Mastodon Travels

Greetings from the Office of International Education

The Office of International Education is pleased to bring you Indiana University—Purdue University Fort Wayne’s study abroad newsletter. We hope you find this newsletter informative and fun. We welcome your feedback and suggestions to improve future issues. We will also be looking for stories and photos from students like you to include.

We have been busy finalizing your study abroad paperwork and preparing for summer and fall departures. There are a lot of exciting things happening this semester and this newsletter will include a few.

We are continuing to work on major specific advising sheets that will assist academic advisors and students in finding opportunities that fit their course schedules and goals. The advising sheets will provide a list of programs for a particular major where students have been successful in completing coursework in the past.

Another large project we have recently completed is our new website (www.ipfw.edu/iss). We have revised the format and added additional resources for students planning on studying abroad, students currently overseas, and for students upon return. Please check it out and let us know your thoughts.

On behalf of our office we would like to wish you all safe travels, and we look forward to seeing you and assisting you in your endeavors to include international education in your academic studies.

Discover the World at WorldFest 2011

The Office of International Education in conjunction with the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, African Student Association, and the Department of International Language and Culture Studies are pleased to present Worldfest—a three day event highlighting international events on campus. The three day event will begin with a French Poetry Recitation contest, Monday, April 4 in Walb 222–224 at 6 p.m. On Tuesday, April 5 in Walb 222-224, come learn the art of African dance and rhythm with Abigail Dwusu-Abankwaa, renowned dance expert at 7 p.m. The festivities will end with “A Taste of the Middle East” and food demonstration Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at noon in Walb G08. The goals of Worldfest are to make the campus community aware of global events and recognize the cultural diversity and rich experiences our international scholars and students bring to Indiana University—Purdue University Fort Wayne. For more information, contact Ashley Simmons, assistant director for International Programs at simmonsa@ipfw.edu.

Don’t Forget

Internationalizing your Resume—Wednesday, Mar. 23, 2011
Fall application deadline—March 15, 2011
Spring application deadline—November 1, 2011

Written by:
Ashley T. Simmons,
Assistant Director for International Programs
In today’s competitive job market it takes more than a degree to land a job after graduation. With so many people graduating with bachelor’s degrees these days, how do you set yourself apart from the crowd? How can you become marketable to future employers? Two of the best experiences to set you apart from other graduates are studying overseas and completing an internship.

Studying abroad allows you to travel to another country and see the world from a completely different perspective. Through your course abroad, you will learn about new ways of life, experience other cultures, and meet new people, all while learning how to apply new skills to an ever changing international work force. On the other hand, internships give you practical experiences with professionals in your field. By completing an internship, you will have a better understanding of what people do in your field, which shows not only that you learned about your profession through obtaining a degree, but also spent time actually working in that area. So, you say to yourself, “How do I do both?” Here an idea: how about you combine study abroad and an internship? You could combine the benefits of both programs at one time. This experience will indeed set you apart from your competitors in the job market and assist you in leaving your mark on the world and making an impact.

**Study Abroad Fair**

Indiana University—Purdue University Fort Wayne held its inaugural annual study abroad fair Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011. Over 20 study abroad programs, including Indiana University—Bloomington, Arcadia University, and the Institute for Study Abroad, were on hand to assist students in exploring their study abroad and overseas internships options. Over 170 IPFW students, staff, faculty, and community members attended. Madison Davis, sophomore Political Science major, said “the study abroad fair provided the chance to see what is available and assist me in locating funding options to cover the cost.” The fair provided participants the opportunity to meet IPFW faculty led program directors, former study abroad participants, and staff in the Office of International Education.

Overseas study provides one the opportunity to earn academic credit for his/her major, minor, and general education requirements and is available to all majors and income brackets.

**Upcoming Events**

**Internationalizing Your Resume**
Date: Wednesday, Mar. 23, 2011
Time: noon
Place: Kettler 101

**Study Abroad Information Sessions**
Date: Thursday, Mar. 17, 2011
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: Walb 121

Date: Tuesday, Mar. 22, 2011
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: Kettler 247

**Worldfest French Poetry Recitation Contest**
Date: Monday, Apr. 4, 2011
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Walb 222-224

**African Dance Class**
Date: Tuesday, Apr. 5, 2011
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Walb 222-224

**A Taste of the Middle East**
Date: Wednesday, Apr. 6, 2011
Time: Noon
Place: Walb 608
A Namibian Tale: A Treasured Experience in Africa By Ann Trego

It was five weeks into my Namibian Biological Safari adventure, and by this point I was getting quite good at identifying which kind of animals were rustling around outside our tent. You see, for the past five weeks, I had been sleeping in a ground tent, and would wake up periodically to all sorts of noises outside on the African desert floor. I could identify guinea fowl, donkeys, and jackals, all snooping about our campsite while everyone slept away their exhaustion. This one night, however, I was sleeping in a fold out roof tent.

It was that earliest part of dawn because the sky was just starting to turn light grey, and I turned over when I heard a noise outside. I stopped and listened, suddenly I was wide awake. Just when I was about to lose interest, the animal outside moved again: slow and loud movements. I thought, “Oh man, this thing is big.” Suddenly, there was a loud crack outside our tent and a big thump on the ground under us. I sat up suddenly and realized it was an elephant.

My tent mate and I, Amanda, decided to try to sneak a peek at the elephant. Wild African Elephants are some of the most dangerous animals to encounter, and in our situation we definitely did not want to upset it. I slowly unzipped the tent window and unfortunately, there is no quiet way to go about unzipping a tent. When I finally got the window open, there it was, the fully grown elephant standing right next to me and my group. It was eating the branch that it pulled down from the tree. It stayed for another five minutes or so and then it slowly meandered off into the distance.

It took a few moments for me to recover from the shock of waking up to a wild elephant outside of our tent, but it quickly became one of my most treasured memories and exciting tales of our Namibian experience.

Study Abroad Scholarship Deadlines

Benjamin A. Gilman
March 1, 2011

Boren Scholarship
February 10, 2012

Bridging to Japan
April 8, 2011

Critical Language Scholarship
November 1, 2011

DAAD
January 31, 2012

Fulbright Student Grant
October 1, 2011

Killam Fellowship
January 31, 2011

NSCS
February 29, 2011

Phi Kappa Phi
April 1, 2011

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship
November 1, 2011

Contact: Downtown Rotary club or the Anthony Wayne Rotary club
Office of International Education

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