

International @ CU-Boulder

*Highlighting
CU's
International People
and Activities*

Office of International Education (OIE) Newsletter – 2008 vol. 1

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Office of International Education Upcoming Colloquia:

- **CU Faculty Talking about Teaching Opportunities in China**
October 1 at noon
in UMC Aspen Rooms
(Co-sponsored by the
Center for Asian Studies)
- **Chile: Fulbright and Education**
October 9 at 2:00
in ENVD 134
- **Teaching at African Universities: Rewards and Challenges**
November 17 at 3:00
in UMC 384
- **Faculty International Development Grant recipients talk about seminars in South Africa and the Dominican Republic**
November 19 at 3:00
in UMC 425

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.colorado.edu/OIE/ColloquiaFall2008.htm>



We're on the Web!

Find us here:

<http://www.colorado.edu/OIE>

To Xi'an and Back

Anja Lange, Senior Instructor with the Herbst Program of Humanities in Engineering, and her husband Clayton McMillan spent last year in China teaching at Xi'an Jiaotong University. Their two daughters accompanied them.

For this family, living and working in China was just one more international element to add to their life experiences. Anja graduated from Helena High in Montana as an exchange student from Germany. She first came to CU on a graduate exchange from the University of Göttingen. After some graduate work

at the University of Hamburg, she earned a PhD in Comparative Literature at CU.

Clayton grew up in Boulder. As an undergraduate he studied abroad on CU's exchange program in Regensburg, Germany. He also worked at the Max Planck Institute in Munich on a DAAD Fellowship and was a visiting professor at the University of Hamburg.

The girls attended Jiaotong University Kindergarten while in Xi'an. Katja, 6, was born in Boulder, and Annika, 4 was adopted from Shaoyang, China in

2005. Both are fluent in English and German, and have a decent command of Chinese.

In June, 2009, Anja plans to conduct a CU study abroad course in Xi'an, China entitled "Cultures of the Silk Road." Contact Anja at anja.lange@colorado.edu.



Nominate Internationalists for Awards

The Office of International Education (OIE) is interested in receiving your nominations for the **OIE Global Citizen Awards**. These awards recognize outstanding contributions to international understanding by members of the CU-Boulder community.

- **Campus Global Citizen of the Year 2008**
- **International Student of the Year 2008**
- **Study Abroad Student of the Year 2008**

Application deadline:
Applications and supporting material for the OIE

Global Citizen Awards are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 10, 2008.

We also host two additional awards: CU-Boulder Champions of International Education, selected by students. International students will select a faculty member, academic advisor, or staff member who has been especially welcoming or helpful. Study abroad students will select a faculty member, academic advisor, or staff member who through their teaching or guidance was key in their decision to pursue international education.

The recipients of all awards will be honored during International Education Week at a special awards ceremony in the British and Irish Studies Room at Norlin Library on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For further information about the awards, applications, and information on how to nominate someone please see the Office of International Education website at <http://www.colorado.edu/OIE/GlobalCitizensAwards.html> or call (303) 492-2976.

A Student Diplomat

*Kirstin Maryott, studied in Ferrara, Italy for a year in 2006-07. She then returned to CU and worked as a study abroad peer advisor until she graduated in May 2007. She entered the 2007 Student Diplomat Essay Competition, hosted by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, and received **honorable mention** for her essay entitled, "One Unique Identity." The essay competition invites recently returned U.S. undergraduate study abroad participants to submit compelling stories that articulate how their undergraduate international experiences have helped meet the United States' need to understand global situations and compete in the global arena.*

Here are some excerpts from

Kirstie's essay about her adjustment back to Boulder after living in Italy for a year.

"Through learning another language, internalizing another culture, and understanding another viewpoint, Ferrara opened the door for me to see the world from a different angle. I had gained not only a different way to view the world, I had gained a new way to define myself in it. You can read it across the pages of the diary that I kept while abroad. Within those pages lies my journey towards becoming a more globally conscious citizen. From the excitement that I felt the first time I was able to express myself fully in Italian, to the pains of embarrassment when I had not

been quite as successful linguistically. From the first time I watched the sun rise over the Tuscan hills, to the lower points of feeling like an outsider, of not connecting well with the locals, I now have a document of my journey. A new part of my cultural identity was formed while I was abroad. And this is something invaluable to me."

"Some people are more greatly affected by the inclusion in another culture while living abroad, and thus, weave themselves, body and soul, into this new location. With good friends, and fond memories, I know that I left a part of my heart in Ferrara, but from the city, I have taken a new aspect of my cultural identity. I now am a more globally conscious citizen of

not only the United States, but of the world as a whole. I have learned that cultural identity **can** be modified by experience, personal identity is fluid, and constantly changing depending on the experiences that the individual has throughout the course of his or her life. My memories from abroad are more than just photos that I can demonstrate to friends, more than fun stories to tell at a dinner table - these experiences are who I am, and will factor into the person that I become. As a more globally conscious citizen, and after retuning a new life in a familiar setting, I am currently learning how to integrate aspects from each of these unique experiences and diverse cultures into the formation of one new unique identity."

Embarking on the next Adventure: What is next for SHIP (Smith Hall International Program)?

The 2008-09 academic year brings the most significant transition in SHIP's history. From our current status of 'mini-RAP,' we will be making the jump to 'full-RAP' over the next twelve months. This jump entails a significant amount of work for all students, staff and faculty involved in the program.

Most notably, the SHIP RAP now resides under the umbrella of Arts & Sciences. While SHIP maintains very close ties with OIE, the budget and administration for the program is now provided by A&S. Anticipated budget and program fee increases will allow SHIP to increase the number of students enrolled in the program. We have already seen 45% growth from 2007-2008 to 2008-2009. Enrollment this year is 145 students. Further growth is expected in coming years.

In order to accommodate the projected sizeable increase, Smith Hall will undergo complete renovation over the next two years. During this time SHIP will be located in Buckingham Hall. Design and planning for the new Smith Hall began in July 2008. SHIP faculty and staff attend design review meetings regularly, so as to provide as much input as possible in the early stages of design. It is our goal to ensure that the building is successfully completed and that it adequately meets the needs of our dynamic program.

Joining SHIP this fall is the new Faculty Director, Thomas W. Zeiler, and SHIP Program Assistant, Jessica Wilson. Tom is a professor of History at CU-Boulder, where he teaches American diplomatic history, modern United States, and America through baseball. He spent the 2004-05 academic

year on a Fulbright in Tokyo, Japan and 1999 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tom has long been involved in SHIP, serving as one of the students' favorite speakers during the Dinner Series Program each year.

In addition to the new faculty and staff that are coming aboard, SHIP has also expanded its course selection available to students. In recent years the program offered 4-5 courses each semester. By 2009-10 the number of courses will increase to 15-16. The broadened range of courses has attracted students with wide-ranging academic interests and provides them with flexible subject choices.

This past summer, much time and energy was spent on recruitment efforts for the expanded SHIP. Central to this effort was the attempt to balance a significantly

growing program while simultaneously preserving the tight-knit community that is so uniquely SHIP. SHIP faculty and staff are committed to ensuring that each of SHIP's first-year students have a positive and rewarding experience in SHIP.

Saint Basil's Cathedral, Moscow
Photo by former SHIP Mentor, Alex Flynn-Padick



The Declining Dollar and Study Abroad

The dollar has been dropping steeply compared to other major currencies such as the Euro and the British pound, resulting in increased costs for study abroad programs. The exchange rates in August 2008 were \$1.56 to the European Union euro (compared with \$.85 in January 2000) and \$1.98 to the British pound (compared with \$1.61 in January 2000).

The dollar's recent deterioration comes amid efforts to encourage more students to study abroad. CU is not alone in recognizing the value of an international experience to a student's education. The number of U.S. students studying abroad last year rose 8.5 percent over the year before to 223,534 students, according to the Institute of International Education. CU-Boulder has expanded its program offerings in the past few years to give students more options that might match their academic needs.

Currently one in four CU students completing an undergraduate degree has studied abroad during her/his college career. In 2000-2001 when the dollar was the strongest 758 students studied abroad from CU-Boulder, and 837 students studied abroad the following year. Even when the value of the dollar started

to fall later in 2002, the number of students going abroad continued to rise. CU's study abroad programs boomed during the 2005-06 academic year when 1,114 CU-Boulder students studied abroad.

While study abroad is here to stay, participation may be affected by the falling dollar. "Participation has flattened (even fallen) out in the past two years," said Larry Bell, Director of OIE. When the value of the dollar started to plummet in 2006, fewer students applied to programs for the coming academic year. 1,010 CU students went abroad in 2006-2007 and 982 participated in 2007-2008. "If it keeps up for much longer, it's bound to have more of an effect," Bell said.

The dollar's free-fall means that students will need to budget carefully. Study abroad program fees increased by about 10% in 2008. Personal expenses have also increased. A slice of pizza in London is 3 pounds (\$6) and in Italy a gelato is 4 euros (\$6).

Study abroad staff are concerned that the decline in the dollar could prevent some students from taking advantage of a study abroad opportunity or steer them away from longer programs

that offer a richer experience. However, they encourage students to look at programs in less expensive locales, where a dollar stretches further. For example, a student studying Spanish may want to opt for a program in Latin America rather than Spain. The housing costs for a semester in Barcelona are about \$3,400 compared with only \$1,900 in Lima, Peru. Rising prices could further fuel a growing shift toward studying in less-traditional locations (such as Africa, Asia, and Latin America) where many excellent, but underutilized programs are available.

Ultimately, the goal for any study abroad office is to facilitate cultural exchange and help students find a program and a location that will best fit their academic needs, interests, and budgets. Financial aid and scholarships are available to those who need some assistance in making this once in a lifetime opportunity a reality. For more information about study abroad opportunities at CU-Boulder please visit our website at <http://studyabroad.colorado.edu> or drop by our office in the basement of the Environmental Design building.



Jonathan O'Brien, a doctoral student in anthropology has been granted a Fulbright award to study black-shanked doucs in Vietnam for the coming year.

To see a video about his plans, visit: <http://www.colorado.edu/OIE/admin/CUFulbrightHighlights.html>

The Office of International Education would like to recognize its student employees:

Hannah D'arcy Weisser
BFIS Matching Coordinator/ISSS
Student Assistant

Laura Brubaker
Study Abroad Peer Advisor

Chris Fenton
Study Abroad Peer Advisor

Levi Lindsey
Study Abroad Peer Advisor

Kristin Mayer
Study Abroad Peer Advisor

Katharine Mayfield
Study Abroad Peer Advisor

Julia Paich
Study Abroad Peer Advisor

Amy Leszman
OIE Student Assistant

Kelly El-Yacoubi
OIE Student Assistant

International Coffee Hour

Please join us for International Coffee Hour, **Friday afternoons, 4 - 5:30 p.m., across from Baby Doe's in the UMC Grill** (throughout the semester). CU students, staff and faculty are welcome. Great people, great conversations and free refreshments!

International Expertise Database

Have you entered your information into the CU-Boulder **International Expertise Database**?

<http://www.colorado.edu/OIE/admin/iedb/index.html>

CU student from Georgia in the news

Irakli Gioshvili was a CBS4 intern and CU journalism student from Georgia who was interviewed on CBS regarding the situation in Georgia. If you'd like to hear the interview, please visit:

<http://cbs4denver.com/video/?id=45236@kcnc.dayport.com>

Office of International Education (OIE)**Who we are:**

- **Lawrence H. Bell**
Director of the Office of International Education
- **Kim Kreutzer**
Associate Director of the Office of International Education
- **Nancy Vanacore**
Assistant to the Director of the Office of International Education and Program Assistant for the Smith Hall International Program (SHIP) and Campus Fulbright Program Advisor
- **Marie Cox**
Finance Officer
- **Ginger Ellison**
Financial Study Abroad Advisor and Student Billing
- **Steven Reinhold**
IT Manager

International Student and Scholar (ISSS) Staff:

- **Tina Tan**
Director of International Student and Scholar Services
- **Janet Garcia**
Associate Director of International Student and Scholar Services
- **Paige Progar-Jaumann**
International Student Advisor
- **Rebecca Sibley**
International Student Advisor
- **Maria Zellar**
International Student Advisor and SEVIS Manager
- **Jean Huss**
ISSS Program Assistant

Study Abroad Programs (SAP) Staff:

- **Mary Dando**
Director of Study Abroad
- **Sylvie Burnet-Jones**
Associate Director of Study Abroad
- **Cindy Kraft**
Assistant Director of Study Abroad
- **Cloud Baffour**
Program Manager
- **Kirstin Bebell**
Program Manager
- **Nathan Frank**
Program Manager
- **Sarah Westmoreland**
Program Manager
- **Liza Hensleigh**
Study Abroad Advisor
- **Jeanne Marion**
Study Abroad Advisor
- **Mark Holsclaw**
Study Abroad Program Assistant
- **Michal Pickett**
Study Abroad Program Assistant
- **Janice Zinnecker**
Study Abroad Program Assistant
- **Jami Nuñez**
Consultant on Special Projects

Boulder Friends of International Students (BFIS)

BFIS is a non-profit organization founded in 1948 and has a membership of about 200 people in the Boulder area. Members host international students by taking them to events in the area, inviting them to dinner, or taking them on trips. They help students adjust to life in the US and learn about American customs; they are also interested in learning about the students' countries and cultures.

About 40 new international students have been matched with BFIS hosts this fall and there are another 10 students who will be matched shortly.

On August 31, BFIS, supported by ISSS, held the first annual rummage sale in the yard of a BFIS member.

Newly arrived international students bought household items at bargain prices to set up their apartments. They also enjoyed the opportunity to ask friendly community members questions about living in Boulder.

BFIS held their annual Welcome Picnic for new students at Chautauqua Park under beautiful skies on Sunday, September 7. A long-time BFIS host and board member informed the group that in his more than 30 years with the organization, it has sprinkled a few times but has never actually rained at the Welcome Picnic.

Ten new BFIS hosts are hosting students this fall. For information, or if you are interesting in hosting, please email bfis@colorado.edu or call Hannah or Paige at 303-492-8057.

We welcome your involvement

Please send us your international news. We'd love to know about the international activities in which CU-Boulder students, faculty, and staff are engaged. Please send items to the Office of International Education at Campus Box 123 UCB. Or you may email them to

kreutzer@colorado.edu.

If you are interested in being added to our email list to be notified about international items of interest, please send your name and email address to kreutzer@colorado.edu or call 303-492-2976.

Please join us at the

International Education Week Reception

Tuesday, November 18

***5-7pm in the British and Irish Studies Room
at Norlin Library***

