

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

An Office of International Programs Newsletter

Executive Director's Welcome

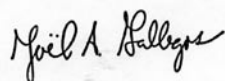
Dear Colleagues,

Greetings for the final time of the academic year 2005-2006! It is hard to believe that this is already our 3rd edition of the newsletter. It has been an eventful year for internationalization not only on the UNC Charlotte campus but also nationwide. This year on our campus, students and faculty continued to show a growing interest in participating in projects abroad (education abroad programs and faculty exchange), several significant internationally oriented events were sponsored on campus, and we all continued to think of ways to engage our students, both domestic and international, to develop a sense of and an appreciation for the larger world around us.

On the national level, the U.S. Senate proclaimed this year officially as "The Year of Study Abroad"; ACE, the American Council on Education, and NASULGC drafted documents detailing new national education goals including: improvement of foreign language education, expansion of education abroad opportunities, continuing to attract international students and scholars and strengthening programs with USAID in developing countries.

It is indeed apparent that international education is increasingly at the forefront of American higher education. While you have the opportunity this summer to reflect on this last academic year, and as you prepare for academic year 2006-2007, I invite you all to think of ways to become more active players in our campus' international efforts and to liaise with OIP to provide our students and faculty with the best campus experience with an international dimension that there is. After all, is it not our responsibility to contribute to preparing a global citizenry?

Have a great summer and we look forward to working with you on our on-going projects and to developing new ones in the year to come.



Joël A. Gallegos, *Executive Director*



Left to right: Dr. Jeff Myer, Jenny Person, Paul Friday, Joël Gallegos

12th Annual International Education Reception

Paul Friday and Jenny Michelle Person Honored

The 12th Annual International Education Reception held on the 11th of April was a culminating event for International Programs at UNC Charlotte. At this event **Paul Friday** of Criminal Justice and **Jenny Michelle Person**, an International Studies & Religious Studies major, were recognized as the recipients of the 2006 International Education Awards.

Friday was recognized for his demonstration of outstanding accomplishments in international research, study and service

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New Director of Education for World Affairs Council



Jennifer Armentrout

Jennifer Armentrout has been named the new Director of Education for the World Affairs Council of Charlotte. For the past three and a half years, she has held positions in the Office of International Programs, working with Education Abroad, the International Student & Scholar Office and the English Language Training Institute. Before coming to UNC Charlotte, Jennifer taught English as a Second Language in Cabarrus County Schools and

in Kyoto Prefecture, Japan, as part of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program. She has a M.Ed. in Teaching ESL from UNC Charlotte and a BA in International Studies from UNC Chapel Hill. Jennifer has traveled extensively and hopes to use her international experiences to create new educational programs that encourage students and faculty in the community to become more involved in international affairs.



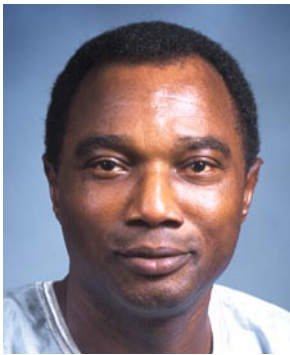
World Affairs Council of Charlotte Hosts President George W. Bush

President George W. Bush spoke to an audience of several hundreds of people at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) on Thursday, April 6, 2006. Sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, the event offered a rare opportunity for Charlotte residents to hear the President speak about his policy decisions on the war against terrorism. After his speech, the President answered questions from the audience regarding issues pertaining to U.S. domestic and foreign policy.

A transcript of the speech is available at www.charlotteworld.org. ■



Ed Abroad 2005 photo contest 2nd place, Sara Murray (Denmark's International Studies Program). "Defining Moments" category



Dr. Tanure Ojaide Recognized for Commitment to Africa

Dr. Tanure Ojaide received the 2006 First Citizens Bank Scholars Medal for his scholarship and research on Africa and his commitment to the pertinent issues facing the African people. The award is UNC Charlotte's highest honor for faculty scholarship and intellectual inquiry. In addition to a diverse and exemplary teaching record, Dr. Ojaide has been

honored with 30 prizes, grants, and fellowships from institutions in Africa, Europe, and North America. He has published 24 books of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, language, and literary criticism. Dr. Ojaide has taught at UNC Charlotte since 1993; he teaches with the Africana Studies Department. ■

Global Institute for Energy & Environmental Systems (GIEES) Represented at Two International Conferences

UNC Charlotte's Global Institute for Energy and Environmental Systems (GIEES) will be actively involved in two international conferences in August and September. The International Disaster Reduction Conference in Davos, Switzerland will be held August 27 through September 1, 2006. The International Conference on



Infrastructure Development and the Environment will be held in Abuja, Nigeria. GIEES is a co-sponsor. Dr. Hilary Inyang, Duke Energy Distinguished Professor and Director of GIEES is an

honorary co-chair for each event.

The International Disaster Reduction Conference will examine issues related to managing risks in the 21st century. The conference acknowledges that recent disasters have demonstrated the need for a more holistic approach to the complex threats facing today's society. To address these issues, global

leaders in business, science, government, civil society, international organizations, NGO's, and risk management professionals will meet to discuss topics including: natural hazards, climate variability and

climate change, diseases and pandemics, and technical risks among many others. More information is available at www.davos2006.ch.

The International Conference on Infrastructure Development and the Environment is the eighth in a series of conferences to be held worldwide addressing issues related to sustainable development. The 2005 conference was held in Charlotte. According to Dr. Inyang, "In a democratic environment, public awareness, especially at the local level, increases the possibility that the right choices will be made." The conference aims to spark debate on planning and implementation ideas designed to address development policies and procedures and the environmental effects of industrial/civil activities. More information can be found at www.iseg.giees.uncc.edu/abuja2006. ■

UNC System Representatives On Delegation to Uruguay



Dr. Betsy Brown, General Administration, UNC System and Rector Mariano R. Brito, Universidad de Montevideo

UNC system representatives participated in a delegation to Uruguay from March 25-April 1 2006. The purpose of the project was to explore cooperation and collaboration with five Uruguayan universities included in a Memorandum of Understanding signed by then UNC President Molly Corbett Broad in 2000.

The delegation was led by Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, General Administration, Dr. Betsy Brown. Joël Gallegos, Executive Director of OIP represented UNC Charlotte on the visit. The institutions included in the MOU are as follows: Universidad Catolica del Uruguay, Universidad de la Empresa, Universidad de Montevideo, Universidad de la Republica Oriental del Uruguay and the Universidad ORT Uruguay. The Fulbright Commission and the American Embassy were also included in the agenda. There will be possibilities for both faculty and student exchanges as a result of the visit. For any questions about this project, please contact the Office of International Programs at x72442. ■

International PR Professors Visit

Public relations at UNC Charlotte has gone international. Three prominent European public relations scholars and educators, partners with UNC Charlotte Associate Professor **Dr. Barbara DeSanto**, APR, Fellow PRSA, visited the Department of Communication Studies and the professional public relations community in February. **Dr. Danny Moss**, Manchester Metropolitan University, England; **Dr. Larsake Larsson**, Orebro University, Sweden; and **Dr. Klaus Schoenbach**, Amsterdam University, the Netherlands, are master's degree exchange partners with COMM Studies International Public Relations Master's Degree track.

In addition to working in the department, the Charlotte PRSA chapter hosted a reception and the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences hosted a breakfast where the trio got to share the international program with academics and professionals. This is the only international public relations program of its kind in the U.S. ■

Regional Issues Conference

Sponsored by the Urban Institute

The First Annual Regional Issues Conference was held April 24, 2006 at the UNC Charlotte Student Activity Center. The day-long event explored facets of Latino immigration and settlement in the Piedmont. *The Changing Face of the New South: Latinos in the Greater Charlotte Region* addressed the dramatic growth of the Latino population in the Charlotte region to create awareness and foster dialogue. The current national context enhanced the relevancy and immediacy of the topic.

Keynote speaker was **Roberto Suro**, Executive Director of the Pew Hispanic Center. **Governor Juan Carlos Romero Hicks** of Guanajuato, Mexico spoke at lunch. Panel discussions focused on: education, health and human services; entrepreneurship and the Hispanic consumer market; immigration and employment; relations between the African-American and Latino communities; and housing, planning and neighborhood development. ■

Upcoming American Freedom Association's Southeastern World Affairs Institute

The Office of International Programs will co-sponsor the 2006 American Freedom Association's Southeastern World Affairs Institute, to be held Fri. July 28 – Sun. July 30 at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC.

Discussion will focus on 'The Relevance of the United Nations after 60 Years.' Registration ends June 30. For more information visit www.americanfreedomassociation.org. ■

Ed Abroad
2005 photo
contest 2nd
place, Michael
Misenheimer
(ISEP
Semester
Exchange
to Perth,
Australia)
"The Land"
category



EducationUSA Adviser at the Moscow Educational Advising Center Visits UNC Charlotte

The Office of International Programs hosted a visit on Wednesday, April 26, for Ms. **Natlia Rozanova**, Deputy Director and Senior EducationUSA Adviser at the Moscow Educational Advising Center. Ms. Rozanova is a participant in the 2006 Professional Advising Leadership (PAL) Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the College Board. Ten Fellows are here to visit institutions and organizations and pursue individual research topics. She is focusing on MBA programs with an emphasis on the relationship between business schools and the corporate world.

As a result of her research, Ms. Rozanova, in her role as MBA specialist within the Russian advising network, will give presentations to students, colleagues and visit HR departments of major companies in Moscow and beyond. She will also share her presentations and reports with advising centers throughout her region and around the world.

While in Charlotte, Ms. Rozanova visited the corporate



Natlia Rozanova

headquarters of several banks downtown. On campus she met with Joël Gallegos, Executive Director, Office of International Programs; Brad Sekulich, Director, Office of Education Abroad; Susan Lambert, Director, Intercultural Outreach Programs; Marian Beane, Director, International Student/Scholar Office; Elizabeth Freeman, Director, Undergraduate International Admissions; Ron Veith, Director, MBA Program, Belk College of Business; and, Daryl Kerr, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Student Affairs, Belk College of Business.

Ms. Rozanova's visit was coordinated through the Office of International Education at the College Board in Washington D.C. That office represents College Board programs to international audiences and serves

as an information link and liaison to overseas educational advisers, counselors at international schools, and U.S. college and university staff involved in international student recruitment activities. ■

International Education Reception

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spanning more than four decades. He has been a visiting professor or fellow at the University of Athens, Greece; the Institute of Criminology, Cambridge University; Kirminalvetenskapliga Institutet, University of Stockholm; and, Wilhelms Universitat, Munster and he has published widely in the area of international criminology and victimology. He has mentored many students from a diversity of countries including Germany, Russia, Thailand, Japan, China and Turkey. He was instrumental in founding the International course on Victimology at the Inter-University-Center, Dubrovnik that has a history of 17 years. Friday was one of the first researchers of criminology to do research in the People's Republic of China that has resulted in significant written work and cutting edge study. In 2002 he was recognized for his outstanding contributions to China's research by the China society of Research in Juvenile Delinquency. He has conducted research and provided leadership in the World Society of Victimology and received the John P.J. Dussich Victimologist Award in 2006. He was also the founder of the International Division of the American

Society of Criminology, one of the profession's largest and most prestigious associations. In his association with the United Nations he has served as a representative on the International Scientific Advisory Council and on the Crime and Crime Prevention council of the UN, and has actively contributed to the development of the UN's written positions on restorative justice, child abuse, child slavery and human trafficking.

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Person was recognized for her academic scholarship and service activity. She participated in two study abroad experiences including a 2-week program on archaeology and culture in China and a semester exchange at Obirin University, Japan. Much of her Honors study and research has focused on Asia and Asian religions. One of those was assisting with a comparative study of three Asian healing traditions- Buddhist Ayurvedic medicine of Siberia, Chinese traditional medicine and contemporary Indian Ayurveda. As an Honors student she has participated in a variety of community service activities with her Senior Project com-

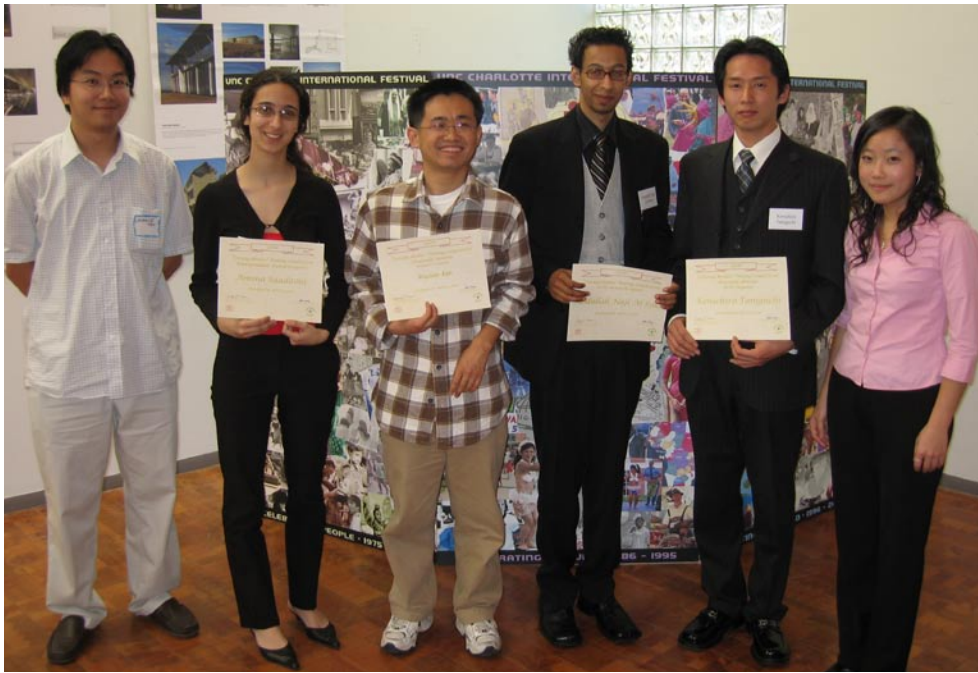
binning her academic work with a campaign to heighten awareness of the conditions of Chinese orphans at UNC Charlotte and among the local Charlotte community. She has continually been on the Chancellor's or Dean's list and will graduate Magna cum Laude this May and is a member of the golden Key and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. She plans to continue her graduate studies at NC State University in the fall, 2006.

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Student winners of the "Crossing Borders" Writing Competition were also recognized (see separate article) and we welcomed our visiting exchange students and scholars. Finally, the Annual reception provided an opportunity to say thank you to the many faculty, staff and students who contribute to the international experience at UNC Charlotte.

The Annual International Education Reception is co-sponsored by the Office of International Programs and UNC Charlotte's Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars. ■

Student Writing Contest Winners



Students from left to right are: Lawrence Teo (Vice President, Mu chapter of Phi Beta Delta), Amina Saadaoui, Wujian Xue, Abdullah Naji Al Saka, Kenichiro Taniguchi, Stephanie Lin (International Club)

The 2006 Student Writing contest entitled 'Crossing Borders' invited students to talk about how their international experience affected their view of the world. Excerpts from the graduate, undergraduate and ELTI winners' papers are included below. To read the full papers, please visit <http://www.uncc.edu/oip/pbd>.

Katrina Peterson, (USA) graduate winner, began her paper: "Visiting 13 countries, my military family learned much from experience: avoid stumbling across red-light districts, beware of getting lost while jogging in Barcelona, and by all means watch out for one-eyed drunk men in night-time Paris!"

Wujian Xue (China) received honorary mention.

Amina Saadaoui, (Morocco) undergraduate winner, introduced her experiences by asking a question: "Why do you always change your perception? It is weird that a college student like you always has different opinions about one topic." That is what my Honduran sister-in-law tells me every time I give her a new opinion about a topic we discussed before. Most topics we discuss are, of course, about culture. That is because we come from two different worlds. I come from Morocco, where the stereotype is a lifestyle, and she comes from Honduras, the other extreme of the continuum of culture.

Rachel Keeton (USA) received honorary mention

Abdullah Naji Al Saka, (Saudi Arabia) ELTI winner, wrote: *A Frightened Journey to Face and Accept the Reality*. "Leaving Saudi Arabia for Canada was a very hard moment to me especially since the Canadian culture is totally different than the Arabic. Most people think and told me that I come from a very conservative society and I accept that. We have many things that we cannot talk or say to others even our parents in my community. Sometimes, it is considered to be rude to refuse any type of food or even criticism from people. We must care about other's emotions and feelings and accept their words."

Kenichiro Taniguchi (Japan) received honorary mention.

The Mu chapter of Phi Beta Delta and the International Club, co-sponsors of this annual writing competition, are grateful for the financial support of the following who made it possible: Office of International Programs, Belk College of Business, College of Information Technology, the departments of Electrical Engineering, Biology, English, Political Science; International Studies, Rick Lejk (Computer Science), Gwen Foss (Family & Community Nursing), and Janet Levy (Anthropology). ■

Office of International Programs in Action

UNC Charlotte's Director of Education Abroad, Brad Sekulich, served as the conference Chair for the North Carolina Association of International Educators' (NCAIE) annual conference in Asheville on March 9-10 on the campus of UNC Asheville. Several UNC Charlotte staff attended the workshops and sessions that brought together 120 international educators from all over the state. Sekulich is also the NCAIE chair elect. More information about NCAIE can be found at their Web site: www.ncaie.org.

Denise Medeiros, Assistant Director, International Student/Scholar Office, presented a pre-conference professional development workshop for international student advisors at colleges/universities in North Carolina on basic F-1 immigration regulations at the NCAIE conference in March. She also serves as the Regulatory Liaison for F-1 student issues in North Carolina for NAFSA: Association of International Educators. In this capacity, she provides assistance to international student advisors on regulatory and technical problems and liaises with Regulatory Obmuds, who communicate directly with government personnel on regulatory issues dealing with international students.

Marian Beane, Director, International Student/Scholar Office and Judy Case, Director of Administration, Office of International Programs, will present on two occasions at the annual conference of NAFSA: Association for International Educators in Montreal, Quebec, May 21-26. For the third consecutive year they will team up with other professionals to present a day-long workshop on the theme of 'Considerations in Designing Cross-Cultural Presentations for Campus and Community.' The interactive workshop will familiarize participants with a number of simulations

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A World of THANKS

to Dr. Martha Miller

As Chair of the Department of Languages and Culture Studies for the last 7 years, **Dr. Martha Miller** has tirelessly supported international education opportunities for UNC Charlotte and UNC system students. Her work on UNC EP committees (co-Chair of the Parana, Brazil program and former committee member of the Mexico program), her work as project director for a FIPSE grant, as well as other Title VI grants and her overall commitment to provid-

ing students with language learning opportunities have significantly contributed to the internationalization of UNC Charlotte as well as to our system wide collaborative efforts. While Dr. Miller will be returning to teaching and will be continuing her efforts, she will be greatly missed as chair. We wish her the best of luck and look forward to our continued collaboration. ■



Dr. Miller with Dr. Samuel Cruz, International Relations, Foreign Language Institute, Universidade Federal do Parana

Intercultural Outreach Programs Expose Students to Foreign Cultures

The Office of Intercultural Outreach Programs (IOP), which conducts short-term, educational programs for international student and professional groups, uses its programs as opportunities to introduce UNC Charlotte students to international cultures. **Sage Walker, Stuart Thrift, Evie Powell, and Hugo Rosillo** were among nearly 50 UNC Charlotte students involved with a recent program designed for Korean engineering students.

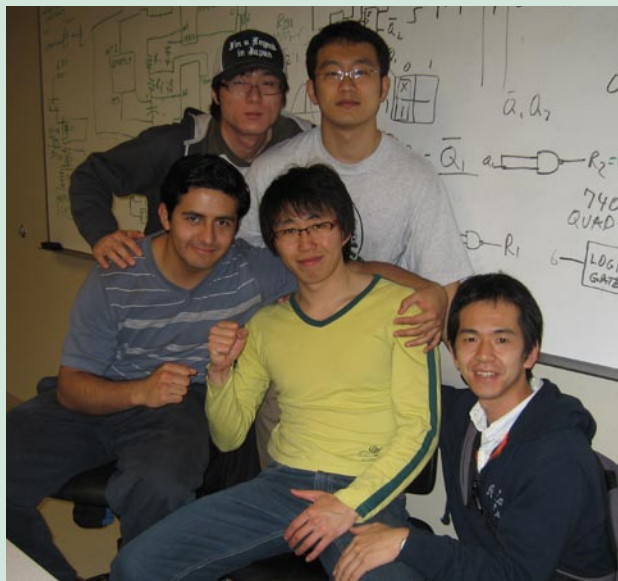
Walker and Thrift, both International Studies majors with concentrations in Asian Studies, admitted to not knowing much about Korea prior to meeting the participants; they assumed it played a sub-role in Asia to Japan and China.

After interacting with the students, both were challenged to explore the country further as they learned of cultural similarities and political ties between Korea and the U.S.

For Rosillo, an engineering major who also served as the participants' lab TA, working with the students on



Nihon Club Game Night: Club members and visiting Korean students take a break from a night of video game competition.



Rosillo (front left) pauses for a photo with three visiting Korean students and IOP visiting Japanese administrator Norito Hamada (front right) in the engineering lab.

their engineering projects offered new academic and cultural perspectives. "It was stimulating to participate with students eager to have hands-on experience – in Korea most of their time is devoted to classroom study," Rosillo said.

Evie Powell, a computer science major and president of UNC Charlotte's Nihon Club, created an opportunity for cross-cultural interaction by organizing a video game night in the Cone Center. The event was attended by program participants and Nihon Club members

as well as other students from around campus.

IOP programs have proven to be a successful and valuable way of educating UNC Charlotte students about the world and providing them a greater understanding of international cultures. For many students like Sage, Stuart, Evie and Hugo, these opportunities for interaction have produced profound results that will have a lasting impact.

Susan Lambert, Director, and Kenneth Brawley, Program Coordinator, who organized this Korean program, will also be conducting summer programs for groups from Korea, Australia, Japan and Taiwan. If you have ideas for activities or would like to be involved, contact the Office of IOP at slambert@email.uncc.edu or kbrawley@email.uncc.edu. ■

Q&A with ELTI Student Abdullah Al Saka

The English Language Training Institute (ELTI) has been part of International Programs since 1978 and currently hosts approximately 120 students from 30 different countries. ELTI provides English language instruction to international students planning to attend U.S. colleges or universities. After completing his studies at ELTI, Abdullah Al Saka will enter UNC Charlotte in fall 2006 as an undergraduate student. He recently won the "Crossing Borders" essay contest in the ELTI student category and agreed to discuss with Jennifer Armentrout his experiences thus far in the U.S.

Q: *Why did you come to study in Charlotte?*

A: I was awarded a scholarship by the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Higher Education and I chose to study in Charlotte because I was looking for a small American city. I wanted to be in a quiet, safe place with lots of natural, green areas. I thought I would be close to a river or the ocean, but it's a little further away than I imagined.

Q: *Is there anything you dislike about Charlotte?*

A: I like Charlotte, but I wish the city had better public transportation. I also feel unsafe sometimes when I walk home at night because of the recent incidents that have happened with other students close to campus.

Q: *What is it like to be a Saudi in North Carolina? Have you had any bad experiences so far in your interactions with Americans or other international students?*

A: I think the difficulties I have had have been common to most international students, such

as finding an apartment and getting a cell phone. While I have not experienced any outright negative behavior towards me, I will say that I have come across some people who have had some bad ideas about Middle Eastern people. I look at it as an opportunity to try and explain the situation in the Middle East so that they can come up with their own conclusions. I know that racism exists everywhere. I don't judge a society based on the criticism of one person. It is good to be able to discuss different cultures and have the chance to help them understand my perspective.

Q: *I know that you studied English in Toronto before coming to Charlotte. What differences did you notice about Canada and the United States?*

A: Well, they teach British English in Canada, so I learned slightly different grammar, with different punctuation and spelling. I was a university student in Toronto so I interacted more with Canadians and international students there. It

was a much bigger city so it was easier to get to know more people. In my experience in Charlotte so far, it has been hard for me to meet a lot of Americans.

Q: *What are your future plans after ELTI?*

A: I hope to complete my university degree at UNC Charlotte in Computer Science. After that, I'd like to go home and start a business in computer graphic design or software development; I'm not sure yet. Then I'd like to return to the United States to get my master's degree.

Q: *At the ELTI graduation this past weekend, you were chosen as a representative speaker for your level. In your speech you gave an analogy of diversity that I found insightful. Could you tell me what it was again?*

A: Sure. Diversity is beautiful. To give you an example, think about a forest. A forest of all the same trees is planted artificially. But a forest of diversity is natural and is a place of strength and harmony. ■

Phi Beta Delta Announces New Elected Officers

Phi Beta Delta has as its purpose the recognition of excellence in international education exchange. The Mu chapter at UNC Charlotte sponsors a variety of programs throughout the year that recognize excellence in international education and provide opportunity for an exchange of knowledge and experience among those with an interest in the international experience.

The 2006-07 elected officers and executive members of the Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Delta are included below.

President: **Mehdi Miri**, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

Vice Presidents: **Theresa Isibor**, Education major (graduate); **Kathleen Moore**, Communications major (undergraduate)

Secretary/Treasurer: **Denise Medeiros**, Office of International Programs

Members at Large: **Sybil Huskey**, Department of Dance & Theatre; **Eddy Souffrant**, Department of Philosophy.

Membership is open to qualified University faculty, staff and students. For more information about the chapter visit its website at: www.uncc.edu/oip/pbd or contact Marian Beane, chapter coordinator at mebeane@email.uncc.edu. ■

Office of International Programs In Action *continued*

and experiential exercises. The second presentation entitled: Considerations in Designing Cross-cultural presentations for Campus & Community will focus on international educators who are interested in expanding their skill portfolio in the area of cross-cultural training. Both the workshop and the session presentation respond to one of the conference 'threads' on 'how

international educators work more effectively and creatively'. Judy and Marian have been engaged in cross-cultural training and presentations for over 15 years at professional conferences, for University campus groups and in the larger community. Denise Medeiros will be assisting Judy and Marian with the second presentation. ■

Summer Study Abroad Programs

This summer the Office of Education Abroad will be sponsoring programs around the globe led by our own UNC Charlotte faculty. Over 200 students will participate as well as an additional 20 who will study on their own through other programs. Our students will earn credit in a variety of disciplines in diverse and interesting global locations ranging from central London to the Western reaches of China. All faculty interested in leading a summer study abroad program are encouraged to contact the Director of the Office of Education Abroad at 704-687-2464.

Summer course offerings through the Office of Education Abroad include:

Architecture and Sacred Places in China led by Dr. Jeff Meyer;

Architecture in Italy led by Professor Greg Snyder;

Art in Wroclaw led by Professor Maja Godlewska;

British Culture and Service Learning led by Dr. Kim Buch;

Civil Engineering Study Abroad in Limoges led by Dr. Jim Bowen;

Engineering Exchange Programs in Bethune and Limoges, France;

International Business in Paris led by Professor Cindy Fox;

Schools and Culture of Europe led by Dr. Corey Lock;

Shakespeare in Performance led by Professor Emeritus Dr. John McNair;

Spanish Language Study in Costa Rica led by Professor Mary Frances Castro;

Summer Program in Mexico led by Dr. Carlos Coria;

United Kingdom Public Relations Seminar led by Dr. Barbara Desanto.



Professor Phillip Woods, Academic Advisor, Study Abroad Office and Ms. Allison Cooper, Manager, Study Abroad Office, Kingston University



Ed Abroad 2005 photo contest 2nd place, "People" category taken by Ryan Dayton (Spanish Language and Culture in Costa Rica Summer Program)

Study Abroad in London

An Essay by Rachel Keeton

There are so many aspects of British culture that I have come to know and love, narrowing my favorites down seems more of a challenge than I'd expected. As my Christmas vacation in the States looms ahead of me, I am coming to appreciate each of them more and more. For example, there are the fabulous black taxis that zip by in all their luxurious efficiency, and the foreigners who sit for forty minutes in a corner of a pub before realizing you order food at the bar (I was one of them, don't get me wrong!). I love the children with posh accents who sound too smart for their own good with huge vocabularies and knowing demeanors. I will miss the rollicking public transport, the garish colors of the Southwest trains (more sickening after a night of pub-crawling, to be sure), and the Indian food... Oh the Indian food!

Everything about this culture feels good. Everything, that is, feels more suitable to my nature than it does in America. There are miserable points of course — ethnic minorities have a hard life here, and the government is still trying to decide whether it can be socialist and modern simultaneously...

There are problems with schools, pensions, etc. Every country has the same set of complaints; but from the perspective of a traveler who has ended up living at the quieter end of south London for a few months now, I would venture to say that life in Britain is pretty damn good. Expensive, yes — but I'll happily pay an extra quid for a pint in a pub built in 1554 any day.



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— International Women’s Day Celebrated —

On Thursday, March 23, 2006 UNC Charlotte held its first annual International Women’s Day Celebration in the Storrs Gallery, sponsored by the Office of International Programs. Over 125 students, faculty, and staff attended the event honoring individuals who have made an impact on the lives of women locally and globally.

International Women’s Day (March 8) is celebrated in different ways in many countries around the world. Celebrated annually since 1908, International Women’s Day is the universal day that connects all women around the world and inspires them to achieve their full potential. When women on all continents, often divided by national boundaries and by ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences, come together to celebrate International Women’s Day, they can look back to a tradition that represents at least nine decades of struggle for equality, justice, peace and development.

During the month of February, the International Women’s Day Committee (**Denise Medeiros** and **Melissa Chambers**, Office of International Programs; **Coral Wayland**, Department of Women’s Studies; **Daljit Kaur**, Department of Educational Leadership; **Veronica Sichivitsa**, Department of Music; and **Ginny Adair**, Multicultural Resource Center) invited faculty, staff, and students to nominate individuals in our campus community who embody the richness of internationalism and whose contributions make a difference in our lives everyday to be celebrated. Twenty women with different backgrounds, cultures, and roles on campus were nominated and all were recognized individually.

Provost **Joan Lorden** shared words of welcome with the attendees. The Women’s Glee, in its first year at UNC Charlotte and directed by Veronica Sichivitsa and accompanied by Judith Sullivan, performed two pieces, making the event truly special and memorable.

Honorees included:

- Judy Aulette**, Sociology and Anthropology
- Marian Beane**, International Programs
- Mary Frances McDermott Castro**, Languages & Culture Studies
- Hibah Chahin**, Biology major
- Melissa Chambers**, International Programs
- Melissa Feinberg**, History
- Gwen Foss**, Family and Community Nursing
- Susan Gardner**, English
- Esther Hollington**, International Programs
- Bonnie McDaniel**, Student Activities
- Martha Miller**, Languages & Culture Studies
- Maryam Seyed Mohammed Nazemi**, Mechanical Engineering major
- Greet Provoost**, Graduate School
- Asiya Rahman**, Multicultural Resource Center
- Shilpa Sharma**, Computer Science graduate student
- Denise Shropshire**, Music
- Lauren Sollenberger**, Religious Studies major
- Katherine Stephenson**, Languages & Culture Studies
- Cathy Thompson**, International Programs
- Shinobu Urita**, International Business major



Study Abroad Luncheon Recognizes Faculty and Staff

On April 27th the Office of Education Abroad hosted a luncheon both to mark 2006 as the Year of Study Abroad and to acknowledge faculty and staff who have contributed significantly to study abroad at UNC Charlotte in the past. Representatives from multiple academic and support departments joined staff members from the Office of International Programs and the Office of Education Abroad to discuss and celebrate the life-changing effects study in other cultures and lands has on our students.

Among the many current and former program Directors, particular mention was made of **Dr. Martha Miller**, Chair of the Department of Languages and Culture Studies. Dr. Miller began her affiliation with UNC Charlotte Education Abroad programs in 1986. She has since served as Semester in Spain Resident Director three times and advised seemingly countless students engaged in study abroad. ■

The Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany Academic Year Scholarship

Kurt Waldhausen, the Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, working with several local and regional donors, has made available a generous scholarship for an academic year in Germany. The scholarship allows a UNCC student, irrespective of major, to subsidize a great portion of the costs of studying in Germany for 2 semesters. ■



Study Abroad in London essay *continued*

I suppose that's the seduction, really: London has character. It has history and its present condition is this weird conglomerate of the utterly avant-garde and the clichés of a romanticized past. I love Britain for its totally depressing weather — opaque fog until 11 a.m. and a sunset at 3:30. The sunshine is short these days, but England feels more believable beside a roaring fire and hot tea anyway.

I am soaking up the cultural opportunities as well — nowhere in Charlotte could I see a lecture by David Adjaye, or sip a glass of red wine next to Rem Koolhaas after his presentation. I go to gallery exhibits and marvel at the mountains of art that live quietly in this city. I can see any film ever made, any play I want to (if I'm willing to pay the ticket price!) and afterwards, go discuss the murder scene at some late night venue. I've seen concerts, visited every free museum in the city, and explored the nightlife with the attentions of a sociologist. I will miss the Cotswolds, and the sweet idealized version of a past that they so diligently beg you to believe in. I will miss Irish accents that catch you off guard, and Scottish accents that are barely understandable...

I am made for Britain. I love it here. I feel simultaneously part of something large and organic and alive that is bigger than myself, and anonymous in a city of strangers. The dichotomy is beautiful, and it lets you choose which part you wish to play in the public spectacle: will you be the focus of attention, or the invisible viewer? In London, the choice is yours. ■

Fulbright Award Recipients Participate in Informational Panel for UNCC Faculty

On April 28, 2006, the Office of International Programs and the College of Arts and Sciences sponsored a Fulbright faculty workshop for all interested faculty. The purpose was to introduce faculty to the opportunity to apply for a Fulbright award and to invite questions about the process. A panel of former Fulbright award recipients were available to discuss their experiences and the application process. The panel included: Dr. Judy Aulette, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Dr. Michael Eldridge, Department of Philosophy, Dr. David Goldfield, Department of History, and Dr. Alexander Kramer, Department of Philosophy.

It is our intention to regularly offer this information session to interested faculty in order to encourage more Fulbright applications in the future. For those who were not able to participate this spring, we hope to offer the next one in the fall 2006 semester. For more information, please contact Mary Zink in the OIP at x72442 or visit the Fulbright website at www.cies.org. ■



"The Fulbright Program aims to bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason, and a little more compassion into world affairs and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship."

— J. William Fulbright

The Fulbright Scholar Program 2007-2008 *Research Opportunities for Southeast Asia Specialists*

The Fulbright Scholar Program provides grants for American scholars to conduct research in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Lecturing/research awards in Islamic Studies are offered in Indonesia and Malaysia, and there are also lecturing/research awards in Malay Studies in Malaysia. While the overall number of applicants for these research awards has held steady, in recent years the number of area specialists applying has decreased. We would like to encourage Southeast Asia specialists to apply for these awards. In addition to awards in specific countries, the Northeast Asia/Southeast Asia Regional Research Program makes it possible to conduct research in 2-3 countries in Southeast Asia.

Please note that applicants must be U.S. citizens and be at least three years beyond receiving their PhD. A separate program, administered by the Institute of International Education, is available for graduate students.

Deadline for application is August 1, 2006. For more information, please visit the website at www.cies.org. ■

Home Hosts Needed for Visiting Japanese Teachers

Japanese elementary school teachers will return to UNC Charlotte this summer to study American teaching methodologies and learn about American culture. They will participate in a mini-internship in schools in the Charlotte area where they will observe as well as teach classes for American elementary and middle school students. The teachers will be staying with home hosts two weekends, August 5-6 and August 12-13, 2006. Hosts are asked to pick up their teachers on Saturday morning and return them to campus after dinner on Sunday evening. If you are interested in hosting a Japanese Elementary Teacher August 5-6 and/or August 12-13, 2006, please contact Kenneth Brawley, Program Coordinator, at 704.687.2597, kbrawley@email.uncc.edu, or Susan Lambert, Director, at 704.687.3059, slambert@email.uncc.edu.



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For further information about the Office of International Programs please visit our Web site at www.uncc.edu/oip.

