International Education Week (IEW) Success by Michael Elliott

Members of the UNCG community, including faculty, staff and students participated in International Education Week 2007 activities during the week of November 12. The week kicked off with a cross-cultural simulation where staff from the Police Department, Housing and Residential Life, the Graduate School and the Cashier’s Office played the game of BARNGA. Participants gained an appreciation of the complexities of cross-cultural communication and working with international, exchange and returned study abroad students.

Also notable was International Spirit Week, sponsored by the International Student Association (ISA). Members of ISA staffed an information table in the Elliott University Center where they handed out flag pins, did flag face painting and sold international t-shirts and semi-formal event tickets. In addition, the ISA and International Fellows hosted an International Jeopardy night in the residence halls. Friday Fest was hosted by the Indian and Pakistani students of Andaaz, the South Asian Students Association. Attendees enjoyed traditional Indian and Pakistani singing, dancing and cuisine. An IEW end-of-week reception with cake and punch followed the Friday Fest celebration.

Other activities offered during IEW included faculty-led study abroad workshops, a multicultural movie night, a study abroad fair and a screening of “Life and Debt” as part of the Human Rights Film Series. Thank you to all who made IEW such a great success!

Study Abroad Photo Competition Winners!

This year twenty-one photos were selected for the photo contest from students who had studied abroad. The finalists were then organized into the following categories: six landscape, eight architecture, four people and culture, and three humorous finalists. The photos were displayed during IEW for observers to vote for their favorites. Categorical winners, as well as the overall best picture, were then selected. This year around 450 people voted! Thanks to Logan Stanfield, former exchange student (CUHK), for organizing the competition and congratulations to all winners and participants!

Overall Winner: Megan Cob (Australia)
Landscape Winner: Michael Way (New Zealand)
Humorous Winner: Caitlin Cunningham (Spain)
Cityscape/Architecture Winner: Jane Brownfield (Hong Kong)
Culture/People Winner: Emily Mader (Mexico)
Recent Visitors

November 1 began UNCG’s busiest visitor’s month by welcoming, Dipl.-Soz. Birgit Heilig, Director of International Relations at the University of Mannheim, Germany. On November 12, UNCG enjoyed a visit from Erna Helsen, Head of International relations, and John Rance, Study Abroad Coordinator, from HAN University, Netherlands. UNCG also welcomed the Shanxi University delegation from China on November 15: Jia Suotang, Gao Ce, Li Guochen, Lang Yongjie, Kong Fuan, Zhou Fuguo, Zhang Ming, Zhao Peiwen, Yu Guodong. November 19 brought visitor Anita Juho, M.Sc. Economics and Business Administration and International Marketing, from the University of Oulu, Finland. On November 25, UNCG welcomed the Malmö University delegation: Knut Bergknut, Director of International Affairs; Tom Nilsson, PhD, Political Science, Lecturer; Lena Karlbrink, Master of Law, Lecturer; Anna Carlsson, Licentiate Degree in Nursing, Lecturer and Daniel Hansson, Director of Music. On November 29, UNCG welcomed Dr. Kumi Tashiro, Assistant Professor at Miyagi University with the department of Project Design, Japan. The month concluded with a visit on November 30 from Dr. Gordon Smith, BA International Business Programme Manager and Chair of Plymouth Business School International Committee at the University of Plymouth.

Recent UNCG Travelers

The following UNCG faculty member traveled overseas in pursuit of international perspectives in his discipline during the following month: November: William Markham, Sociology (Germany).

International Travel Fund

We are pleased to announce that the following faculty members have been awarded an ITF grant in November: Anthony Cuda, English (Italy); and Michael Zimmerman, Philosophy (Netherlands).

The ITF brochure and budget form can be found at the IPC website at www.uncg.edu/ipg/facultystaff/goingabroad/travelfunds.html

Kohler Award Fund

The next deadline for applications for Institutional Linkages, Internationalizing the Curriculum, Research, Special Projects, and Student Programs will be January 25, 2008. The Kohler Fund brochure, coversheet, and budget form can be found on the IPC website at www.uncg.edu/ipg/facultystaff/internationalize/fundingopportunities.html
Fulbright Reception

The Fulbright Reception held Friday, November 16, was to honor the Fulbright Candidates: Ashley Ramsey, Dance (Mongolia); Paul Stern, Ethnomusicology (New Zealand); Nancy Jones, Voice (Austria); Garema Saxena, Filmmaking (Nepal); Peter Goff, Sculpture (Malawi); and Catherine Burns, Teaching Assistantship (Germany). The winning candidates will be announced in January. Good luck to everyone and thanks to Dr. Pam McRae for her leadership role in promoting external scholarships for these excellent students!

Global Leadership Program Workshops Success!

November brought with it the start of the Global Leadership Program (GLP) workshops. Participants attended Leadership Within A Global Context on November 2, led by Dr. Cathy Hamilton, to kick start their GLP experience. Dr. Hamilton’s workshop was designed to foster new insights into one’s own cultural leadership traditions and those of others. Together they hope to weave those new insights into how cultural leadership traditions contribute to a recognition of what is universal about the human experience and leadership.

The Intercultural Workshop led by Dr. Penelope Pynes and Tom Martinek Jr., on November 14, involved GLP students taking the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) survey consisting of statements reflecting attitudes toward cultural difference designed to measure the student’s awareness of and sensitivity to cultural differences. By partaking in the I.D.I., students gained insight into their cross-cultural understanding and will be able to monitor how this will change as a result of participating in the Global Leadership Program.

Both workshops attracted a large number of participants, all of whom enjoyed the experience and eagerly await the next workshop scheduled for January.

INTERLINK

Interlink students are now nearing the end of the Fall 2 term and as always, a variety of activities were offered to students. At the beginning of the term a trip to the open house at Goat Lady Dairy was arranged where students enjoyed the beautiful fall weather while tasting the various types of cheese. In celebration of Halloween several teachers took students to “Woods of Terror”. This was a unique experience for students though it was not particularly “terrifying”.

Communication Skills 5 (CS5) students are putting together a mock trial this term, so they headed to Duke University to observe the national mock trial tournament. The most recent event was a Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by the Piedmont International Fellowship. Students enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving meal alongside many Americans while entertainment was provided.
ISA Goes To New York City For Thanksgiving!

International students and scholars from the University of North Carolina Greensboro and nearby Wake Forest University visited New York over the Thanksgiving holiday. Fifty-five students traveled by overnight bus to New York City where they stayed in a youth hostel and participated in several events, including an IPC sponsored Thanksgiving dinner and a tour of the United Nations. A number of the students and scholars awakened early on Thanksgiving morning and braved the chilly temperatures to find a great spot to view the annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Later in the evening, the students and scholars gathered at Ulysses, an Irish restaurant and pub, for a traditional Thanksgiving meal with turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie. On the Friday following Thanksgiving, some students and scholars toured the United Nations while others took advantage of the day after Thanksgiving sales. Everyone arrived back safely to the UNCG campus on Sunday morning in time to rest up for classes the following day.

Join us for a Celebration of this Joyous Season at the International Programs Center Holiday Party.

Let us gather as an International Family to Ring in the Holiday Season!

Friday, December 7, 2007
3:00-5:00pm
IPC (127 McIver Street)