

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Australia* www.francis.edu/CCSAHome.htm

France www.francis.edu/France.htm

Honduras www.francis.edu/Honduras.aspx

Ireland* www.francis.edu/CCSAHome.htm

Italy www.francis.edu/SpringtimeInItaly.htm

> London www.francis.edu/London.htm

Mexico www.francis.edu/SpanishInMexico.htm

*the Ireland and Australia programs, taught by SFU professors, are offered through the Cooperative Center for Study Abroad. Additional offerings through this program may be found at www.ccsa.cc

A CULTURE OF STUDY ABROAD FOSTERED AT SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2009

According to the Institute of International Education in its *Open Doors 2008* report, the number of U.S. students studying abroad increased eight percent in the 2006-07 academic year. As study abroad continues to grow and become a pivotal role in a student's college experience, it is no longer viewed as a luxury but as a necessity. Increased interest in study abroad is clearly visible at Saint Francis University as seen through the quickly growing numbers of our students participating in international education. We had eighty-six students travel during their Spring Break to places like Galapagos, Honduras, London and Paris. We have four PA students doing clinical study in South Africa, two PT students preparing for clinical education in Italy, one student participating in Steubenville's Austria program and thirteen students currently studying in Ambialet, France. In addition, we have approximately sixty students studying in Italy, Ireland, Mexico and Scotland this summer.



We call on you to announce a major international education initiative designed explicitly to foster an America that knows, understands, and is able to communicate with the world, and to strengthen the relationships through which the American people and the world's people can relate to, interact with, and understand each other.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS JOIN THE SEMESTER IN FRANCE EXPERIENCE

Saint Francis University established articulation agreements with Neumann College in Aston, PA and the University of Saint Francis in Illinois to facilitate the enrollment of their students in our Semester in France program. Students from these two institutions will be joining our students in France beginning with the 2009 Spring semester. Other agreements with area colleges are currently being discussed.

TRAVEL HEALTH CLINIC

The Center for International Education and Outreach (CIEO) has partnered with Student Health Services to provide our traveling students with appropriate health information as they prepare for their study abroad experience. Starting this fall, students preparing to travel will receive a packet of information from the CIEO. This packet will include a waiver form, insurance form and health forms. The student will be asked to return the health forms to Student Health Services and to schedule an appointment for a travel health consultation. During the consultation, health information and/or concerns relating to the students' personal needs and the country to which they will be traveling will be addressed. A print out for each student will then be passed along, upon signed approval of the student, to the program director of the study abroad program in which the student will be participating.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Saint Francis University students truly are following in the footsteps of our beloved patron saint as they continually reach out to our brothers and sisters around the globe. Their many works of kindness and charity include fund-raising for the poor in Haiti; creating websites for struggling businesses in France; presenting music performances in Parma, Italy; organizing clothing drives for orphans in Mexico; and providing medical care for the poor in Honduras.

Hugs for Honduras and the Center for International Education and Outreach joined efforts to co- sponsor an award to recognize a student's exceptional commitment to international service. The student, who will be identified at the President's Convocation, will receive a plaque and \$250, plus an additional \$250 to be donated to the cause of his or her choice.

HONDURAS TRIP A HUGE SUCCESS

Over 40 motivated SFU students to spend their spring break in the town of El Progresso, Honduras to work multiple projects.

The mountain team continued their work building and making repairs to the buildings and play areas for the orphans of Pro Nino. The students bonded with the orphan boys and greatly enjoyed their time with them.

The medical teams OT/PA/PT/Nursing saw over 1200 patients collectively. The PA/Nursing team visited a different village every day and besides evaluating and treating many illnesses gave out vitamins, toothbrushes, parasite medications and much more.

Pictured to the right is the medical team holding an appreciation plaque from the Major of El Progresso.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

The cultural exchange between Saint Francis University and the city of Parma continues to grow. During the recent Springtime in Italy program, the Italian people eagerly greeted art exhibits by Charles Olson, musical performances by the Clarks and by our own fine arts students under the direction of Jim Donovan. Italian press releases on the Springtime in Italy program were positive and enthusiastic. In February 2009, the Italians reciprocated in this cultural exchange with a visit to Saint Francis University by musician Paolo Schanchi, who performed a concert of guitar and lute music dating from the Renaissance to the Blues era.



ALUMNI & FRIENDS TOUR: SOUTHWEST FRANCE

For nine days in May, alumni and friends of Saint Francis University will participate in an once-in-alifetime tour of southwest France. From their base in the monastery of Ambialet, where the University operates its study abroad program, they will have an opportunity to explore the wonders of the region – castles, ruins, quaint medieval hilltop villages, stunning views, and awe-inspiring cathedrals. The emphasis will be on FUN -- fun exploring, fun eating and fun banter with new friends.

FOLLOW THE SEMESTER IN FRANCE STUDENTS

To read about the adventures of our students in France visit: http://www.francis.edu/Blogs.aspx

PEACE CORPS WEEK

In honor of Peace Corps Week, February 23 – 27, The Center for International Education and Outreach sponsored a presentation by Peace Corps volunteer, Erik Foley-DeFiore and his wife, JoAnn. Approximately 50 students came to hear about the Foley-DeFiore's adventures during their time in Paraguay. Erik was stationed in Paraguay for two years and JoAnn joined him for the last 6 months.

NEW SUMMER PROGRAM FOR OUR FRANCE SITE

A new summer program is currently being designed to begin 2010 Summer semester. The program is scheduled for mid-June to mid-July and will be a nice alternative to students, such as the athletes, who would like to spend time in France yet cannot leave for an entire semester.



REACH HIGHER. GO FAR. GO INTERNATIONAL. Above, left: Students in front of the Louvre during the Spring Break in Paris trip. Above, right: Students at the Galapagos Islands during Spring



Above: SFU students join those from the Brens Wine School in France.



Above: SFU Business Administration Spring Break in London group.

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