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## Students to Intern in Asia in Record Numbers

May 20, 2015

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Fifteen Illinois Wesleyan University students are headed to Asia in June for internship opportunities, making this the largest group of IWU students interning outside of the United States at one time. The internships are made possible thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Freeman Foundation.

In addition, two additional students will participate in the IWU Asia Internship Program this fall. The Freeman Foundation grant provides funding for airfare, housing, living allowances and all internship placement costs.

“We are grateful that the Freeman Foundation has recognized the benefits provided to Illinois Wesleyan students when they have the opportunity to live and work with locals in new cultures,” said Jonathan Green, provost and dean of the faculty. “This is a remarkable opportunity for our students to build on the University’s strengths in experiential learning and our commitment to developing global citizens.”

The Freeman Foundation, a private foundation with offices in New York and Honolulu, works to strengthen the bonds of friendship between the United States and countries of east Asia. Illinois Wesleyan Professor of Sociology Teddy Amoloza, who led efforts to secure the grant, has served as director of the ASIANetwork Student-Faculty Fellows Program, also funded by the Freeman Foundation.

“This once-in-a-lifetime experience could be life changing for our students,” said Amoloza. “All the internships we have arranged not only fulfill the Freeman Foundation’s goal of having American students work and interact with Asians in actual work settings, but also give the students the opportunity to work with people from all over the globe. They will have a broader view of the world when they return.”

Four students will intern at the Gawad Kalinga Enchanted Farm, located in Bulacan, a province in the Philippines. Gawad Kalinga is a national NGO, and Enchanted Farm is its project aimed at developing and training social entrepreneurs. Four other students will intern in research sections of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), headquartered in Los Baños in the Philippine province of Laguna.

Other students will be placed in opportunities at Lingnan University in Hong Kong and at St. Scholastica’s College in Manila. One student, Andrea Fortner ’16 (Peoria, Ill.) who is already studying abroad in Japan, will serve a teaching assistant internship at Technos International College in Tokyo.

In addition, students Megan Nelson ’16 (Lombard, Ill.) and Don Tomes ’17 (Wheaton, Ill.) will be placed at Lingnan University during their study abroad experiences in the fall semester.

The summer students and their placements are:

**Gawad Kalinga** – Jazmyne Kellogg ’16 (Homewood, Ill.); Kirsten Slaughter ’16 (Urbana, Ill.); Rebecca Fiedler ’16 (Orland Park, Ill.); Savannah Feher ’17 (Des Peres, Mo.)

**International Rice Research Institute** – Ariella Tavor ’16 (Buffalo Grove, Ill.); Jennifer Chlebek ’16 and Nicole Chlebek ’16 (Lombard, Ill.); Jessica Edwards ’17 (Montgomery, Ill.)

**Lingnan University** – Cindy Basilio ’17 (Streamwood, Ill.); Gemma Cozzi ’17 (Oak Park, Ill.); Sana Shafiuddin ’17 (Streamwood, Ill.); Evan Mok-Lamme ’17 (Grand Junction, Col.)

**St. Scholastica’s** – Carly Floyd ’17 (Milwaukee); Kelsey Maka ’17 (Mokena, Ill.)



Some of the IWU students headed to Asia this summer and fall, thanks to a Freeman Foundation grant.

“We are thrilled to add the IWU Freeman Asia Internship program to our list of career experience opportunities,” said Laurie Diekhoff, assistant director and internship coordinator of the Hart Career Center. “Participants will have the chance to be part of a multicultural workforce, enhance cross-cultural communication skills, and gain a better appreciation for our global economy.”