International Education Week

This year (November 12-16) marks the thirteenth annual International Education Week (IEW). Since November 2000, our U.S. Departments of Education and State have celebrated International Education Week. U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, describes the IEW as an ideal opportunity to encourage our students to become globally competent and globally successful through international education and international engagement. Indeed, IEW is a great occasion to celebrate all things international on U.S. campuses.

Capitalizing on our strengths as a diverse and inclusive engaged community, UNCG is an ideal environment for personal and professional growth necessary for success in today’s world. I encourage us all to take advantage of the various international/intercultural activities, events and curricula that lead to an enhanced cultural self-awareness, a deeper understanding of the world at large, and a desire for lifelong learning. During each IEW at UNCG, we offer a variety of events designed to highlight opportunities for global engagement and directed at students, faculty and staff so that everyone can take advantage of such opportunities throughout the year.

If you are on campus, be sure to drop by the Elliott University Center during the week to vote on your favorite study abroad photo and learn more about international opportunities offered here at UNCG. While there pick up an IEW button with the national flag of your choice. This year, we’d like to invite the UNCG community to wear something international on Friday, November 16, the culmination of the week’s events, to show the international breadth of our campus. Be sure to ask someone about their international experience this week!

See the following link for a list of IEW activities:

UNCG hosts Chinese Cultural Delegation

From November 1-3, 2012, UNCG and IPC were delighted to host a delegation of twenty-six Chinese provincial and municipal leaders. Hailing from six Chinese provinces, these important leaders visited the US in order to learn more about our cultural and performing arts as well as our entertainment industry. In addition to Greensboro, the delegation also visited New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. The cultural delegation, led by Director Jianping Zhou, was organized by the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), a national organization dedicated to promoting positive cultural exchange and cooperation between the People’s Republic of China and other countries. The CPAFFC delegation visit is an outcome of UNCG’s eight-member Delegation visit to China (April 20-29, 2012) led by Board of Trustees’ member Randall Kaplan. In April the delegation visited several universities, the U.S. embassy in Shanghai, and the CPAFFC in Beijing.

On Thursday, November 1, Chancellor Linda P. Brady welcomed the delegates before UNCG faculty musicians held a concert in their honor at the Recital Hall of the School of Music, Theater, and Dance. The program featured: the East Wind Quintette d’Anches (Mary Ashley Barret, Kelly Burke, Steven Stusek, Anthony Taylor, Michael Burns) performing music by John Williams and
by Chinese composer He Zhan Hou; **Andrew Willis** playing Mozart on the fortepiano; the McIver Quartet (**Marjorie Bagley, Fabian Lopez, Scott Rawls, Alex Ezerman**) playing music by Prokofiev; singers **Clara O’Brien, Nancy Walker** and **Donald Hartmann** performing songs by Mozart and Bizet; and the Jazz Quartet (**John Salmon, Chad Eby, Alex Bingham, Nick Horvath**) performing pieces by North Carolina natives Thelonious Monk and John Coltrane.

On November 2, the delegates participated in a day-long symposium entitled “Entrepreneurship and the Arts in the US” which included lectures and discussions with UNCG faculty and staff from the Art Department, the School of Dance, Theatre, and Music, and the North Carolina Entrepreneurship Center, including **Bryan Toney** (Director of the North Carolina Entrepreneurship Center), professor **Billy Lee** (Professor of Art, Sculpture), **Drs. John Locke** (Director of Bands, Professor of Music), **Steven Haines** (Director of the Miles Davis Program, Jazz Studies), and **Rachel Briley** (Artistic Director of NC Theatre for Young People). The delegates also met with Greensboro Mayor Robbie Perkins and visited the Weatherspoon Art Museum where they met with **Nancy Doll**, Director of the Museum and **Ann Grimaldi**, Curator of Education.

At dinner, **Provost David H. Perrin** addressed the group, and **John Salmon** and **Antonio Truyols**, a recent graduate of the Music program, performed for the delegation. The day was concluded with a performance, given by the students of choreographer and dance professor **Duane Cyrus** at the UNCG Dance Theater.

Penelope Pynes would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions to the visit’s success: **Jianping Zhou**, Director of CPAFFC in Beijing and delegation leader; **Dr. Sue Stinson**, Dean of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance; **Dr. John Salmon**, Professor; **Cai Tang**, UNCG’s China Cultural Liaison; **Doryl Jensen** of Jensen Tours; and all the faculty and staff who represented UNCG during the visit. “It is thrilling to be able to showcase UNCG’s entrepreneurial strengths in the visual and performing arts, and we look forward to the opportunities for cultural exchange that will be created through this exciting collaboration,” she said.

For further reading, please visit: Campus Weekly: “UNCG hosts Chinese arts delegation – Two free concerts”  
http://ure.uncg.edu/prod/cweekly/2012/10/30/chineseartsdelegation/  
University News: “Fellowship through the arts: Chinese delegation visits UNCG”  
**Staff Stories**

**NAFSA Region III and VII Conference**

IPC staff members Denise Bellamy (Director, Study Abroad and Exchange), Kaitlin Ritchie ( Incoming Exchange Coordinator), and Angie Kapely (Study Abroad Coordinator) attended the NAFSA combined Region III and VII conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico on October 14-18, 2012. NAFSA is the professional organization representing the field of international education. This bi-regional conference comprised international educators from the south and southeast. Region III consists of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, and Region VII consists of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands. The conference provides workshops and networking opportunities for all areas of international education, including study abroad and international student services. Denise and Kaitlin also had the opportunity to visit the University of Turabo in Gurabo for a site visit.

Kaitlin was a co-presenter at the conference along with Amy Mabery (International Student and Scholar Services Coordinator, UNCW) and Laura Moix (Exchange Coordinator, University of Arkansas). The presentation topic was "Incoming Exchange Student Management: Tips and Tricks". The goal of the presentation was to share strategies for assisting and supporting incoming exchange students in pre- and post-arrival. Topics covered included tips for managing: application process, pre-arrival communication, course registration, US student volunteers, new student orientation, and getting connected on and off campus.

This year, each of the IPC attendees was acknowledged with special awards:

Denise Bellamy – benefits associated with completion of the NAFSA Academy 2012

Kaitlin Ritchie – awarded a $300 travel grant from NAFSA Region VII as a presenter

Angie Kapely – awarded an $800 travel grant from the NC Association of International Educators (NCAIE) as a newcomer to the field.

**Congratulations to Tom Martinek, Jr.**

Tom Martinek, Jr. receives this year’s Distinguished Alumni Award for Anthropology

We are proud to announce that Tom Martinek, Jr., Assistant Director of Study Abroad and Exchange Programs at IPC, has been selected to receive this year’s Distinguished Alumni Award for Anthropology. This award was first established at UNCG in 2006 and is given annually to a former UNCG student who majored or double majored in anthropology. Those selected have brought recognition to the field of anthropology through citizenship, leadership, career accomplishments, and personal commitments and have exemplified a willingness to embrace our ever-changing world. Tom is the seventh recipient of this award at UNCG. He was nominated by Dr. Susan Andreatta (Associate Professor, Anthropology). Tom said he was “surprised, excited, and honored” to receive this award and that it has given him the chance to reflect on how his anthropology degree has impacted his life and career. On Saturday, November 3, 2012, Tom was presented the award during the alumni reunion and student and faculty picnic at Piney Lake. Congratulations, Tom!

Share your staff stories relating to international experiences, by emailing the eNewsworthy at ipg_news@uncg.edu or call (336) 334-5404.
Welcome to our Omani Students

UNCG and IPC are proud to announce the arrival of a new group of five sponsored students from Oman. They arrived in Greensboro on Tuesday, October 16, 2012. In April 2012, UNCG signed an agreement with the Sultanate of Oman to send scholarship students (freshmen only) to our university. With this new partnership, UNCG will be one of only twenty-one universities in the US to receive Omani students. We would like to thank Pamela Harrod, our International Admissions Director, for working on this agreement.

The Omani students will first participate in the INTERLINK English Language Center program. They joined the rest of the new INTERLINK students for its Fall II term orientation session which began Monday, October 15, 2012. The Global Leadership Program (GLP) is gaining momentum! So far this year, the GLP is proud to welcome twenty-seven new members and three program graduates in Spring 2012.

Global Leadership Program 2012-2013

The Global Leadership Program held its first elective colloquium of the year on Thursday, October 18, 2012. The workshop was led by Dr. Byoungho Jin, a professor in the Department of Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies in the Bryan School of Business and Economics. The colloquium explored the link between culture and our value systems, as investigated by researcher Geert Hofstede. Hofstede's cultural dimensions theory is one of the first attempts to explore the intersection of culture and psychology. Dr. Jin led GLP students in thoroughly exploring the dimensions by exercising them in reality contexts, using cultural assimilator cases, and sharing personal observations and experiences.

The GLP will offer three required colloquia in the spring, including “Cross-Cultural Understanding” on January 30, led by Dr. Penelope Pynes (IPC Associate Provost), “Leadership Within A Global Context” on February 6, led by Dr. Cathy Hamilton (Director, Leadership & Service Learning, UNCG Student Affairs), and “Beyond Borders: Becoming A Global citizen” on February 13, led by Dr. Stephen Sills (Associate Professor, Sociology Department, UNCG). These events are open to all GLP members. If you interested in attending future events, contact glp@uncg.edu.

Interested in learning more about the GLP program? Sadie Kneidel, GLP Coordinator, will be giving an information session on November 12 from 1:00 to 2:00pm during International Education Week. Interested students can find more information in the program handbook at www.uncg.edu/ipg/glp, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UncgGlobalLeadershipProgram, or they may contact Sadie Kneidel (GLP Coordinator) at glp@uncg.edu with questions or to set up a meeting.
Global Leadership Program Overview

The GLP is a collaboration between the International Programs Center, the Office of Leadership and Service Learning, International and Global Studies, and the Lloyd International Honors College. The GLP is a program through which students can engage in meaningful international experiences while gaining knowledge and friendships that will guide them in their futures.

As part of the program, students attend a series of colloquia, or workshops, as well as international lectures and events. In addition, students choose to participate in a variety of globally-themed activities with the goal of obtaining a total of 200 participation points by the time they graduate. The points are a measure of international involvement, but they allow a way for students to quantify their experiences. In-depth experiences, such as a semester abroad, earn 100 points all at once. At the other end of the spectrum, smaller events on campus, such as Café Olé or Friday Fest, earn 10 points at a time.

Students can also gain points to become a Peer Advisor and Liaison (PAL) to an international student.

After earning 200 points and attending all of the required colloquia and lectures, students put together an e-portfolio of their experiences. The e-portfolio, with pictures of the student’s experiences and reflections on their meaning, is an impressive addition to the student’s resume upon graduation. In addition, completion of the program is indicated on the student’s transcript. Although no academic credit is assigned, completion of the program demonstrates that a student is interested in having a meaningful academic experience as well as learning outside of the classroom. In an increasingly competitive job market, employers are looking for graduates who have done more than just attend classes. Completing the GLP demonstrates a potential for leadership and possession of the knowledge and skills needed to function internationally.

Participation is open to all students, both graduate and undergraduate. Students may register for the program at any point in their academic career and points can be awarded retroactively for experiences that have happened during the past year.

Student Highlights

Spring 2013 Study Abroad Students attend Pre-Departure Orientation

IPC held the Study Abroad Pre-Departure Orientation for students going abroad in Spring 2013 on Saturday, October 27 from 9:00am-5:00pm in the Sullivan Science Building. Approximately 130 students were in attendance. The first part of the day consisted of various workshops on logistical information (topics covered included passports, plane tickets, and accessing money), health and safety issues, and intercultural skills. Students also participated in a simulation activity of cultural adjustment and culture shock. In the afternoon, Justin Crawford, a student currently abroad in Montevideo, Uruguay, "Skyped-in" to share about his time abroad in Uruguay and provide some advice for the students preparing to go abroad. Following this Skype-session, a panel of international exchange students talked about their study abroad experiences in the US and the various cultural differences between the US and their home countries. All students then took part in country-specific workshops to which IPC invited UNCG staff, former study abroad students, or international students to provide information specific to their country and school.

Owing to the increasing number of students going abroad, the IPC staff arranged for the first part of the day to be in a "conference style" format in which students would rotate between three concurrently running workshops. The format was a great success, and many students and staff...
felt it was an effective way to keep such a large group of students engaged while providing students with the essential information they needed.

Interested in studying abroad? Don’t wait. Contact Denise Bellamy at dlbellam@uncg.edu or call (336) 334-5404. You can also visit the SAE website at http://www.uncg.edu/ipg/sae/study_abroad_exchanges.html

**Study Abroad Nominations: Spring 2013**

The International Programs Center would like to congratulate all of the 121 students who were selected to participate on an exchange program for the Spring 2013 semester—Congratulations! After completing their applications, submitting all required documents to the Study Abroad & Exchange office at IPC, and undergoing a group interview with staff and faculty members, these students have truly earned their spot on the nominations list.

**AUSTRALIA**

*Australian Catholic University:* Whitney Sharp (NUTR)

*Deakin University:* Evan Childress (HIST); Kirsten Gutierrez (CMST); Catharine Kerr (DRAM); Jessica Land (HDFS); Madeleine Orgren-Streb (ENTR); Kristin Rafael (ART)

*James Cook University:* Jamie Metzger (ENGL); Stephanie Watkins (BIOL)

*Macquarie University:* Shun Yeung (INTB)

*University of Sydney:* Chloe Nickles (BIOL); Amber Wineman (IARC)

**CHINA**

*Beijing Normal University:* Rhett Butler (INTB)

*Chinese University of Hong Kong:* Leah Spangler (ART); Kelsey Walker (IARC)

**DENMARK**

*Copenhagen Business School (CBS):* Rebekah Bray (MUSI)

*University of Copenhagen:* Gina Kabat (BIOL); Erin Trammell (CMST)

**FINLAND**

*University of Oulu:* Otha Gooch (INTB); Franyela Morales (INTB)

**FRANCE**

*Jean Moulin - Lyon 3 University:* Essence Bernier (INTB); Rebecca Long (BADM)

*University of Angers:* Laura Benson-Greer (PSYC); Nicole Iman (FREN)

*University of Rennes 2:* Barbara Fleming (FREN); Dzidzor Gborglah (MDST); Sheneica Hunter (PSCI)

*Nancy Makori (PHTH); Sara Wrenn (FREN)

**GERMANY**

*Heidelberg University:* Kimberly Goins (BCHE)

*University of Mannheim:* Destine Ernest (ECON); Kaitlyn Hemric (INTB); David McCusker (ISOM); Andrew Clark (PSCI); Julia Harrison (MKTG); Dagmar Irrig (ECON); Matthew Leitner (BADM); Stephanie Miles (PELM); Reed Sheffield (PSYC); Puneet Wadhwani (FINC)

*University of Stuttgart:* Nathaniel Hall (INTB)

**ITALY**

*LIUC -Università Carlo Cattaneo:* Alexia Foy (INTB); Lillian Holden (CMST); Chirag Satsangi (BADM)

*Lorenzo de Medici:* Alexandra Pokas (IARC)

**JAPAN**

*Chukyo University:* Thomas Reaves (INTB)

*Ritsumeikan University:* April Dykes (CARS); Rico Pamplin (CMPS); William Sharpe (MDST)

*Seinan Gakuin University:* Joanna Lewis (SPLS); Heather Moore (HIST)

**KOREA, REPUBLIC OF**

*Sogang University:* Colton Childers (MDST)

*Sungkyunkwan University:* Pakou Yang (BIOL)

*Yonsei University:* Nou Lor (CARS); Jisuk Min (INTB); Tuan Vo (IARC)

**MALTA**

*University of Malta:* Hannah Boning (DANC); Brittany Carty (CMST); Sayaka Matsuoka (ART); Savanna Sherrill (BIOL); Jillian Troxler (SOCI)

**MEXICO**

*Tecnologico de Monterrey - Queretaro (ITESM):* Mohammad Algarraawi (ISOM); Olga Mabolia (SPAN)

**NEW ZEALAND**

*Unitec Institute of Technology:* Rita Dear (ART)

**POLAND**

*University of Wroclaw:* Olivia Kirby (ENGL); Samantha Suggs (ANTH)
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Kazan Federal University: Steven Bixby (MDST)

SOUTH AFRICA
University of Cape Town: Chelsea Hughes (PHDF); Hannah Mould (HDFS); Jessica Tatar (ENGL); Julian Weichel (ENTR);
University of Stellenbosch: Erin Hawkins (PNU); Katherine Ramirez (PELM)

SPAIN
Universidad de Extremadura - Caceres: Jacob Harbert (SPAN); Katelin Sawicki (PNU)
Universidad de Salamanca: Victoria Martin (SPAN)
University of Castilla La Mancha - Cuenca: Jerrica Davis (KINE); Sarah Wisserman (IARC)
University of Castilla La Mancha - Toledo: Brandon McCathern (INTB); Jessica Pegram (INTB); Jacquelyn Ross (PSYC)

SWEDEN
Linnaeus University (Vaxjo): Alyssa Clauser (PSCI); Leanna Donato (PELM); Paige Hohlt (IARC); Dajana Nedic (IARC); Kristen Schleich (KINE); James Wheeler (CMST)
Lund University: Janesha Hassaram (ECON)
Malmö University: Cassandra Bradfield (IARC)

TAIWAN
Yuan Ze University: Jeffrey Cardenas (ECON)

TURKEY
Yeditepe University: Alexa Flores (CMST); Kevin Kane (ART); Mamei Mansaray (PHDF); Jackson Thomas (PSYC)

UNITED KINGDOM
Keele University: Dennis Miller (PSCI); Miranda Murphy (HIST)
Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU): Zeliha Arslan (ENGL); Alexandria Bova (ENGL); Christian Cook (PHTH); Sara DiEugenio (MDST); Erika Kandler (ENGL); Kelsey Shea (HIST); John Villa (ART)
Plymouth University: Katie Moyer (IARC)
University of Hull: Tanisha Mills (SOCI)

University of Leicester: Megan McElroy (MATH); Xiaomma Moscoso (PSYC); Matthew Rojas (BIOL); Jerhonda Ruddock (CLAS); Brittany Salers (ENGL)
University of Strathclyde: Monika Little (INTB); Marina Merrow (MKTG); Grace Shaughnessy (PHDF); James Spinks (MATH)
University of Trinity St. David: Briana Crandall (ART); Sarah Harris (CMPS); Alicia McMahan (HIST); Mckenzie Morgan (CLAS); Amber Ricks (SPLS)
University of Ulster: Hayley Burton (SOCI); Michael Minervini (ART); Ella Moore (DRAM)

URUGUAY
Universidad Catolica del Uruguay: Brianna Vascos (SPAN)
Universidad de Montevideo: Rosalynn Cannon (CMST); Kelly Morales (SPLS)

Friday Fest—FRANCE!

By Laetitia Lavenier, International Exchange Student from Angers University, France

On October 5, 2012, my fellow French exchange students and I presented France for Friday Fest at Phillip-Hawkins Residence Hall. Friday Fest was a really good experience because we were given the opportunity to remember our country. We were especially excited to honor France in
our own way. We had fun coming up with ideas for our presentation and shared many laughs while telling stories about France.

From the beginning, we knew we wanted to start with a strike. We had wanted to bring wine to Friday Fest (because wine is an important part of French culture), but were unable to, so we thought it would be funny to stage a strike. That’s what you get when French people don’t get their wine! We then introduced ourselves and the cities we came from so our international friends knew us a little bit better. We decided to ask everyone if they knew anything about France and our language because we know French culture is quite well-known in the world. Of course, we talked about the common stereotypes and clichés foreigners have about our country. Some of these stereotypes included the food we eat (snails, frog legs, baguettes, smelly cheese), the way we dress (berets, red scarves, blue-striped shirts), the music we listen to (accordion music), and our historical and famous figures (Napoleon Bonaparte, Joan d’Arc, Marcel Marceau). To enhance our points, we showed a video that portrayed these stereotypes in an accurate and funny way. To test the other international students’ knowledge about French culture, we also played a Questions & Answers game. For example, we asked them to name our capital, our national anthem, our president, and the drinking age. Finally, we danced!

This was, without a doubt, the best part of our Friday Fest. We chose “Alexandrie, Alexandra,” a good old song from the 1970s sung by a French pop singer named Claude François, and we danced along with a video of François performing it. The choreography was very funny, so we thought it would be a fun way to conclude our presentation. During the presentation, we also served food and beverages that represented our country: cheese, Nutella, crepes and sparkling wine. We all really loved presenting our country, and we really want to do it again next semester!

Visitors & Scholars

Seniye Vural: Visiting Fulbright Scholar and Researcher from Erciyes University, Turkey

Since the end of Spring Semester 2012, UNCG and IPC have welcomed twelve visiting scholars to the university. One of them is Seniye Vural, a Fulbright Student Scholar from Erciyes University in Kayseri, Turkey. Seniye has been teaching at Erciyes University since 2004. She began in English Language and Literature, but her interest has since shifted to Education and Educational Psychology. While still teaching at Erciyes, she has also been working on her PhD in English Language Teaching and has come to UNCG to conduct research for her dissertation, which will focus primarily on self-regulated learning. Seniye chose UNCG because she wanted to work with Dr. Dale Schunk, a professor in the Teacher Education and Higher Education (TEHE) Department in the School of Education and one of the leading researchers in motivation and self-regulation. Starting this month, she and Dr. Schunk will be doing research in self-regulation and how it affects students’ awareness and achievement.

Though most post-graduate students live off campus, Seniye wanted to live on campus, and was delighted when she was invited to live in Cotten Residence Hall. So far, she has loved the experience. “It’s very interesting living on campus,” she said. “Everything is so lively, and
you feel more like you belong to university life.” Since arriving on campus, Seniye has been able to participate in many fun campus activities, including being a judge for the Fifth Annual Best Dressed Room contest, which is held by the Office of Housing and Residence Life. She, along with five other UNCG faculty members, was responsible for choosing the grand prize winners. “It was really fun,” she said. “It was different than anything I’d ever done before.”

In addition to participating in campus activities, Seniye has also been giving lectures and presentations to both UNCG and international students. On Thursday, October 18, 2012, she gave a presentation for the Global Village Speakers series entitled, “Take a Closer Look at Turkey: The Blend of the Ancient and the Modern.” The purpose of the presentation was to provide students with a basic overview of Turkey. In Spring Semester 2013, she will be giving another more in-depth lecture about Turkish life and culture. She also gave a presentation through the UNCG Teach learning community to students in ISL 102, which introduced students to the basics of self-regulated learning, including goal-setting, time-management, and self-evaluation.

Seniye will be living and working at UNCG until June 2013. Overall, her experience at UNCG thus far has been very positive, and she has enjoyed viewing university life through the dual-perspective of both student and teacher. “I’m really happy to be here,” she said. “I really feel I belong.”

Interested in inviting a scholar to UNCG, contact: Michael Elliott, Director of International Student and Scholar Services at mjellio2@uncg.edu or call 336.334.5404.

Australian Catholic University, Australia

On October 22-23, 2012, IPC was pleased to welcome Tim Johnson, the Inbound Study Abroad and Exchange Coordinator at Australian Catholic University in Australia. Johnson first visited UNCG in 2007, and he returned in order to reconnect with UNCG faculty and staff and learn about changes at the university. While visiting, he met with several members of IPC staff. He also met with Tom

Logan Stanfield, Kaitlin Ritchie, Tim Johnson, Angie Kapely, and Tom Martinek, Jr.

Martinnek, Sr. (Professor in the Department of Kinesiology, UNCG) and Amanda Pelon (Coordinator for International Student Services and Lecturer at the Bryan School of Business and Economics).

One student currently here on exchange from ACU is Rachel Ladics. Rachel is one of our volunteers at IPC, and she is helping out with all areas of Study and Abroad and Exchange, particularly the outgoing student application process. She is at UNCG for the Fall 2012 semester and is studying theology, arts, and social work. Currently, she is taking a psychology class, two theology classes, and three dance classes (tap, jazz, and contemporary). Once she finishes her studies, Rachel hopes to begin a career as a social worker, working with homeless and abused youth. She also eventually wants to attend graduate school to study counseling.

Rachel Ladics

Logan Stanfield, Kaitlin Ritchie, Tim Johnson, Angie Kapely, and Tom Martinek, Jr.

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Beth Filar Williams guest lectures at University of Parma

By Beth Filar Williams, Distance Education Librarian at Jackson Library

The last two weeks of September 2012, I had the honor to visit Parma, Italy as a guest lecturer for the Digital Libraries Learning Program (DILL) of Erasmus Mundus of the European Commission. DILL is a two-year, English speaking, international masters for information professionals to provide them with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully navigate the world of digital libraries. It is offered in cooperation between Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences (Norway), Tallinn University (Estonia), and the University of Parma (Italy), and students spend approximately one semester at each institution before completing an international internship and thesis.

I first learned of the DILL program in February 2012 while volunteering as a host to a virtual student intern who lived in Uzbekistan and had studied at the University of Parma through the DILL program the previous fall. The success of our collaboration led the DILL coordinator at the University of Parma not only to ask me to host another virtual student intern in Fall 2012 but also to invite me to travel to Parma to meet with and lecture to the DILL students in person, as well as meet with local library professionals.

While in Parma, I gave a lecture to DILL students entitled “Creating the Digital User Experience at UNCG Libraries”, which showcased what UNCG Libraries do to virtually support our students. Services discussed included virtual reference help, our digital library collections, our online teaching, and our hosting services, apps, and tool creations. The DILL students asked many questions about our technologies and services, and by the end of my talk, I had many DILL students asking if they could work at our library! My other lecture day covered “Designing eLearning Digital Objects”, during which I discussed basic e-learning concepts, instructional design process, and technologies used to create tutorials and online learning at UNCG Libraries. While in Parma, I also connected with UNCG’s Library and Information Studies Department, primarily the Digital Libraries course and professor. Together we formed a Facebook group connecting students at both UNCG and DILL to discuss digital libraries. We held an online session using Blackboard Collaborate to join both groups virtually with video and audio. DILL students introduced themselves, shared their country of origin (they came from seventeen different countries across the world), and what they were doing in their libraries. The goal of the session was to show that a synchronous, global connection between librarians and students is possible and to open the door for future collaboration.

An added benefit was meeting other visiting professors for the DILL program from all over the world, including Australia, France, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Sri Lanka. We had amazing discussions about digital libraries from a truly international perspective. Visiting with the local professional librarians was also a positive experience. I showed them the Digital User Experience slides, answered many questions about UNCG Libraries services and practices, and discussed libraries and library practices in general. They were also impressed by what UNCG Libraries does for their students and said we had the “ideal academic library.”
I have remained connected with the students and professional librarians I met while in Parma and hope to build more collaborative endeavors between us. I am currently hosting a DILL student from Germany as a virtual intern for the rest of the fall semester, and plan to hold a synchronous webinar with her in early December as I did with my student last February. I am also wrapping up a collaborative article on my experience last year with my first virtual intern and the previous year’s student intern supervisor in Parma. The Parma DILL coordinator asked me to write on my recent experiences in Parma with the program, and she will translate for the Italian audience. She also requested I return next year. The DILL program coordinator and our library Dean supported this international endeavor with hopes of building a more dynamic partnership with DILL and UNCG and to create better global perspectives for both parties. This collaboration has benefited all parties and promoted UNCG, especially the Libraries, on an international scale. I thank the UNCG University Libraries and Kohler Fund for their travel grant to help make this travel experience possible!

For more information about the DILL program, please visit their website at http://dill.hioa.no/

To view slide shows of Beth’s lectures, click on the following links:
“Creating the Digital User Experience at UNCG Libraries”
http://www.slideshare.net/filarwilliams/digital-user-experience-at-uncg-libraries

Designing eLearning Digital Objects
http://www.slideshare.net/filarwilliams/designing-elearning-objects

To see video of the virtual internship, go to http://library.uncg.edu/info/distance_education/flvfiles/virtualinternship.html

INTERLINK -- Beginning of Fall 2 Term

INTERLINK’s Fall 2 term began on October 15 with a two-day orientation for new students. We welcomed a total of thirty-eight new students from China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Kuwait, Iran, Japan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam. Twenty of these students entered with conditional admission to UNCG, including an inaugural group of Omani students, and five of the Japanese students came to INTERLINK as part of their participation in the UNCG-sponsored Disney Program. We are proud to report that our overall enrollment has reached record numbers, with 117 new and continuing students in the program this term. Serving students from over twenty countries, INTERLINK is one of the most diverse ESL programs in the southeastern US.

New students Makuya Ono (Japan), Shiori Oda (Japan), Ngoc Ta (Vietnam), and Jasem Alkandari (Kuwait) waiting for the bus after a trip to the mall
INTERLINK New Staff

New staff members at INTERLINK this term are Elizabeth Blalock and Linda Roth. Blalock earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees at UNCG and studied abroad in Germany and Spain. She has taught English in Germany and here in North Carolina. Roth earned her graduate degrees in TESOL and Curriculum and Instruction and has traveled extensively. Before coming to INTERLINK, she was a full-time ESL instructor at Vanderbilt University’s English Language Center. Full staff bios can be found on our website at http://uncg.interlinkesl.com/staff.html.

Ghost Tales Halloween Event

In anticipation of Halloween, INTERLINK hosted a storytelling event, Ghost Tales from Around the World, on October 29. Sixteen students joined staff members Casey Thomas and Lamar Gibson to share scary stories and legends from their own cultures while enjoying cider and cookies. To set the scene, the room was darkened, and images of ghosts were projected on the wall.

New Mind Celebrates Halloween with a 'Spooktacular' Party

The students of New Mind Education put together a truly ‘spooktacular’ Halloween Party at the UNCG University Village Clubhouse on Tuesday, October 30, 2012. Attended by many international and domestic students alike, this monster bash featured a variety of Halloween-themed food and activities. The menu included homemade seasonal treats such as pumpkin cookies, monster cupcakes, a jack-o-lantern-shaped fruit plate, and a special witch’s brew served bubbling out of a cauldron.

Guests included Aladdin, Luigi of the Mario Bros., Snow White, Batman, Superman, the Grim Reaper, and even a Jedi Knight from Star Wars (plus many more). The party’s attendants danced the night away and participated in many traditional Halloween activities, including a costume contest, a bobbing for apples competition, and bashing a ghostly piñata.

The inspiration for the party came in part from New Mind’s Global Learning Curriculum (GLC), which among other things emphasizes the need for students to acquire intercultural competency and 21st century leadership skills. The Halloween party was a group project, assigned to New Mind students in their weekly GLC class. They spent three weeks researching, planning, shopping, marketing, and preparing for the event. The goal of this project was not only to help students understand the cultural traditions surrounding Halloween in the US but also to help cultivate group communication and collaboration skills important to success at the university level and beyond.

Thank you to all of the participants for contributing to the wonderful turnout with many cultures and costumes represented. We look forward to the seeing the same faces (and hopefully many more) at our next event!
**Upcoming Events**

**November 2012**
Nov. 12-16  International Education Week
Nov. 21-25  ISA Trip—New York City
Nov. 28     Travel Overseas Workshop—3 sessions  
            (Foust 101 and 104, 3:30-5:00pm)
Nov. 28     ISA Semi Formal (Location and Time TBA)
Nov. 29     Travel Overseas Workshop—3 sessions  
            (Foust 101 and 104, 3:30-5:00pm)

**December 2012**
Dec. 14  INTERLINK's Fall II 2012 End-of-Term  
        Ceremony (Location TBA, 11:30am)
Dec. 17  December Commencement (Greensboro  
        Coliseum)