Welcome to the 2015-16 academic year! Here at the International Programs Center (IPC), the semester has had a busy start in terms of all things international. UNCG continues to implement and expand its “Global Engagement” Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) as part of the university’s accreditation reaffirmation process. In choosing this plan, UNCG affirmed its commitment to strengthening internationalization on our campus. By including global engagement as a part of every student’s learning experience here at UNCG, we will prepare our graduates to enter into the global environment in which we live. We are currently sharing ways that everyone on campus can promote and support the plan.

Meanwhile, IPC will be continuing its efforts to conduct stimulating activities to engage our students, faculty, and staff in international initiatives. Over the summer, UNCG hosted 20 undergraduates from the Shanghai University of Sport as well as 25 German Fulbright Students. As our new international students and scholars are settling in to life at UNCG, we are in the midst of selecting students to study abroad for the spring and summer.

Throughout the year we will publish stories from our current and former participants of our programs. I invite any of you out there who have stories to share with us about your connection to International Programs, Global Engagement and/or internationalization to send them to us (along with a picture or short videoclip if possible). We would like to connect with as many of our UNCG alums, partners, and former and current faculty and staff who have shared in our journey. Stories may be emailed to ipg_news@uncg.edu.

And remember: if you are interested in all things international, please visit the IPC (207 Foust Building) where we will support you in your plans to “do something bigger altogether.”

On August 18, 2015, Chancellor Franklin Gilliam held the semi-annual International Welcome Reception for new and returning international students, UNCG students who have returned from their study abroad programs in recent months and scholars from over 30 countries.

UNCG staff and faculty welcomed new international exchange students and degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate students, as well as international faculty members from various countries such as China, India, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Vietnam, Brazil, Nigeria, Kuwait, Iraq, Oman and from all across Europe.

The reception was well-attended by faculty, staff, friends and students alike. The event presented a wonderful opportunity for UNCG and IPC to let these students know how much they are appreciated and welcomed at UNCG. In his remarks, the Chancellor emphasized the already global character of Greensboro and the Triad, and reaffirmed UNCG’s commitment to internationalization as an institutional value.

IPC would like to thank everyone for coming, and we wish all of the international students a warm welcome and best wishes for the upcoming semester. UNCG and IPC are proud to be a part of each student’s global journey!

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.
Faculty Features

Experiencing China: Bringing Global Ideas to Local Classrooms

Sponsored by the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) Program, Dr. Ye (Jane) He, Associate Professor, School of Education, and Dr. Kristine Lundgren, Associate Professor, School of Health and Human Sciences, led a group of 12 local teachers and education specialists to China this past summer. Participating teachers included elementary, middle grades and high school content area teachers, special educators, English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers and Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) from 11 schools in North Carolina. Through this project, teacher participants not only explored many cultural sites in Shanghai, Su Zhou and Beijing, but also broadened their understanding of internationalization in local K-12 settings.

Shanghai Normal University and Shanghai Xuhui Education Bureau hosted the group in China and offered opportunities for participants to learn the Chinese language and culture, observe Chinese K-16 classrooms and share teaching ideas with Chinese students and teachers. During their visit at the Shi Er Middle School, for example, teachers learned Chinese paper cutting, making Chinese knots and enjoyed the performance from the students in the dance club.

In Dong Li Feng Mei special education school, teachers learned how to make dumplings together with students in their life skills class. At Nan Yang High School, teachers visited the new campus and had opportunities to learn from one another ways to integrate technology in instruction. In addition to observing and participating in class activities, teachers were also invited to co-plan a science lesson as a group and co-taught the lesson to a group of 5th graders in Guang Qi Elementary School as a demonstration for teachers and administrators at the school.

Each participant was also paired with a Chinese teacher partner to exchange teaching ideas and discuss future collaboration opportunities. Many participants have brought back great ideas to include in their own classrooms and some have been keeping in contact with their Chinese partners to extend their instructional collaboration using web 2.0 tools.

While working with the teacher participants to carry out their ideas in their classrooms, Dr. He and Dr. Lundgren are busy planning for next summer’s study abroad opportunity to China. In Summer 2016, they plan to lead a group of UNCG students to explore and experience Shanghai, China.

For more information about the Experiencing China program, please contact Dr. He at y_he@uncg.edu.

To learn more about Fulbright opportunities, visit http://fellowships.uncg.edu/ or contact Steve Flynn, Coordinator of Prestigious International/National Fellowships at stflyn@uncg.edu.

Dr. Elizabeth Perrill Researches Ceramics in Oaxaca, Mexico

Dr. Elizabeth Perrill, Associate Professor of Art History, recently returned from two weeks spent researching ceramic practices in and around Oaxaca, Mexico in June 2015. Dr. Perrill’s research was supported in part by a travel grant from the Kohler Fund, awarded by the International Programs Center.

With her award, Dr. Perrill was able to arrange a shared residence in Oaxaca with a community of highly regarded colleagues, including Yanna Yannakakis (Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Professor of History, Emory University), Brook Lillehaugen (Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Haverford College) and Oaxacan native, Xochitl Flores-Marcial (Department of History, Art History and Linguistics, UCLA). Dr. Perrill cites this collaborative housing arrangement as an “extremely enriching component” of the trip, stating, “My secondary research was greatly advanced by this outstanding set of peers.”
Dr. Perrill’s main objective for the trip was to conduct interviews with Oaxacan ceramicists on sales practices, forming, aesthetics and development of the artists’ careers. Working closely with two local interpreters/drivers, Dr. Perrill was able to interview 11 active potters in the region, primarily in San Bartolo Coyotepec, a small town 30 minutes outside of Oaxaca. Dr. Perrill largely credits the “extremely articulate” ceramics community around Oaxaca with helping to make this “one of smoothest and most intensive research trips” of her career. Dr. Perrill’s interviews and notes from the trip will facilitate the completion of a book chapter on the Oaxacan contributions to, and perspectives on, international blackware ceramics, and contribute significantly to her ongoing research in this area.

In a fortuitous addition to the trip, Dr. Perrill was also able to reconnect with Angelica Vásquez Cruz, a master ceramicist from the Atzompa community outside of Oaxaca. The two women first met in 2007 at the Aberystwyth International Ceramics Festival in Wales, and since that time Ms. Vásquez Cruz has been named as a Grand Master of Ceramics and won Mexico’s top national prizes in this medium. Dr. Perrill acknowledges her unexpected three-hour interview with Ms. Vásquez Cruz as “an invaluable contribution to my overall research on Mexican ceramics.”

Dr. Perrill stresses the importance of this research in expanding her understanding of Oaxacan ceramics within a larger context. “I now have a much clearer picture of how Oaxaca fits into international ceramics, and how the Mexican nationalist movements have contributed to the promotion of arts communities, such as San Bartolo Coyotepec.”

Do something bigger altogether
meet with Dr. Gro?anelli de San and discuss expanding opportunities for UNCG students within the School of Education. Based on the success of these preliminary discussions, Ms. Bellamy made arrangements for Dr. Gro?anelli de Santi’s September visit to UNCG.

Ongoing conversations with Dr. Samuel Miller, Associate Dean and Professor in the School of Education, center on expanding current partnerships and offering longer-term opportunities for UNCG students. In the past, smaller numbers of students from UNCG have participated in short-term summer study abroad experiences at Siena School for Liberal Arts; notably, in 2015 four students participated in summer courses in Deaf Studies.

On September 9, Dr. Gro?anelli de San also met with Sam Parker, Clinical Professor and Coordinator of the Professions in Deafness Program, to discuss growing opportunities for students and faculty exchange within the Deaf Studies program. Dr. Diane Ryndak, Department Chair for Specialized Education Services, as well as additional Deaf Studies faculty, were also in attendance.

Mr. Parker will be traveling again to Siena this summer to participate in a teaching and learning exchange with the Deaf Studies Program at the Siena School of Liberal Studies. This groundbreaking program, which provides students with a unique opportunity for immersion into the transnational Deaf Community, is currently the only one of its kind. Mr. Parker’s travel to Siena this last year was supported in part by a Kohler Award from the International Programs Center.

Dr. Gro?anelli de Santi’s vision for the partnership with UNCG’s School of Education is to create an environment for the exchange of opportunities and ideas by providing long-term, mutually beneficial experiences for UNCG students (practical classroom experience) and young students in Siena (learning English language from native speakers).

Of the partnership, Dr. Gro?anelli de Santi remarked, “We have built a very good relationship with these [two Italian elementary] schools over the years, and for this reason we really want to find a good solid partner in the States.” By expanding opportunities for Education majors, a student population for which there are not typically many study abroad opportunities, this partnership holds great promise for both institutions.

To learn more about leading a Study Abroad program at UNCG, please call IPC at 336-334-5404 or visit Foust 207 to discuss your plans.

To learn more about applying for Kohler faculty funding please visit http://www.uncg.edu/ipg/faculty.html

Special Programs

German Fulbright Summer Institute 2015

UNCG, in partnership with the German-American Fulbright Commission, hosted its fifth annual one-month Summer Institute for 25 specially selected Fulbright students from universities across Germany. This year’s theme was “Entrepreneurship,” and the program ran from July 24 to August 22, 2015.

Through interactive workshops and experiential activities in a variety of settings, UNCG’s German Fulbright Summer Institute offered the Fulbrighters the opportunity to learn the principles of entrepreneurship, enhance their knowledge of the United States and the American higher education system, refine their English language skills, visit local businesses and interact with Americans through various cultural programming events.

Fulbrighters also had the opportunity to experience North Carolina culture through trips to the mountains and the coast, as well as exploring the historic city of Greensboro. The fun did not stop there, as in the second half of the program, the Fulbrighters were able to meet newly arrived UNCG students—international, exchange and national—to expose them to campus life and see what the university community has to offer. During the first week of the fall semester, students attended courses based on their interests and majors before taking a train to Washington, DC. In addition to the certificate
Student Highlights

Jordan Griffin: UNCG Study Abroad Student and IPC Student Employee

Students decide to study abroad for a variety of reasons, but few can say that their journey began with a chance meeting in the dining hall. This was exactly how it started for UNCG Senior, Jordan Griffin. As a freshman, the Media Studies major did not even have studying abroad on his radar before introducing himself to a Chinese student whom he saw eating alone one day. That conversation piqued Jordan’s interest in Chinese language and culture, and led him to ultimately spend a year and a half living in China, including a full academic year (2014-15) studying Chinese language at Shanghai’s Fudan University.

Prior to starting at Fudan University, Jordan spent three months living in the home of his Chinese friend – the catalyst for his journey – in a small city in the coastal province of Jiangsu. Jordan cites this time as invaluable for helping him acclimate to daily life and come to know “the real China.” Some of the more memorable experiences Jordan had during this time include learning to cook braised fish from a local woman, fishing on the Yangtze River, judging a local children’s English competition, gaining philosophical insight from the local Feng Shui Master and appearing on a Chinese television game show.

Jordan reflected on his experience living and studying in Shanghai as a time of huge personal growth. “I’m originally from London, Kentucky, a town with just over 8,000 people. Going to the largest city in the world, with 24 million people, was shocking to say the least!” While studying at Fudan University, Jordan shared a classroom with students from all over the globe. This really helped him to relate to the diverse student population that he works with in the International Programs...
Center (IPC). “Through this experience, I was really able to grasp what our international students at UNCG might be going through. I feel like I will be able to use this insight as I continue my work in international education.”

Some of Jordan’s favorite memories from his time in China are of using his newly acquired language skills to plan trips and navigate the country with his multinational classmates. “The best part about traveling in China is that each city has its own ‘specialty’ and residents are very proud of whatever that is. This includes specialty foods, like Sichuan’s spicy, mouth-numbing hot pot, local attractions, such as Suzhou’s famed gardens, or cultural and spiritual traditions, like the Shaolin Kung Fu and Zen Buddhism of Dengfeng.”

As the first student from UNCG to study at Fudan for a year, Jordan also felt like a pioneer in many ways, trying to piece together all the appropriate information he needed to enroll as a student. Through perseverance, he was finally able to make his goal a reality. He now feels confident sharing his experience with future classmates planning to study in Fudan.

Jordan hopes that, in sharing his experience, other students will be encouraged to study abroad in their time at UNCG. “If there’s anything I hope future students can take away from what I’ve written here, it’s that study abroad is a brilliant way to prepare one for the globalized world we’ve become. After you return, you will have learned so much not only about yourself and the country you just visited, but about your own country as well.” He is grateful to IPC for the guidance, information and financial support he received throughout his experience.

To learn more about Study Abroad opportunities at UNCG, please call IPC at 336-334-5404 or visit Foust 207 to schedule your Study Abroad “Options” appointment.

International Exchange Student Activities

Beyond IPC staff, International Exchange Student Orientation presenters included Mary Anderson (Dean of Students Office), Megan Delph (Housing and Residence Life), Lt. Westbrook (Public Safety and Police), Brian Wilson (UNCG SpartanCard Center), Chrystal Sills (Dining Services), Joseph Erba and Amanda Pelon (Bryan School of Business and Economics), Shelley Queen, Estela Ratliff and Alicia Davis (Student Health Center), Mark Schumacher (University Libraries), Peter Olson, Brian Holt, Haley Anders and Don Fuller (Wells Fargo). The students also learned about several on and off-campus co-curricular opportunities from representatives of OSLI, Outdoor Adventures, Career Services and Piedmont International Fellowship.

Throughout the week, the students went on organized trips to Wal-Mart Super Center, Friendly Center and Four Seasons Mall. 41 wonderful student volunteers (including Peer Advisors and Liaisons (PALS)) assisted with greeting students at the airport, helping students check into their rooms, giving campus tours and teaching the new students how to ride the HEAT bus.

In addition to learning the basics of campus life, students also participated in several activities to help them get to know their cohort and their UNCG Peer Advisor and Liaisons (PALS). One afternoon, IPC staff and student volunteers facilitated...
experiential learning activities in Foust Park designed to encourage a deeper level of interaction and bonding between students. Some activities included a Group Juggle Name Game, “Have You Ever...?” Question Game and Hula Hoop Pass. Afterwards, the students enjoyed a Popsicle social in the park.

**International Degree-Seeking Student Activities**

New International Degree-Seeking Students were introduced to UNCG with assistance from a variety of presenters from all over campus. Orientation presenters included Jennifer Hamilton (Cashiers and Student Accounts Office), Shelley Queen (Student Health Center), Vanessa Enoch (Counseling Center), Richard Bailey and Steven Dedona (Public Safety and Police), Lynda Kellam (University Libraries), Joseph Erba (Bryan School of Business and Economics) and Ashley Green, Dana Saunders and Shakima Clency (Students First Office). We would like to thank them for sharing their insight and expertise.

Orientation also provided new International Graduate and Undergraduate Degree-Seeking Students with the opportunity to meet with International Student Ambassadors, international students who exemplify academic success, community engagement and leadership, for questions and conversation. This semester we would like to thank Yaning Li, Rudolph Bedeley, Dingling Zhong, Sheena Rose, Qasim Al Maskari, Osejie Oriaifo, Hye Won Shin, Mengfei Xu and Hanan Al Shaqsi, for using their knowledge and experiences to help new International Degree-Seeking Students navigate an exciting new chapter in their lives.

As always, we truly appreciate our presenters, volunteers and the campus community in helping our new students adjust and orient themselves to life at UNCG and in the greater Greensboro area.

**Global Engagement**

Under the direction of Associate Provost for International Programs, Dr. Nell Pynes, Global Engagement is a five-year initiative to help UNCG achieve its goal of comprehensive internationalization by offering support for students and faculty to access global opportunities here in the Triad and beyond. Now in its second year, Global Engagement focuses on five high-impact global opportunities for students – the Keker First Year Common Read, Study Abroad, community engagement, Undergraduate Research and Creativity Awards and leadership programs, including the Leadership Challenge and the Global Leadership Program – as well as support for faculty revising and creating globally engaged courses.

Dr. Ye (Jane) He, Associate Professor, School of Education, has been appointed Chair of the Global Engagement Implementation Advisory Committee (GEIAC) for academic year 2015-16. Under her leadership, this faculty committee, representing all colleges and schools, will provide faculty oversight for implementation of this effort.

**Student Opportunities**

The Global Engagement Office is partnering with UNCG New Student and Spartan Family Programs to enhance the Keker First Year Common Read. Through this collaboration, Global Engagement provided 2,550 Where Am I Wearing? A Global Tour to the Countries, Factories, and People That Make Our Clothes books to incoming first-year students in academic year 2015-16. Students are required to read the book, and themes from the reading will be used in curricular and co-curricular programming throughout the year, including a visit from the author, Kelsey Timmerman, on October 7, 2015.

As a culminating experience for the Keker First Year Common Read, Global Engagement will host a two-day conference for 150 first-year students November 13-14, 2015. Day One will take place at Revolution Mill, a former textile mill-turned-event space graciously donated by Self-Help Inc. for the conference. Programming will include key note speakers from members of the Cone Family, who owned numerous textile mills and were instrumental in establishing Greensboro as a center of the global apparel industry in the late 19th and early 20th century, a World Café interactive public discussion and panel on engaging public history from the mill workers’ perspective. Day Two will
incorporate an interactive “global garment” experience. Dr. Sarah Krive, Assistant Dean, Lloyd International Honors College, is chairing the programming committee for the Capstone Conference.

In academic year 2015-16, Global Engagement will also host over 50 Intercultural Competency Workshops (ICCs) administered by trained Qualified Administrators for students in first-year experience courses, including all sections of the Foundations For Learning course. Designed to increase students’ intercultural awareness, ICCs introduce students to the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (DMIS). Instructors may also elect to have their class complete the Intercultural Development Inventory® (IDI®), a cross-culturally valid assessment that is used to measure cultural competence. These workshops introduce the ideas and concepts of intercultural sensitivity to students when they first arrive at UNCG so they are well equipped to take advantage of intercultural opportunities throughout their academic careers.

Faculty Involvement

Global Engagement also focuses on faculty development as an integral part of the initiative. Last year, Global Engagement awarded $22,000 dollars in course development award funding. In academic year 2015-16, up to $50,000 in funding is available for faculty looking to incorporate the four Global Engagement Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) into a new or existing course. The four SLOs are:

**SLO 1:** Students will explain historical, social, economic, political and/or cultural factors relevant to understanding a contemporary issue(s) within a global framework.

**SLO 2:** Students will compare and contrast at least two different ethical perspectives on a salient and contemporary issue in a global context.

**SLO 3:** Students will demonstrate a willingness to engage in diverse cultural situations.

**SLO 4:** Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate in a culturally informed manner in international, intercultural and/or multicultural contexts.

To aid faculty in integrating these SLOs into the curriculum, the University Teaching and Learning Commons appointed Dr. Melody Zoch (Assistant Professor, Teacher Education and Higher Education) as the Global Engagement Faculty Fellow for academic year 2015-16. Dr. Zoch will host seven Global Engagement Faculty Learning Groups throughout the year. This group will explore the Global Engagement Initiative’s goals and support faculty in developing and revising courses (including assignments and assessments) to address global learning and increase UNCG’s students’ intercultural competency.

In May 2016, Global Engagement will host its third annual Global Engagement Summer Institute. The purpose of the institute is to provide professional development opportunities for faculty to build new knowledge about intercultural-global topics, to develop coursework or teaching applications for use in delivering global engagement student learning outcomes and to build campus participation through faculty sharing of expertise.
Global Engagement is poised for a successful year. We are excited to work with partners from across campus and throughout the Greensboro community to ensure UNCG students graduate with the skills, knowledge and attitudes that prepare them for success in an increasingly global society.

The Global Engagement Office is located in 216 Foust Building. Staff includes Steve Flynn, Assistant Director, and Heidi Bretz, Program Assistant.

For more information on Global Engagement, including funding and ICC workshops, please visit http://globalqep.uncg.edu or email questions to globalqep@uncg.edu. Faculty may download a Global Engagement Course Development Award application from http://www.uncg.edu/ipg/qepcdapplication.docx.

To learn more about the Global Engagement Faculty Learning Group, please contact Dr. Melody Zoch at mzoch@uncg.edu.

To see highlights from last year, go here.

INTERLINK/New Mind

INTERLINK: News and Announcements

Fall I, 2015 Session

INTERLINK’s Fall I, 2015 session began on August 10, 2015. New students participated in an intensive two-day orientation, and classes for all students (new and returning) commenced on August 12. This term INTERLINK welcomed 45 new students (32 entering with conditional admission to UNCG) from the following countries: Benin, China, Columbia, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Venezuela, Vietnam. The Fall I session will run for nine weeks, through October 8.

INTERLINK welcomes New Staff

Patrick Lilja joins UNCG after serving as the Director of the INTERLINK program at Indiana State University for the past 2.5 years. He has worked in the field of international education for more than a decade, including experience as a teacher, teacher trainer and administrator. Patrick has traveled to over 50 countries, and has lived in Australia, New Zealand and Japan. He is a member of the NAFSA Region VI leadership team and is a seasoned CEA site reviewer. Patrick has recently presented at numerous conferences including: English USA, TESOL and NAFSA. He was a 2014 participant in the NAFSA Academy.

Patrick holds a B.S. in Biology from Cornell University and a M.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont (SIT). Curious about places and ideas, he studied for a semester on board the SS Universe Explorer and taught English aboard Japan’s Peace Boat (http://peaceboat.org/english/).

Patrick and his family are happy to call Greensboro their new home, and greatly appreciate all of the warmth and hospitality received from the community during their transition. Patrick is excited to join the UNCG community and inspired by “the collaborative spirit that permeates the campus.” Patrick can be reached at: Patrick.Lilja@interlink.edu.

Geoffrey Butler was born in Alexandria, Virginia and majored in Classical Studies at the University of Virginia. After receiving his B.A., he began teaching with the Peace Corps in Kyrgyzstan in 2003. Since that time, Geoffrey has worked in Japan, Costa Rica, South Korea and the United States. He holds an M.A. in TESOL from the SIT Graduate Institute. Geoffrey can be reached at: Geoffrey.Butler@interlink.edu.

Lara Kurth’s love of language began at the University of California Santa Barbara, where she double majored in English and Spanish. After gaining experience teaching both languages, Lara obtained an M.A. in TESOL from the SIT Graduate Institute. Since then she has taught English in Costa Rica, Japan, South Korea and the United States. In addition to language learning and teaching, Lara loves dancing, outdoor exercise, Korean knot-tying and exploring Greensboro on foot. Lara can be reached at: Lara.Kurth@interlink.edu.

Currently in her sophomore year at UNCG, Sonali Kathuria is majoring in International Global Studies with a concentration in Affairs and Development and minorin in Political Science. Sonali’s international travels include India, England, France and Switzerland, and she hopes to visit many more countries in the future. During her freshman year, Sonali was a Conversation Partner through INTERLINK and made many new friends and gained many new experiences. Through UNCG, Sonali is also an active member in the Global Leadership Program and participates in various cultural events. She is
involved within the Indian community and has been performing Classical and Folk Indian dances since 1999. Over the coming term, Sonali will oversee INTERLINK’s Conversation Partner Program, organize cross-cultural events and assist with administrative duties in the office. Sonali can be reached at: Sonali.Kathuria@interlink.edu

To meet the entire faculty and staff at INTERLINK, please visit http://nc.interlink.edu/staff/.

To learn more about the Conversation Partner Program, visit http://nc.interlink.edu/volunteers/conversation-partners-program-2/

**New Mind Education welcomes New Students from China with Hiking, Pool Party, Tea Social**

New Mind Education is excited to begin the 2015-16 academic year with new students and new events. August was a very eventful month, with the arrival of 22 new students from China. These students are eager to learn more English and participate in many campus activities as they adapt to American life. To introduce students to the United States, New Mind Education hosted a hike at Pilot Mountain and allowed the students to experience the beauty of the nature in North Carolina. The finale of the orientation was a fun-filled Hawaiian Luau-themed pool party at The Edge of Campus apartments, where students enjoyed fun games, traditional American cookout food and a refreshing dip in the pool.

On Friday, September 11, New Mind Education hosted an International Tea Social. This event was held from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm in Phillips on UNCG campus. Participants sampled foods from such countries as Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, England, Colombia and China, learned information about other cultures and had the opportunity to create their own plate mosaic to take home with them. The mosaic design that best symbolized international friendships won a special prize.

To learn more about New Mind Education, please visit http://newmind.org/about-us/.

**IPC Staff: Welcomes and Farewells**

**Congratulations and Welcome!**

*Sue Gandy* joins the IPC International Admissions team as an International Admissions Coordinator. Sue graduated from UNCG with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Theater. She returns to UNCG after 26 years of working in university admissions, the past 10 years of which focused on international recruitment and admission. Sue has been fortunate enough to travel extensively around the world, visiting nearly 50 different countries. She started working at IPC in September 2015 and is excited to be back at her alma mater.

*LaToya Winslow* recently joined IPC in as the new Financial Coordinator. LaToya completed her BA in English at UNCG and soon after graduation became an employee with the university. After working in UNCG’s School of Nursing for 10 years, she
Muhuba Mohammed, who previously served as the Front Desk Coordinator, has transitioned into a new role within the IPC team as the Administrative Support Assistant in International Admissions.

Iman Bannout returned to IPC as the new Front Desk Supervisor after spending Summer 2015 in the UK to complete her CELTA English language teaching certification. She has been involved in IPC for the last several years, as a volunteer and as a staff member. She graduated in December of 2014 with a major in International and Global studies.

Patrick Lilja joins UNCG from the INTERLINK program at Indiana State University. Now Director of INTERLINK-UNCG, he possesses more than a decade of experience in the field of international education. For more details, please see INTERLINK: News and Announcements.

Farewell to IPC Staff and Associates

Emily Christiansen, IPC’s former Assistant Director of the University of North Carolina Exchange Program (UNCEP), left in August to join the staff at the UNCG Bryan School of Business and Economics as the Student Services Manager for the MBA Program. She has been an invaluable part of the IPC team and will surely be missed.

In July 2015, after five years as the director of INTERLINK, Dr. Brad Teague assumed a new role as the Assistant Dean and Director of English for International Students at Duke University. INTERLINK also bids farewell to Elizabeth Blalock (Academic Coordinator) and Hitam Alsharif (Student Assistant) who are now pursuing other endeavors. INTERLINK is grateful for their many contributions, and wishes them the best of luck.

Welcome, Front Desk Coordinators!

Front Desk Coordinators are a group of student workers responsible for managing the flow of students, phone calls and emails that come through the IPC Front Desk. Each student works 8 – 10 hours per week, and is integral to ensuring the smooth functioning of the IPC Office. Their personal experiences with study abroad and international interests inform their interactions with prospective study abroad students and international exchange students.

This year’s cohort include Zaira Jackson, Marian (Tammey) Burroughs, Duaa Altholaya, Wendlassida (Arianne) Ouedraogo, Alexis Jackson, Alexis Jackson, Maria (Victoria) Kouba, Habiba Fofana, Maya Norton and Paris Paige.

Welcome, Graduate Assistants and Interns!

Osejie Oriafo is a student in the Premedical Post-Baccalaureate Program here at UNCG. Originally from Nigeria, he helps IPC process incoming applications for prospective International Degree-Seeking Students.

Kelen Thompson joins IPC as the graduate assistant for Study Abroad and Exchange. She is a first semester graduate student in the Counseling and Educational Development (CED) program.

Lori Lester joins the IPC’s eNewsworthy Editorial Team as Staff Writer and Co-Editor. Lori is currently in her final year as a graduate student in the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies.

Farewell and Best Wishes to our Graduates and Front Desk Coordinators: Alyssa Blair, Porshe Sade McLain, Valerie Lainfiesta and Danielle Fiore!

For more information and student profiles, please see: http://www.uncg.edu/ipg/enewsworthy/staffstoriessep15.html
University News

“UNCG students immerse themselves in Costa Rican culture”
Campus Weekly http://ure.uncg.edu/prod/cweekly/2015/06/30/costa-rican-culture/

“UNCG leads Guilford, Brunswick, Yadkin school teachers in China” Campus Weekly http://ure.uncg.edu/prod/cweekly/2015/08/18/uncg-leads-school-teachers-in-china/

“Global Opportunities Center Garners $500,000 Grant for Greensboro” UNCG Now http://newsandfeatures.uncg.edu/global-opportunities-center-grant/

“Flying to Byzantium: UNCG Now http://newsandfeatures.uncg.edu/study-abroad-istanbul/

News from our Partners

“Cattolica alumna discovers the oldest Quran in the world”


“CHEI welcomes new Director, Professor Amanda Murphy”


“Green spirit shines on Pakistani Independence Day” The Macquarie Globe http://globe.international.mq.edu.au/r/2015/08/pakistani-independence/#.VeBoGSVVJ9w

“There’s so little of the world that can be learned through a textbook.” The Macquarie Globe http://globe.international.mq.edu.au/r/2015/08/theres-little-world-can-learned-textbook/#.VeBoQjVvj9w


“More international students to Linnaeus University” Linnaeus University http://lnu.se/about-lnu/1.117348/more-international-students-to-linnaeus-university?!=en

State & National News

“Students find value in participating in multiple abroad trips, travel programs” USA Today: College http://college.usatoday.com/2015/07/31/multiple-study-abroad-trips/