

International ACCENTS

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Fall-Winter 2015 Events

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International Activities

Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer (Education) wrote one chapter, “Diversity in the Himalayan Mountains: Nepal, a Country of Sharp Contrasts: Geography, Culture, Society and the Education of its Children. In *Diversity in Early Childhood Education*. P. Cook (Ed). 2015. UK: Cambridge Press. (In press).

She directed the *Sixth Annual Washburn University Study Abroad in Belize Program* sponsored by the Department of Education, from December 28, 2015-January 11, 2016. Eighteen participants tutored children and volunteered in an orphanage in Belize City. They tutored at La Isla Carinosa School, an island elementary and middle school in Caye Caulker, Belize. The students attended the *Belizean International Symposium in Education*, a four day conference and presented team-based Power Point presentations. The study abroad program was held in Belize City and Caye Caulker, Belize, Central America. More than 1,000 pounds of donations were brought to Belize including shoes, clothes, school supplies, teaching supplies and medical supplies. The donations were given to the Dorthothy Menzies Child Care Center (country sponsored orphanage) and the La Isla Carinosa School.

Dr. McConnell-Farmer presented the following papers at an international conference and a national conference:

“Global Guidelines, Initiatives and Legislation in Early Childhood Education”. The *Seventh Belizean International Symposium on Education*. Belize City, Belize, Central America. January 4, 2016.

“Charles Dodgson’s life as Lewis Carroll at Oxford University and his writings of “Alice”. *NAEYC Conference 2015*. Orlando, FL. November 18-21, 2015.

Her international service includes the following:
Advisory Board Member of the Forum, *Journal of the*

Oxford Round Table. Manchester College, Oxford University. Oxford, UK; Board of Directors.

International Member. Symposium Programme Committee. *The Belizean International Symposium on Education*. Belize City, Belize, Central America;

Advisor to the *Nepal Education Support Trust USA (NESTUSA)*.

Oversees Program Advisor, Board Member. *The Association for Childhood Education Practitioners, Nigeria (ACEP)*. Nigeria, Africa;

Advisor Board Member; *Institute of Global Harmony (IGH)*. Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardarshahr, Rajasthan, India

Vice President and Member, Board of Directors. *Organisation Mondiale pour L’Education Prescolaire, World Organization for Early Childhood Education and Care, United States, (USA-OMEP)*.

Dr. Louella Moore (School of Business) presented a paper entitled “Where the Jordan Meets the Ganges: Swami Vivekananda and the Confluence of East/West Culture” at the December 7-9, 2015 *Oxford Symposium on Religious Studies*. The conference was held at the University Church of St. Mary, one of England's most historically significant churches dating from the 1320s. Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Cranmer was tried in this church and subsequently burned at the stake on Broad Street.

The paper is part of a research stream that explores the potential for culturally embedded religious perspectives to impact seemingly secular concepts of business and accountability. The paper was originally developed as part of a Washburn University interdisciplinary colloquium led by Drs. Tom Prasch and Marguerite Perret which explored the concept of “Water” from such diverse perspectives as water shortages and flooding in addition to symbolic depictions of water in literature, dance, myth and religion. In addition, Dr. Moore participated in the Washburn University Study

Abroad trip to India from December 26, 2015 to January 13, 2016 which was led by Drs. Azyz Sharafy and Sharla Blank.

Dr. Martha Placeres (Music): As the Executive Director of the *Orchestra and Band Conducting Symposium* at the Puebla State Conservatory of Music (Mexico), Dr. Martha Placeres and Dr. Eric Allen from Texas Tech University traveled to Puebla City last December 2015. The symposium is designed to bring professional conducting instruction to the Puebla area. Dr. Placeres led lecture sessions on topics related to band and orchestral literature, and conducting pedagogy was presented to all participants who had practicum opportunities and instruction with the resident ensembles (Conservatory of Music Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble). The symposium concluded with a concert conducted by symposium participants.

As an accomplished violinist, Dr. Placeres also performed two concerts with Trio Angelopolitano on January 4th and 11th at the Camerata en Casa and the Conservatory of Music. The trio has engagements to perform several concerts in Mexico during the month of May and in Toronto, Canada in July. Dr. Placeres will also be the guest conductor of the Puebla State Conservatory of Music Symphony Orchestra in May.

Professor Azyz Sharafy of the Art Department and **Dr. Sharla Blank** of the Sociology and Anthropology Department took 16 students and community members to India from December 26, 2015-January 13, 2016. It truly was a transformational experience. In addition to taking courses on economics, folk art, and business innovation at Symbiosis International University in Pune, participants toured the Taj Mahal, the Ajanta and Ellora Caves, a rural elementary school, and the National Museum of New Delhi. They received body treatments at an ayurvedic clinic, practiced pottery skills, had a Bollywood dance lesson, became skilled at the art of bargaining for goods, and got to sample various regional cuisines.



2016 Winter Break participants of the WU India Experience study abroad program. Photo submitted by Dr. Azyz Sharafy.

Many participants expressed a desire for further international travel after experiencing the kindness of locals, the ever-present honking of horns, the vibrancy of the women's colorful saris, and the peacefulness of many Hindu and Buddhist shrines.

Everywhere they went in India people were extremely nice, cooperative and helpful. The *India Experience* participants members were able to experience India's diversity, multilingual and multicultural nature and the merging of tradition, technological and economic advancement.



WU students at the Taj Mahal. Photos submitted by Prof. Azyz Sharafy.

Dean's Report

College of Arts and Sciences Laura Stephenson, Dean

Faculty and students from the College of Arts and Sciences traveled across the world to study and present their research. Education Department



Chair, Cherry Steffen, traveled to Toronto, Canada to present at the *International Conference on Global Studies*. Rachel Goosen, History professor, also traveled to Canada to present her research at the *Mennonites, Medicine and the Body Conference* at the University of Winnipeg. Once again our students had the unique opportunity to travel to Belize under the direction of Judith McConnell-Farmer, professor in the Education Department. While there, they tutored in both an orphanage and an island school as well as taking in the sights such as a Mayan Temple. Lecturer in the Mathematics & Statistics department, Hee Seok Nam, gave a presentation at the *Actuarial Mathematics Workshop* in South Korea. A group of twenty students were enlightened by their discoveries on a trip to India led by faculty members Azyz Sharafy of the Art department and Sharla Blank of the Sociology/ Anthropology department. In India the group attended university classes, toured a masala factory, visited the Taj Mahal and took a class on Bollywood dancing, among other adventures. We look forward to hearing about many more trips in which our students and faculty share their research and learn in an international setting.

School of Business **Russell E. Smith, Associate Dean**

University of the Lower Danube in Galati (ULD-G): The fall 2015 semester saw several School of Business activities with our partner business school in Galati in southeastern Romania. In August, the School of Business hosted Professor Edit Lukacs, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, at ULD-G for a week. This was her second visit to Washburn, the first having been for a week in August 2013.

Dean Lukacs's trip goals included learning more about the system of higher education in the United States, especially about the conduct of academic administration. With regard to the partnership, she wanted to explore ways to expand cooperative activities as well as renewing the five-year memorandum of understanding, which is set to expire in June 2016. She met with Washburn

University's School of Business Dean David Sollars and Vice President Randy Pembroke, as well as with School of Business faculty members. Following her visit, the memorandum of understanding was renewed in December 2015 for a second five-year term.

In the faculty exchange area, this past fall two School of Business professors taught in the ULD-G's MBA program using a distance-hybrid format. Professor Liviu Florea taught *Cross-Cultural Leadership Skills* incorporating both virtual and in situ delivery formats. The virtual portion used Skype in October and November, followed by travel by Professor Florea to Galati for a week of class. The final projects and grading were completed after Professor Florea's return to the United States. Professor Michael Stoica taught two similarly structured courses, *Marketing Management* in the spring ending in May 2015 and *Strategic Management* in the fall ending in November. The ULD-G MBA program is structurally similar to the Washburn MBA, serving working students and meeting late in the day with all classes starting at 4:00 pm. There is an eight-hour time zone difference. Professor Bob Boncella has taught in the ULD-G MBA program in the past.

Wuhan University of Science and Technology (WUST): Also in the MBA area, at the end of September the School of Business hosted a faculty-led group of MBA students from WUST, Washburn's partner school in Wuhan in central China, for a day of programming as part of a larger visit to the United States. Previously in April 2012, the School of Business hosted an MBA group from WUST for a similar program.

Within the WU-WUST partnership, nine WUST undergraduate students currently are attending classes at Washburn as degree-seeking students under the WU-WUST "X+Y" dual-degree program. The dual-degree program involves two years of coursework at WUST followed by two to three years of study at Washburn. So far, five WUST students have received both their WUST and Washburn business degrees under the program and a number of other WUST students have attended Washburn as one-year exchange students.

In the fall the School of Business hosted Professor Min Zhang as visiting scholar for a three-month (August to November) professional development program. She is a senior lecturer in the Department of Human Resources at the WUST School of Management. During her visit she attended classes in organizational behavior, human resources, organization and management, and strategic management to observe teaching methods as well as to improve her English, and worked on her research. Professor Zhang was our eleventh visiting scholar from WUST since the program began in spring 2006. In spring 2016, the twelfth visiting scholar Kai “Susan” Xiao from the WUST Department of Marketing will be with us for three months (February-May) following a similar professional development plan.

Continuing the development of the WU-WUST partnership, Professors Bob Boncella and Michael Stoica taught courses for WUST during the semester. These course were in the virtual/in situ format and were part of their responsibilities as guest professors in the WUST School of Management. For Professor Boncella this was the ninth year he has taught courses for the WUST School of Management.

Progress in the BBA Major Area of Concentration in International Business: The major area of concentration in International Business in the Bachelor of Business Administration degree has shown steady growth since it was approved in the spring of 2014. The number of declared majors has risen from six in fall 2014 to 30 in spring 2016. Four students graduated with a major in international business in the academic year 2014-2015 and three more should graduate in the spring and summer of 2016. The program requires a language or study abroad experience and four specific courses in cross-cultural management, marketing, economics or finance, and multinational enterprise practices, after the basic international business courses. Although each of the four courses is offered only once a year, with proper planning the program requirements can be completed in one year.

School of Law Craig Martin, Professor

Prof. Tonya Kowalski traveled to Pune, Maharashtra, India in July and August 2015 to serve as Scholar in Residence at Symbiosis Law School. At SLS Pune, she taught a four-week legal skills course to over 400 entering law students. She also presented faculty seminars on two topics: transfer of learning and active learning teaching methods. During her stay in India, Prof. Kowalski also visited the new SLS campus in Hyderabad, Telangana, India. She conducted a faculty seminar on active learning and taught a two-session course in basic legal analysis to the law students there. Finally, Prof. Kowalski also inherited the law school's summer study abroad program from her predecessor, Prof. Nancy Maxwell. Profs. Maxwell and Kowalski welcomed a group of six U.S. law students, including five from Washburn Law, to study at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados with Washburn and UWI law professors. The students studied comparative law topics alongside UWI students from all over the Caribbean.



Photo submitted by
Craig Martin.

Prof. Freddy Sourgens, (at center in picture) along with Diane Desierto (Univ. of Hawaii) and Ian Laird (Crowell & Moring LL.P., Columbia Univ.), co-chaired the inaugural *Annual Investment Claims Summer Academy*, convened by Oxford University Press and held at Oxford in the

summer of 2015. The conference brought together a select group of expert scholars and practitioners in the field to discuss investor-state arbitration, with His Excellency Judge James Crawford being the keynote speaker.

Prof. Sourgens was also the Co-chair of the *Second Annual Oil and Gas Investment Arbitration Conference*, put on by the Georgetown International Law Institute, University of Houston Law Center, the Washburn Oil and Gas Law Center, and the

International and Comparative Law Center, in October, 2015. The conference brought together experts from Europe, Africa, Latin America and the United States to discuss political risk in the oil and gas sector. The conference particularly addressed the development of self-regulation in international oil and gas transactions.

Profs. David Rubenstein and Curtis Waugh (pictured at center in picture below) taught courses in Washburn's six-week study abroad program at the University of the West Indies at Cavehill, Barbados, in which students from both schools study together in courses co-taught by Washburn and UWI faculty members. Rubenstein taught a course in comparative constitutional law, while Waugh taught international ADR.



Photo submitted by Craig Martin.

Prof. Bill Rich and Jeff Jackson continued the School of Law's involvement with the Constitutional Law Clinic at Free University of Tbilisi. Two groups of Washburn students are drafting memos explaining how U.S. Courts have dealt with constitutional issues currently pending before the Constitutional Court of Georgia. Following video conference discussions among the students of both schools, the Free University students will submit amicus briefs to the Constitutional Court. In past years, Justices on that court have expressed their appreciation for our assistance.

Profs. Aida Alaka, Rory Bahadur, and Tonya Kowalski traveled to Tbilisi, Georgia in December, 2015 to conduct a series of workshops at Free University. They conducted four separate workshops for local faculty and attorneys serving as adjuncts, on

subjects ranging from case briefing, case law literacy, scholarly writing, multi-modal teaching techniques, and the development of text books.

Prof. Craig Martin (center in picture below) presented a paper at the annual American Association of Law Schools Conference in New York City in January, on the subject of Japanese government's efforts to "reinterpret" the war-renouncing provision of the constitution of Japan, as part of the East Asian Law section panel discussion.



Photo submitted by Craig Martin.



Prof. Janet Jackson (left) with Prof. Susan Jones. Photo submitted by Craig

Prof. Janet Jackson attended the *Third Annual European Network of Clinical Legal Educators Conference* in Budapest, Hungary, in October 2015, where she gave a presentation with Professor Susan Jones (George Washington University Law School) on "Comparing the U.S. and European Experience in Business Law Clinics that Promote Social and Economic Justice."

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**Washburn University
Study Abroad
&
Washburn University Office
of International Programs**

From the Desk of ...

Kelly McClendon **Lecturer/Coordinator, Intensive English Program**

To follow up on the IEP accreditation process, we completed the site review team visit by our accrediting body, Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA). It was a good visit with positive feedback. We are looking forward to the commission's final decision in April of 2016.

In the fall, the IEP served 120 students from 18 countries. This amount of diversity is a first for the program. Japan and Nepal tied for third place behind Chinese, and Saudi Arabians for largest numbers of students from those countries.

Another first is a group of students who have finished the Foundation program set up jointly by International Programs and the Education Department. This was a program to prepare students who had finished the IEP to enter the Master's of Education program. Six students have completed the program and completed one semester of courses in the graduate program with success. Congratulations!

In June, I enjoyed visiting Zhejiang Normal University, one of our Chinese partner schools that sends a large number of students every year. I had the pleasure of helping them through a short but intense workshop on US academic writing. We enjoyed our time together. These students have completed their first semester at WU in the fall and have been successful.

Heidi Staerke **Coordinator of International Student Services**

During the Fall 2015 semester, we were very excited to reach one of the goals which we set for International Student Services in 2010 – we were aiming, by 2015, to have an enrollment of 300

international students, and there were just over 300 international students enrolled full-time during Fall 2015!

I would like to recognize and congratulate our five Fall 2015 graduates:

- Maram Alsharif (Saudi Arabia) – MBA in Business Administration
- Hamad Nooh (Bahrain) – BBA in Management and Economics
- Adesuwa Okoya (Nigeria) – BEd in Elementary Education
- Charlotte Tanyi (Cameroon) – BSN in Nursing
- Jing Wang (China) – BSN in Nursing

For the Spring 2016 semester, we were very pleased to roll out a new online Pre-Arrival Orientation through Desire2Learn (D2L), Washburn's online learning platform. This has been a long-time dream of mine, because I believe that students are better prepared and can settle in more quickly to life at Washburn if they have more information before they arrive on-campus. Many thanks to my colleagues – Kelly McClendon, Sarah Springsteen and Andy Vogel – for helping me to make this a reality!

You may wonder what our international student graduates are up to after they leave WU? Here is an update from three of our graduates:

“We traveled back to our country of origin, Colombia, in January 2015 and are back in the swing of things. I came back to work as a faculty member in the Psychology Department at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellin, Colombia, and aside from teaching, I also coordinate a 1-year graduate program in Clinical Psychology and Mental Health, and I teach both in the undergrad and graduate level. My husband Solmer [BM in Music Performance from WU], is teaching music as a part of the Red de Escuelas de Musica de Medellin, a network of different music schools that teach music to low SES students of the community.” ~ Carolina Blair Gómez, MA in Clinical Psychology

"I am the Media Coordinator at the KU School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures (SLLC). I primarily work on creating a branding and marketing strategy for the SLLC. Day-to-day tasks include social media, event management, website maintenance, and creating meaningful and engaging content for all of our marketing platforms (often spontaneously – that's what keeps my job interesting). I keep building on my experience from my past job, especially on the Marketing side. It's surprisingly effective to adapt retail marketing strategies to Higher Ed marketing! I also think back frequently to Dr. Stoica's Strategic Analysis course, I learned so much from just that one class. It helps me paint a larger picture now that I have a much broader focus here at KU (outreach, marketing, events, development, recruitment) and have to sync it all together. ~ Christian Beer, MBA in Business Administration

Tina Williams **Study Abroad Coordinator**

Over winter break WU faculty and students took High Impact Community Engagement Practices (HICEP) abroad. Three faculty-led study abroad programs with specifically designed community focused educational activities departed to international destinations to promote intellectual awareness through informed action. The programs included *Study Abroad in Belize* led by Dr. Judith McConnell- Farmer, *Costa Rica Service Learning* and *Nursing Perspectives in Central America* led by Dr. Randy Pembroke and Dr. Bobbe Mansfield, and *Nicaragua Service Learning Experience* led by Dr. Rick Ellis. The programs were each filmed for a video series featuring WU HICEP across campus. The video series is sponsored through the Academic Affairs, University Relations and KTWU. This cooperative project will document the success of Washburn's established study abroad service learning programs and promote the development of more HICEP inspired practices. Other HICEP to be featured in the video series include: School of Nursing: *Clinic on Wheels*, Washburn Tech: *Recycled Rides*, and Education Department: *Literacy Project*.

Quotes from the Program Participants:

"My heart grew by three sizes in working with the children."

"A life-changing... amazing... eye-opening experience."

"This program has changed who I am and how I see things."

"You will not return the same person."

"The best experience so far [in my nursing training at WU] GO!"

"Everyone needs to experience this...it's amazing!"

"The trip broke my heart and warmed it at the same time."



*WU student Paige Rondybush,
La Isla Carinosa Island School, Caye Caulker, Belize.
Photo by Tina Williams*

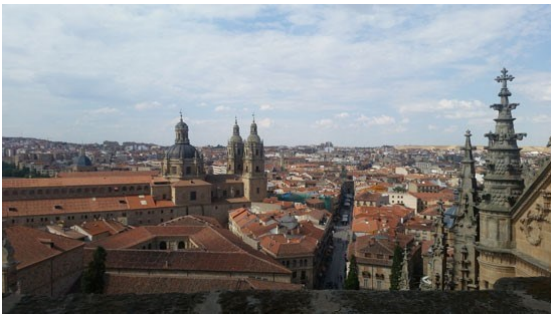
Congratulations to the 2015 Study Abroad Photo Essay Contest Winners!



First Place: Ryan Burge, Junior, Mass Media Major, ["Ghost Flowers in South Korea"](#), Semester Exchange Anyang University - South Korea, Spring 2015



Second Place: Megan Barnes, Junior, Education Major, "[Wonders of Peru](#)", WU Faculty Led Program: Peru and the Land of the Incas, Spring 2015



Third Place: Chelsea Newman, Sophomore, Nursing Major & Spanish Minor, "[A Summer to Remember](#)", WU Faculty-led Program: Live & Learn in Salamanca, Spain, Summer 2015

The Study Abroad Photo Essay Contest was established in 2006 to recognize the importance of WU students' international experiences and promote study abroad to other WU students and the community. Visit the Office of International Programs website: www.washburn.edu/iip to view the complete winning photo essays.

The International Programs Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships to 76 students participating in study abroad programs in nine countries. Programs ranged in length from 2 weeks to an academic year. Included were the following Faculty-Led Washburn Transformational Experiences:

Belize: Study Abroad in Belize – Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer

Costa Rica: Service Learning – Dr. Randy Pembroke

Costa Rica: Nursing Perspectives – Dr. Bobbe Mansfield and Prof. Lori Edwards

India: India Experience – Dr. Sharla Blank and Professor Azya Sharafy

Japan: Nursing in Japan – Profs. Crystal Stevens, Susan Maendele, and Jane Robinson

Nicaragua: Service Learning – Dr. Richard Ellis

Faculty interested in developing a study abroad may begin the exploration process now by visiting with the Study Abroad Coordinator in the Office of International Programs. To find out more about WU study abroad opportunities visit: www.washburn.edu/iip.

Andy Vogel **International Student Recruitment and Retention Coordinator**

The quinquennial fall of the 21st century at Washburn University has again seen record setting numbers in our international student enrollment and what a great semester it was!

To start things off, our Presidential Ambassador for International Students provided language specific health, safety and success orientations. I'm pleased to report that we have seen a significant drop in fire alarms since initiating this program three years ago. In fact, no dormitory fire alarms were attributed to the international students during the past year!

We kicked off the fall semester with a very well attended BBQ, using the new grill the International Center of Topeka donated with Baili Zhang grilling hamburgers for over 150 students!

Next we took students on the typical fall trips, a Royals game, Legends shopping trip, Nelson-Atkins/Plaza Trip, Mid-Autumn Festival, Ranch Party and a Topeka Tour. Before we knew it, the 150th Homecoming Celebration was here.

A record number of international students joined in the Homecoming Parade carrying their flags and afterwards attended a dedication honoring Alice Soper, Barbra McCandless and Allyn Lockner. A new bench was dedicated in honor of Alice's 30 years of dedicated service to international programming at WU. Allyn and Barbara have dedicated funds to create an endowment, student at WU, promoting international education into the 21st century.

Next up was the Celebration of Cultures. Thanks to everyone who came and supported this year's event.



Andy (center) with Nepal staff. Photo submitted by Andy Vogel.

Afterwards I had the profound privilege to travel to Sri Lanka and Nepal and visit with Anil from our partner intuition in Kathmandu. There I met with potential new partners, visited with new students and their families and met with the US Embassy. I'm happy to report that Nepal is making significant progress in their recovery efforts from the Gorka Earthquake.

To finish off the semester, as we do each semester, we surveyed the international students to gather their opinions about their life at WU and in Topeka and reflect on how we might better be able to serve them. I would like to share with you the data from last fall's survey and that from three years ago to portray where progress has been made and detail what students like most.

The top three things WU international students love about our campus were the same last semester as they were three years ago, they are:

1. Small class size in which they get to interact with instructors and classmates
2. International House staff
3. Knowledgeable professors

When asked what three things could be improved at WU, international students *three* years ago reported:

- Transportation
- Food
- More trips/activities

This year students reported:

- More interaction with American students
- Jobs/internships
- More trips/activities

It's nice knowing that we have made progress in providing transportation needs and improved food options for the students and we will attempt to implement more programs for interaction with American students and advocate on the behalf of international students for more on campus jobs and internships within our community.

Thanks to everyone for supporting international education and promoting the internationalization of our campus and community.

Features

From Kioskos to Clinics: Change Agents in Costa Rica

Lori Edwards & Bobbe Mansfield -

School of Nursing

Dr. Randy Pembrook -

Vice President Academic Affairs & Professor of Music

(Photos for this feature submitted by Dr. Randy Pembrook)

On January 8, 2016, in the wee hours of the morning 19 Washburn students (17 nursing majors, a mass communication major and a criminal justice major) as well as three faculty members (and one brave spouse) boarded a plane on the way to San Jose, Costa Rica. The trip represents an ongoing program for Randy Pembrook, Vice President for Academic Affairs who was making his eleventh journey to Costa Rica. Bobbe Mansfield and Lori Edwards were also returning having taken School of Nursing students to Costa Rica in 2015. The School of Nursing activities in Costa Rica are the result of

Dean Monica Scheibmeir's vision for a Central America program to help students develop and refine health assessment skills as well as expanded Spanish language capabilities for Washburn School of Nursing students. To establish the program, Monica and husband Michael travelled to Costa Rica with Randy in 2013. Randy has been taking students to Costa Rica to complete construction projects and provide social services (e.g., food and clothing distribution) since 2009. The Washburn experience happens in coordination with a Midwest group called C.A.M.P. which has members who have been working in Central America since the 1970s. So, in addition to the wisdom and experience that group offers, the intergenerational opportunities for interactions are an added benefit to the partnership.

On the first weekend of the program students had the pleasure of zip lining in a cloud forest and visiting the La Paz National Park which combines a zoo and breathtaking waterfalls. Costa Rica's economy depends heavily on eco-tourism and the country's commitment to the environment can be seen in its amazing park system which constitutes 25% of the overall territory of the country.



The work week began with the preparation of the foundation of a kiosk for the children at the "Ninos Con Carino" (children with

love) orphanage run by some amazing nuns. All students and faculty helped with the concrete and framing project. From Tuesday through Thursday, the team split into two parts with some continuing the work at Ninos while others conducted health screenings in various locations around the San Jose area including the La Carpio Clinic, Embajada Christiana, and Pavas. School of Nursing students designed and organized the one-day free clinics and assessed elements such as blood



pressure, heart rates, and glucose levels of local individuals. Some were Costa Rican citizens and others were migrant workers in Costa Rica to help with the coffee bean harvest. Many of the people treated did not have access to health care in their communities. At night many of the students made jewelry to distribute to children in these clinical settings.



On Friday of the trip members of the team distributed new shoes to children. This is an experience that most will not

forget as the opportunity to give something to individuals who may have never had a new pair of shoes is life changing. Group reflections that night included laughter, tears, and hugs as students, faculty and C.A.M.P. members shared what the week had meant. Students over and over talked about how the experience made them more grateful for what they have. Perhaps the most poignant comment from one of the students this year was that the journey "broke her heart and warmed it at the same time."

The final Saturday and Sunday of the program provided a wonderful opportunity to visit a beach community named Tamarindo in the Northwest part of Costa Rica (Guanacaste Province). The sand, sunsets, and food were also memorable and provided a perfect ending for the journey.

Over the course of eleven days students had a chance to see the beauty of the country, see both some of the more affluent parts of Costa Rica as well as areas of incredible poverty, and help people who have very little but seem to find happiness in spite of circumstances. They experienced logistical challenges of bringing 800 pairs of shoes and medicine through customs (mostly successfully!), determining medical solutions in spite of language barriers, finding timid ocean turtles at night, and bonding with 41 other people (some friends and some strangers) in a short period of time.

The Washburn students doing construction and those involved in providing health care were part of Washburn's Transformational Experience (WTE) which provided generous support to help students afford the trip. Thanks go to Dr. Mike Russell for his assistance in this area. Some of the students also enrolled in academic credit hours for the trip.

For those who might like to experience Costa Rica in the future, the program is open to Washburn students, staff, and faculty each January. We encourage you to review the video which will soon be on the Washburn website. Participants may select to complete requirements for the trip by doing construction with Dr. Pembroke or through the School of Nursing by contacting Bobbe Mansfield or Lori Edwards in the School of Nursing. Planning typically begins the preceding September. Dates for 2017 are January 6 -16. Thank you to Tina Williams at Washburn's Office for International Programs and Dan Whitlock of C.A.M.P. for helping to coordinate so many of the details for the program ranging from insurance to transportation; travel suggestions to on-ground contacts. We couldn't go each year without your help!

Reflections and Remembrances on High Impact Service Learning in the Washburn University Study Abroad in Belize

By Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer
Department of Education

Director & Developer of Washburn University
Study Abroad in Belize Program

(Photos for this feature submitted by Dr. Judy McConnell-Farmer)



Washburn students in Belize during winter break.

Seldom do our Washburn University undergraduate students have a venue to experience an international transformational experience and the chance to become part of a culture quite different from their own. The *Washburn University Study Abroad in Belize Program* is an important and vital opportunity to travel away from what is familiar. It widens one's horizons, to face the unfamiliar, learn from it and resolve to make the world a better place having experienced a transformation in a high impact service learning program in Belize. For the sixth consecutive year Washburn University's Department of Education has sponsored the *Washburn University Study Abroad in Belize Program* located in Belize City and Caye Caulker, Belize, Central America. This year sixteen students, Tina Williams, Washburn University's Study Abroad Coordinator, and myself, as the developer and director of the program, participated in this study abroad program from December 28, 2015 to January 11, 2016. All of our Washburn University students attended and gave Power Point presentations at the *7th Annual Belizean International Symposium for Education* located in Belize City, Belize. The audience at the symposium was composed of 75 scholars in the field of education from around the world. The symposium was developed and is directed by Dr. Pamela Cook, a former Adjunct Professor in the Department of Education at Washburn University.

As a group our study abroad program met at the 4 Point by Sheraton Kansas City Airport Hotel on December 28, 2015, the night before our departure. Meeting prior to our flight to Belize gave us an opportunity to meet for a two-hour planning session. During the session we weighed all check-through luggage and packed them with donations to the maximum of 50 pounds each. After being sure that everyone had their passports in hand we discussed our departure to Belize the next day and procedures to follow at Customs once we walked down the airplane steps to the tarmac at the Philip SW Goldson International Airport in Belize.

Excitement and anticipation built, for some in our group it was their first flight, first time to travel

outside the United States, and, the first time to see an ocean. For many it was the first time to see the poverty of others. Our program was full of personal adventures and awakenings as seen in the following students' reflections:

"On December 29, 2015, I was sitting on a plane headed to Belize. On the two-hour, forty-five-minute plane ride, I couldn't help but think about the journey on which I was about to embark. So many things were running through my mind: What was it going to be like? Would it live up to my expectations? The picture of Belize that I had in my mind was bountiful palm trees, clear blue water, and white sand. However, when we landed in Belize City I was taken aback by how impoverished it was. Indeed there were palm trees, but there wasn't much sand and the water was a dark, murky green color. I knew we were there to help the people of Belize for a reason, but I still was shocked by the conditions of the city. Trash littered the streets, and many of the buildings were falling down. However, I did love the city. It was full of culture and the people were full of life. Despite their city's poverty, the people were some of the happiest and most friendly I had ever met." ~ Sadie McGough

"I had a lot of strengths because I faced a lot of fears and firsts. Flying on a plane without my parents for the first was hard.' But I would say that is a strength, because I accomplished it with ease. I hate being underwater so not facing my fear of snorkeling was defiantly a limitation but I would say for me that would be the only big limitation. I had way more strengths because I tried so many new things. For one jet skiing is something for me that I never thought I would do. I am a very save person, I don't like to do things that scare me but when in Belize. So that was the motto I lived by going through this trip, try new things because this can only happen in Belize. So zip lining through the jungle and jet skiing in the ocean are just a few of my strengths I learned I had from this amazing experience." ~ Radie Keller

"Being as this trip was my first time out of the United States, I was a little worried the night before we left. I remember hoping so badly that it would be a life-changing experience. When we woke up the first morning in Belize City and took in the view of the sun rising over the ocean, I knew that my hopes were being fulfilled." ~ Lexi Barton.

Volunteering is at the core of our activities in Belize. We teach planned lessons with the children at the

Dorothy Menzies Children's Home, a public school orphanage, in Belize City. When not interacting with the children we cleaned the buildings and performed yard work. On Caye Caulker, one of the many islands of Belize, we tutored children and assisted the teachers at the newly built elementary and middle school, La Isla Carinosa Academy. I spoke at the school's formal dedication and Tina plus my students attended and were publically recognized at the dedication ceremony. In addition to donations of materials and supplies for the teachers and their students our Washburn University students wrote and gave to the school a set of 20 laminated activity plans to be housed in the school's library. Volunteering our time and talents at the orphanage and at the island school were truly unique experiences for our Washburn University students as they related below:



Rebecca Shelton blowing bubbles with student.

"The most important highlight of my trip would have to be volunteering at the orphanage. My heart was so full being able to play with the children and making them feel special while we were there. I fell in love with a little boy named Marvic and our bond was so strong in the short time I was there." ~ Stephanie Brown

"There were many strengths to this trip so it was difficult to pick just one highlight of my experience while in Belize. Some strengths include: having the opportunity to work with children in an orphanage and a school, being able to plan out activity plans to practice making lesson plans in my future career and actually doing the activities with the children, the fun excursions we went on, the train tour of the city, the chance to go to the oldest Anglican Church in the Caribbean, and the opportunity to try so many new things. If I had to choose one highlight from my experience I would choose having the opportunity to get to meet, work with, and know some of the children there. It was inspiring to me to see the strength some of them had especially knowing how hard some of their backgrounds have been." ~ Samantha Comstock



“Even though I am not an education major, I loved being able to interact with the children at the orphanage and the island school. They touched my heart in a way that I did not expect. I remember one little boy from the orphanage in particular who shared my interest in soccer, or futbol, as they call it. He was astounded when he found out that a girl could play futbol, and I think his jaw almost hit the floor when I actually scored on him a couple times. This particular little boy taught me to love the game all over again. For him, it was still just a game that he was passionate about. As a college athlete, it is sometimes easy for me to view soccer as a job or another duty that I have to fit into my daily schedule. Looking at the enthusiasm in this boy’s face as he put on his tattered gloves to play was something that I will never forget, and it taught me to slow down and appreciate what fortunes I have in front of me at home. At the island school in Caye Caulker, I met another little boy who was able to open my eyes in another way. This particular boy had a vibrant personality, and Americans would probably consider him the ‘class clown.’ I could tell that he was showing off for us international students, and his teacher seemed exasperated with attempting to make him behave. There was one other thing about this boy, though; he was brilliant. It was obvious that he was intellectually ahead of his classmates, so he was just entertaining in this free time. I instantly bonded with this boy because he actually reminded me of myself. He didn’t think of himself as intelligent, and that was something that I struggled with for years. As I engaged in more and more conversation with him, I began to push him intellectually, and he blossomed right before my eyes. By the end of the day, he was teaching his classmates. This form of peer teaching was new to these children, and it was an amazing feeling to think that I helped facilitate it.” ~ Lexi Barton

As stated at the beginning of this article, our study abroad program, like others at Washburn University, is an important and vital opportunity to travel away from what is familiar to our university students. Studying abroad can widen one’s horizons, expose students to the unfamiliar and give them a chance to learn from the unknown and different. After having experienced a transformation traveling abroad many of my students resolve to make the world that they return to a better place. This spirit of transformation

and resolve is seen in their following reflections:

“I really can’t emphasize enough how greatly this experience positively impacted my life. It opened my eyes to a whole new world and has made me want to continue to travel and learn as much as I possibly can about other cultures. The overall experience made me realize how truly lucky I am and I just feel so lucky to have been able to be a part of this program. I seriously do encourage all students who are presented the opportunity to study abroad through Washburn to do it if there’s any way possible for them to do so because it will change their lives for the better.” ~ Samantha Comstock

“I would like to tell Dr. Mac that this trip changed my life. I’m sure these long trips have so many hoops to go through and can be very stressful! I thank her for being such a good leader and making this trip such a memorable experience. Visiting another country is such a transforming experience that forces you out of your comfort zone. I am happy to share this with you, Dr. Mac”. ~ Nicole Stack

“I appreciate SO much how much Dr. Mac put work into this program. I know that it cannot be easy so it is so great to have someone like her willing to do so for us students. I’ve realized that some people work really hard to still just get by, and I should appreciate all that I have a lot more. I have also realized (even more so) that children are so delicate and it’s our job to lift them up and give them courage. I’ve been transformed in the way people are so polite in Belize, the poverty, the hard work people do, and of course the children.” ~ Paige Roudybush



We participated in the Washburn University High Impact Community Engagement Practices (HICEP) Video Project and benefited from having Tina Williams as our videographer. The high impact of our *Washburn University Study Abroad in Belize Program* was forever captured on film. This video will help to validate the numerous benefits of our service learning study abroad program. Tina reflected on her involvement in our *Washburn University Study Abroad in Belize Program* in this statement, “As an educator and a professional in the field of international education I welcomed this unique opportunity to participate in the HICEP video project. I enjoyed



working more closely with faculty, students and professionals on site to document the high impact of engagement in service learning abroad. It is clear the combination of academics and experiential service learning through immersion is a guaranteed transformational experience.”

**TEFL Certification:
Travel the World through Teaching English!**
**Sarah Springsteen -
Lecturer/TEFL Coordinator**

With the new growth, this spring comes new development from Washburn’s Office of International Programs as well. In conjunction with the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), Washburn is now proud to offer a Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Certificate. Through this program, we at OIP hope to enable graduating students and professionals within the community to gain the skills and certifications necessary to embark on a life-changing experience teaching English as a Foreign Language (EFL) overseas. This TEFL Certificate will be ideal for both people looking to teach abroad for a few years, or who want to begin a full-time career teaching and traveling the world. All of us, at one point or another, have dreamed of traveling to exotic locales. However, few of us have the financial situation that would allow us to simply take off and go. If you want a chance to travel, and you are willing to do the work to learn and impart TEFL skills to make that happen, then this is the program for you. A brief outline of the program below will help you make the decision when to begin your journey.

Program –

Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) and Washburn joint TEFL Certificate

Purpose –

To help graduating students, or professionals in the community, have a chance to teach English as a Second Language overseas.

Cost –

\$1000 dollars per applicant

Course Format

11 weeks online + 1 month to complete 20 hours of guided practicum teaching
150 hours of teaching/learning total
CIEE tutor leading a class of 12-16 students
Practicum teaching at Washburn Intensive English classes

Accreditation

World TEFL Accreditation Commission
Adheres to TESOL International TEFL Certificate guidelines

For More Info

Visit www.washburn.edu/iip or email TEFL Coordinator, Sarah Springsteen, at sarah.springsteen@washburn.edu



Congratulations!

International Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded various scholarships.

- ◆ Class of 1910 Scholarship: Sho Sugahara, Yangfei Mao, Jue Wang, Yujie Zai
- ◆ Class of 1912 Scholarship: Salim Alkhaldi, Yuetian Yang
- ◆ Dr. David C. Thurston Memorial Scholarship: Huimin Liu
- ◆ Geneva Seybold Endowment Scholarship: Motoharu Sasaki, Fanfei Lu, Shuhua Zheng, Yoshiko Hayashi, Xiangrui Zheng, Koichi Yoshisaki, Bo Zhao, Yueyi Sun, Guangyao Xi, Kasila Tchamleso, Dario Munoz Poletti, Tony Ye Yang, Nzingha Banks, Hui-yi Chen
- ◆ Hula International Student Scholarship: Anzhelika Tolstikhina
- ◆ ICT/Betty Jo "Bo" Sheafor Scholarship: Maram Alsharif
- ◆ ICT/William A. Langdon Memorial: Jing Wang
- ◆ ICT/William O. Wagnon Jr. Scholarship: Yetiantian Yang, Lina Xu
- ◆ International Education Endowment Scholarship: Fadwa Alharbi, Yi Zhu, Yuquan Hong, Qiyao Li
- ◆ International Programs: Irene Medina, Di Xie
- ◆ John M. Dungan Memorial: Mengbai Lu
- ◆ Lauranna Russell Clothier International Programs Scholarship: Xinyi Yan, Noriko Kubo, Pui Fu Ho
- ◆ Mildred I. Pfuetze Memorial: Charlotte Tanyi
- ◆ Stanley Curyea Memorial Scholarship: Kun Xie
- ◆ Sturm/Workman Family: Hamad Nooh
- ◆ Washburn International Student Scholarship: Ying Liu
- ◆ William H. Guild International Program Scholarship: Mariana de Almeida Yoshita, Xiaoyan Wang, Adriana Lozano, Ivan Amarilla, Shujing Zhou

International Alums



Tengku Rizki Aljupri (Rizki), from Indonesia, studied at Washburn from 2009-2013 and received an MBA and BBA in Finance and Management. He is now working as a Corporate Management Trainee

under Astra Graduate Program at PT Astra International Tbk (one of Indonesia's largest conglomerates). He plans to visit Washburn next year to reunite with his little brother, Rayhan,

who is now also an Ichabod, majoring in Communications.



Zhan Linyan (Orange) is teaching at a public elementary school in China and a mother to her son. She enjoys yoga,

volleyball, traveling, reading, and shopping. Zhan hopes to travel to the U.S. in the near future.