2012

International Office News, Fall 2012

Illinois Wesleyan University
New International Cooperations

IWU is going to China!

This past June, Provost Jonathan Green, his wife Lynn Buck, and Professor Teddy Amoloza traveled to Hong Kong and Guangzhou, China, to finalize new international partnerships. IWU and Lingnan University in Hong Kong have agreed to exchange students on study abroad programs, and Lingnan is anxious to host IWU faculty as visiting scholars and teachers. IWU and Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou are exploring future faculty collaborations.

In Hong Kong, Provost Green and Professor Amoloza were the guests of Professor William Lee, Lingnan’s vice president and registrar, and the staff of the Office of Mainland and International Programs. While at Lingnan, Provost Green signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which provides for the student exchange. The agreement also invites IWU faculty to teach at Lingnan, either during a sabbatical or over a summer. Faculty benefits would include free airfare for the faculty member, free lodging for the faculty and his/her family, and a monthly stipend. Faculty interested in more information should contact Professor Amoloza (tamoloza@iwu.edu).

From Hong Kong, Provost Green and Professor Amoloza traveled to Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China. IWU signed an agreement of cooperation with Sun Yat-sen in February 2012; this summer’s visit explored specific areas of collaboration. There, they met with the Dean of the School of Chinese as Second Language to discuss Sun Yat-sen faculty perhaps teaching Chinese at IWU; and with Professor Chang Chenguang, the Dean of the School of Foreign Languages, and Professor Dai Fan, the Chair of Department of English, to explore the possibility of Sun Yat-sen students studying at IWU starting in spring 2013.

While traveling, the IWU group also had the chance to connect with several of IWU’s Chinese students. In Guangzhou, they were joined by IWU alumnus Tengfei Adam Guo (’10); and after the university visits, including one to Beijing Union University, the group met up with current IWU student Yelei Matt Kong and alumni Chao Ren (’11) and Taole Reggie Zhu (’11). Together, they toured Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, and visited the Great Wall of China with Chao Ren.

Technos Celebrates 50 Years

Technos International College, which hosts an IWU faculty member and several students each summer for the Technos International Week, celebrated its 50th anniversary this summer.

Participating in the 2012 International Week were Professor Edgar Lehr (biology), and students Brad Gresik, Audrey Ito, Samantha Reiter, and Rosa Rivera. Joining them for part of the anniversary celebration was Provost Jonathan Green.

The Technos International Week brings students and faculty from IWU, Bates, Carleton, Hobart & William Smith, Hope, and McKendree Colleges, in addition to groups from New Zealand and England, for a two-week program intended to foster international exchange and understanding. IWU’s participation in the program stems from our long-standing relationship with Dr. Kenji Tanaka and the Tanaka Ikueki Educational Trust, which fund Technos International College.
study abroad student Courtney Balk in Copenhagen. Next month, he is off to Argentina to visit IWU study abroad student Chloe Staub, before starting chiropractic school at National University in Lombard, IL. Emily Coles (DIS Copenhagen 2009) — After a year in Bulgaria on a Fulbright Grant, Emily moved to Nairobi, Kenya, where she works for the Danish Refugee Council as a research assistant. Earlier this summer, she conducted interviews and focus groups in Jijiga, Ethiopia, and is now working on a report on durable solutions for Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa. This fall, she will continue her studies at the London School of Economics and, after graduation, plans to move to Belgrade, Serbia, to work for an NGO.

Anna Deters (IES Amsterdam 2004) — “How am I keeping my international experience alive? Well, I married my Israeli housemate, who was studying in Amsterdam as well—and just a few weeks ago, we had our first baby! We travel to Europe at least once a year and make a point of visiting Amsterdam and our old neighborhood as often as possible.”

Elizabeth Kocher (DIS 2008) — Completed a master’s degree in International Relations, with a focus on multilateral & NGO management and conflict resolution from Syracuse University’s Diplomacy Program in December 2008. She is part of her graduate program, she studied in London and Strasbourg, and then interned with Amnesty International in Washington, DC.

Brandon Dorn (IFSA Butler England 2009-10) — Is soon to marry IWU study abroad alumnus Beth Anne Roberts (IES Freiberg 2009). For their honeymoon, they a kind of study abroad reunion tour to Oxford and Freiburg.

Amanda Fuerst (IES Venice 2005-06) — Earned a master’s degree in Music at Northwestern University and returned to IWU last winter as a visiting faculty member. She is now a free-lance musician in Los Angeles.


Rachel Halfpap (IWU Madrid 2006) — Graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2011 and is clerking for the Hon. Michael M. Mihm of the Central District of Illinois.

Ellen Ho (CEA Paris 2008) — is taking graduate classes soon at Concordia University in the hopes of receiving an ESL teaching endorsement and then hopes to teach English language learners (possibly abroad).

Emily (Israel) Tasch (DIS 2006) — is currently working as a Physician Assistant in an outpatient office in the Chicagoland area. While studying to be a PA, she traveled to El Salvador for a medical mission trip with 15 classmates.

Qinfang Cha Cha Jiang (Central Paris 2010) — Recently finished a seven-week German language program through the Middlebury Language program and is beginning a master’s degree at Rice University in Houston, TX.

Casie Jordan (FIT Kunning 2010) — is teaching English in Shenzhen, China.

Hannah Kiefer (IES London 2010) — Works for LCMS (Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod) International in Hong Kong. Hannah invites people who want to learn more to contact her at hannah.kiefer@gmail.com.

Brian Kowalski (IFSA Butler Northern Ireland 2004-05) — After four years working in the theatre, Brian has returned to school—specifically, the Navy’s Nuclear Power Training Command (NPTC). So, in another year or two, he’ll be returning abroad.

Gail Kramer (IWU London 2007) — Will be returning to London in September for a one-year business internship.

Samantha Krueger (IES Nantes 2010) — Starting next month, she begin work as an English teaching assistant in Chalon sur Saône, Burgundy, France.

Ayumi Kunihire (IES Tokyo 2002, Keio University 2004) — Is a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in the Lalitpur district just outside of Kathmandu, Nepal. Ayumi also volunteers with the English Access Microscholarship Program, a program cosponsored by the Nepal English Language Teachers’ Association (NELTA) and the U.S. Embassy to develop the English language skills of Nepali adolescents while also introducing them to American culture, and with the United States Educational Foundation in Nepal, which works with students seeking to study at American universities.

Natalie Lalagos (IES Barcelona 2011) — “I love my job!” Natalie writes. She teaches high school Spanish in Eastern Kentucky (Appalachia) as part of Teach for America. “I talk to students every day about... how the understanding of a second language gives us greater opportunities and power in society. I have pictures from my study abroad experience up around my room, and... talk about my experiences in Spain, and my students are eager to learn about studying abroad.”

KwanYee Queenie Li (IES London 2009) — Moved back to Hong Kong after graduation to work for a French market research company. Now, she does marketing at a fashion company in Hong Kong.

Evon Lowery (IES Milan 2007) — Was finally able to show his family where he studied abroad and to introduce his family to Italy. Asilinn Lowery (NYU Egypt 2009) — is a Donor Relations and Special Events Coordinator at Sheldt Aquarius in Chicago. As part of her work, she currently co-leads Sheldt Aquarius’s Iguna Research in the Bahamas (2012 and 2013) that focus on the endangered rock iguanas inhabiting the Exuma islands and the island of Andros.

Milos Martinov (Pembroke College 2005-6) — Returned to Pembroke College for a master’s degree and is now a development officer for St. Catherine’s College, Oxford. Molly McClay (IWU London 2003) — “Finally made it back to London in 2010,” almost seven years after first studying abroad.

Marcus Mitchell (Central London 2008) — Is in his second year of a PhD in English at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH, and he plans to London to undertake research for his dissertation. He adds, “Whenever someone refers to my resume during an interview, my experience in London usually becomes the focal point of the conversation.... I remain grateful, therefore, that I had the chance to go abroad during my time at IWU.”

Sarah Moir (IES Berlin 2011) — Started an IT job at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, but is planning to return to Germany for graduate study as soon as possible.

Erin Moll (IES Venice 2006) — Lives in Paris, France, where she is pursuing a career in opera.

Megan Mondi (IFSA Butler England 2004) — Four years after studying abroad at Worcester College, Oxford, Megan returned to complete a master’s degree in modern European history. She is now a senior marketing executive at Hodder Education, a division of the UK’s largest publisher, in London.

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Alumni Updates (cont.)

Jaclyn Morrison (IWU Madrid 2009) — After graduation, Jackie spent five weeks in Madrid with study abroad alums Kristen Hosack (IWU Madrid 2009), Kari Grace (IES Ecuador 2009), and Emmy Grace (IES Ecuador 2009), living with her former host mother. She now teaches Spanish here in town at Normal Community High School.

Leslie Morrison (SIT Australia 2007) — After graduation, Leslie went through a one-year training program called Green Corps, which has led her now to work for CCAN, an non-profit that focuses on climate change, in Washington, DC.

Allison Novak (IWU Madrid 2009) — Now works as a Spanish language editor for the Chicago White Sox, for whom she writes and edits Spanish-language materials. She was also Coordinating Producer of the Spanish-language video series Orgullo Sox: Mi Mundo White Sox.

Celeste (Nunez) Rangel (IES Nantes 2007, IES Nagoya 2008) — After graduation, Celeste became a Spanish teacher in Chicago. Now, she lives in a small town in Aomori Prefecture, Japan, where she teaches English at the local primary schools.

Adolfo Olajinka (IWU Madrid 2008, IES Chile 2009) — Recently completed a master’s degree in International Relations from the University of Chicago, and now works for the non-profit Global Materials Technology Development.

Jason Roehsley (CIEE Guanajuato 2009) — Completed his Fulbright in Teaching English in Aguascalientes, Mexico. He recently started a master’s degree program in Spanish at Illinois State University and plans to return to Mexico to teach English when it is completed.

Caroline Rohloff (IES Nantes 2010) — “I loved my time abroad in France and I’m very excited to be continuing my international experience next year” by attending the University of Glasgow in Scotland for a one-year master’s program in International Politics.

Stephanie Ross (DIS Copenhagen 2009) — is a Peace Corps volunteer in the Manarya region of Tanzania, where she teaches science at the Mulubadwe Secondary School. She is also writing a grant to start a library and beginning a Zinduka program, which teaches about HIV/AIDS through soccer skills and language.

Janelle Santos (CIEE Seoul 2009) — is a Peace Corps Volunteer in Micronesia, working as an ESL Teacher and Community Developer. She started her service November 2010, and has extended her contract for an additional six months to finish May 2013. “Joining the Peace Corps after IWU is a wonderful way to apply what you have already learned through studying abroad and to continue to challenge yourself in helping a deserving community in a developing country.”

Jennifer (Schnupp) Brummet (IWU London 2005) — is working in a PhD in psychology in England, MI.

Colin Schofield (SIT Chile 2011) — Revised his SIT independent study project, which has now been accepted by the 13th International Healthcare and Social Communication in Santiago de Cuba. He is raising funds to travel to the conference in January.

Rachel Slough (IES Salamanca 2006) — is a librarian at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and trying to keep her Spanish alive “wherever and however” she can. Last summer, she taught for Concordia Language Village’s camp El Lago del Bosque, and this year co-led a trip to Peru for area teenagers.

Bianca Spratt (SIT South Africa 2010) — Bianca currently serves as a Public Ally in Chicago. In her first year of service, she worked as a Youth Worker Associate with the Chicago Youth Centers ABC Polk Bros, mentoring and tutoring 5-18 year olds. As a second-year Ally, she now works with the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago.

Ariana Strahl (IES Vienna 2006) — Returned to Vienna in 2008, where she studied with her former IES teacher for another four years. She is now in the second year of her young artist contract with the Komsiche Oper Berlin.

Hayley Strega (IJSFA Butler Chile 2007) — is a dual-language teacher in Streamwood, IL, and is working on her bilingual teaching endorsement.

Aaron Sutherland (IES London 2009) — is living in Chicago, working at a career in stand-up comedy.

Sherry Troxell (DIS Copenhagen 2008) — is in the third year of medical school at UIC, where she serves as the student coordinator for the Global Health Leaders Program and conducts research for the UIC Center for Global Health. She writes that her interest is comparative health practice and policy grew out of her studies in Denmark—“possibly the single most formative experience that I have had!”

Kristina Walin (IES Argentina 2011) — Recently returned from a month in Taiwan, where she traveled and learned about Buddhism.


Megan Weinstein (IES EU 2010) — As part of her graduate studies, Megan is currently in Cape Town, South Africa. Through the two-year Global Studies Programme, she spent a semester in Freiburg, Germany, at the University of Freiburg; next year, she will study at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand, and then complete a five-month internship anywhere in the world. She writes, “It’s been a tremendous experience so far and I’m anxious to see what lies ahead! None of this would have happened without my IWU study abroad experience, and I’m grateful every day for the opportunities I’ve been given.”

Morgan Wetzel (CIEE Seoul 2008) — Works for PricewaterhouseCoopers’ federal advisory practice in Washington, DC. She is currently in a project management office within the Department of Justice helping to rework some business processes.

Lindsay (Zabel) Schmitt (IJSFA Butler Scotland 2006) — Currently works as the technology librarian at Deerfield Public Library, located in Deerfield, Illinois. She and her husband are planning a trip to Norway in 2013.

Shanshan Zhao (SIT China 2010) — works as a Junior Art Director and a New York ad agency.

Oct 8 — Film: All My Girls (Alle meine Mädchen), 7:00, CNS C101.

Oct 9 — Film: If the Earth Weren’t Round (Wäre die Erde nicht rund), 7:00, CNS C101.

Oct 10 — May Term Travel Course Fair, 5:00-7:00, Young Main Lounge.

Oct 18 — IS Colloquium, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library.

Oct 22 — Non-IEE, Assistant Professor Meghan Burke and Professor William Munro speak about their IES Abroad Seminars in London/Milan and Rome/Serbia, noon, the Henning Room.

Oct 22 — London Program information session, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library.

Nov 1 — IS Colloquium, “The Last Boys of Sudan,” 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library.

Nov 4 — Mandatory Pre-departure meeting for all spring study abroad students, 4:00-7:00, CNS C102.

Nov 7 — Hunger Banquet, 5:30-7:00, the Davidson Room.

Nov 15 — IS Colloquium, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library.

Dec 1 — Making Human Rights Real, workshop, 8:30-11:30am, Young Main Lounge and Jolin Atrium.

INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS

Illinois Wesleyan welcomes 26 new international students from 10 countries to campus. IWU now hosts close to 90 students from over 20 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.

Ines Banos Garcia, Spain
Othman Bribaila, Morocco
Shen Yee Choung, Malaysia
Truc Anh Dao, Vietnam
Huy Do, Vietnam
Yizhe Gao, China
Zixiang Geng, China
Christine Hartmann, Germany
Hatim Krend, Morocco

New international students dining in the Uptown Normal circle. (Photo courtesy of M. Featherly)

Bon voyage, fall 2011 abroaders!

Alicia Barnett, Australia
Ambria Bernardi, England
Rebecca Brait, England
Kelsey Brattain, Ireland
Patrick Burke, Ireland
Vincent Cefalii, Denmark
Alison Cole, Ecuador
Jeremy Duffee, England
Kaitlin Dunn, Denmark
Rebecca Ebben, Italy
Lindsay Edwards, Italy
Elizabeth Egan, England
Kaitlyn Eichinger, Denmark
Stephanie Fenty, Italy
Dylan Fischer, England
Catherine Geegan, Ireland
Bradley Gresik, Scotland
Christopher Grills, Austria
Danielle Kamp, Austria
Margaret Klees, Morocco
Elissa Ledvot, Italy
Katrina Lukes, England
Dana Marlin, Brazil
Shane McGowan, Ireland
Lina Meilus, Russia
Alexandra Morefield, Denmark
Zach Morrison, England
Elizabeth Muir, Scotland
Alison Murphy, Ireland
Joseph O’Brien, Ireland
Simeon Pratt, Australia
Mackenzie Rivkin, Denmark
wRenKuthen Romack
Yichen Shao, England
Iris Sowlat, England
Edward Spryng, Denmark
Chloe Staub, Argentina

Julieanne Shay, England
Karen Thul, England
Bryn Tomko, Argentina
Emma VanderW/oude, England
Xinlin Xu, England

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

Laila Andoni, Denmark
Aleexa Asghar, England
Roy Asmsussen, China
Callie Ault, Spain
Courtney Balk, Denmark
Sarah Berk, Denmark
Jennifer Boll, Spain
Alexander Bradford, Spain
Paige Brave, Spain
Genesis Brown, China
Frances Bruce, Australia
Stephanie Buhrow, England
Nina Butler, Spain
Abigail Carter, Ireland
Anne Chapman, Austria
Mengyuan Chen, Spain
Jesse Corkin, Germany
Ivy Craig, Spain
Savannah Davis, England
Anna DeGroaf, France
Theodore Delitch, England, Uganda
Natalie Enda, Spain
William Erlain, England
Hannah Fischer, Spain
Charles Golazenski, England
Alexandra Hackel, Spain
Aubrey Hayes, Argentina
Kathryn Haynes, Spain
Elizabeth Henderlite, Denmark
Elizabeth Hohenshell, Spain

Siming Peng, China
Kyle Silang, Philippines
Monica Villeges, Colombia
An Vu Thuy Nguyen, Vietnam
Xinyun Ye, China
Haosheng Zan, China

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

Ingrid Buckley (Jamaica)
Visiting Asst. Professor of Computer Science

Nawaraj Chaulagain (Nepal)
Visiting Instructor in Religion

Mayumi Manabe (Japan)
Visiting Asst. Professor of Japanese

Geremias Polanco Encarnacion (Dominican Republic)
Visiting Asst. Professor of Mathematics

Sun-Youn Shin (China)
Adjunct Instructor of Piano

Laura Hones, Netherlands
Kari Huddleston, England
Diana Kuhweck, Ireland
Kristin Kuznjar, England
Lone Lagattuta, Denmark
David Lawrence III, England
Erie Levy, Spain
Li Li, Spain
Jennifer Long, Tanzania
Amanda Magallon, Scott Maguire, Greece
Kendall Marston, England
Daniel McGuire, Greece
Caroline McMahan, Spain
Cassandra Mellenn, Spain
Zachary Meyer, England
Scott Meyers, Spain
Abigail Mills, France
Elisa Pallaua, Spain
Nora Peterson, Spain
Stephanie Pierson, Italy
Max Polisky, Morocco
Kelsey Quitschau, Spain
Kathryn Robinette, Spain
Brett Robinson, Spain
Katelyn Rowley, Argentina
Svenja Schroeder, Argentina
Brenton Schroeder, Argentina
Melissa Seeborg, China
Margaret Sheridan, Australia
Caitlin Shiga, Japan
Danielle Siemer, China
Elizabeth Smith, Spain
Hannah Smith, Spain
Sijia Song, China
Angelika Stachura, Denmark
Kathryn Stiefel, India
Emily Susina, Ireland
Hannah Taylor, Australia
Jennifer Twiddy, Denmark
Sara Vore, Spain
Emily Wechter, Thailand