On April 5, 2014, UNCG hosted the second annual North Carolina Student Reentry Conference. Developed by a committee of North Carolina study abroad professionals, this conference is an all-day event designed to bring former study abroad students together from colleges and universities across the state to share their experiences. This year’s conference title was “Go Beyond Abroad.”

Approximately 50 students and staff from 8 schools across North Carolina attended the conference. Throughout the day, participants were able to attend sessions focusing on a range of topics, including reverse culture shock, articulating the value of the experience, discovering intercultural skill enhancement, appropriately incorporating the experience into the job search, interviews and resumes, international work and scholarship opportunities, and getting into the field of international education. These sessions were led by students, administrators, and study abroad professionals.

Participants were also invited to participate in the “Two-to-Tell” competition, a contest in which students had two minutes to share their experiences abroad through a short but creative slide show. Participants were invited to present their experiences as creatively as possible; their slideshow could be accompanied by an excerpt from a journal, an anthropological observation, a short anecdote, spoken word, or even poetry. Conference participants then voted to select winners, who received cash prizes. This year’s first place winner was Wade Colburn from North Carolina State University (NCSU), who received a $150 cash prize. He studied abroad in multiple countries through the Semester at Sea program. His presentation included information and photos that reflected how his study abroad experiences had impacted his life.

The conference was organized by Tom Martinek, Jr. (Assistant Director of Study Abroad and Exchanges, UNCG), Caylie Zidwicj (Regional Coordinator, Study Abroad Office, NCSU), and Sean Addley (International Programs Coordinator, Study Abroad Office, NCSU). We also would like to give a big thank you to the Oak Foundation for their generous support.

Plans are underway for next year’s conference to be held at the same time here at UNCG. We would like to thank everyone who made this year’s conference a success!

Still want to know more about study abroad and exchange? Visit the SAE website at [http://www.uncg.edu/IPG/sae/study_abroad_exchanges.html](http://www.uncg.edu/IPG/sae/study_abroad_exchanges.html). Or call: IPC 336.334.5404
We would like to take this opportunity to thank the UNCG faculty and staff members who assisted us with the Study Abroad Interviews from February 19-28, 2014. Twenty-six UNCG faculty and staff members volunteered to help our IPC team select UNCG students who applied to study abroad for the Summer and Fall 2014 semesters. We conduct these interviews twice every year.

At UNCG, we are very fortunate to have such passionate and committed faculty and staff members from different fields and backgrounds who dedicate time from their busy schedules to assist IPC as a Study Abroad Search Committee. Their valuable input and participation in these interviews every semester make our task much easier in selecting students who will represent UNCG overseas. These interviews are critical in the selection process because they serve as an opportunity for faculty and staff to meet with the students individually and discuss their preparedness for study abroad experiences as well as address any questions these students may have about their chosen programs.

Faculty and staff who participated in this semester’s interview process were:

- **Jeanne Aaroe** (Assistant Director of Ashby Residential College)
- **Susan Andreatta** (Professor, Department of Anthropology)
- **Angela Bolte** (Director of Disciplinary Honors and Student Life, Lloyd International Honors College)
- **Roberto Campo** (Director, International and Global Studies)
- **Shelley Ewing** (Honors Academic Adviser, Lloyd International Honors College)
- **David Fein** (Professor of French, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures)
- **Rosemary Gray** (Professor, Department of Psychology)
- **Amanda Hughes** (Director of Undergraduate Advising, School of Music, Theatre and Dance)
- **Etsuko Kinefuchi** (Associate Professor, Department of Communication Studies)
- **Tommy Lambeth** (Associate Professor, Department of Interior Architecture)
- **Seung-Hyun Lee** (Assistant Professor, Department of Media Studies)
- **Cybelle McFadden** (Assistant Professor of French, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures)
- **Sam Miller** (Associate Dean, School of Education)
- **Elizabeth Perrill** (Assistant Professor, Department of Art)
- **Susanne Rinner** (Associate Professor of German, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures)
- **Cathryne Schmitz** (Professor, Department of Social Work)
- **Mark Villacorta** (Assistant Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs)
- **Jonathan Zarecki** (Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies)

Several faculty and staff from the Bryan School of Business and Economics participated as well. They were:

- **Nadia Clark-Brown** (Lecturer and Academic Advisor)
- **Joseph Erba** (Lecturer/Professor of Practice, Department of Management)
- **Tuisha Fernandes** (Associate Director, MBA Program)
- **Eloise Hassell** (Senior Lecturer, Department of Management)
- **Adam Landreth** (Academic Advisor)
- **Gail Pack** (Director, Undergraduate Student Services and Retention)
- **Jessica Quattrucci** (Lecturer and Academic Advisor)
- **Riikka Sarala** (Assistant Professor, Department of Management)

IPC would like to thank all the faculty and staff members who helped conduct this crucial aspect of our study abroad and exchange program.

**Attention UNCG Faculty and Staff!** Are you interested in serving on our Study Abroad Search Committee? Our study abroad interviews are conducted once per semester. You may volunteer for both or just one. If interested, please contact our office at (336) 334-5404 or via email at ipc@uncg.edu and ask to speak to Denise Bellamy, Director of Study Abroad & Exchange or Tom Martinek, Jr., Assistant Director of Study Abroad & Exchange.

**Visitors & Scholars**

**Martha Leyte: Visiting International Scholar from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México**

Every year, UNCG hosts many talented international scholars from all over the world. Since August 2013, seven new scholars have come to our campus to pursue research and continue...
their studies. One of those scholars is Martha Leyte, a postdoctoral student from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) in Mexico City, Mexico. In 2007, Martha graduated from UNAM with her Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Biological Chemistry, then went on to earn a Master’s degree in 2009 and her PhD in 2013. As a PhD student at UNAM, she worked with endophytic fungi, which live within plants and may help them resist disease and other stresses.

During Martha’s last semester at UNAM, Dr. Nadja Cech (Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry Department) reached out to Martha’s former supervisor in search of a PhD student to fulfill a postdoctoral position here at UNCG. Martha was an ideal candidate for the position, and was excited to have the opportunity to pursue her research in the US. “I always take the opportunities that life gives me, especially to do the things that I love,” she says.

Since arriving on our campus in October 2013, she has continued her work on endophytic fungi with Dr. Cech. She hopes her research will yield results that will help with disease resistance in humans. The prospect of helping improve people’s lives is what she loves most about her work. “I like getting results,” she says. “I want to help people.”

So far, her experience at UNCG has been very positive. “I feel at home here at UNCG. It is very quiet here, and the people are friendly,” she says. “I’ve also been able to meet a lot of people from different countries and cultures.”

Martha Leyte, International Scholar from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Grassroots movement Liberty in North Korea presents special Global Leadership Program colloquium

On March 19, 2014, the Global Leadership Program (GLP) hosted a special elective colloquium presented by representatives from Liberty in North Korea (LiNK), a grassroots activist movement dedicated to rescuing and resettling refugees from North Korea and empowering those still living there to fight for their freedom. The colloquium was well-attended by GLP members as well as UNCG faculty and staff, including Dr. James Anderson (Associate Professor, Department of History), Dr. Roberto Campo (GLP Steering Committee Chair, Director of International and Global Studies), and Steve Flynn (Coordinator of Learning Enhancements, Fellowships, and Scholarships).

The colloquium was presented by Bernadette Asuelime, Brian Davis, and Yoona Hong. The trio, who are called the Southeast Nomads, are one of five teams of LiNK interns or “nomads” traveling across the US and Canada giving presentations to help...
spread the word about their organization, the hardships the North Korean people face, and what others can do to help. Their presentation for the GLP included a brief look at North Korea’s history, a video testimony from a North Korean man who escaped one of the country’s prison camps, an overview of LiNK’s goals and initiatives, and a Q&A discussion.

Following the GLP colloquium, the Southeast Nomads gave a second presentation open to all UNCG students, faculty, and staff at the Bryan School of Business and Economics.

To learn more about Liberty in North Korea, please visit their website at [www.libertyinnorthkorea.org](http://www.libertyinnorthkorea.org).

On March 6, 2014, UNCG former study abroad students Kelly Morales and Jessica Straehle were invited to speak at an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) class at North Asheboro Middle School in Asheboro, NC. They were accompanied by IPC Study Abroad Coordinator Angie Kapely. The AVID program is designed to prepare students in the “academic middle”—B, C, and sometimes D students—for four-year college eligibility. A voluntary program, AVID targets students who want to go to college and are willing to work hard to get there.

“I was actually really glad to see a program like AVID being implemented in middle school,” Jessica says. “I know I would have benefited from the type of guidance it offers, had this program been available when I was that age. I was thrilled to be a resource for the students.”

As part of the program, students are encouraged to begin planning for college and exploring the opportunities available to them at various colleges and universities. One of those opportunities is studying abroad. Kelly and Jessica spoke to the class about their study abroad experiences and encouraged the AVID students to consider studying abroad in their college plans. Kelly, an International and Global Studies major, studied in Montevideo, Uruguay, at the Universidad de Montevideo in Spring 2013, and Jessica, a Business Administration and Environmental Studies major, studied in Glasgow, Scotland, at the University of Strathclyde in Fall 2012. Both students gave a short presentation about their time abroad, followed by a Q&A discussion about studying abroad, other cultures, and preparing for college.

“I think it’s important to get young people excited about studying abroad because in today’s globalized society we are exposed to people from different cultures more and more. Part of the personal growth that occurs during a semester abroad comes from learning about other cultures and seeing beyond your own culture,” Jessica says. “My favorite part of the experience was when I asked the students where they would go if they could study abroad. They all responded without hesitation! Their enthusiasm showed me that they’ve put thought into it, and that they see studying abroad as a real possibility.”

Could you be a global leader?

The Global Leadership Program (GLP) offers students an extracurricular opportunity to hone leadership skills in preparation for global and multicultural careers.

Interested in participating? A new cohort of GLP scholars begins every semester! Email glp@uncg.edu for more info about enrolling.

UNCG students speak to North Asheboro Middle School AVID class about study abroad

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International Student and Scholar Services offers Tax and Beyond OPT Workshops for international students

During the latter part of February, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) offered two different workshops to assist degree-seeking international students. On February 20, 2014, international students, especially those who are graduate assistants, athletes and other scholarship recipients, and students in Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT), were invited to attend a Tax Workshop. The workshop addressed state and federal tax returns, including issues related to non-resident filing and international tax treaties. Andrew Hong, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) from the Greensboro area, facilitated this session for the second year in a row.

A Beyond OPT: Visas after Graduation Workshop was also held on February 27. This session provided details to degree-seeking international students about eligibility requirements and basic processes for numerous visa/immigration classifications for F-1 students. Students typically consider these options prior to completing their OPT, an employment benefit. Additionally, the workshop included information about career-related topics such as building a resume, searching for jobs, and interviewing. This workshop is offered twice a year and is co-facilitated by Michael Elliott, Director of ISSS, Art Serratelli, Partner and Chair of the Immigration Law Group of Vandeventer Black LLP in Virginia, and Chad Collins, Assistant Director of Career Services.

For more information about international student workshops, please contact our office at (336) 334-5404 or ipc@uncg.edu

INTERLINK: News and Announcements

Spring 1, 2014 End-of-Term Ceremony
INTERLINK’s Spring 1, 2014 end-of-term ceremony was held on March 6, 2014. Graduating INTERLINK student Jiayi Zhao (China) gave the opening remarks. Several awards were presented at the ceremony, including perfect-attendance awards, hardest-working student awards, module awards, and the outstanding student award, given to Nada Alnajjar (Saudi Arabia). We were also happy to recognize 19 graduates (listed below), many of whom plan to enroll full-time at UNCG for the Fall 2014 semester. The ceremony concluded with closing remarks by INTERLINK graduate Tianqi Luo (China) and several announcements by INTERLINK Director Dr. Brad Teague.

Congratulations to all our graduates!

Spring 2, 2014 Session
The Spring 2, 2014 session at INTERLINK began on March 10, 2014. New students participated in an intensive two-day orientation, and classes for all students (new and returning) commenced on March 12. The Spring 2 session runs for nine weeks through May 9.

INTERLINK welcomed 28 new students from the following countries: Brazil, China, Japan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Togo, and Venezuela. Eight of these students entered with conditional admission to UNCG (seven to an undergraduate program and one to a graduate program). INTERLINK currently serves 136 students total.

We held a welcome reception on March 14 to celebrate the end of the first week of classes and to allow new and returning students to get to know each other. During the reception, students were invited to play an ice-breaker idiom game. Each student was given an idiom in English and instructed to find other people in the room with the same idiom. Once groups were formed, students introduced themselves, talked about what the idiom meant, and had their picture taken together.

INTERLINK is pleased to welcome for the Spring 2 session five students from the Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP): Juliano Slivinski, Luisa Thiara Melo Cardoso, Francisco Domi-
New Mind Education: News and Announcements

New Mind Education’s staff and students volunteered at the North Carolina Zoo’s Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Asheboro, NC, on March 15, 2014. The rehabilitation center provides free veterinary care and rehabilitation services to orphaned and injured wildlife native to North Carolina. The purpose of this service-learning event was to continue to teach New Mind students the importance of giving back to their community, one of New Mind Education’s program goals.

At the wildlife center, the volunteers were split into groups and primarily worked to clear away leaves, fallen branches, and other debris downed due to a recent ice storm that were blocking cages housing recovering wildlife.

After the volunteer activity, the students were given a chance to explore the rest of the zoo. The NC Zoo is the largest "natural habitat" zoo in the US, meaning the animals are not placed in steel or concrete cages but rather live in enclosures that mimic their natural habitats. Many students were excited to visit the zoo’s African section to see the lions, giraffes, and elephants. When asked what their favorite animals at the zoo were, the students’ answers ranged from elephants to zebras. One student, Shaodong Tao, said his favorite animal was a panda (which, unfortunately, cannot be found at the NC Zoo), but had enjoyed seeing the wolves in the North American section. We would like to thank the New Mind Education students, interns, and staff who volunteered at the wildlife center. Everyone did such a great job!
**Staff Stories**

Denise Bellamy and Catherine Holderness attend APAIE Annual Conference and Exhibition in Seoul, South Korea

From March 17-21, 2014, Denise Bellamy, Director of Study Abroad and Exchanges (SAE), and Catherine Holderness, Interim Director of UNC Exchange Programs (UNCEP), traveled to Seoul, South Korea, to attend the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) Annual Conference and Exhibition. APAIE is an international non-profit organization whose goal is to activate and reinforce the internationalization of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world and to engage the professional challenges of individuals in international education. The APAIE Annual Conference is designed to bring together policy makers and education experts from around the world to enhance professional skills and learn about new developments in international education. This year’s conference theme was “Enhancing Cross-Border Education Cooperation with Universities in Asia-Pacific: From Past to Present and the Future.”

Denise and Catherine were accompanied by three other representatives from UNC system schools: Michael Bustle (Associate Vice Provost for International Affairs, Director of the Global Training Initiative, North Carolina State University), Andrew Rouse (ESL Specialist, International Programs, UNC-Pembroke), and Joti Sekhon (Director of International Programs, Winston-Salem State University).

The conference included three days of workshop sessions, plus one day of pre-conference workshops on March 17. On March 19, Denise co-presented a session with an international panel of fellow International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP) members entitled “How to Leverage an International Network to Meet Institutional Objectives.” The panel shared best practices for leveraging membership in an international network towards their international objectives and how the network fits with their diverse portfolio of program offerings.

On March 17 and 21, ISEP members were able to take part in the ISEP Korea Tour and were invited to visit several Korean ISEP member universities, including Korea University, Yonsei University, Ewha Womans University, Ajou University, and Keimyung University. The group was very appreciative of the gracious hospitality shown by all of the host universities.

Catherine and UNCEP were able to meet with representatives from Australian partners from New South Wales and Australia Capital Territory, leaders from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany, and with Lorne Hwang, Assistant Vice President for the Office of International Affairs at Kyungpook National University of Korea.

Attendance continues to grow at APAIE. This year, there were 1,300 representatives from 87 institutions in attendance, making APAIE the third largest education organization following NAFSA and the European Association for International Education (EAIE). In 2015, the conference will be held March 23-26 in Beijing, China.

To learn more about APAIE, please visit [apaie.org](http://apaie.org).

IPC staff members present pre-conference workshops for NCAIE Annual State Conference

On March 6, 2014, IPC staff members traveled to Duke University to present three pre-conference workshops as part of the North Carolina Association of International Educators (NCAIE) Annual State Conference 2014. NCAIE is a professional, NAFSA-affiliated organization of over 600 administrators, educators, and community volunteers dedicated to promoting international education in North Carolina. Every spring, NCAIE gives a statewide conference for its members to meet, share ideas, and discuss various topics such as curriculum internationalization, cross-cultural communication, study abroad, and international students and scholars. This year’s conference took place on March 7, 2014, with pre-conference workshops offered on March 6.
Mike Elliott, Director of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) and Norma Velazquez, Assistant Director of ISSS, co-facilitated two pre-conference workshops with colleagues from other NC institutions. Norma co-facilitated the F-1 for Beginners workshop with Jessica Hall (Senior Immigration Advisor, North Carolina State University) while Mike co-facilitated the F-1 Intermediate and ISSS Advanced Topics workshops with Amanda Mills (Assistant Director of Student Support Services, ISSS, UNC-Chapel Hill). The F-1 for Beginners workshop was designed to offer a basic overview of regulatory compliance as it pertains to SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Program) reporting and advising F-1 international students. The purpose of the intermediate and advanced workshops were to provide forums to discuss more complex case studies, regulatory interpretations, and best practices pertaining to international students and scholars.

Pam Harrod, Director of International Admissions, also presented a pre-conference workshop entitled “Introduction to Credential Evaluations.” Grant Jolliff, Admissions Specialist from the Graduate School, assisted with the presentation. The workshop included a comprehensive overview of various worldwide systems of education, detecting fraudulent documents, how to calculate transfer credits, grading scales, and transfer of coursework.

For more information about NCAIE, please visit ncaie.org.

**UNCG and Beyond**

**University News**

“Education for a Lifetime: Two roommates bond over a common desire to make a difference a world away from UNCG” UNCG Now

"More Than the Language: At Heritage Language Academy, learning is a tie that binds" UNCG Now

"Bringing former study abroad students together" Campus Weekly

"German Weeks 2013/14: Germany in Europe" Campus Weekly

**News from our Partners**

"Edition of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore International News" Cattolica International News (Italy)

University of Tartu Blog University of Tartu News, Views, Ways (Estonia)

The Macquarie Globe "Macquarie University’s online news for the international community" (Australia)

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**Upcoming Events**

**APRIL**

Chancellor’s International Farewell Reception 2013-2014 (Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House, 4:30-5:30pm; open to all)

ISSS Optional Practical Training (OPT) Workshop Session II (McIver 255, 3:30-5:00pm; open to all degree-seeking international students)

ISA Semi-Formal Spring 2014 (Greene Street, Downtown Greensboro, 10:30pm-2:00am; open to all UNCG students; registration required)

IPC-HR ESP Intercultural Sensitivity Workshop for Faculty/Staff (Foust 206, 2:00-5:00pm; open to all faculty and staff; registration required)

**MAY**

INTERLINK Spring 2014 End-of-Term Ceremony (TBD, May 9 9:00-11:30am; for INTERLINK students and their family and friends)

May 25 NAFSA Annual Conference 2014 (San Diego, CA; for international educators)

May 26 INTERLINK Summer 2014 Orientation/New Term begins