



Welcome from Assistant Provost for International Programs



Dear Colleagues,

It is difficult to believe that our spring semester 2014 has ended. As such, OIP reflects on its work over the course of this academic year. First and foremost, we have been extremely encouraged by our campus' overall enthusiasm and commitment to internationalization. I

am awestruck by the level of international activity on campus, including those initiatives that are generated by the various academic departments and colleges as well as those that are coordinated by the Office of International Programs. We are indeed reaching an exciting point where, each week, there are a number of activities and opportunities for our students, faculty, and staff to experience the world, right here on our campus.

Of particular note this year, we have been recognized for some amazing accomplishments. Among these recognitions are the Chronicle of Higher Education's acknowledgement of UNC Charlotte being one of the Top Fulbright Scholar Producers at a Research Institution, as well as being awarded the St. Thomas Aquinas Medal of Honor by one of our oldest exchange partners, the University of Cantabria in Santander, Spain, for having a major impact on the life of their university. On the student front, we have recently learned that three of our students will be receiving prestigious Fulbright fellowships to teach and to conduct research abroad. We also have a record number of international students enrolled at UNC Charlotte this year, and one of the 2014 commencement speakers was an international student - a first in UNC Charlotte's history.

Our campus should be proud of its recent accomplishments; yet we should endeavor to continue infusing a strong international dimension into the teaching, research, and service missions of our institution.

As we prepare for the next academic year, I invite you to explore ways in which we can encourage and support our community to value and connect with our world's diverse people, cultures and traditions. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to partnering with you next fall.

Joël A. Gallegos

Assistant Provost for International Programs

20th Annual International Education Reception Honors Fumie Kato and Myron KcKenzie

The Office of International Programs (OIP) recognized two recipients with 2014 International Education Awards.

Fumie Kato, Associate Professor in the Department of Languages and Culture Studies, received the faculty international education award. She was recognized for the broad scope of her commitment to championing international education at UNC Charlotte.

Over the last 12 years, Kato has built one of the largest Japanese undergraduate programs in North Carolina. She has hired and mentored nearly a dozen full- and part-time Japanese language faculty, enhanced the success of existing study abroad programs, and found scholarship money to send UNC Charlotte students to study in Japan. Kato received a plaque commemorating her recognition and a \$2000 stipend.

Myron McKenzie is the recipient of the student award. McKenzie, a Spanish major, studied for a semester at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra; is a member of the National Collegiate Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi; tutored students in Spanish; and volunteered as a translator at the Coalición Latinoamericana. McKenzie received a plaque and a \$500 stipend.

The International Education Reception celebrates international education at UNC Charlotte and recognizes faculty, staff, and students for outstanding contributions in international scholarship, research, study, and service. The reception and awards are co-hosted by OIP and the Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars.



International Speaker Series Welcomed Ambassadors and Political Leaders

As part of the 6th Annual International Speaker Series, the Office of International Programs continued longstanding partnerships with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, Atkins Library, and the Department of Global, International, and Area Studies to host five speakers during the Spring 2014 semester to engage with students and faculty around global topics. Spring 2014 speakers are listed below. More information, including past speakers, can be found at <http://oip.uncc.edu/intlspeakers.htm>.



Lawrence J. Gumbiner, Deputy US Permanent Representative at the US Mission to the Organization of American States

Thursday, April 3, 2014



Ichiro Fujisaki, former Ambassador of Japan to the United States

Thursday, March 20, 2014



Dr. Stuart Hillmansen, Director of the Centre for Railway Research and Education at the University of Birmingham, UK

Wednesday, February 19, 2014



Sergey I. Kislyak, Ambassador of the Russian Federation

Thursday, January 30, 2014



Manuel Sager, Ambassador of Switzerland to the United States

Monday, January 27, 2014

Delegation from Kingston University Visits Campus



A delegation from Kingston University, one of the Office of International Program's oldest and most active partners abroad, visited campus from March 31-April 2, 2014.

Deputy Vice Chancellor David Mackintosh, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education Lesley-Jane Eales-Reynolds, Dean of Learning & Teaching Clarissa Wilks and Head of Planning Matt Hiely-Rayner met with staff members from various UNC Charlotte offices during their visit to

Charlotte. The delegation primarily discussed academic services and support for underrepresented students; employment preparation; curriculum and teaching support; and business information and strategy.

The delegation met with Provost Joan Lorden, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Beth Hardin, and Senior Associate Provost Jay Raja, in addition to various staff in offices involved with student support services.

The delegation enjoyed a luncheon hosted by Chancellor Philip L. Dubois and Lisa Lewis Dubois at the Bissell House prior to their return to the United Kingdom.

20th Annual German-American Faculty Symposium

UNC Charlotte will host faculty and administrators from Paedagogische Hochschule Ludwigsburg (Ludwigsburg University of Education in Germany) this June for the 20th annual German-American Faculty Symposium. The group will be on campus for one week and will present research in collaboration with UNC Charlotte faculty in the College of Education.

The institutional partnership in Ludwigsburg began with one student and faculty language exchange opportunity in 1985. As of 2014 over 300 students have participated in exchange programs between the two institutions.

In addition to student exchange opportunities, strong faculty and staff partnerships have developed. A series of faculty symposia began in 1995 to highlight and explore cross-cultural educational issues. The symposia location alternates between Charlotte, North Carolina and Ludwigsburg, Germany.



Engineering for Development: International Service Learning Program Between UNC Charlotte and the Catholic University (PUCP) of Peru



Dr. Brett Tempest and Dr. Miguel Pando, of the UNC Charlotte Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, offer a study abroad course entitled “Engineering for Development Workers.” The heart of the program involves a partnership and collaboration between the Catholic University of Peru (PUCP) in Lima, Peru and UNC Charlotte in multiple areas including rural development, research on natural hazard mitigation, sustainability, and other topics. Students participating in the program benefit from a series of seminars offered by PUCP and UNC Charlotte faculty in these areas.

To date two projects have been completed in the Peruvian community of Paru Paru. In July 2012 students designed and built a reinforced concrete pedestrian bridge in collaboration with community members, pictured above. The following year, two UNC Charlotte graduate students designed and constructed a vehicular bridge to replace the deck of an existing bridge.

A new group of students is getting ready to embark on a third project in July 2014. The students will arrive in Lima and spend a week attending theoretical and practical seminars on the PUCP campus before travelling to the village of Paru Paru, where they will begin the service project based on a community needs assessment carried out by the initial group of student travelers in 2011.

This program provides valuable study abroad experiences to UNC Charlotte students, and demonstrates that service learning projects can have an essential impact on the education and career direction of engineering students. For more information on this program please feel free to contact Dr. Tempest or Dr. Pando at brett.tempest@uncc.edu or mpando@uncc.edu, respectively.

UNC Charlotte Students Featured in Italian Media

A group of UNC Charlotte students recently received media attention during their education abroad experience in Italy. Eight students traveled to the Vicenza area of Italy with Daniela Cunico Dal Pra, Lecturer in the Department of Languages and Culture Studies, to learn about Italian culture as part of the La Serenissima: Journey Through the Region Veneto spring break program.

Students were highlighted in the local newspaper *Il Giornale di Vicenza Clic* after visiting the office of the Vice-Mayor and First Counselor of the Mayor for the development of the region, Mr. Jacopo Bulgarini D’Elci. During the meeting, Dal Pra expressed her desire to continue to increase exposure of UNC Charlotte students to the Vicenza area through study abroad. Vice-Mayor Bulgarini welcomed the initiative, highlighting the fact that the Municipal Administration of Vicenza is committed to the development and economic enhancement of the region, particularly through study and tourism.



This is the second year that Dal Pra has directed this faculty-led spring break program in Vicenza, administered in conjunction with the Office of Education Abroad.

For more information on this program or the other spring break programs offered in 2014, please visit <http://edabroad.uncc.edu/>.



If you are a faculty member interested in directing your own program internationally, please contact Kimberly Kuhn in the Office of Education Abroad at kkuhn3@uncc.edu.

A RECORD 635 UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENTS WILL HAVE STUDIED ABROAD BETWEEN AUGUST 2013 - JULY 2014.

Goldfield Presents About Black History Month Events in Brussels



In February, Dr. David Goldfield, the Robert Lee Bailey Professor of History, discussed the history and contemporary relevance of Black History Month in a discussion hosted by the US Embassy to Belgium and the US Mission to the European Union in celebration of Black History Month in Brussels. Goldfield was joined on the panel by Dr. Maboula Soumahoro of the University of Tours in France, and Dr. Michael Privot, Director of the European Network Against Racism.

Goldfield was interviewed by Belgium’s first and only English-speaking radio station, Radio X, and presented to the students of Sint Pieterscollege High School in Leuven, Belgium. The topic of the civil rights movement is new to most students, and teachers were holding special lessons on the subject. Goldfield also gave a briefing to US Embassy personnel on the 1964 Civil Rights Act and racial progress over the past 50 years, and presented on the 2014 United States elections at the Free University of Brussels.

Goldfield has published 16 books on various aspects of Southern and American history, including his most recent book, the best-selling *America Aflame: How the Civil War Created a Nation*. Two of his books have been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Fulbright Grant Expands UNC Charlotte India Initiative



In March 2014 Associate Director for International Programs, Dr. Christina Sanchez, participated on the Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar. Nine educators from institutions throughout the USA were selected for the seminar coordinated by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

The seminar focused on the higher education system in India, from credit/degree expectations and organizational structures, to assessment/accreditation processes and student support. The seminar included visits to 11 universities and one high school in New Delhi, Hyderabad, and Pune. Various faculty members are exploring points of connection with several institutions in India. OIP will be issuing a mini-grant call for proposals to further develop engagement opportunities in India.



First International Student Graduation Speaker



On a bus ride with the International Club to visit Washington, DC, Charles Rose shared his story about coming from the Bahamas to UNC Charlotte with OIP staff member, Chau Tran. After receiving encouragement and support, Rose next delivered his story as the first international student to be selected as a commencement speaker at UNC Charlotte.

In his speech Rose embraced being “crazy” if it meant persevering and holding on to faith when people try to say something is impossible. His completion of an engineering degree proves that one can beat the odds. Read about his journey at <http://tinyurl.com/Rose2014>.

Three Students Receive Fulbright Grants for 2014-2015

In September 2013 the Student Fulbright Committee recommended three UNC Charlotte students for Fulbright grants. After a national and international review of the applications, all three students were awarded Fulbright grants for 2014-2015.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the US government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the US Congress to the US Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. US and international participating governments, host institutions, corporations, and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support. Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. The program operates in over 155 countries worldwide.

Each year the Campus Student Fulbright Committee holds a spring workshop to inform students on how best to prepare for the grant competition. Students must be US citizens at the time of application. For more information on UNC Charlotte’s Student Fulbright process please contact Brad Sekulich, Director of the Office of Education Abroad, at Sekulich@unc.edu.



Celia Karp, a Communications Studies major with a concentration in Public Relations, will travel to Ecuador on a grant to research “Communication, Culture, and Health: Investigating Maternal Mortality in Ecuador.”



Caitlin Vaverek, an Education Major in the Dual License Program for Special and Elementary Education, will go to Nepal on an English Teaching Assistantship Grant.



James Coleman, a graduate student studying for a Master of Arts in Teaching in English as a Second Language, will head to France also on an English Teaching Assistantship Grant.

Global Gateways Completes Inaugural Year



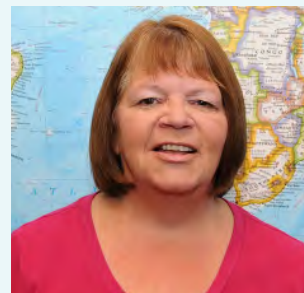
Over the 2013-2014 academic year, 42 students representing eight countries engaged in various activities to expand their global awareness and intercultural skills through participation in the Global Gateways (GG) residential program. Residents in GG brought cultural insights from their passport country, as well as the 38 countries where the students have lived, studied, and/or traveled.

The Global Gateways program housed students from all class standings (first-year to seniors) and looks to host a couple of graduate students for its second year. All members contribute to the house programming initiatives for the academic, social, service, and international engagement committees.

OIP enjoyed expanding its linkages with the Department of Languages and Culture Studies for implementation of various GG events. Some activities for Spring 2014 included a French film viewing of *Prête-moi ta Main* and crepe making party, the Hindu celebration of Holi Moli, an "Around the World" T-shirt Trivia Contest, and the launch of an ongoing community service relationship with OurBRIDGE, a local afterschool program for immigrant and refugee children.

Faculty/staff interested in exploring programming partnership can contact OIP Associate Director, Dr. Christina Sanchez at c.sanchez@uncc.edu.

Farewell to International Student/Scholar Office's Debbie Wilson



After 27 years, Debbie Wilson will be retiring from the International Student/Scholar Office at the end of the month. The Office of International Programs would like to thank her for her exceptional support of international initiatives, and in particular her work with international students at UNC Charlotte. Contact intlssso@uncc.edu for details of an upcoming farewell event.

Campus Partnerships Support Undergraduate International Student Admissions

In Spring 2013, international undergraduate admissions moved from the Graduate School to the Undergraduate Admissions Office, and Emily Ring was hired as the Assistant Director for International Admissions. In that time, the Office of International Programs (OIP) has been pleased to support an increased and expanded level of partnership between the two areas.

Of particular note is Ring's interaction with students in the English Language Training Institute (ELTI), most of whom are improving their English skills in order to matriculate into UNC Charlotte or other undergraduate or graduate schools in the United States. Once a week, Ring moves her office from Cato to the Office of International Programs where she is easily accessible to ELTI students. During these open hours, Ring meets one-on-one with interested students to provide guidance on the University application requirements and admissions processes as well as specific majors, program requirements, and more.

Ring's support of ELTI student applications is especially important given the increasing percentage of the international undergraduate student body that comes to UNC Charlotte via the intensive English program. Currently, 162 of 381 international undergraduate students enrolled in UNC

Charlotte first studied a semester or longer with ELTI.

Looking ahead, Ring foresees opportunities for more focused and thorough international undergraduate recruitment following data collection regarding which international populations are underrepresented on the UNC Charlotte campus.

ELTI and OIP extend a warm welcome to Ring and celebrate the strengthened linkages with the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

OIP continues to work closely with The Graduate School to assist in recruitment, visa issues, and matriculation of all international graduate students, largely through the efforts of the International Student/Scholar Office.



UNC Charlotte Student Receives CIEE Grant to Study Abroad

Iman Karnabi, a senior majoring in Public Health and Communications, has been awarded a \$1,200 Global Access Initiative (GAIN) grant from the Council on International Exchange (CIEE) for the 2014 Summer Amsterdam London Comparative Public Health Systems program in Amsterdam, Netherlands. She will be studying in both London and Amsterdam from May to July and will be representing UNC Charlotte and the Office of International Programs in these two countries.

Karnabi hopes to work for the World Health Organization or an organization with similar goals and principles. She describes her motivation for studying health systems abroad: "If only one word could be used to describe what has motivated me to study abroad, I would pick exploration. It is simple, yet it conveys the many facets that continue to fuel my fire for wanting to expand my academic experience overseas. To explore means to look at something carefully and thoroughly in order to learn more about it. The yearning for exploration among individuals is what has initiated the discovery of new ideas, places, and inventions throughout world history. It has aided in the advancement of humankind whether through technology or cross-cultural relations.

By studying abroad, I will be tapping into my continuous urge to explore; a desire that has followed me for as long as I can think back.

Whether I was inquiring about how far the thick trees in my backyard stretched as a child, wondered why health disparities exist around the world while sitting in a lecture class, or daydreamed about viewing the bustling city of London from the London Eye while listening to The Beatles, my innate curiosity for my surroundings has had an enormous impact on how I view the world around me and has ultimately led to my decision to study abroad in order to continue feeding my astounding appetite for exploration."

For more information about opportunities to study abroad, contact the Office of Education Abroad at edabroad@uncc.edu.

Faculty, Staff, and Students Honored at International Women's Day Celebration

Fifty-seven UNC Charlotte faculty, staff, and students were nominated by their peers and honored as UNC Charlotte celebrated International Women's Day (IWD) on Thursday, March 27.



This annual event includes historical and cultural information as well as a recognition ceremony to acknowledge all individuals nominated for their impact on the lives of women locally and globally.

All nominees were recognized with special showcase recognition of three nominees in each category. For a complete listing of nominees, visit oip.uncc.edu/IWD.

In addition, the audience heard from Dr. Maren Coffman, Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, and two students who spoke about a recent education abroad experience in Cuba and the celebration of IWD in Cuba.

Additionally, more than 100 voices from the UNC Charlotte Women's Glee, under direction of

Ginger Wyrick, performed two a capella pieces to commemorate the date.

IWD is recognized by the United Nations on March 8 and celebrated in countries around the world to honor women's achievements and to inspire leadership and development related to women's issues.

The UNC Charlotte campus community has celebrated IWD since 2006.

The event is co-sponsored by the Office of International Programs and the Multicultural Resource Center with support from the Women's and Gender Studies Program in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Women's Programs in the Dean of Students Office.

Images of the 2014 celebration can be viewed at tinyurl.com/uncciw2014.

Winners of International Student Scholarships Announced



Now in its third year, the International Student Scholarship has been awarded to two international students in recognition of outstanding contributions made to the UNC Charlotte campus community. Each award is \$1000.

The Morrow Scholarship for International Students is awarded to an international undergraduate junior or senior. The 2014 winner is Chinese citizen Wenjing Sun, a senior Economics major with a concentration in Statistics.

The Graduate Scholarship for International Students is awarded to an international graduate student who has been enrolled at UNC Charlotte for at least one semester. Indian citizen Dhavel Patel, a Computer Science major, is the 2014 winner.

The 2014 selection committee included Jessica Siracusa from the Office of International Programs, Regena Brown from the Multicultural Resource Center, and Monica Freeman from the Center for Graduate Life.

ISSO Celebrates 10 Years of International Coffee Hour



Ten years ago the International Student/Scholar Office (ISSO) launched its very successful International Coffee Hour (ICH) program through the support of the Office of International Programs (OIP). Started as a three-part pilot program, the goal was to create an informal atmosphere for international and domestic UNC Charlotte students, faculty, and staff to gather together and engage in dialogue over a cup of coffee.

“The concept is not an uncommon one,” says ICH founder Denise Medeiros, Assistant Director of ISSO, who implemented the program upon her

arrival from her former institution. “I saw an opportunity for more sustained interaction among international and US domestic students and really liked the simplicity of the program and the opportunity it offered for authentic discussions across cultures. After witnessing the International Festival for the first time in 2003, I wanted the celebration of UNC Charlotte’s international campus community to continue throughout the year!”

Each ICH event begins quietly as people arrive and greet one another; however, as more voices fill the room, conversation overpowers the multi-cultural selection of music playing in the background. Students can be seen playing Jenga or card games and overheard discussing topics as casual as what’s happening in their classes to those as sensitive as religion and dating.

ICH now has an average attendance of over 100 people, the majority of whom are international students pursuing degrees,

on short-term exchange, or enrolled in the English Language Training Institute. There are also US students in attendance that have either had an international experience or are simply interested in meeting people from other cultures, or fulfilling class assignments.

International students often mention that they feel much more confident practicing conversational English at ICH over other settings because they find people to be friendly and genuinely interested in learning and sharing culture.

Check online for the summer ICH schedule at <http://oip.uncc.edu>.



Crossing Borders Winners Announced

The annual Crossing Borders student writing contest asks students to reflect on how their international experience affected their view of the world. The competition is a joint project of the Mu chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars and the International Club. Excerpts from winning papers in three categories are included below.

English Language Training Institute Winner: Sokona Bocar Sow, Mali

Essay: *My International Experience*

“This adventure taught me that wealth, luxury, or foods to eat are not the real sources of happiness, but true happiness is to appreciate what we have.”

Honorable mentions in this category are: Nesreen Elathram (Libya) and Hanin Elathram (Libya).

Undergraduate Student Winner: Taryn Walls, USA

Essay: *A Worldview Seen Through Pronouns*

“References to ‘my home school’ and ‘my old club’ ceased to be as important, and became gradually unneeded as I formed independent friendships. Instead, my focus became Kingston, ‘our club,’ and ‘its members.’ I found a sense of belonging.”

Honorable mentions in this category are: Yaejun Sun (South Korea) and Halima Khan (Pakistan).

Graduate Student Winner: Lindsay Shytle, USA

Essay: *One World*

“Sitting on the mat on a beautiful sunny day, I could have been with my grandmother in Shelby, North Carolina, frying okra. Or sitting with a neighbor just enjoying her presence without much conversation. The time we had was not wrought with emotion, but rather pleasant and relaxing. Malawi is not so far from us, so different than us.”

Honorable mentions in this category are: Abeer AlJarrah (Jordan) and Jiali Liu (China).

**“TRUE
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Intern Returns Home to Hokkaido University, Japan After Seven-Month Stay at UNC Charlotte



Tomokazu “Tomo” Miyata departed UNC Charlotte in mid-March concluding his seven-month term as Program Intern with Intercultural Outreach Programs (IOP). Miyata joined UNC Charlotte in late August through a placement by the Long-Term Education Administrators Program (LEAP).

As a member of LEAP, he studied English language and US International Education strategies intensively prior to his joining UNC Charlotte.

“Tomo’s contribution to the mission of the Office of International Programs (OIP) at UNC Charlotte has been phenomenal. We are still benefiting from his efforts. I cannot imagine that Tomo’s shoes will ever be filled in the same capacity,” said Kelly Franklin, Director of the English Language Training Institute at UNC Charlotte.

Miyata’s impact reached far beyond the administrative hallways.

He connected with students at UNC Charlotte through many different forums.

For the First Year International Enrichment Seminar Courses he sat on several Ambassador panels where he shared his personal experiences

as an expat and higher education administrator; he coordinated the efforts of 21 Japanese Language students participating in a Pen Pal program with students from Tokyo, Japan; and he volunteered at each International Coffee Hour.

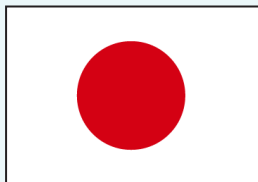
Perhaps most impressively, Miyata assisted in the coordination of three short-term training programs for international students.

His role during the training programs often included orientation presentations, event organization, and, to many, an empathetic friend who also knows what it is like to be away from home.

He directly influenced the success of three programs, totaling 50 international students.

“Tomo’s many accomplishments during his tenure with IOP will not be quickly forgotten,” says Miyata’s internship supervisor, Jessica Siracusa. “His tremendous effort, enthusiasm, and interest in advancing not only International Programs’ departmental agendas but also for improving his own skills within the field is truly commendable. A trusted colleague and friend to all of us, Tomo will forever have a place in our OIP family.”

Miyata has returned home to continue his career in International Education at Hokkaido University, Japan.



Charlotte Host Family Program Helps Create “Home Away from Home”

Local community members have introduced students from abroad to US American culture for many years. The Charlotte Host Family program, started in 1973, fosters friendships between host families and international students at UNC Charlotte.

Coordinator Lanier Ellis recently started volunteering with the program and believes that the relationships created between hosts and students offer exciting opportunities

for cross-cultural exchange.

“International students at UNC Charlotte appreciate and remember host families who show sincere friendship and everyday kindness by inviting them to their home for a meal and to meet the family,” says Ellis.

Individuals and families with interest in intercultural experiences are invited to host UNC Charlotte international students. To apply or learn more about the organization, visit www.hostfamilyprogram.org.

Kabbas’ Study Abroad Journey in the USA



For Saudi Arabian citizen Eman Kabbas, the first step toward a Ph.D. in Mathematics began with a Master’s program thousands of miles away from home. While she could have certainly attended graduate school in Saudi Arabia, she opted

instead to enroll in a graduate program at UNC Charlotte.

“Studying in my country would have given me what I was looking for,” says Kabbas of pursuing a higher degree in Mathematics, “but I have to say, studying in the US is giving me that and many more advantages.”

She believes that studying abroad is more challenging but yields more outcomes. The young mother of three moved to Charlotte along with her family, which required some adjusting to both a new country, and new roles within the family.

“My husband is doing his best to handle being at home not working, and I am also doing my best squeezing my schedule at school in order to be home most of the time,” she says.

And although the children had to adapt to living in the States, it has not been a big problem because they were enrolled in American schools in Saudi Arabia.

Kabbas is thankful for the faculty and staff at UNC Charlotte, and says that the international experience has been the best journey she has ever undertaken.

Kabbas graduated in May 2014 and wants to find a college teaching job before pursuing a Ph.D.

Intercultural Outreach Programs Hosts 20 Japanese Science Majors for Three-Week Program



Intercultural Outreach Programs (IOP) hosted 20 undergraduate science majors in March for a program entitled “English for Scientific Purposes”. Students majoring in Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Engineering, and Computer Science, among others, came to UNC Charlotte through International Programs’ connection with Japanese partner institution Sophia University.

Throughout their stay participants received English language instruction as well as attended several scientific lectures and lab tours to complement their studies.

Strategically scheduled throughout their stay, students also visited several area businesses (i.e. Joe Gibb’s Racing, BASF, Microsoft, DHMRI, and STEM Ten80), allowing participants to gain a broader sense of how their area of study may translate into potential career opportunities after graduation.

In addition to the strong academic components of this program, the undergraduates actively participated in a pen pal relationship with UNC Charlotte Japanese language students. A highlight for all those involved, this connection provided an authentic and safe opportunity for both parties to practice language skills, as well as participate in a genuine American university experience for the Japanese visitors. The overwhelming success of the pen pal program is due in large part to International Programs’ strong partnership with the Japanese language program. Through working together, the pen pal program has impacted many students over the years and has been just one way that international engagement can be encouraged and advanced both on campus and overseas.

Partnerships with UNC Charlotte faculty, area businesses, as well as the Japanese Language Program proved invaluable, enabling delivery of a high-quality and life-changing experience for all involved.

Students Give Four Years of Service

The Office of International Programs (OIP) recognizes two outstanding students for their service with the UNC Charlotte International Club. Jingjing Zhao and Charles Rose have held the President and Vice President positions respectively for the last four years.



Both believe their leadership positions have prepared them to become global leaders.

President Zhao has organized and led trips to Washington DC, New York City, and Orlando. Along the way, Zhao learned to put herself in other people’s shoes and developed strong communication skills. She credits the experience for preparing her for an internship with TIAA-CREF.

“These experiences have helped me to balance my personal and professional life, and to manage my time wisely,” says Zhao.

After college Zhao hopes to become a global leader with a Fortune 500 company.

Club Vice President Rose’s dream is to solve civil engineering problems in different countries, and says that through his experience with the International Club, he can now communicate more effectively with individuals

from countries where he may work in the future.

“Serving on the international executive team has allowed me the opportunity to help international students and learn so much about their culture,” says the engineering major.

Other longtime executive board members include Treasurer Wenjing Sun (three years), Secretary & Video Producer Chandler Hawn (two years), and webmaster King Sum Ho (three years).

The International Club, open to all UNC Charlotte and ELTI students, promotes interaction between domestic and international students. It also helps students from abroad to discover more about Charlotte and the US. To learn more about the International Club, visit: <http://www.uncc-iclub.com>.

5th Annual Study Abroad Student Photo Exhibit

The 5th annual Study Abroad Student Photo Exhibit officially opened on April 29, 2014. Featuring photography from UNC Charlotte students taken while abroad, the photos were entered into one of four categories: Self Portrait, Defining Moment, Landscape, and Portrait. OIP congratulates the winners for their accomplishments.



Administration

Joël Gallegos, *Assistant Provost for International Programs*
Christina Sanchez, *Associate Director of International Programs*
Mary Zink, *Executive Assistant*
Sandra Anderson, *Business Manager*
Esther Hollington, *Business Services Coordinator*
Joanne Zhang, *Business Services Coordinator*
Marian Beane, *Senior Coordinator for International Engagement*
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Denise Medeiros, *Assistant Director*
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ELTI Core Instructors:
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Carrie Berkman
Jeanne Huber
Sherrie Smith
Allie Wall

ELTI Adjunct Instructors:

Sara Bowers	Maria Iglesias	Rohany Nayan	Cheryl Tarr
Jackie Cervantes	Josie Ladle	Kristina Palacios	Stephanie Wallace
Corie Crouch	Jeanne Malcolm	Angelica Roy	Amanda Wentworth
Robert Currie	Priscila Medrado	Marcella Smith	Kelly Zientek-Baker
Constance Fessler	Stephanie Miller	Stephanie Stewart	
Dalia Horton	Naila Muffley	Seth Stroud	

