, France
- Stephen Hermes, France
- Taylor Washington, England
- Theodore Delicath, England
- Timothy Brinkmann, England
- Whitney Wilkeron, France
- William Erlain, England
- Zachary Mahler, Japan
- Diana Cwerent, Netherlands
- Jonathan Daly, Czech Republic
- Joseph Daniels, New Zealand
- Jennifer Dexter, Greece
- Rosaleen Egan, Spain
- Drew Estes, Austria
- Elizabeth Exo, Spain
- James Fahey, Chile
- Kristin Fields, England
- Katherine Filippo, Spain
- Hannah Freeman, Spain
- Laura Gaffey, Spain
- Christine Gawron, Poland
- Gabriella Gentile, Italy
- Kathryn Gauldell, France
- Tareq Ghanem, Spain
- Kristen Gonterman, Spain
- Tara Gracer, Spain
- Claire Gradel, New Zealand
- Jenna Guerriero, Italy
- Emily Guzman, Uganda
- Hayley Harroun, Morocco
- Jennifer Haske, France
- Alexandra Hill, Spain
- Drake Hill, Spain
- John Horstman, Scotland
- Danielle Jauregui, Spain
- Daniel Kenny, Spain
- Amanda Kompanowski, Spain
- Yeeli Kang, Italy
- Natalie Lalagos, Spain
- Mike Lee, South Korea
- Emily Line, France
- Devin Long, France
- Courtney Luensman, Tanzania
- Dylan Maddern, Ireland
- Anthony Masl, Switzerland
- Courtney McGinnis, France
- Afiwo Mensah, Cameroon
- Sarah Mies, Germany
- Alex Monzon, Spain
- Rikkilee Mose, Tanzania
- Angela Mulal, Italy
- Carlyn Nestelberger, Uganda
- Amanda O’Brien, Ireland
- Justin Olson, Germany
- Travis Otto, Spain
- Lisa Peltekian, Spain
- Carolyn Pluta, Chile
- Hanna Pristave, Austria
- Kathryn Rehor, France
- Stefan Riley, Austria
- Jessica Rockford, France
- Sylvia Rusin, Spain
- Nicole Salonsky, Spain
- Bryn Saunders, Wales
- Samatha Schmeler, Spain
- Emily Schmidt, Spain
- Sean Seibring, Spain
- Katelyn Sill, China
- Matthew Skibo, Austria
- Amanda Snell, England
- Janna Strain, India
- Jaclynn Sullivan, New Zealand
- Megan Thompson, Tanzania
- Madeline Tyner, Ireland
- Kristina Walin, Argentina
- Samuel Welch, France
- Rachael Williams, EU
- Mark Williams, Italy
- Amanda Williams, England
- Kylene Wolfe, Spain
- Anthony Yang, Morocco
- Sharon Zhao, Italy

Moroccan Summer

“I did not believe it was possible to experience so much in two months. Every weekend brought new adventures: from riding camels in the Sahara to exploring the souk in Fes. Studying at Al Akhawayn University gave me the opportunity to study Arabic in an academic setting as well as put what I learned into practice—whether it was using my Arabic to communicate with the taxi drivers, shop owners or with my roommate[].”

Hayley Harroun

“This summer is the best I’ve ever had. Morocco is far more open and diverse than I have expected. From the great Sahara desert to sea-breezing Essaouria, from the cosmopolitan Casablanca to remote Berber villages, from ancient Moroccan Medina to Roman ruins...you never get tired of the country.”

Anthony Yang

Photos courtesy of Hayley Harroun and Anthony Yang

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