



The International Educator

UW-Eau Claire study abroad information for advisers, faculty, and staff

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Students Win National & International Scholarships

Becky Mai, a sophomore social studies major, and Tamar Reim, a senior special education major, have won \$5000 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships for Spring 2008. Becky will study in the Central European Studies Program at Masaryk University, Czech Republic, through the ISEP-Direct program. Tamar is participating on the Wittenberg, Germany program where she will take German language and culture courses for her German minor. The Gilman program supports students who have been traditionally under-represented in study abroad. It is a Congressionally funded program, administered by the Institute of International Education. Find out more at <http://www.iie.org/programs/gilman/index.html>.

Heather Sommer, a junior English-creative writing major, was awarded a \$5000 Freeman Asia Scholarship. Heather will be studying intensive Chinese through the exchange program with Jinan University in Guangzhou, China. The Freeman Asia program supports students with demonstrated financial need who are planning to study in East or Southeast Asia. The program is run by the Freeman Foundation and administered by the Institute of International Education. Learn more at <http://www.iie.org/programs/Freeman-ASIA/>.

Andy Stevens, a sophomore biology major, was awarded a \$5000AUD (\$4400 USD) IDP Education scholarship for his semester in Lismore, Australia. Andy was nominated for this award by our partners at Southern Cross University based on his academic record. IDP Education is an Australian enrollment service used by international students who study in Australia. You can read more about IDP & their scholarships here <http://www.idp.com/students/scholarships/studentmobilityscholarships/>.

Emily Paul, a sophomore communication science disorders major, received a \$1000 Corinne Jeannine Schiller Scholarship for her studies at the University of Limerick in Ireland this semester. Audrey Mohr, a sophomore communications major, received the same award for her fall 2007 study at Lancaster University in England. This national award is provided from the Corinne Jeannine Schiller Foundation for Gold or Silver Girl Scouts who plan to study abroad. More information on this scholarship can be found here: <http://www.cjsfoundation.org/Scholarship%20to%20Study%20Abroad.htm>

Four students studying in Pau, France received scholarships through USAC, our U.S. partner for the program. Two French majors, Kara Shore, a sophomore, and Amanda Hokenson, a junior, each received \$2100. Emily Hazen, a junior elementary education major, was awarded \$1700. Stephanie Schaafsman, a junior French teaching major, received \$1300. These students were contacted directly by USAC about the scholarship opportunity.

The Center for International Education has a listing of all local, regional, and national scholarships for study abroad on our Web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/sac/finaid.htm>. If you know of others, please let us know by emailing studyabroad@uwec.edu.

Academic Year/ Fall/Summer 2008 Update

We have accepted 101 students for 18 fall or academic year programs, and 83 students for 8 summer programs.

We will be sending the first students to sites in China (ISEP-Beijing), Greece, Scotland (Aberdeen summer option), Spain (Valladolid fall option).

Save the Date!

The fall 2008 Study Abroad Fair will be on Wednesday, October 8th from 3-5:30pm in the Council Fire Room, Davies Center.



International Classroom Speakers

Each semester past participants of study abroad programs become part of our International Classroom (IC) speaker program. Twenty IC speakers gave more than 100 classroom presentations during fall semester.

All IC speakers attend a 2-hour training, where they prepare a 10-minute presentation about study abroad. IC speakers talk about UW-Eau Claire study abroad in general, while sharing specific experiences from their own study abroad program.

You may be contacted directly by an IC speaker, requesting 10 minutes of your class time. We are also happy to facilitate the process. Just send an e-mail to Kristi Doucette (doucetkk@uwec.edu) with the following information: class name, class location, meeting time/days. She will share this information with potential speakers, and one of them will contact you to set up a specific presentation date. The IC speakers are also available to talk to campus organizations or to residence hall wing meetings.

"My time in Lancaster was great. I learned a lot about the English culture, and love the people in the UK! I advanced greatly in my degree because of Lancaster, and I definitely improved my essay writing skills...all in all it was amazing."

Amanda Moe, a junior sociology major, studied in Lancaster, England during fall 2007.

Study Abroad Students Give Back

For the past two years, UW-Eau Claire students on the Nicaragua/Costa Rica program have spent two weeks doing a service-learning project in El Fortín, Nicaragua, with the goal of economic and social empowerment of the community. Students have worked alongside the community to plant fruit trees and herb gardens. The community will be able to use the trees and herbs for personal use, as well as sell them to markets and hotels in nearby Granada, creating much-needed income for the community.



On their own initiative, the students have taken their involvement one step further. The 2006 group set up a scholarship fund for 20 elementary students, providing each student with all necessary school supplies, uniforms, and shoes. This year, after learning that 90% of the 20 elementary students had tested positive for parasites that hinder their physical development, it allowed for medical exams and treatment of some illnesses.

Sarah Holm with some of the kids in El Fortin in 2006. She is a social work major.

The 2007 group is working to create a library of basic textbooks for the middle and high school students of the community. Presently, these students have to rely exclusively on their notes or travel to the city to study from books in the city library, if and when, they are available.

Kristine Radtke-Norris, a 2007 participant of the Costa Rica Nursing & Health Care Professions program is also giving back to one of her host communities. She and her family have purchased 12 digital thermometers for a clinic in Miramar, Costa Rica. Students on the program lived in Miramar for one week to experience first-hand what health care in a rural setting was like. Kristine said, "I wanted to give back to a community that gave me so much." She is working with a U.S. company to get the thermometers, and the company has also agreed to translate all the usage instructions into Spanish.

Spring 2009 Study Abroad Application Deadlines

We began accepting applications on January 15, 2008 for **spring semester programs**. The application deadlines are:

March 3 for: Lismore/Australia; Harlaxton/England; Kansai Gaidai/Japan

April 1 for: Perth/Australia; Graz/Austria; Guangzhou/China; San Jose/Costa Rica; Global Student Teaching; Lancaster & Winchester/England; Pau/France; Leipzig & Hessen/Germany; Thessaloniki; Greece; Limerick/Ireland; ISEP-Direct; Nagasaki, Japan; ITESM/Mexico; Study in Scotland; Valladolid/Spain; Växjö/Sweden & Chiang Mai/Thailand.