

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

An Office of International Programs newsletter

The Office of International Programs invites UNC Charlotte to join us in celebrating International Education Week, November 16-20, 2009. Faculty, staff and students are invited to participate in a myriad of activities that have been scheduled during this time. Mark your calendars to attend, invite your classes and celebrate the opportunities for international engagement at UNC Charlotte.

“UNC Charlotte is proud to celebrate International Education Week 2009! Our institution has enjoyed a long and active tradition of supporting the internationalization and exchange efforts on our campus. Students, faculty, and staff are all encouraged to participate and recognize this important week of programming in celebration of the global village,” said Phillip L. Dubois, Chancellor, UNC Charlotte



The International Education Week 2009 website says, “A joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of State and Education, International Education Week (IEW) was first held in 2000 and today, is celebrated in more than 100 countries worldwide.

“IEW is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This annual initiative aims to promote international understanding and build support for international educational

exchange by encouraging the development of programs that prepare Americans to live and work in a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study in the United States.

“Exchanges are critical to developing mutual understanding and respect, building leadership abroad, fostering an appreciation for the U.S., and investing in the future relationship between Americans and people around the world.

“According to Open Doors, 241,791 U.S. students studied abroad in 2006/07.

“International education prepares U.S. citizens to live, work, and compete in the global economy.

“International education is also a vital service industry, contributing more than \$15.5 billion to the U.S. economy.

“According to Open Doors, 623,805 international students from over 200 countries studied in the U.S. in 2007/08.

“The more than 40,000 students, scholars and other exchange participants that the Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs supports are in the vanguard of the hundreds of thousands of students and scholars who come to the United States and study abroad each year.

“International cooperation on education contributes to education reform and education solutions for the U.S. and for our partner nations.” (<http://iew.state.gov/factsheet.cfm>)

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International Education Week 2009

Schedule of events

All Week November 16-20

International Cuisine
Crown Commons
Lunch & Dinner

International Doll Display
Atkins Library
Ongoing

Pennies for Peace
Outside Student Union
M-Th, 11 am - 3 pm

IEW Suggested Reading Display
UNC Charlotte Bookstore
Bookstore Hours

The Writing on the Wall:
Celebrating the 20th anniversary of
the fall of the Berlin Wall
Student Union
Ongoing

Monday, November 16

Brown Bag Lunch Travel
Presentation: *Argentina*
CHHS 207, 12:30-1:30 pm

Graduate Student Research
Presentation: "Sexual Education in
Kenya"
CHHS 476B, 2-3:15 pm

International Film Series:
Sleepwalking Land
CHHS 380, 3:30-5:30 pm

International Groove: Zumba
SAC Aerobics Rm, 5:30-6:25 pm

Spice Up Your Day:
Try it the Latin Way
Cone 112, 7 pm

Tuesday, November 17

Semester in Spain Information
Session
CHHS 256, 11 am-12 noon

Brown Bag Lunch Travel
Presentation: *Malaysia*
CHHS 207, 12:30-1:30 pm

Walkin' for Water
Outside Fretwell Building,
12:30-2:30 pm

International Groove: Salsa
SAC Aerobics Rm, 2-3 pm

International Food Sampler
CHHS 128, 3:30-4:30 pm

Phi Beta Delta Annual Meeting &
Induction of New Members
SAC Salons A & B, 3:30-5 pm
By invitation only

Japan Film Series II:
Nobody Knows
CHHS 155, 5-7 pm

German Film Series:
Gegen die Wand
CHHS 281, 5:30 pm

Film & discussion: *Trade*
Denny 200, 7 pm

Wednesday, November 18

International Coffee Tasting
Atkins Library, beside Ritazza
Café, 9:30-11:30 am

Brown Bag Lunch Travel
Presentation: *South Africa*
CHHS 207, 12:30-1:30 pm

International Speaker Series:
Daniel Griswold
CHHS 380, 3:30-4:30 pm

International Groove: Zumba
SAC Aerobics Rm, 5:30-6:25 pm

Distinguished Speaker Series:
Alfredo Jaar
McKnight Hall, 7 pm

Tropical Heat
SAC, Salon A, 7 pm

Thursday, November 19

Brown Bag Lunch Travel
Presentation: *Korea*
CHHS 207, 12:30-1:30 pm

International Groove:
Advanced Salsa
SAC Aerobics Rm, 2-3 pm

Walkin' for Water
Outside Fretwell Building,
2:30-4:30 pm

International Careers: A Young
Professionals' Panel
Cone 112, 3:30-4:30 pm

International Coffee Hour
Prospector Cafeteria, 4-6 pm

Film & Discussion:
A Journey to Darfur
Fretwell 121, 7 pm

International Groove:
Ballroom and Latin Dance
SAC Aerobics Rm, 7:30-8:30 pm

Friday, November 20

Fulbright Panel & Discussion
CHHS 207, 11 am-12 noon

CANCELLED
Brown Bag Lunch:
*Archaeological Research in the
Andes*

Brown Bag Lunch Travel
Presentation: *Chile*
CHHS 207, 12:30-1:30 pm

All Week Nov. 16-20

All Week
International Cuisine

International Cuisine

Crown Commons, Student Union
Lunch & Dinner

Lunch & dinner in Crown Commons will include dishes from around the world at the International Fare station. Asian, African, European & Latin American are represented throughout the week - try something new or enjoy a favorite

Sponsored by Chartwell's .

All Week
International Doll Display

International Doll Display

Atkins Library
Ongoing

Browse the display boxes on the first floor of Atkins for a view of dolls from around the world as well as journals and maps. International Children's Day is Friday, November 20

Sponsored by Atkins Library .

All Week
Pennies for Peace

Pennies for Peace

Outside the Student Union
Monday - Thursday, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Supporting the work of Greg Mortensen, author of Three Cups of Tea, the Women's Studies Gender Excellence Learning Community will be collecting pennies and loose change to support the work of bringing educational opportunities to young girls in central Asia and raise awareness for the Pennies for Peace, a program of the Central Asia Institute.

Sponsored by Women's Studies Gender Excellence Learning Community

All Week
IEW Suggested Reading Display

IEW Suggested Reading Display

Barnes & Noble UNC Charlotte Bookstore
Regular Bookstore hours

Browse the International Education Week display for ten titles for international reading. Several books connect closely with programs throughout the week

Sponsored by Barnes & Noble UNC Charlotte Bookstore.

All Week
The Writing on the Wall: Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall

**The Writing on the Wall:
Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall**

Student Union
Ongoing

In fall 1989 thousands of citizens of East Germany demonstrated peacefully for freedom of travel, speech and press. On November 9th, the wall came down and Germany started its process of reunification. The German Club invites UNC Charlotte to remember the significant event of 20 years ago with an exhibition in the Student Union.

Sponsored by the German Club.

Monday, November 16

Brown Bag Lunch Travel Presentation: Argentina
CHHS 207
12:30-1:30 pm

Presented by Melissa Watkins

Melissa Watkins is the Lead Advisor in the Office of Education Abroad, as well as a graduate student in Latin American Studies. During the summer of 2009, Melissa spent a month in Córdoba for its rural and urban offerings, preferring a smaller city with quick access to the countryside. Her favorite memories are of sharing *mate* with her Argentine friends and teachers.

Graduate Student Research Presentation:
"Sexual Education in Kenya"
CHHS 476B
2:00-3:15 pm

Presented by Elijah Onsomu

Using data from his dissertation research, Mr. Onsomu will discuss findings related to the association between an HIV positive diagnosis and the age of sexual debut. He will present on "The case for a comprehensive sexual education in Kenya: Importance of delayed sexual debut in fighting HIV prevalence endemic."

International Film Series: *Sleepwalking Land*
CHHS 380
3:30-5:30 pm

Co-presented by Office of International Programs & the Global Film Initiative & funded by a grant from the Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund. Co-sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Charlotte & the Department of Global, International & Area Studies.

Based on Mia Coutou's novel of the same name, *Sleepwalking Land* follows an orphaned refugee, Muidinga, through the countryside of Mozambique in the midst of civil war. His only companion is an elderly storyteller and his only clue to finding his mother is a dead man's diary. A brief post-film discussion will follow with Dr. Beth Whitaker, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science.

International Groove: Zumba
SAC Aerobics Room
5:30-6:25 PM

Presented by Recreational Services

Zumba is a fusion of Latin and International music – dance themes creating a dynamic, exciting, effective fitness system! It is based on the principle that a workout should be "fun and easy to do" in order for participants to stick to the fitness program and to achieve long-term health benefits.

Spice Up Your Day: Try it the Latin Way
Cone 112
7:00 pm

Presented by Latin American Student Organization

This program will present a cultural potluck and invites the UNC Charlotte campus to see and taste the variety of foods from Latin America.

Tuesday, November 17

Semester in Spain Information Session
CHHS 256, OEA Resource Room
11:00 am-12:00 noon

Presented by Office of Education Abroad

Learn about UNC Charlotte's longest running faculty-led program, including course offerings and Spanish culture.

Brown Bag Lunch Travel Presentation: Malaysia
CHHS 207
12:30-1:30 pm

Presented by Charlotte Klopp
World Affairs Council of Charlotte

Walkin' for Water
Outside Fretwell Building
12:30-2:30 PM

Presented by the Gen X Learning Community and Women's and Gender Studies

Walkin' for Water is a fundraiser to build wells and provide clean and adequate water in underdeveloped countries. UNC Charlotte students who wish to participate will be asked to carry 5 gallons of water across a designated path. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to Water 1st, an organization that is building wells in India, Bangladesh, Ethiopia & Honduras.

International Groove: Salsa
SAC Aerobics Room
2:00-3:00 pm

Presented by Recreational Services

A popular form of Latin-American dance that is fun & vibrant with music that will make you move. Learn basic techniques & choreography while getting a workout.

International Food Sampler
CHHS 128
3:30-4:30 pm

Hosted by students of the English Language Training Institute

International students from the English Language Training Institute share samples of their native cuisine. Try a taste of the world from countries like Korea, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Turkey, and more!

Phi Beta Delta Annual Meeting & Induction of New Members
SAC Salons A & B
3:30-5:00 pm
By invitation only

Sponsored by Phi Beta Delta and the Office of International Programs

The Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars was founded at UNC Charlotte in 1988. The purpose of PBD is the recognition of experience in the areas of international education exchange and/or international scholarship. It also serves as a means for encouraging interdisciplinary interchange and a catalyst for developing a network among faculty, students, and staff involved. The induction ceremony is held each Fall and formally recognizes those persons who have contributed to the internationalization of UNC Charlotte

Tuesday, November 17
Continued

Japan Film Series II: Nobody Knows
CHHS 155
5:00-7:00 pm

Japanese director Hirokazu Koreeda's touching film follows the empty lives of 12-year-old Akira (Yûya Yagira) and his three Younger siblings (Ayu Kitaura, Hiei Kimura and Momoko Shimizu) after their mother abandons them in a tiny Tokyo apartment. Pragmatic, determined and wise beyond his years, Akira manages the household as best he can -- but eventually the money runs out, and the children must find new ways to survive. Based on a true story.

German Film Series: Gegen die Wand
CHHS 281
5:30 pm

Presented by the German Film Club

After the death of his beloved wife, Cahit's misery leads him to drugs, alcohol and eventually a near-death experience. In the hospital he is connected to another desperate patient, and they consider alternative options to their situations. An intense examination of themes surrounding human connectivity.

Film & Discussion: Trade
Denny 200
7:00 pm

Presented by Stop the Traffik

Trade is the story of a young Polish woman, Veronica, and a Mexico City teenager, Adriana, kidnapped by sex traffickers who earn millions exploiting their human cargo. As the girls struggle to survive in such a brutal global underworld, Adriana's brother and a

Texas cop navigate through the terrain of the sex trade "tunnels" determined to rescue Adriana. A socially conscious film, Trade does not look away or glance over the horrors of the sex trade, even in the most painful of details.

Wednesday, November 18

International Speaker Series: Daniel Griswold:
Mad About Trade: Why Main Street America
Should Embrace Globalization
CHHS 380
3:30-4:30 pm

Co-presented by Office of International Programs,
the World Affairs Council of Charlotte & the
Department of Global, International & Area Studies

Daniel Griswold is the author of *Mad About Trade: Why Main Street America Should Embrace Globalization*. Griswold will articulate the advantages of free trade and globalization for the middle class of the United States. He argues that a more globalized U.S. economy creates better jobs and higher living standards. UNC Charlotte is invited to join the discussion on a timely issue.

International Groove: Zumba
SAC Aerobics Room
5:30-6:25 PM

Presented by Recreational Services

Zumba is a fusion of Latin & International Music - dance themes creating a dynamic, exciting, effective fitness system! It is based on the principle that a workout should be "fund and easy to do" in order for participants to stick to the fitness program & to achieve long-term health benefits.

Distinguished Speaker Series: Alfredo Jaar
McKnight Hall, Cone University Center
7:00 pm

Sponsored by Center for Leadership Development

Alfredo Jaar is identified as an artist, architect, public interventionist and filmmaker. Jaar, originally born in Chile and now residing in New York, has been showcased around the world, including Venice, Sydney, Istanbul and Johannesburg, to name a few. A reception and book-signing will follow his presentation.

Tropical Heat
Barnhardt SAC, Salon A
7:00 pm

Presented by Caribbean Connections

We will perform (and teach!) various Caribbean dances as well as display history and common slang used in the various islands.

International Coffee Tasting
Atkins Library, ground floor beside Ritazza Café
9:30-11:30 am

Presented by Atkins Library

Enjoy a FREE International Coffee Tasting at Atkins Library. Drop in to talk with new University Librarian, Stanley Wilder, view internationally themed displays, peruse books and more.

Brown Bag Lunch Travel Presentation:
South Africa
CHHS 207
12:30-1:30 PM

Presented by Diana Carlton
UNC Charlotte Student

It started out as a volunteer trip with a non-profit that uses the arts as therapy for children who have been victims of human trafficking. Then an unexpected turn of event threw Diana into a teaching project that ended up being more amazing than she could ever imagine. What she learned and would like you to know is that, "One cannot go to South Africa and leave unchanged."

Thursday, November 19

Brown Bag Lunch Travel Presentation: Korea
CHHS 207
12:30-1:30 pm

Presented by Jessica Wilkinson, UNC Charlotte alum & Program Assistant with Intercultural Outreach Programs

Programs. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to travel around a country that she had always found intriguing with friends that could show the true beauty and wonders of Korea.

International Groove: Advanced Salsa
SAC Aerobics Room
2:00-3:00 PM

Presented by Recreational Services

A popular form of Latin-American dance that is fun and vibrant with music that will make you move. After you learn the basic dance moves including turns, then move up a level to advanced Salsa

Walkin' for Water
Outside Fretwell Building
2:30-4:30 PM

Presented by the Gen X Learning Community and Women's and Gender Studies

participate will be asked to carry 5 gallons of water across a designated path. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to Water 1st, an organization that is building wells in India, Bangladesh, Ethiopia & Honduras.

International Careers: A Young Professionals' Panel
Cone 112
3:30-4:30 pm

Presented by the Office of International Programs, the Graduate School and the Department of Global, International and Area Studies

A panel of young professionals, representing business, non-profit and international education, will discuss their career decisions and trajectory in international fields. The panelists will provide their perspective and choices on common questions including: how do I get started in an international career field; should I go to graduate school now or get experience; what skills do I need; and where should I be networking?

International Coffee Hour
Prospector Cafe
4:00-6:00 pm

Presented by Recreational Services

Meet people from around the world, share ideas, play board games and relax with coffee & refreshments. Bring a friend or meet one there.

Film & Discussion: A Journey to Darfur
Fretwell 121
7:00 PM

Presented by STAND - the Anti-Genocide Coalition

This is a film screening of George Clooney's film, Journey to Darfur, followed by an interactive discussion to promote awareness and education on combating genocide today. Participants will view the film and then openly discuss genocide, hatred, mass violence and human rights violations pertaining to historical atrocities and similar current conflicts..

Thursday, November 19
Continued

International Groove: Ballroom & Latin Dance
SAC Aerobics Room
7:30-8:30 PM

Presented by Recreational Services

Join us for different styles of Latin and Ballroom Dance, International Style and American Style consisting of: Swing, Cha Cha, Rumba, Samba, Waltz, Tango, Quickstep, Foxtrot and more! Get a great workout while learning the dances..

Friday, November 20

Fulbright Panel & Discussion
CHHS 207
11:00 am-12:00 noon

Sponsored by Office of International Programs

Two recent Fulbright recipients, Dr. Angela Herren (Dept. of Art and Art History) and Dr. Paul Youngman (Dept. of Languages and Culture Studies), will talk about their Fulbright experience from start to finish. The discussion will be facilitated by Mr. Joël Gallegos, Assistant Provost for International Programs. Faculty are invited to attend to get more information on the Fulbright program and application process.

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS EVENT
HAS BEEN CANCELLED
Brown Bag Lunch: Archaeological Research in the
Andes

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED
Presented by Department of Anthropology &
Dr. Dennis Ogburn

Dr. Dennis Ogburn, Department of Anthropology, UNC Charlotte, talks about his ongoing archaeological research in the northern Andes of Ecuador and Peru. He will discuss how he uses archaeology to learn about the Inca Empire and its relationships with local communities and, later, with the Spanish.

Brown Bag Lunch Travel Presentation: Chile
CHHS 207
12:30-1:30 pm

Presented by Jackie Ross
UNC Charlotte Student & Study Abroad Scholarship
Recipient

A special thank you to all the departments, programs and organizations who have made this International Education Week possible. We have a truly international campus with much enthusiasm for understanding UNC Charlotte's role in preparing global citizens. This would not be possible without your support.

If you have questions regarding special accommodations, please contact Rebecca Vincent at 704-687-7305 or rebecca.vincent@uncc.edu. Thank you.

Australian Professor Becomes First 'Scholar-in-Residence' at the Center for Global Public Relations

A professor from the University of Sydney, Australia, has been selected as the first "Scholar-in-Residence" in the Center for Global Public Relations at UNC Charlotte. Dr. Richard Stanton is director of the master's program in public relations at the University of Sydney and is conducting research for his book, "Global Shift: The Transformation of Power from Journalism to Public Relations," during the fall 2009 semester.

The new book will examine the roles played by literary, political and journalistic figures during the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, culminating in the complex global events of the early 21st Century that have become known as the "Global Financial Crisis." The book follows his earlier work, "All News Is Local," in which he investigated the role of news in reporting complex global events and organizations such as world trade, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations.

"I am honored to have been invited by Dr. Dean Kruckeberg to become the inaugural scholar-in-residence at the Center," Stanton said. "Since much of my research is about the past century, I felt I should be in the country where the most significant developments have occurred."

During his residency at UNC Charlotte, Stanton will also work with Kruckeberg, director of the Center for Global Public Relations, and Dr. Alan Freitag, associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies,



on initiatives for the Center. In addition, they will travel to universities throughout North Carolina and neighboring states to speak about the challenges of international public relations in the progression of globalization.

"We are delighted to have a world-class scholar in residence here and pleased that Dr. Stanton has found the Center and the University to be an ideal place for him to do further research,"

Kruckeberg said. "We hope he will be the first of many global scholars to research, write and share their knowledge with the Center and those of UNC Charlotte."

The Center for Global Public Relations was dedicated on Feb. 21, 2009, and is located in the Department of Communication Studies in Colvard 5007. The Center is a resource for practitioners, scholars/educators and students worldwide who want to increase their knowledge about global public relations through the Center's on-site research and educational opportunities, its continuing educational programs and its

partnerships worldwide.

For more information about Stanton or CGPR, please contact centergpr@uncc.edu or visit the Center in Colvard 5007. Additional information can be found at <http://cgpr.uncc.edu>.

Delegation from South Africa seeks collaboration for work on gender based violence

Representatives from the Women's and Gender Studies program, Lorraine Acker and Judy Aulette, met with delegates from South Africa on September 25 to develop opportunities for collaboration between Americans and South Africans around the problem of gender based interpersonal violence. Their visit was part of a three week program, sponsored by the State Department, which brought them to academic, non-profit, and government sites in Washington, D.C., New York, and California as well as Charlotte. The focus of their work is on developing and implementing legal reform but their interests range from gender and masculinities to social work,

police work, public education and women's rights in general.

The South Africans in the delegation included an impressive list of participants: Neville Dampies, provincial coordinator and forensic social worker for South African Police Services; Tshilidzi Masikhwa, senior legal officer for the Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme; Hilda Monei, Senior advocate and maintenance prosecutor from the National Prosecuting Authority of South Africa; Nonhlanhla Mokwena, executive director of POWA (People Opposing Women Abuse); and Sharita Samuel, attorney from the legal resources centre (LRC).

During the meeting it was deter-

mined that the next step forward would be to invite a broader section of the UNC Charlotte community to this collaborative effort. The South African delegates are interested in finding and working with people who are experts and/or teaching and researching about gender based violence against women and especially international and national legal reform efforts in this area. They would like to develop collaborative exchanges about information that can help move this work forward in South Africa and the U.S.

For more information, contact Judy Aulette (jraulett@uncc.edu) or Lorraine Acker (ldacker@uncc.edu).

Intercultural Outreach Programs Welcomes Intern from Japan

The Intercultural Outreach Programs (IOP) office in the Office of International Programs (OIP) welcomes visiting intern Yumiko Minoura to UNC Charlotte. As a part of the LEAP Internship Program, Minoura will be interning with various offices within OIP from October 15, 2009 until March 25, 2010.

Minoura is currently employed at Nagoya University in Nagoya, Japan, where she facilitates cooperative international projects, especially between Japan and developing countries. Her goal as an intern is to enrich her understanding of international academic and business cultures while understanding the environment in U.S. universities for young researchers. She hopes that this will allow her to make a greater contribution to the relationship between Nagoya University and UNC Charlotte.

Minoura is interested in contacting and communicating with young researchers in the U.S. and at UNC Charlotte to better understand how to provide academic and professional guidance to those researchers with whom she works. Minoura looks forward to learning about American culture through her internship and independent travel. She also hopes to engage in volunteer activity while here.

The LEAP Internship Program is a year-long professional development program sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Sports, Science, and Culture (MEXT) and managed by the Montana State University Office of International Programs. The central purposes of the program are to aid its participants in improving their English, learning about the U.S. higher education system, and learning about (and interning in) an international programs office.

For more information or to meet Minoura, please contact Susan Lambert, Director, Intercultural Outreach Programs, at (704) 687-7764.



German Language and Culture Foundation provides scholarship for Study Abroad

The German Language and Culture Foundation held its annual fundraiser, a celebration of American Jazz, in uptown Charlotte on October 9, 2009. The foundation's mission is to support German-American educational exchange through the celebration of Jazz.

Kurt G. Waldthausen, Honorary Consul for Germany and the foundation's founder, presented Chancellor Phil Dubois with a check of \$7500 for a UNC Charlotte student to study in Germany.



The German Language and Culture Foundation has provided over \$35,000 in scholarship money to UNC Charlotte students thus far. Since the fall of 2006, five UNC Charlotte students studying in Germany have been awarded this scholarship.

African Studies Academy Coordinates Meetings

The African Studies Academy met on Thursday, October 22 to hear Dr. Ken Menkhaus of Davidson College present on "Somalia: What Went Wrong?" Menkhaus shared his perspectives on the factors leading up to the current situation in Somalia. Menkhaus is an internationally-recognized expert on Somalia and the Horn of Africa and continues to visit the area, as he has since the early 1990s.

Additional meetings are scheduled for Thursday, November 12 from 5:00-6:30 PM with Dr. Cymone Fourshey of Susquehanna University. She will be presenting on "Stranger Come, Heal Thy Host: A History of Hospitality in Southwestern Tanzania." The meeting will take place in Barnard 244 and is co-sponsored by the Office of International Programs and the Department of Africana Studies. A meeting is also set for Thursday, February 11 from 5:00-6:30 PM with Drs. Guy Martin and Mueni wa Muii on "A New Paradigm of the African State: Fundi wa Afrika"

For more information, contact Beth Whitaker at bwhitaker@uncc.edu or 704-687-4527.

Thompson Maintains Strong Ties with Armenia

Dr. Michael Thompson, Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences in the College of Health and Human Services, has a long-standing relationship with public health in Armenia. Prior to accepting a faculty position at UNC Charlotte, Thompson was the Director of the Center for Health Services Research and Development at the American University of Armenia and its MPH program, which is affiliated with Johns Hopkins University. After five years as the resident Director, Thompson and his family returned to the United States where he has continued to work closely with his colleagues in Armenia on primary health care system strengthening and reform projects.

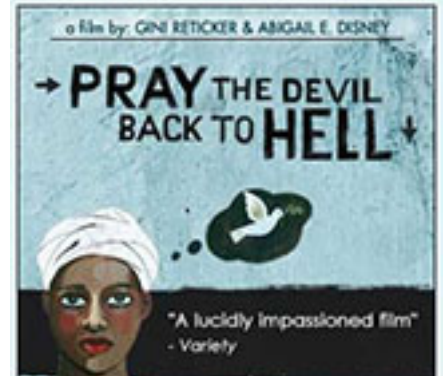


He has published numerous articles on his collaborative research that has largely focused on women's health in Armenia. In his most recent visit, he met with the WHO Liaison Officer in Armenia, Yelizabet Danielian, MD, MPH, and the Director of the USAID/Armenia Social Reform Office in Armenia, Sangita Patel, MPH.

Thompson and Ms. Tsovinar Harutyunyan, who is a doctoral student in the Health Services Research Program and a former colleague in Armenia, have jointly published an article on a community-based integrated management program of childhood illnesses, have another article on patient satisfaction forthcoming, and have presented several papers at national and international conferences such as Academy Health. In November, Thompson's Armenian collaborators will present two papers at the European Public Health Association annual conference in Lodz, Poland.

"Pray the Devil Back to Hell" to be Screened in Spring

Winner of the best documentary at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2008 *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* chronicles the story of courageous Liberian women who came together to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their country. Thousands of women, both Christian and Muslim, came together to pray for peace and then staged a silent protest outside of the Presidential Palace. Armed with only white T-shirts and the courage of their convictions, they took on the warlords and non-violently forced a resolution during the stalled peace talks. A story of sacrifice, unity and transcendence, *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* honors the strength and perseverance of the women of Liberia. It provides compelling testimony to how grassroots activism can change the history of a nation. The New York Times describes *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* as "uplifting, disheartening, inspiring, enraging".



On Wednesday, February 3, 2010 a free dinner, compliments of the Feminist Union, will be served at 6:00 PM followed by the film screening at 6:30 PM in Afterhours in the Cone University Center. This screening is sponsored by the Feminist Union, UNIFEM, the Women's and Gender Studies Program, and the Office of International Programs.

College of Education Faculty Author Book

Dr. Greg Wiggan and Dr. Charles Hutchison of the College of Education authored *Global Issues in Education: Pedagogy, Policy, Practice and the Minority Experience*. It was published by Rowman & Littlefield Education in September 2009.

Global Issues in Education bridges the discourse on globalization and education with international studies on race, class, gender, ethnicity, culture, and multiculturalism. Wiggan and Hutchison address educational challenges of postcolonial Ghana, the United Arab Emirates, the Caribbean, China, Japan, and Germany juxtaposed against Western education in the United Kingdom and the United States. They synthesize macro-sociology with educational research, which provides readers with the background, core knowledge, and global focus needed to understand international issues, as well as deal with diversity in the classroom. *Global Issues in Education* also addresses the need for additional research that makes the connections between the geopolitical economy and education, and it does so with a focus on the link to culture, ethnicity, and education.

