



Fall 2013

International Office News, Fall 2013

Illinois Wesleyan University

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ILLINOIS WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

International Office News

“Bringing the world to IWU”

Fall 2013
Volume 8, Issue 1

We've moved!

The International Office can now be found on the third floor of the Center for Liberal Arts. Stop by to say hello, get some information, or just marvel at our new (and roomier) offices.

Upcoming Events

- Sept 5 – Study Abroad Fair, 4:00-6:00, the Dug Out
- Sept 5 – Peace Corps information session, 6:30, CNS C102
- Sept 9 – Non-Org: May Term Travel Courses, 12:00-1:00, Davidson Room
- Sept 10 – IWU Exchange programs, info session, 4:00-5:00, CLA 305
- Sept 12 – “Taking the Road Less Traveled,” 4:00-5:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library
- Sept 12 – International Film Series (IFS): “Life for a Child,” 7:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library. For a full list of IFS movies, visit iwu.edu/IFS
- Sept 18 – International Studies (IS) Welcome Picnic, 4:30, Joslin Atrium
- Sept 19 – Welcome Back reception for study abroad students, 4:30-6:00, State Farm Hall. RSVP to abroad@iwu.edu.

(continued on back)

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Fax: 309 556-3727
abroad@iwu.edu

Newly Endowed Scholarship Supports Study Abroad at IWU

Through the generosity of Betty Ritchie-Birrer ('47), IWU now has an endowed scholarship fund to support study abroad.

Raised on farm in Maroa, Illinois, Betty Ritchie-Birrer now lives in Springfield, with her husband Ivan Birrer. Together, they share a love for travel and learning—a passion she wants to share with IWU students now and in the future.

The competitive, need-based scholarships will range from \$1000 to \$5000, and students receiving an award commit to documenting and sharing their study abroad experience during and/or after participation.

Applications for the IWU Study Abroad Scholarship can be found on the Study Abroad website (iwu.edu/studyabroad) or in the International Office.

Deadlines are October 1 for spring study abroad, November 1 for May Term travel courses, and March 1 for fall, year-long, and summer programs.

Congratulations to Jessica Beringer ('15) and Taylor Sharp ('15), who have been awarded the first IWU Study Abroad Scholarships!

Jessica will be studying in Seville, Spain, this fall on CIEE's Teaching Development program.

Taylor sets out later this month for a year in Tokyo, Japan, at IWU exchange partner Keio University.

As recipients of the award, Jessica and Taylor will be documenting their experiences abroad for the IWU community.

Follow Taylor at tmjsharp.blogspot.com, and learn about her year at Keio University. Keep and track of Jess in Sevilla at jessicaleberinger.blogspot.com.

Meet Jacquelyn LaMaire

Say hello to Jacquelyn LaMaire, IWU's new Study Abroad Advisor. Jackie joins the International Office this fall to fill in while director Stacey Shimizu is in England with the London Program.

Prior to joining the IWU community, Jackie, a Michigan native, attended Central Michigan University and completed graduate studies at Arizona State University. Jackie has studied in Florence and Macerata, Italy, and also worked abroad, teaching English in Busan, South Korea.

Stop by and see Jackie on the 3rd floor of the CLA, or send her an email at jlamaire@iwu.edu to get the answers to all of your study abroad questions.



Program Highlight

Arcadia in Cuba

American study abroad students can study in Cuba again!

In 2004, the Bush administration put into place regulations that restricted study abroad in Cuba, effectively closing almost all US study abroad programs there. Now, as a result of changes made in 2011 by the Obama administration, US programs are beginning to reopen in Cuba.

Among them is Arcadia University's program in Havana. Offered in partnership with the University of Havana, the program involves full Spanish immersion, with US students taking courses alongside Cuban students.

The core course, "Cuban-American Relations: Past and Present," is taught by faculty of the *Centro de*

Estudios Hemisféricos y sobre Estados Unidos and provides an introduction into the historic and socio-cultural background of Cuba.

In addition to the core course and a course in the Spanish language, students choose two elective courses from the vast array offered by the University of Havana.



Program Details

Language Prerequisite: 4 semesters of Spanish or the equivalent

Language of Instruction: Spanish

Credits: 4-5 courses, 16 credit hours (= 4 IWU units)

Course Options:

- Core course (required)
- Spanish language (required)
- 2-3 electives from any department at the University of Havana (2-4 credit hours each)

Housing: dormitory-style housing provided by Arcadia in the Vedado area of Havana.

Highlights: Students will have the opportunity to take part in two excursions—to Santiago de Cuba and to the 4 cities of Santa Clara, Sancti Spiritus, Trinidad, and Cienfuegos.

Tips on Volunteering Abroad

Why volunteer abroad?

Of course, those who volunteer are interested in service—in using their skills and talents to help others. So, the question might be, "Why volunteer *abroad*?"

For some, particularly those who have studied abroad, volunteering overseas is a way to build on that experience. For others (those for whom a semester abroad is difficult to fit into an academic schedule), volunteering abroad provides a flexible way to gain international experience.

For all volunteers, though, engaging in some sort of service activity abroad is an incredible learning experience—one that helps you better understand international issues and the challenges facing people in other countries and cultures, but that also helps you learn more about yourself.

Here, then are some things to consider if you think you might want to volunteer abroad.

They are adapted from the International Volunteer Programs Association (IVPA) website (www.volunteerinternational.org).

1. Consider your reasons for wanting to become an international volunteer.

- What people, events, and experiences have led to your interest in volunteering

abroad?

- What do you hope to get out of the experience?
- What do you hope to contribute?
- How do you see international volunteering affecting your life?

While there is not just one "right" reason to volunteer abroad, it is important to realize that different motivations can lead to different types of service. Be careful about wanting to "solve other people's problems" or "fix things"; this attitude can negatively affect communities and disempower local people.

2. Think about the type of volunteer organization with which you want to work. Is it a government agency, a for-profit tourist agency, a non-profit or non-governmental organization (NGO), a religious group?

In some cases, government programs are intimately tied to a government's foreign policy initiatives, so you would need to decide whether you can stand behind these policies.

A for-profit agency might or might not contribute part of their profits to the long-term sustainability of a community and its resources. It would be important to find out who benefits the most from the for-profit agency—the volunteer, the local community, or agency staff.

Is the sending organization faith-based or secular? Determine what role, if any, religion or spirituality plays in your motivation for volunteering abroad and whether the organization has an evangelistic agenda.

3. Consider the cost of volunteering abroad.

- What are your budget constraints?
- Would you be willing to fundraise if you were given some support by an organization?
- If there is a program fee, what does it cover?

Most of organizations that offer international volunteer opportunities charge volunteers a fee, in order to cover their year-round coordinating and operational costs. Many also need to raise funds to contribute materials and other resources to the overseas project.

A host community generally will not have the extra resources to house and feed you. If they had the funds to pay a stipend, they would probably hire a local person instead, someone who speaks the language, understands the community and culture, and is more inclined to stick around.

These are just a few suggestions. For more, visit the IVPA website. And remember: for many people, volunteering abroad is only the first act in a lifelong commitment to working for social justice and seeking to end poverty and hunger.

Study Abroad: "There and Back Again"

Bilbo Baggins' memoir title provides an apt way for us to welcome home the 67 students who studied abroad last spring/summer and to wish our departing study abroad students a hearty bon voyage as they set off for their time abroad.

So, wishing safe travels to:

Kemi Adeleye	Madagascar
Alyssa Aiello	England
Meridith Beird	Morocco
Jessica Beringer	Spain
Helen Brandt	France
Stephanie Carlson	England
John Cordan	England
Dung Do	France
Patrick Domke	Ireland
Annika Ewaldz	Germany
Josephine Fairall	Denmark
Rebecca Fiedler	England
Lauren Henry	Denmark
Kara Hogan	England
Jordan Hosier	Chile
Eric Hyla	England
Britta Jacob	Scotland
Mallika Kavadi	England
Amanda King	Australia
Michael Kistner	Scotland
Kristen Kupstys	UAE
Anna Leeson	England
Anastasia Lowenthal	England
Justice Macklin	England
Corinne Martin	Scotland
Grace McCarten	England
Nickolas Miller	England
Chloe Morris	England
Sydney Muchnik	England
Ngoc Giao Nguyen	Germany

Mary Nicholas
Annette Rauch
Gavin Schroeder
Taylor Sharp
Charlotte Silver
Wade Steinke
Lorraine Tezak
Kyla Thomas
Andrea Tucci
Victoria Viola
Michelle Wong

And welcome back to IWU!

Genevieve Alexander
David Allen
Emily Bailey
Graham Boden
Rachel Branson
Rae Brattin
Elise Brubaker
Lauren Burke
Chris Caliva
Kathryn Cannon
Dominique Castle
Patrick Cavanaugh
Jake Clemens
Ellen Cornelius
Manh Dao
Ashleen Davey
Nicholas Desideri
Megan Dickey
Kristina Dolak
Nathaniel Douglas
Jeremy Duffee
Ryan Dyar
Rebecca Erickson
Nathan Evans
Dylan Fischer
Kate Fitzgerald
Katherine Ford

Austria
Spain
New Zealand
Japan
South Korea
England
England
England
Austria
Italy
England
Germany
Spain
Ireland
Japan
Russia
South Africa
England
Ireland
New Zealand
Argentina
Spain
Netherlands
England
New Zealand
Uganda
France
Mexico
Spain
Czech Republic
Spain
England
Scotland
Denmark
Morocco
England
England
Spain

Christine Gawron
Christopher Grills
Erica Hoey
Bradley Jenisch
Antonia Jurkovic
Erin Kelley
Melissa Kinsella
Alexander Lang
Jennifer LeRose
Gisel Lopez
Rachel Marquardt
Shannen McCrory
Isabel Moon
Jason Murphy
David Myers
Grace Nafziger
Robert Norman
Alison Novakow
Samantha Olson
Victoria Palacios
Kristyn Paradis
Katherine Pavich
Callie Phipps
Ian Powers
Megan Rogers
Dana Rotz
Michael Roy
Angela Ruggles
Stephanie Schwingle
Tara Simpson
Ariel Smith
Zachary Smith
Emily Steele
Connor Stevenson
Ethan Szpara
Caitlyn Trevor
Erin Wachtel
Veronica Watson
Molly Whitaker
Xinlin Xu

Bolivia
Austria
England
Spain
Russia
Denmark
Spain
New Zealand
Denmark
Spain
Austria
Spain
New Zealand
New Zealand
Spain
Ecuador
Spain
Spain
Italy
Italy
Spain
Spain
Spain
Australia
France
New Zealand
Austria
England
Spain
Italy
Belgium
Spain
Belgium
Italy
Spain
Czech Republic
Spain
Switzerland
France
England

International Fast Facts

(Courtesy of IIE's *Open Doors* report)

- New international student enrollments nationwide have increased by close to 40% over the past 5 years, with 228,467 international students starting their studies in the US in 2011–12.
- The total number of international students studying in the US has hit a record high of 764,495.
- In the US, the number of students studying abroad has tripled in the past two decades, with just under 274,000 studying abroad in 2010–11, the most recent year for which data are available.
- And yet only 14% of BA students currently study abroad during their undergraduate programs.

IWU Fast Facts

- This year's entering class of international students (49) is more than double the number that entered five years ago.
- IWU now has 106 International students on campus from 21 different countries.
- Over the past 5 academic years, 1156 IWU students have studied abroad on a semester, year-long, or May Term program.
- In 1995–96 (the first year for which we have numbers), only 28 students studied abroad for a semester or year. Now, an average of 130 students spend a semester or year overseas.
- Close to half of all IWU students study abroad, either on a semester/full-year program or through a May Term travel course.

Upcoming Events

(Continued)

Sept 23 – IWU London Program information session, time and location TBA

Sept 26 – IS Colloquium: “The Future of Europe” with HRH Prince Georg von Habsburg and Dr. Peter I. Barta, 5:00, Davidson Room

Sept 26 – “Trekking with Quixote in the 21st Century” with Prof. Kate Regan, 4:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library

Sept 26 – IFS: “Pray the Devil Back to Hell,” 7:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library

Oct 1 – Deadline for Spring 2014 study abroad applications, 4:00, International Office, CLA

Oct 1 – Deadline for IWU Study Abroad Scholarship applications (for spring study abroad), 4:00, International Office, CLA

Oct 9 – May Term Travel Course Fair, 5:00-7:00, CNS Atrium

Oct 24 – Study Abroad 101, info session, 4:00-5:00, State Farm Hall 110

Oct 29 – IWU London Program, info session, time and location TBA

Nov 1 – Deadline for IWU Study Abroad Scholarship applications (for May Term travel courses), 4:00, International Office, CLA

Nov 3 – Mandatory Pre-Departure Orientation for spring study abroad students, 4:00-7:00, CNS C102

Nov 6 – Financing Study Abroad, info session, TBA

Nov 20 – IWU London Program, info session, time and location TBA

Nov 21 – Hunger Banquet, 5:00, Davidson Room

Nov 21 – IFS: “Motorcycle Diaries,” 7:00, Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library

International Arrivals

IWU welcomed its largest class of international students this fall—49 students from 14 countries—bringing the total number of international students to over 100.

Please join us in making these new students part of the IWU family.

Emmanuel Ahonkhai
Moyoninuoluwau Ajayi
Amine Bajeddi
Alexandros Borodimos
Hansheng “Jason” Chen
Yige “Eric” Chen
Samuel Davies
Phuong Anh Dinh
Minh Doan
Audrey Fontaine
Osamu Fujita
Sin Ting “Polly” Ho
Brigitta Jakob
Rui Jiang
Shiyi “Suki” Jiang
Tiancong “Laurel” Jiang
Toan Le
Cancan “Air” Li
Jiangcong “Selina” Liang
Lu Liao
Lunjun “Simon” Liu
Yaling “Alexis” Liu
Yizi “Pixie” Liu
Hi Yan “Renee” Lo
Zhiyuan Meng
Duc Minh Nguyen
Huong Nguyen
Minh Nguyen
Tung Nguyen
Clara Pardo Diaz
Mi Pham
Long Phan Tran
Hang “Jade” Phung
Naijun “Nancy” Qu
Arham Sattar
Yuka Sekine
Srishti Sinha
Ruiqing “Regine” Sun
Kha Tran
Martijn Van Dooren
Cong Vu
Thanh “Nick” Vu
Keyuan Wan
Xiaoqian “Caroline” Wang
Di “Wendy” Wu
Sakino Yamate
Kairui “Kerry” Zhang
Ruomeng Zhang
Junru “Joanna” Zhao
Jinze “Chris” Zheng

Nigeria
Nigeria
Morocco
Germany
China
China
UK
Vietnam
Vietnam
France
Japan
HongKong
Indonesia
China
China
China
Vietnam
China
China
China
China
China
China
HongKong
China
Vietnam
Vietnam
Vietnam
Vietnam
Spain
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Vietnam
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China
China
Japan
China
China
China



Above: (Top) At a host family dinner, new international students Martijn Van Dooren, left, and Ruomeng Zhang, center, helped clean sweet corn for dinner with alumnus Jim Mullins ('03) and his family.

(Middle) A panel of current students answered questions for new students during International Student Orientation.

(Bottom) International and MALANA students at the pre-orientation Karaoke Night

Below: Iyin Ajayi ('14) with owl pillows made as welcome gifts for new international students.

(All photos by Marc Featherly)

