



Welcome from Assistant Provost for International Programs



Dear Colleagues,

Academic Year 2011/12 has been a particularly dynamic year for the Office of International Programs. We have developed a number of new and exciting initiatives and despite ongoing

challenges in our current economic climate, many colleges and departments remain committed to ensuring that there students have international opportunities on campus or abroad that develop competencies preparing them for a career in a multicultural workforce.

Over this past year, OIP has hosted record number of students in our English Language Training Institute, we successfully launched our Freshman International Enrichment Seminar, we continue to proactively advance our institutional footprint in China and plans are moving forward to develop a residential International House in Greek Village.

We continue to be encouraged by our campus community to expand UNC Charlotte's global reach. We wish our colleagues and extended OIP family a productive summer and look forward to your active participation in our OIP initiatives next academic year.

18th Annual International Education Reception Honors Diana Rowan

Diana Rowan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work, was recognized as the recipient of the 2012 International Education Faculty Award at the 18th Annual International Education Reception on April 18.

As a supporter of and advocate for international programs, education and scholarship at UNC Charlotte, examples of Rowan's work include her two-year service as president of the Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars and active participation on the College of Health and Human Services Internationalization Committee. She was also instrumental in organizing an internationalization caucus of faculty members and students in the Department of Social Work. She has served as a full time faculty member since 2007.

During the spring break of 2012, Rowan led a study abroad program for 11 students to Malawi, UNC Charlotte's first faculty-led program to sub-Saharan Africa and the first service-learning oriented program with a focus on social work. Building on her scholarship involving HIV/AIDS research with a specific interest in Malawi and sub-Saharan Africa, Rowan's class initiated several potentially sustainable programs in Malawi. She has also created a six-continent project linking educators and research in collaboration with colleagues in Health Informatics in the College of Health & Human Services.

Dr. Dennis Long, Chair of Department of Social Work, writes: "Dr. Diana Rowan is one of our most talented professors in the classroom. Her teaching evaluations rank as the very best in the Department and College. She has instructed an elective course on international social work and routinely presents in classes on topics involving globalization and internationalization."

(continued on page 12)



Study Abroad in China: Students from Five Colleges Explore Beijing Together

Drs. David Mozina and Jing Wang shared the following reflection on their spring course which culminated with a study abroad experience in Beijing, China, in March.

“Wow!” “Fantastic!” “It goes on as far as you can see—so impressive!”

Exclamations echoed off the grey stones as 15 intrepid undergraduates braved cold and wind to hike the Great Wall of China. They made their way up the steep steps of the famous rampart, which stretches from the East China Sea over 5,000 miles west to the Gobi Desert. After hearing student presentations on the history of the Great Wall from its origins over 2,000 years ago to its renovations in recent decades, members of the class wandered the ancient turrets and searched for traces of the military brigades that once manned them.

Religious Studies major Honey Lee voiced the impressions of many: “It’s unbelievable to know that you’re finally here after so many pictures and videos. This is IT . . . and it’s unbelievable!”

A diverse cohort of undergraduates in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the Belk College of Business, the College of Arts + Architecture, the College of Education, and the William States Lee College of Engineering, most with no prior experience studying Chinese language, history, politics, or business, enrolled in the spring 2012 study-abroad course, “Beijing in the Mirror of Time: Glimpses of Old China in a Modern Metropolis.”

“I thought [the trip] was awesome!” said Sociology major Danielle Dolphin. “We got to see firsthand what this city is like. We’ve seen the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, and many great sites. I think students should definitely do this. It’s very eye opening.”

The class spent the week of spring recess exploring vestiges of China’s imperial past and monuments to its recent history. Students took turns sharing prepared presentations of the sites while visiting them. They learned about the political intrigues of the Forbidden City, the lavish home and court of China’s emperors from the 14th century until 1912; about the architectural splendor and economic controversy surrounding the Summer



Palace, the country residence of the imperial family; and about the triumphant and tragic events that took place in Tiananmen Square, the political heart of the modern nation.

But the course was not simply a tour of famous sites.



“I think it’s more of an immersion program coming here,” said Katie Bourgeois, an International Studies major minoring in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights. “I’ve gone to other places and you definitely get a different cultural experience here. We got to see how Chinese live. We really just felt like part of the city.”

Dr. Jing Wang, co-instructor of the course and Director of the Chinese Language Program, notes, “Study abroad courses are privileges. For our 15 students, China is no longer an abstract concept; it is a real place filled with real people with real stories. Each of our students is now personally connected to that place, and any reading here at UNC Charlotte on the history, religion, politics, and business conditions in China—not to mention any Chinese language work—should feel very different from before. We encourage our students to continue the relationships they began in Beijing by seeking out China-related courses offered throughout the University.”

“One of the great virtues of studying abroad,” said Dr. David Mozina, co-instructor of the course and assistant professor of Religious Studies, “is that it makes one feel on a gut level that the assumptions each of us takes for granted do not necessarily apply to all people at all times. I think one of our students, Katie Bourgeois, put it well: ‘We’re on the other side of the world, entirely, and it feels that way.’ Great swaths of people in the world have been formed by very different histories and live their lives in very different ways. Our adventures in Beijing made the students in this course feel some of those differences. Hopefully, they will now see Charlotte in a different way, and notice peculiar cultural assumptions and practices that they would never have noticed before. The real value of traveling abroad is the perspective it lends upon coming back home.”

Wong, Associate Professor of Architecture, Serves as Visiting Professor at Tongji University



Dr. Peter Wong, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator in the School of Architecture, served as a visiting scholar at Tongji University in Shanghai, China for the fall semester of 2011.

As a visiting scholar, Wong lectured and served as a review critic in five graduate and undergraduate courses in the College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP) at Tongji University.

He also completed research on the history, recuperation, and potential modification of a traditional Shanghai 20th-century urban house type. This research included site surveys of various 1930's housing projects and has become the subject of a paper to be presented at the European Association of Architectural Education (EAAE) and Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC) in Milano, Italy in June 2012.

"The research into housing provided a way to reflect and compare historical housing morphologies, changes taking place in post-WWI Shanghai, as a means to understand from a design perspective today's rapid reconstruction of 21st century Asian city after economic reforms," says Wong.

In addition to his teaching and research, Wong contributed to two grant-funded research projects on "public places" as a collaborative effort sponsored by Tongji University and China National Nature Science Fund (CNSF). This research is expected to be completed this year.

The opportunity for this research originated when Wong and Dr. Zhongjie Lin, Assistant Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, conducted a faculty-led study abroad program for 30 undergraduate and graduate students in the School of Architecture in the summer of 2008. "Program themes and workshops during these teaching venues set the stage for my further study and research of early 20th century housing in Shanghai," said Wong.

Wong is a registered architect and has taught architectural design, history, and theory in the School



of Architecture since 1988. His research specialties include urban housing, American architecture of the 1950s and 60s, and the meaning and use of architectural representation techniques.

"The experience afforded a critical understanding of the global and developmental pressures now facing China and other East Asia countries."

Dr. Peter Wong, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator in the School of Architecture

Exploring Partnerships in China: From Charlotte to Xiangyang



Charlotte delegation with Xiangyang counterparts touring Hubei University of Arts and Sciences.

Upon invitation from the Carolina Asian American Chamber of Commerce, two staff members represented the Office of International Programs on an informational and exploratory visit to Xiangyang, China, in March. Dr. Jian Zhang, Associate Professor of Biology at UNC Charlotte also joined the group. Zhang is the past president and Board Chairman of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

The visit was arranged and funded on behalf of the Xiangyang city government to explore possible points of collaboration between governments, industries and universities in the Carolinas.

Diane Hancock, Support Services Coordinator, and Maureen White, Coordinator of International Initiatives, joined representatives from Charlotte government and private industry entities as well as colleagues from the College of Charleston for a three-day visit to the second-largest city in Hubei province. Hancock, White and Zhang explored opportunities for partnership with relevant departments of two institutions of higher education, Hubei University of Arts and Sciences and Xiangyang Technical and Vocational College.

UNC Charlotte Student Receives Prestigious Fulbright Award



Congratulations to UNC Charlotte senior, Leah Smith who was awarded a U.S. Student Fulbright award for 2012-2013 to Indonesia following a rigorous application process. More information on her award will be forthcoming in

Campus News. The application for one additional UNC Charlotte student is pending notification from Fulbright.

The Fulbright Student Program sends approximately 1,700 U.S. students abroad annually to engage in study, research, or teaching assistantships in 135 countries. The goals of the program are to provide financial support to enable students to engage in individually designed research projects or an English Teaching Assistantship, and to facilitate exchange and mutual understanding across cultures.

The UNC Charlotte internal deadline for 2013-2014 Fulbright Student applications is in September 2012. To help students prepare a rigorous application, an information session was hosted on February 13th, 2012 by the Office of Education Abroad featuring Fulbright recipient and current Fulbright application reviewer, Dr. Paul Youngman, Fulbright recipient Dr. Beth Whitaker, and Director of Education Abroad, Brad Sekulich.

If you know of students who would be competitive candidates for Fulbright grants, please direct them to Brad Sekulich sekulich@uncc.edu or visit the Institute of International Education's Fulbright Student Program website at <http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html> for more information about the application process.

Fulbrights Flourish in Graduate School Programs

UNC Charlotte's Graduate School continues to attract foreign Fulbright students to its wide array of graduate programs. To date, six international students have chosen to attend the University through the Fulbright Foreign Student Program sponsored by the U. S. Department of State and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright Program brings citizens from around the world to the United States for graduate study and research.

"Since its inception at the University, our graduate programs have welcomed these bright international students into their ranks," says Johnna Watson, Associate Dean of the Graduate School for Admissions and Enrollment Management.

Fulbright graduate students attending UNC Charlotte include:

- **Alexander Suryandono**-Indonesia
MA Architecture
- **Irene Angbing**-Ghana
MS Mathematics-Applied Statistics
- **Yudo Anggoro**-Indonesia
Ph.D. Public Policy
- **Hanne Duindam**-The Netherlands
MA, Clinical/Community Psychology
- **Maram Albastaki**-Bahrain
MA Information Technology Management
- **Dirk Feldrappe**-Germany
MA Economics

A UNC Charlotte Student Describes Her Fulbright Experience

Briana Jordan
Teaching licensure program
Turkey
2010- 2011

I worked as an English instructor at Kastamonu University, a fairly new university in the growing city. While in Turkey, I tried to interact with as many members of the community as possible. We were often invited to homes for dinner, we participated in a ladies sewing class at the local community center, and I attended many events at the university. The Fulbright was truly a life changing experience. I learned much more about culture, people, politics and world affairs than I thought I would. It was quite an interesting time to be at the gateway to the Middle East during that time of unrest all around us. I am happy that I took the opportunity to go and I would recommend it to all. The Fulbright is a great opportunity to find your strengths.



Freitag Continues Fulbright Research Fellowship in Poland

Alan Freitag, Professor of Communication Studies, traveled to Poznań, Poland in February 2012 as a Fulbright Scholar at the Poznań University of Economics. Freitag's research explores the nature of corporate communication in Polish organizations and the correlation between effective communication and job satisfaction, employee trust and other factors that impact organizational success. "My intention is to profile employee communication approaches and gauge their effectiveness in recruiting, retaining and motivating the best employees," Freitag said.

Although teaching is not his focus, he has served as a guest lecturer to undergraduate and graduate classes at his host university and in other universities. The aim of the Fulbright program is to contribute to mutual cultural understanding, and Freitag has used his lecture opportunities to serve that purpose. He has developed a lecture on the roots of public relations within the context of U.S. history, helping students see the interplay between the maturing of the discipline as it has been affected by political, historical and economic trends.

He says the faculty in his host university are outstanding, and the students are engaged, focused and motivated. "I was aware before I came of the high quality of the public relations program here at the Poznań University of Economics," Freitag said. "My experience in recent weeks has only reinforced and affirmed for me the sterling reputation this program enjoys."

At the request of the Polish Fulbright Commission, he has also lectured at the nearby Adam Mickiewicz University on the structure of graduate study in the United States, and has led workshops for groups of PR professionals.

He will remain in Poland through July 2012.

Freitag maintains a blog of his experience, PR Fulbright in Poland, and frequently updates his research progress there. To read more about his experiences, including information on the Fulbright application process, visit <http://prfulbright.blogspot.com>.



Exploring University Partnerships in Colombia



Drs. Harish Cherukuri, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science (MEES), and Debarati Dutta, Assistant Director of Writing Resources Center, visited Colombia in March on invitation from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Medellín (UNALMED). The purpose was to further develop cross-institutional teaching and research partnerships with UNALMED and other universities in Colombia. While there, they were hosted by Alejandro Toro, Professor in the School of Materials Engineering at UNALMED and a visiting professor in the MEES department at UNC Charlotte in the fall of 2009.

Cherukuri and Dutta both taught short courses to students in the School of Materials Engineering while there. Cherukuri taught Finite Element Methods and Dutta taught Writing for Academic Purposes to graduate students pursuing publications in English journals. In addition, they met with several faculty and administrators to discuss opportunities for sustained collaborations and exchange programs that are beneficial to both UNC Charlotte and UNALMED.

Of the experience, Cherukuri said "We were deeply moved by the warmth and hospitality of our hosts in Medellín. Both Dr. Toro and his wonderful group of students made the trip very special and meaningful. We look forward to sustaining this relationship with the faculty and students at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Medellín."

International Enrichment Seminar Impacts Students' Cultural Sensitivity

- 75 minutes a week
- + 100 class seats
- + 4 seminar sections
- + 3 instructors
- + 1 emphasis on international education
- = a formula for success!

The Office of International Programs offered a pilot International Enrichment (IE) Seminar class (UCOL 1205) during the Fall 2011 semester. The IE seminar introduced first-year students to the internationalization of UNC Charlotte and the Charlotte community, while encouraging intercultural exploration and self-awareness.

Students shared that the engagement-based course format allowed them to learn about opportunities to increase their intercultural competence through study abroad (98%) and the UNC Charlotte campus (91%). One student noted that the IE seminar “helped me get more familiar with my school and everything it offers”; and another student wrote that through the class she “learned a lot about UNCC and other cultures.”

The course also encouraged students to reflect upon one’s self from a cultural lens to assist them in successfully navigating an intercultural environment (83%). Findings from a paired sample t-test of the Cross-Cultural Adaptability Inventory resulted in significant change for the IE seminar students related to two of the four dimensions ($n = 30$; $p < .05$): Students improved their Emotional Resilience (ability to maintain a positive attitude, tolerate strong emotions, and cope with ambiguity/stress) ($p = .00$) and Perceptual Acuity (attentiveness to interpersonal relations and verbal/nonverbal behavior) ($p = .00$) after participating in the IE seminar. Students also demonstrated progress in their personal sense of identity ($p = .06$). Students’ flexibility and openness to ideas different from one’s



International Enrichment Seminar students competing at the World Affairs Council of Charlotte's World Quest international trivia competition.

own or people different from oneself proved to be an area for further improvement ($p = .18$).

The IE seminar will be offered again in Fall 2012 for incoming freshmen. Based on students’ feedback and instructors’ reflection, the course will be modified to align with all three of the UNC Charlotte QEP outcomes: academic success, intercultural awareness, and inquiry. A sample syllabus from Fall 2011 is available online through the OIP website at: <http://oip.uncc.edu/seminar.htm>

IE Seminar Student Outcomes:

- 98% Learned about opportunities to engage in cultural learning through study abroad
- 91% Learned about opportunities to engage in cultural learning at UNC Charlotte
- 83% Practiced conscientiously interacting within an intercultural environment
- 81% Obtained an introduction to various aspects of the field of international education
- 74% Understood more about self as a cultural being
- 74% Learned about opportunities to engage in cultural learning in the city of Charlotte

Xiamen Student Enrollment Growth in College of Business



Dr. Rick Conboy, Director of Global Business Studies and Associate Professor of Management in the Belk College of Business, posed for a photo with nine Xiamen University students enrolled in the College's early entry graduate programs for Fall 2012, which expands the College's relationship with Xiamen. The College will enroll as many as 30 students from Xiamen in the M.S. Mathematical Finance program, a joint program with the Department of Mathematics for Fall 2012. In 2011, the College enrolled 11 Xiamen students in the M.S. Finance program. Visit <http://mathfinance.uncc.edu/xiamen-partnership> for more information.

Morrow Scholarship for International Students: Recipients Announced



Undergraduate Winner
Anh Dien, Vietnam



Graduate Winner
Sajedah Safari, Iran

Now in its second year, the Morrow Scholarship for International Students is awarded to two international students in recognition of outstanding contributions made to the UNC Charlotte campus community. Each award is \$1,000.

The undergraduate scholarship recipient must hold at least a 3.0 GPA and junior or senior status. This year's winner is Anh Dien, an Accounting & Finance major in the Belk College of Business who is from Vietnam. Her personal essay described clearly how she has developed her language skills and gained a keen appreciation for cultural understanding through experiences at UNC Charlotte. Her commitment to service, the breadth of her involvement in service, and her strong academic credentials were very impressive.

The graduate scholarship recipient must hold at least a 3.5 GPA and have been enrolled at UNC Charlotte for at least one semester. This year's winner is Sajedah Safari, a Ph.D. student in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology who is from Iran. Safari described how her experience as an international student changed her and how she gained strength and perspective through her interactions with new friends from new cultures. Furthermore, she is working productively in the research environment at UNC Charlotte and already has several publications to her credit.

The 2012 selection committee consisted of Heather McCullough, Professor and Head of Digital Scholarship at Atkins Library; Judith Rowles, Assistant Director of Student Activities for Student Organizations; and Harish Cherukuri, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering.

"Crossing Borders" Writing Contest Winners Announced

The 2012 student writing contest on "Crossing Borders," sponsored by Phi Beta Delta, asked students to reflect on how their international experiences affected their view of the world. Excerpts from winning papers are included below. Full readings can be found online at <http://isso.uncc.edu/pbd/>.

ELTI Winner: Yoo Hyun Choe, South Korea

"From my perspective, almost all American things include the idea of independence. Culture, attitudes, history, education and even language ask Americans to do things by themselves....I met a teacher who loved to make people think...It changed my life. It gave me intellectual confidence."

Honorable Mentions: 1) DanAh Kang (South Korea); 2) Seong-hye Kim (South Korea)

Undergraduate Winner: Yuu Ohara, Japan

"I got to know more people and cultures from many other countries, and most importantly, I made good relationships with them, which enriched my life...We never know what kind of person someone is until we talk to them. I do not talk to countries, but I do talk to individuals."

Honorable Mentions: 1) Erin Strauss (USA); 2) Wenjing Sun (China)

Graduate Winner: Claire (Johanna) Schuch, Netherlands

"I feel my international experience has affected my view of the world in this way; it has helped me appreciate the power and importance of the individual story over a collective summary of statistics."

Honorable Mentions: 1) Chantel Hemphill (USA); 2) Yousra Javed (Iran)

The "Crossing Borders" writing competition is made possible through contributions from the Chancellor's Office, Provost's Office, College of Arts + Architecture, College of Education, Department of Africana Studies, Department of Biology, Department of Computer Science, Department of Electrical Engineering, Department of English, Global Business Programs, Belk College of Business, Department of Global, International & Area Studies, Department of Languages & Culture Studies, Dr. Harish Cherukuri, Dr. Rick Lejk, and Kurt Walthausen.



Winners and honorable mentions of the Crossing Borders writing contest receive recognition at the recent International Education Awards.

A Snapshot of the World: Annual Study Abroad Photo Exhibit

The campus community is invited to the third annual Study Abroad Student Photo Exhibit in the Student Union Art Gallery from May 2 - 12, 2012.

About 60 students who had an overseas experience in 2011 and 2012 submitted photos to the Study Abroad Photo contest for consideration. Only 52 photos, out of 184 submitted, were selected by the panel of judges for exhibit. The exhibit will show the three winners and 10 honorable mentions from each of the four categories: Landscape, Portrait, Self-Portrait, and Defining Moment. In addition, a special display of overseas 49er pride will be revealed.

A grand opening reception with refreshments and food will be held on Thursday, May 3 between 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM. The campus community is invited to attend and support education abroad and the students showcased.

Please direct questions about the exhibit or RSVP for the reception to Lisa Nevalainen at lisa.nevalainen@unc.edu.



Sophia University Students Attend *English for Scientific Purposes* Program



Twenty-nine undergraduate students from one of UNC Charlotte's most active student exchange partner institutions in Japan, Sophia University, participated in a three-week program at UNC Charlotte, *English for Scientific Purposes*, from March 1-21, 2012.

The majority of the program was devoted to science-specific English classes with guest lectures on various topics relevant to the students' majors: Biology and Information Biology, Chemistry, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering (including Machine Science/Engineering and Physics/Engineering), and Technology. The group also toured nine of UNC Charlotte's science and technology labs.

In addition to the academic components of the program, many cultural activities were included to encourage informal interaction and language exchange between the Sophia University students and UNC Charlotte students in Japanese language-courses. The students had been connected via email prior to the program and enjoyed meeting each other in person.

Sophia University is currently undertaking various grant-funded initiatives to establish degree programs in science and technology fields to be taught in English on their campus, not only for international students, but also for Japanese students with superior English skills.

UNC Charlotte Students Make Lasting Friendships with Students from South Korea

Intercultural Outreach Programs also hosted 14 students from Soongsil University in Seoul, South Korea, from January 22-February 19 for the *English Language and Culture Institute*. The four-week program included English language classes, guest lectures and cultural activities for the group of undergraduate students.

Similar to the program for Sophia University students, several UNC Charlotte student volunteers were connected to the Soongsil students via email prior to the program. The groups met in person and explored Charlotte together, often comparing cultures and lives. Many students planned to stay in touch with their new friends and continue the bond formed here in Charlotte.

"Meeting and getting to know the Korean students from Soongsil University was an unforgettable experience! Singing karaoke, exploring NoDa (Amelie's), and shopping and eating together was fun and enjoyable. The best part was getting to know my pen pal on a personal level and learning from her."

-Chee Ja Yang, UNC Charlotte student



Sawubona, South Africa! Exciting Opportunities in Stellenbosch A Student's Reflection on Study Abroad in South Africa

Nestled in the heart of heart of the Western Cape winelands, Stellenbosch is the second oldest city in South Africa after Cape Town, approximately 30 miles away. It is also home to Stellenbosch University, where UNC Charlotte students can study abroad as part of one of the University's many student exchange programs.

The Office of Education Abroad has seen growing interest in this bilateral exchange which offers students the chance to study at Stellenbosch University and receive UNC Charlotte academic credit while paying home tuition, room and board. Currently, four UNC Charlotte students are studying at Stellenbosch University for the spring 2012 semester.

Ryan Philemon, an Applied Anthropology major and International Studies minor, studied at Stellenbosch University from July-December of 2010 on a semester-long exchange program. While there, Philemon concentrated on African Studies. He took courses on Pre-Apartheid South African History, African Politics, Truth Commissions, and Transitional Justice. Philemon's own reflections on a few elements of his experience are below.



Tell us about the campus:

"Stellenbosch was a college-town and students were extremely into the Maties rugby team (a nickname like the 49ers) and rugby in general. The school and town would basically shut down for a rugby match! And everyone (but rugby players) dressed up very nice and proper to attend class. It was quite humorous when I would see Americans walking around in sweat-pants and t-shirts with flip-flops on and the South African students would stare because we looked ridiculous."

What were some cultural differences you experienced?

"The biggest cultural difference was that everyone was so friendly! There is still much segregation between the blacks and whites but no matter where I went, I was always treated with respect and the people genuinely seemed like they cared about me. I have always been the kind of person that, no matter of race or sex or age, I respect and care about their opinions and treated them as equals. In South Africa, I felt very "at home" as you might say because everyone was just so friendly."



What were the most exciting and most challenging parts?

"Most exciting: besides the safaris I went on and the tour around southern Africa, I would say the people and the friendly atmosphere around Stellenbosch and Cape Town. Also, learning to play new sports was a blast! I learned how to play rugby and cricket - but I am still terrible at cricket.

Most challenging: the language barrier. I have always had a difficult time learning new languages and to be thrown into a situation where blacks spoke Xhosa and the whites spoke Afrikaans, I had the difficult task of trying to learn two. Fortunately, the whites and younger blacks understood and spoke English fairly well so I could still make it through the five months comfortably."

What would you say to students considering studying abroad?

"For those thinking about studying abroad who are on the fence about it or even have no desire, just do it! The things you learn and see while you are away for a few months will astound you. I have gained so much appreciation for life and everything that I have, that I probably wouldn't even have thought about if I had not been abroad. You meet amazing people and find out truly who you are as a person. Bonus, it looks great on your resume because it shows employers that you are flexible to change and new situations."

International Graduate Student Support Services at UNC Charlotte Featured in International Educator Magazine



UNC Charlotte was highlighted in a recent article of the International Educator magazine, published by NAFSA: Association of International Educators. Services provided by the International Student/Scholar Office, the University's Center for Graduate Life, and International Instructor Language Support Program were all showcased as examples of how the University supports its international graduate students.

Denise Medeiros, Assistant Director of ISSO, was interviewed by the professional organization for the article. She commented on the importance of engaging with campus partners to supporting academic success for international students and to promoting a healthy, rich classroom learning environment for all students.

"Our mission is to help our students to be successful by helping them to meet their educational goals," said Medeiros in the interview. "If that's not happening because they lack certain academic support at our institutions, then our mission is not complete, and we have some work to do."

The article entitled "Easing the Transition: Building Academic Support for International Graduate Students" was published in the November/December 2011 edition of International Educator. If interested, please contact international@uncc.edu to receive a copy of the article.



Language Services Available for International Faculty and Teaching Assistants

Confidential English language consultation for international faculty is available throughout the academic year including the summer. If you are an international faculty member who would like to work on communication skills, or if you know a faculty member who would like assistance, contact Meriam Brown at mmbrown@uncc.edu or the ESL Clinic in the Center For Teaching and learning <http://teaching.uncc.edu/international-faculty-support/esl-clinic>.

In the 2011-2012 academic year, faculty, visiting scholars, and TAs in 25 UNC Charlotte departments took advantage of language support services. Though services to faculty are voluntary, ELTI also facilitates the required language assessments for new faculty and TAs for whom English is not their first language.

Departments conducting searches should arrange for required pre-employment English language assessment for any candidates for whom English is not their first language, no matter how long they have been in the U.S. or where they obtained their degrees.

Additionally, all departments who employ teaching assistants whose first language is not English must send TAs for English language assessment, regardless of length of stay in the U.S. or other U.S. institutions attended. All TAs paid out of Teaching Assistant funds are required to undergo English language testing. TA testing for Fall 2012 will be conducted on Friday, August 17 at 1:30 pm in CHHS 281.

For more information on these services or requirements, contact Meriam Brown in ELTI, at mmbrown@uncc.edu.

Colleagues in Admissions Contribute to Conference for International Educators

The annual conference of the North Carolina State Association of International Educations welcomed 175 international educators from North and South Carolina to campus March 8 and 9.

In addition to the workshops and presentations facilitated by the Office of International Programs staff, three administrators in UNC Charlotte's Office of Admissions contributed to the lineup of sessions. Kathy Giddings, Cathy Howell and Marianne Williford presented "International Admissions: Our First-Year Experience and 'Ah-Ha' Moments." The team shared lessons learned from the process of transitioning international admissions to their office.

More than 20 other sessions were available for professionals who work with international students and scholars on university and high school campuses, education abroad professionals, international admissions personnel, and those who specialize in the internationalization of university campuses through programming, recruitment, teaching, or any other means.

The Office of International Programs also sponsored a reception and luncheon where awards were distributed to professionals and community members. The 2012 Outstanding Volunteer Award, which recognizes persons who have made significant contributions as community volunteers to the internationalization of a local academic institution, was awarded to the Charlotte Host Family Program, serving the Charlotte community of international students for over 35 years.

International Women's Day Celebrated at UNC Charlotte

UNC Charlotte held the seventh annual International Women's Day Celebration on Thursday, March 22, 2012. Over 100 students, faculty, and staff attended the event honoring women in our campus community who have made an impact on the lives of women locally and globally.

The celebration featured two international students who spoke about the significance of the day from the cultural, historical and political perspectives of each of their countries: Patricia Morsch, a graduate student in Gerontology from Brazil, and Prajakta Apte, a graduate student in Electrical Engineering from India.

Also featured for the seventh year was the UNC Charlotte Women's Glee, directed by Ginger Wyrick. The ensemble performed an a cappella piece entitled Ubi Caritas, arranged by a female composer, Eleanor Daley, and published by a Raleigh-owned publishing company which publishes works written only by women, to be sung by women.

Faculty, staff, and students were invited to nominate individuals in our campus community who embody the richness of internationalism and whose contributions make a difference in our every-day lives. Thirty-three women with different backgrounds, cultures, and roles on campus were nominated by their peers and all were recognized individually in the ceremony. For a listing of this year's nominees, the program and photos, go to <http://oip.uncc.edu/IWD>.

This annual event is co-sponsored by the Office of International Programs (OIP) and the Multicultural Resource Center (MRC). Denise Medeiros and Maureen White, with OIP, and Ted Lewis, with MRC, served as co-chairs of the 2012 IWD planning committee.



"An enjoyable and entertaining event. The music was beautiful, the food was great, and the cultural perspectives offered by the two international students was very interesting, a nice touch. I'm grateful to have been included."

*--Carol Stivender, Department of Economics,
2012 IWD honoree*

International Speaker Series Focuses on Brazil



"Brazil at a Glance"
Dr. Salomao De Farias
Halton Reading Room
Atkins Library
April, 25 3:30-5:00 PM

Dr. Salomao De Farias will deliver a multi-media presentation on Brazil's language, demographics and cultural heritage, as well as the country's current economic situation, on Wednesday, April 25 in the Halton Reading Room of Atkins Library as part of the OIP International Speaker Series.

De Farias is the 2011-2012 Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at Central Piedmont Community College. He is on leave from the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE) in Recife, Brazil where he is a professor of Marketing.

This is the fifth and final installation of the 2011-2012 International Speaker Series, presented in collaboration with OIP, Atkins Library, the Department of Global, International and Area Studies and the World Affairs Council of Charlotte.

To RSVP or for more information on the event, contact the Office of International Programs at international@uncc.edu or call (704) 687-7305. Also visit <http://oip.uncc.edu/intlspeakers.htm> for information on past speakers.

Brazilian Student Reflects on Life at UNC Charlotte



Patricia Morsch
Gerontology student
Rio Grande de Sol, Brazil

Patricia Morsch did not know anything about the Charlotte area, nor did she know anyone in the city when she moved here from Brazil to complete a Masters in Gerontology. She remembers being very lonely the first couple of weeks on campus before classes started, although spending time with her host family (organized through the International Student/Scholar Office) helped her cope. She often misses drinking chimarrão tea with family in the afternoons, a tradition that she has tried to follow with friends here in Charlotte.

Morsch will graduate in May and return home to Brazil. While she is eager to again become intimately involved in the daily lives of her family members, she knows she will miss the life she made for herself here. What will she miss most about her life in Charlotte? Starbucks!

Faculty Volunteer Opportunity with the National Democratic Institute

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nongovernmental organization that has supported democratic institutions and practices in every region of the world for more than two decades. Since its founding in 1983, NDI and its local partners have worked to establish and strengthen political and civic organizations, safeguard elections, and promote citizen participation, openness and accountability in government.

During the Democratic National Convention, NDI will host the NDI International Leaders Forum. NDI invites approximately 300~400 international leaders, largely comprised of government and civic leaders representing more than 100 countries, to attend the Forum and engage in dialogue regarding policy matters at the forefront of the USA presidential election.

UNC Charlotte has the opportunity to identify student and faculty volunteers to assist with the NDI Forum: September 3-6, 2012. The NDI is particularly interested in individuals with language proficiency in English as well as competency in an additional language (with preference given to Russian, Spanish, French, and Arabic speakers).

If you wish to volunteer, please send your information to Courtney Counts at ccounts@clt2012.com. An overview of the NDI is available online at <http://www.ndi.org>.



Student Internships Available with the 49er Democracy Experience

As the Queen City prepares to host the 2012 Democratic National Convention, UNC Charlotte is collaborating with businesses, civic leadership and community organizations, as well as other institutions of higher education to offer the 49er Democracy Experience.

The Democracy Experience unites faculty, students, and community partners to develop programming that will enhance public understanding of and participation in the U.S. democratic process. Students can apply for a variety of internships through the UNC Charlotte Career Center's NinerJobNet. For more details, visit democracyexperience.uncc.edu.

Panel Discussion: "International Careers for Young Professionals"

The Office of International Programs partnered with the Magellan Society, the young professionals' branch of the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, to host an international career panel at the Center City Building on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

Four early-career professionals discussed their experiences and offered advice pertinent to those entering the job market, particularly those who are pursuing work in international fields. The panelists discussed various perspectives on pursuing graduate education directly after graduation or after gaining professional experiences. Each panelist also highlighted the value of leveraging volunteer and internship experience into networking opportunities.

The panel was moderated by Alexis Gordon, Program Director of the Charlotte International Cabinet and panelists included:

- Laure Dasse
Operations Manager, Teupen USA
Executive Director, French American Chamber of Commerce of Charlotte, NC
- Stephen George
Entrepreneur with experience in several fields including law and travel/tourism
- Krystal Ostic
Program Coordinator, Intercultural Outreach Programs, Office of International Programs at UNC Charlotte
- Elena Shipina
Strategist, Wells Fargo Commercial Bank



Rowan Honored (continued from page 1)

Rowan received a plaque commemorating her recognition and a \$2000 stipend award. The faculty international education award is generously supported by the Belk College of Business and the Office of International Programs.

The International Education Reception is an opportunity to say thank you to the many faculty, staff and students who contribute to the international experience at UNC Charlotte. It is co-sponsored by the Office of International Programs and UNC Charlotte's Mu Chapter of the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars.

Developing Global Competencies for Professional Success

In keeping with the University's commitment to developing students' global competencies, the Office of International Programs (OIP) is pleased to highlight opportunities like those listed below including (1) the National Democratic Institute, (2) the 49er Democracy Experience, and (3) the recent International Career Panel which offered a forum for discussion on the value of intercultural experiences in today's workforce. Additionally, several offices within OIP offer internships focused on various facets of international education. Details on those office-specific opportunities are available by contacting the respective unit listed on page 15.

Internship opportunities are also available through the Going Global online database of international jobs and internships. OIP and the University Career Center have partnered together to provide this resource to the UNC Charlotte community. In addition to internship information, the site provides country-specific, USA-city-specific, and H-1B resources. Link access will soon be available through the OIP and UCC websites. Visit the Going Global website for an advance review of resources at <http://www.goingglobal.com/>. UNC Charlotte international internship questions can be directed to the Office of Education Abroad at edabroad@uncc.edu or UCC at career@uncc.edu.

UNC Charlotte 49ers Engage in Internationally-Relevant Internships

OIP is also pleased to highlight two UNC Charlotte students currently participating in internationally-relevant internships in the Charlotte community. Below, Danielle LaPlace and Jebi Nevins reflect on their internship experiences and how the global skill sets they are building will translate into professional success.



Danielle LaPlace
Graduate Student
International Studies, French

Hometown: Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis, West Indies

Current Internship: Legislative Fellows Project Manager, Youth English Tutoring Program Project Manager

"International House has taught me to be a dedicated, independent worker who can expect the unexpected and produce quality outcomes."



Jebi Nevins
Senior
International Business

Hometown: Charlotte, NC

Current Internship: Job Bank Assistant at the Latin American Coalition

"The LAC staff is very supportive of interns, and has a wealth of knowledge to offer them! The clients are very engaging, are always happy to spend time with the interns and open to advice we can give them."

International House

Contact: Norma Jiron 704.333.8099
njiron@ihclt.com

International House provides services to Charlotte's international community through foreign-language conversation hours, cultural events, citizen diplomacy programs, an international women's group, language classes, free citizenship workshops, legal services for low-income immigrants, and more.

Some of the internship and volunteer opportunities contribute to the following programs:

Citizen Diplomacy

English Tutoring Program

Youth English Tutoring Program

Adult ESL

Latin American Coalition

Contact: Bonnie Carter 704.941.6735
bcarter@latinamericancoalition.org

The Latin American Coalition currently has five student interns from UNC Charlotte who are able to contribute to and gain work experience in English as a Second Language, Immigration Law Clinic, Workforce Development, and Victim's Assistance and Crisis Intervention programming initiatives.

Some of the current and upcoming internship and volunteer opportunities include:

Immigrant Rights Program Assistant

Banco de Trabajo Assistant

Resource Center Assistant

Summer of Justice Internship

Fond Farewells

Nancy Pfungstag Retires After 32 Years in the Office of International Programs



Regarded as a consummate professional who has helped prepare countless international students for the challenges of the classroom and life beyond UNC Charlotte, Nancy Pfungstag is putting down her chalk after 32 years of service to and love of this University.

Pfungstag started her journey in the English Language Training Institute in 1978. Typical for the ever-inquisitive scholar, she first offered

her services as a tutor to gain more insight into the international students enrolled in her first-year writing classes, but fell in love with the ESL world and remained at ELTI thereafter. In 1982 she became a full-time lecturer, and from 1983 to 1990 served as the growing program's first full-time coordinator. In 1990 she returned to her true love and calling in the classroom, and has remained ELTI's strongest proponent and cheerleader ever since.

"Nan" is a truly gifted teacher adored by her students, colleagues and supervisors for her diligence, passion and pursuit of excellence. She is a well-respected scholar known especially in ESL circles for her expertise on second-language writing issues. Her infectious smile and ever-lasting positive enthusiasm will be sorely missed in the ELTI program.

Following her usual optimistic philosophy, Pfungstag wrote in her retirement letter, "Joseph Campbell advised us all to follow our bliss, and for the last 30+ years I have blissfully done so. I honestly can say that I have loved every semester with the ELTI students."

Pfungstag is married to UNC Charlotte professor of English, Ron Lunsford, and has two children and five grandchildren.

Featuring her usual beaming smile, Pfungstag said, "I plan to eat beignets in New Orleans with my grandchildren, march in Mardi Gras parades, and enjoy Jazz Fest," after she finishes her duties for the spring semester.

Celebrations of her incredibly rich and rewarding career at UNC Charlotte will be announced through OIP, or you can contact international@uncc.edu for more information.



Best Wishes as Youngman Moves On

After nine years at UNC Charlotte, Dr. Paul Youngman, professor of German in the Department of Languages and Culture Studies, says farewell in order to direct the Language and International Studies program at his alma mater, Washington and Lee University. Youngman served as a champion for campus internationalization efforts at UNC Charlotte, working tirelessly to promote faculty research and engagement overseas, student enrollment in study abroad, and opportunities for curriculum integration of education abroad. He will be deeply missed but never forgotten by his colleagues in OIP!



Susan Lambert Retires after 24 years

Susan Lambert retired March 30 after 24 years in the Office of International Programs.

Susan came to OIP in 1992 as an instructor in the English Language Training Institute (ELTI) after working in summer programs at the University since

1988. She began coordinating short-term programs within ELTI on a part-time basis. By 1993 program requests necessitated a full-time commitment, and Intercultural Outreach Programs (IOP) emerged as an operational area within OIP. IOP facilitates short-term training programs for international student or professional groups.

Lambert's extensive experience designing, coordinating, and implementing client-focused tailored training and certificate programs, as well as teaching English as a Second Language, were valuable in her role as the IOP director. Lambert earned her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Kentucky, a B.S. from the University of Michigan, and a post-graduate North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language.

The Office of International Programs is pleased to recognize her many years of service to her field and to our office. OIP will continue to offer short-term academic programs for incoming groups of international participants. Please contact ioprograms@uncc.edu for more information. For details on an upcoming celebratory gathering planned in Lambert's honor, please contact international@uncc.edu.

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