

Study Abroad Connections

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Message from the Director

Welcome to all UHM faculty and students to a new academic year at Mānoa. Welcome also to our new Chancellor Tom Apple who appreciates and recognizes UH Mānoa as an institution of excellence. At various meetings with faculty and staff, Chancellor Apple discussed his passion - and will work with our university community to encourage and support a) research that matters, and b) an education that is transformative - that Study Abroad, among others, is one of the venues that can facilitate this transformation. On July 11, 2012 the Study Abroad Center received its positive five-year program review report from external reviewers, that stated, "...the program operates effectively with an unusually high level of academic connections to the UHM faculty. This integrated strategy undoubtedly enhances student experience and faculty development." Toward that end, this volume presents snippets on students and faculty engaged in learning/research and their transformations.

Sincerely,

Sarita Rai
Sarita Rai

Egypt: Lessons in Culture and Customs

Ayya Tawfik
Independent Self-Designed (Cairo, Egypt)
Fall 2011

"The first time I heard of such a thing called 'study abroad' I was in high school. I thought that it was so fascinating that you can go to a foreign country to study and get credit for it! Immediately, I decided that when I graduate and become a university student, I will study abroad. Last Spring, I made my way over to the Study Abroad Center for more information. I've already decided that I would go to Egypt, my parent's home country. I have been to Egypt a few times before on vacation, but I knew it would be a completely different experience to actually live and go to school there. As soon as I arrived after the two-day journey and saw the friendly faces of people talking, laughing and eating, I took in a deep breath of the polluted air, and decided that Egypt is my favorite place in the world.

It was such an unforgettable experience to be immersed in my culture, language and customs. The classes I took at American University in Cairo were great and I learned so many new things about Egypt and my culture. If I wasn't graduating in a year, I would definitely do it again! Studying abroad was probably one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life. It is an experience every student should have; there will be no limit to the things you'll learn and the memories you'll make. Some of the people I met there are now some of my closest friends.

I am so grateful that I was able to study abroad and I want to thank the study abroad team at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have been able to have this once in a lifetime experience."



Ayya at the Luxor, Egypt

"[Studying abroad] is an experience every student should have; there will be no limit to the things you'll learn and the memories you'll make."

Spotlight On...

Billy Baxter
Oxford, England, Fall 2011
Kōbe, Japan, Summer 2012

"The one thing I've always dreamed of doing is getting to travel the world and to see as many places, people, and things as I can. I have always found the differences in people and cultures fascinating. I've been making lists and plans ever since I could remember of all the places I want to go. The first time I found out about study abroad programs, I was incredibly excited and decided that it was something I definitely wanted to participate in.

One of the most wondrous things about getting to study abroad is the fact that you're getting to live in another country. Having never left the country before my two study abroad trips, I suddenly felt like a time traveler; new customs, foods, music, arts, and holidays make for a true cultural endeavor, and at least for a little while, you get to live it instead of just hearing or learning about it in books.

I have now had the opportunity to complete two study abroad programs with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Study Abroad Center - the first to Oxford, England and the second to Kōbe, Japan. I went to Japan to learn the language and I feel I have a much better understanding of it now than I would have if I had learned it in the US. I went to England to give myself another perspective on my major; however, what I learned most while abroad had more to do with the culture, customs, people and myself. They are both very unique programs and very worthwhile experiences for me.

One of the main differences for me between these two programs is the housing arrangements - in Oxford, I stayed in campus housing where I had my own room in an apartment I shared and in Kōbe, I lived with a host family for a 6 week summer program. I can't really say that one form of housing was actually better than the other but they are very different and for some could mean a world of difference, so here's a summary of those differences.

Oxford's on-campus living offers a much more interactive experience with other students, not just England's students, but study abroad students from all over Europe, which was amazing as I now have friends

from all over the world. Kōbe's summer program offered host family housing and I have to say that I was very fortunate, as I really loved and will miss my host family. Having said that, I must add that if you are more interested in partying and interacting with the student population, you may not enjoy host family living as much as I did.

Overall, I feel I am quite fortunate to have been able to enjoy both unique and profound experiences. Besides the excitement of travel, one reason to study abroad is that you will experience new customs, holidays, foods, art, music, and politics firsthand. I felt much more involved in the society than if I had just been visiting for a short vacation. The interactions I had with my teachers, roommates, friends and host family are experiences I could never have gained anywhere else and I feel that they are invaluable. I've made friendships and memories that will last a lifetime! "



Billy at Christ Church - literary setting for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and the movie setting for *Harry Potter*

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Fall 2012 Calendar at a Glance

Study Abroad Fair
Wed, September 19

9:00am - 2:00pm
 Hawaii Hall Front Lawn
 Join us for *Bollywood, Flamenco and more!*

Teaching and Researching Around the World: Could You be the Next Resident Faculty Resident Director?
Fri, September 21

11:30am - 12:45pm
 KUY 106

Informational Meetings
Thurs, Sep 20 - Fri, Oct 5

Workshop for Study Abroad Returnees: Translating your Study Abroad Experience for Your Next Career Step
Thurs, September 27

3:30pm - 5:00pm
 QLC 208

Summer 2013 Faculty Applications Due
Thurs, October 4

Spring 2013 Student Applications Due
Mon, October 15

Fall 2013 & Spring 2014 Faculty Applications Due
Thurs, November 1

Academic Year in Japan 2013 - 2014 Faculty Applications Due
Thurs, November 1

Paris On Film

Tom Brislin
Summer 2012 Resident Director, Paris, France
Professor & Chair, Academy for Creative Media

"Summer is a fortunate time for a film professor to be in Paris. There were three ongoing festivals, the start of the 'open skies' series (similar to Honolulu's Sunset on the Beach), and several international premiers. I was able to take my class on a tour of the national film museum, the Cinémathèque Française, and return for a private viewing of the extended collection not on display, and use of the very restricted library. This allowed me to conduct further research on the Cinémathèque's founder, Henri Langlois, and the events that sparked the initial uprisings of the "Generation of 68," conducted by film students and aficionados over Langlois' termination. This also marked the end of the 'New Wave' (Nouvelle Vague) movement in French Cinema, begun a decade earlier, which is a focus of my study, and a unit in my summer course.

As Resident Director for the Summer 2012 in Paris program, my course, *Paris on Film*, was very Paris-centered, and each writing assignment included a section on what they learned about Paris from each film, and how they would compare the 'reel' images of Paris with the 'real' images they experienced. All students completed a weekly journal describing their 'intercultural intersections', and two photo essays that illustrated differences and similarities between French and American/local Hawai'i cultures. We had an initial meeting in our flat, and as we were all together on both excursions, we discussed our experiences in Versailles and in Brussels.



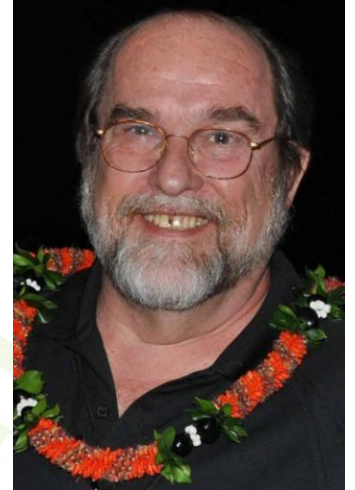
The excursion to Versailles was rich with history and culture. The other to Brussels combined culture with an overview of Europe beyond its constituent countries through tours and presentations at the European Commission and Parliament. While many of the students expressed some dread before these visits, they unanimously declared the presentation at the EC to be the highlight of their visit.

All UHM students were in homestays. There was sufficient and healthful food, a

respect for privacy in their rooms, and a cooperation in the lives of the families. Other U.S. students in the ABS summer program stayed in apartments and would often comment in their conversations with UHM students how they wished they had been in homestays, as dealing with a landlord or concierge did not give them any 'insider' cultural knowledge or experiences. Although students were initially mixed in their reaction to homestays after learning other U.S. students were in apartments, as the summer progressed, both the UHM and other U.S. students came to the agreement that homestays were a better (and better fed) option.

When asked for their recommendations for future participants, students replied (as they have in Berlin and Annecy): Bring warmer clothes than you think you will need, and bring more money than you think you will spend!

As the Academy for Creative Media expands, there is room in our curriculum to develop a course in international 'New Wave' movements, influenced by my RD experiences in Paris and Berlin, to include the Nouvelle Vague, the 'Berlin School' of Cinema, and the U.S. 'New Wave' of independent filmmakers of the late 60s and 70s that displaced the Hollywood Studio System."



Prof. Tom Brislin

"I was able to take my class on a tour of the national film museum, the Cinémathèque Française, and return for a private viewing of the extended collection not on display, and use of the very restricted library.



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DIS Offers Unique Experiences for UHM Students



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

Petrice Flowers
Summer 2012 Resident Director, Copenhagen, Denmark
Associate Professor, Political Science

"The Danish Institute for International Studies (DIS) has developed an exceptional academic program. DIS offers a broad range of courses taught by academics/practitioners with experiential learning components built into many of them. The courses are well-conceived and offer UHM students unique experiences that they cannot get in Honolulu or on any of our other study abroad programs.

DIS courses are based on a pedagogy that focuses on critical thinking, analysis and engagement. For example, a course on human trafficking takes a study tour to Amsterdam, and since this is integrated into the course, it gives students the opportunity to apply theories they've learned in class to real world issues. The study tours are rooted in this approach since they always include a critical engagement with how Denmark deals with issues as well as how these issues are addressed at the study tour site. So that, on the issue of migration and integration, the study tour to Turkey will challenge students to think critically and analytically about these issues in the Danish context, the Turkish context and the U.S. context. The human trafficking course might do a short study tour to Sweden, a long tour to Amsterdam and a field study in Copenhagen, each of these builds off the previous tour and the classroom material.

I will end with a summary of my own professional development while in Copenhagen. In the proposal I submitted when I applied for the Copenhagen Resident Directorship position, I planned to meet with a colleague at University West in Sweden to see if we could work together on a human trafficking project. My recent research in Japan and Korea, is a comparative study of how these two countries deal with forced migration in the form of refugee movements and human trafficking. My colleague was thinking of starting a new research project and we wanted to begin thinking together about places where our work overlaps and where we might collaborate. We see many places where we can work together, but before proceeding, we need to wait for the results of a funding proposal that she and her colleagues have already submitted. Our discussions were very fruitful and we decided that there is another area where we could move forward and work together. I'm nearing the completion of a funding proposal for the Abe fellowship for a project on Muslim communities in the U.S., Japan, Korea, Denmark, and Sweden. The month that I spent in Denmark and Sweden inspired me to embark on this broadly comparative project; a project that I never would have considered before. If I am awarded the grant, I will spend part of the time in Sweden working with my colleague, and will be affiliated during my time in Denmark with DIS.

In addition, I completed an article, 'Civil Society and War Memory: The Past in Present Responses to Refugees and Human Trafficking,' and submitted it for publication to the *Journal of Comparative Politics*. I also finished up revisions on two other articles, one will be published as part of an edited book in January and one will be published in the journal *Critical Asian Studies* in December. I am grateful for the opportunity to spend time in Denmark and focus on my writing and further developing my research agenda. The new comparative project on Muslim communities in five countries will expand my expertise beyond Asia. "

Meet the Resident Directors

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

Spring 2013

London, England

Hamid Pourjalali, **Accounting**

ACC 201: Intro to Financial Accounting
BUS 367 (W): Business Study Abroad
(International Business Elective)

Paris, France

Noel Kent, **Ethnic Studies**

ES 301 (E,W): Identity, Immigration and Nation
in France
POLS 360: French Society and Politics from an
American Lens

Florence, Italy

Judith Kellogg, **English**

ENG 270 (W): Intro to Literature, Literary
History: Medieval and Renaissance Florence
ENG 321 (W): Backgrounds of Western
Literature: the Construction of Culture
through Stories

Seville, Spain

Vina Lanzona, **History**

HIST 350 (W): Iberia in Asia and the Pacific
HIST 451 (E): Literature and the Cultural
Memory of the Spanish Civil War