

Study Abroad Connections

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Message from the Director

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Study Abroad Center's mission is to foster the acquisition of knowledge through academic work in other countries and develop cross-cultural understanding through cultural immersion.

In keeping with our mission, the programs enable students to study and earn UHM credits applicable toward their Mānoa degrees and for UHM faculty members to teach, develop new courses, and conduct research while abroad.

Therefore, it is my pleasure to introduce our first issue of **Study Abroad Connections**, highlighting accomplishments of both our faculty and students. The newsletter will be published three times during the academic year.



Sarita Rai, Ph.D.

"What Difference Does Difference Make"

The Study Abroad Center congratulates **Hana Bowers** and **Devon DeAngelo**, on being awarded the **Undergraduate Research Stipend** by the **Honors Program Undergraduate Research Opportunities Council (UROC)**.

Following a rigorous evaluation by a council of ten faculty reviewers, their proposal entitled "**What Difference Does Difference Make": A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study**" was ranked among the best out of a total of 64 applications that were recommended for support.

"Our first encounter occurred while we were studying abroad in Paris in Fall 2010 through the Study Abroad Center. We lived with the same host family in a Parisian neighborhood (specifically the 20th arrondissement), which is multicultural and residential. Consequently, we were able to see Paris through a holistic

lens as opposed to its typical portrayal as glamorous and high profile.

We took "**Ethnic Identity**", a course taught by Resident Director **Prof. Noel Kent**, of UH Mānoa **Ethnic Studies Department**. This course highlighted the complexities of the city we were navigating and we started to gain firsthand exposure to French culture that normally would not reveal (to outsiders) these provocative identities.

From this experience, Prof. Kent recognized our teamwork dynamic and offered us the opportunity to lead the ES 100 course for the Spring 2011 semester.

Subsequently, upon returning to Honolulu, we became aware of intriguing differences and similarities between the two cities. We are concerned with construction of ethnic identities in Paris and Honolulu; our

contrast the methods and interrelationships in which citizens from Paris and Honolulu respectively, have dealt with ethnic identity, immigration, secularism, and national consciousness.

This is not a problem we are attempting to resolve but to bring more awareness. Through our future investigative research, interviews and subsequent documentary, we hope to inspire other citizens of the world to question their identities in the context of the cities and cultures they live in."

This summer, Hana and Devon interviewed Parisians in France, as well as Honolulu residents, and will present their research findings in a poster presentation at an open academic forum, to be held during the 2011-12 academic year.

*"We hope to inspire other citizens of the world to question their identities in the context of the cities and cultures they live in."
- Hana Bowers and Devon DeAngelo, Paris Fall 2010 participants and UROC Undergrad Stipend Recipients*

Spotlight On...

Matt Candau, London Fall 2009 & Spring 2010

"Going abroad really opened my eyes to how the rest of the world views things and it really makes you take a step back and think. I fell in love with the people and the culture in England, as well as rugby. This has driven me to pursue my Masters in Physiotherapy Studies at the University of Queensland, in Brisbane, Australia. Along with pursuing my Masters, I will be playing for the University of Queensland Rugby Club, Queensland's oldest and most prestigious club. They are in the Premiership, which would be the equivalent of our NFL.

I made my decision to pursue my studies in Australia mainly due to my experiences in England. I enjoy experiencing new things and meeting new people and what better way to do that than to move to another country.

The Study Abroad program made it possible for me to travel, go to school and play a sport at the college level all in another country. If you haven't considered going abroad, I strongly encourage you to do



Matt Candau (standing 3rd from left) and the Roehampton rugby lads

so. And if you are thinking about it, I would suggest trying to play some sort of sport and really get involved with the university. It is the best way to meet new, local people and really immerse yourself in their culture.

Playing rugby for Roehampton was one of the best decisions I made. Granted I was able to start, but there is a lot more to rugby than what happens on the pitch. The rugby lads are

the greatest guys I know and I still keep in contact with them on a daily basis.

I was the only American on our team and I loved it. My teammates are friends for life, and the experiences I had are tough to put into words. The best way to experience it is to go and try it for yourself."

"The program is strong with quality instruction, complete immersion and experiential learning."

- Kōbe Summer 2011

Resident Director Phillip Ooi

Fall 2011 Calendar at a Glance

Study Abroad Fair
Wednesday, Sep. 21
9am – 2pm
Hawai'i Hall Front Lawn
(Varney Circle)

Spring 2012 Program
Informational Meetings
Thursday, Sep. 22 -
Friday, Oct. 7

Summer 2012 Faculty
Applications Due
Friday, Oct. 7

Spring 2012 Student
Applications Due
Friday, Oct. 14

Fall 2012 & Spring 2013
Faculty Applications
Due
Monday, Nov. 14

2012-2013 Academic
Year Faculty
Applications Due
Monday, Nov. 14

Taking Sustainability on the Road

As Resident Director for the Study Abroad Center's Summer in Paris 2011 program, **Prof. Samir Khanal of Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering** had the opportunity to develop an experimental course on sustainability, which he entitled "**Sustainability: Green & Global**" and launched at the American Business School in Paris.

The course was a success,

and was met with enthusiasm by the 24 students, who hailed from around the globe, including USA, Lebanon, Turkey, Morocco and South Africa.

This Fall semester, Prof. Khanal will be offering the same course to students at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

For more information, please email Prof. Khanal: khanal@hawaii.edu.



Prof. Khanal (bottom row, fifth from left) with his students in Paris, and UHM Mechanical Engineering Prof. Reza Ghorbani (bottom row, sixth from left; Summer 2011 Lille, France Resident Director) who was visiting from Lille.

"Wow...this was totally cool for me, learning lots about sustainability and being green. It's been educational, fun and inspiring. I'm not making any promises, yet, but I have been motivated to live a sustainable life and to impact others."
- ABS student Ndinaya M.K. Bothongo, South Africa, on "Sustainability: Green & Global".

A Rewarding Summer in Kobe

Phillip Ooi
Civil and Environmental Engineering
2011 Resident Director

"I visited Nagoya Institute of Technology and Kōbe University, and gave a lecture at both institutions. I learnt a lot about their research and their facilities and overall, it was more rewarding than I had envisioned.

I was provided with a lot of literature on their work, which I have and am still reading with great interest as I believe that

they will become useful in my future research.

During the many interactions I had with the students, I learnt that the program is too short! They would love to stay longer and have nothing but positive things to say. The program is strong with quality instruction, complete immersion and experiential learning coupled with some fun.

On the personal side, I learnt the Japanese way of life and a little Japanese language. I brought my family with me and

my 5-year-old son attended kindergarten. I got to eat really good food and connected with a former classmate of mine from Virginia Tech (now residing in Osaka) whom I have not seen in 20 years! I also developed friendships with the Kōnan (University) staff, who demonstrate a completely different personality after a few drinks!"

Beginning Spring 2012, Prof. Ooi will be serving on the Council on Study Abroad, the Study Abroad Center's curriculum and policy-making body.

Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to the following Study Abroad Center alumni who participated in the **100th Annual Commencement Exercises!** We wish you the best in your future!

Whitney Bacon, England
Serena Berg, Japan
Matt Candau, England
Renée Cavaco, Japan
Tiffany Chan, France
Jase Chun, Japan
Danielle Clements, France
Kristin Dery, France
Zane Dulin, Spain
Yishan Fu, England

Asia Fujikake, France
Elena Garner, Spain & Denmark
Raquel Gushi, Italy
Kimberly Ho, England
Kim Hutchison, France & Italy
Shantel Ishii, Japan
Liana Kobayashi, England
Matthew Lam, France
Bryan Lane, Japan
Austin Larson, England
Christine Licato, Italy
Morgann Machalek, England
Cherri Mariñas, England
Kaipo Masicampo, Japan
Joshua Morgan, Japan
Janella Myers, France & Italy
Kim Nguyen, Italy
Victoria Nyberg, Italy

Julianne Omoto, Japan
Elyse Oyama, Spain
Marah Paley, England
Merrick Patten, Italy
Ryan Prestoza, Spain
Jaclyn Santos, Italy
Maximilian Shakely, Japan
Chad Shimomura, Germany
David Shinsato, Japan
Tabitha Shook, Spain
Nohea Taufaasau, Japan
Matthew Tegasantos, Japan
Chelsea Tokuno, Japan
Malia Tyner, Japan
Dayton Wong, Spain
Scott Wong, Japan



Tiffany Chan, Paris Spring 2011



University of Hawai'i at
Mānoa
Study Abroad Center
1890 East West Road
Moore Hall, Room 115
Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone 808 956-5143
Fax 808 956-9319

Web studyabroad.org
uhmstudyabroad
uhmstudyabroad

*Dare to Discover,
Dare to Learn, and
Dare to Understand*

Fulbright Japan

Vanessa Chong Kuna Study Abroad Advisor

"This summer I participated in the Fulbright Japan International Education Administrators (IEA) program, along with six other international educators from the USA. We observed the educational system, society and culture of Japan in a variety of settings (universities, ministries, and organizations) in Tōkyō, Kyōto, Fukuoka, and Hiroshima.

A recurring theme that was emphasized throughout the

program was the Japanese government's goal to attract more international students to its universities. With a declining birthrate that has resulted in fewer 18-year-olds ready to attend university, the government hopes to increase foreign student enrollment from 120,000 to 300,000 by 2020.

As far as the culture goes, I was impressed with the Japanese people—they were polite, gracious, and clean. Sidewalks, streets, temples, shrines, gardens, and buildings were immaculate. It

seemed like telephone conversations, if there were any, were private and quiet, and there was no cell phone usage in restaurants, trains and subways.

I will be able to use what I learned, experienced and observed about the educational system, society and culture to help students who are interested in studying in Japan. In addition, the materials provided by Fulbright will be useful in our pre-departure orientation sessions."

Meet the Resident Directors

...and the exciting courses they are teaching abroad this year!

Fall 2011

London, England

Jon Goldberg-Hiller, [Political Science](#)
POLS 333: Advanced Topics in Global Politics
POLS 374: Law, Politics and Society

Paris, France

Matthew Lauzon, [History](#)
HIST 352 (W): France and Empire
HIST 345 (O): France in the Old Regime

Florence, Italy

Kathryn Hoffman, [Languages and Literatures of Europe and the Americas](#)
LLEA 270: Freaks and Monsters
LLEA 471B: Fairies, Devils and Fantasy

Machida, Japan

John Haig, [East Asian Languages and Literatures \(retired\)](#)
JPN 350: Introduction to Japanese Linguistics
JPN 425: Japanese Translation

Seville, Spain

Wayne Iwaoka, [Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences](#)
FSHN/ANSC 350: Nutrition, Food, and Animals: Issues and Controversies
FSHN 440: Food Safety
FSHN 476: Cultural Aspects of Food Habits

Spring 2012

London, England

Miriam Sharma, [Asian Studies](#)
ASAN 4911 (W,O): Asian Popular Culture in England
ASAN 491S (W,O): Literature and Film of the Asian Diaspora in England

Paris, France

Stacy Jørgensen, [Geography](#)
GEOG 409/TPSS 409: Cultural Biogeography
GEOG 422: Agriculture, Food and Society

Florence, Italy

Kristin McAndrews, [English](#)
ENG 311 (W): Life/Food Writing - A Taste of Italy: An Exploration of Life and Food in Florence
ENG 494 (W): Study Abroad in Florence (The Feast in Italian Art & Literature)

Machida, Japan

John Haig, [East Asian Languages and Literatures \(retired\)](#)
JPN 370: Language in Japanese Society
JPN 451: Structure of Japanese

Seville, Spain

Elisa Joy White, [Ethnic Studies](#)
ES 410 (E): Race, Class and the Law: Immigration, Human Rights and Justice in Spain
ES 440 (W): Contemporary African Diaspora and Black Communities in Spain