From the director

Looking back, looking forward

After a semester teaching at the Université de Bourgogne in Dijon, France, it is good to be back at UNH—and especially at CIE where so much will be happening this semester.

We will be “looking back” as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the International Affairs (IA) dual major program. A series of events during homecoming weekend will bring back IA alumni from as far as China.

Looking forward, we welcome Professor Biniam Iyob, new lecturer in geography and part time IA faculty member. For the incoming freshman class, we shall implement the IA curriculum reforms that were approved last year and include the addition of a geography module in IA 401, an economics core course, and a consolidated IA Policy and Theory elective.

The Center welcomes the recent addition of the Middle Eastern Studies minor to UNH’s multidisciplinary programs. To help launch the new program, our fall NH International Seminar will feature three lectures on Middle East topics. We are also excited about the new three-week UNH winter term. A number of the January 2011 courses will be taught abroad, including offerings in the Dominican Republic, Grenada, and Montreal.

Finally, CIE will continue to work on the implementation of the UNH Strategic Plan’s internationalization priority in collaboration with the many faculty members, staff and students who are ready to make the vision of UNH in 2020 a reality.

I wish you all a wonderful new academic year and remind you that you are always welcome in our Hood House offices--where international education means the world!

~ Claire Malarte-Feldman, CIE Director

Four UNH students awarded Fulbright Scholarships

Each year, the Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards grants to exceptional American students for study, research or English teaching in one of 140 countries. This spring, four UNH students were named winners of these prestigious scholarships to conduct academic work abroad in 2010-11.

Tyler King ’10 will pursue full-time study in advanced hydrology at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim. His studies will be augmented by directed research with the Center for Environmental Design of Renewable Energy and will focus on modeling of environmental effects of hydroelectric dams. A resident of Alton, NH, King graduated in May with a B.S. in environmental science.

Kristina Reardon G’11 (MFA candidate, fiction writing), of Uxbridge, MA, will travel to Ljubljana, Slovenia. Working with Dr. Nike K. Pokorn of the Translation Department at the University of Ljubljana, Reardon’s goal is to translate a volume of short fiction written by women since Slovenia declared independence in the early 1990s, and to identify and analyze the way Slovenian nationalism has created a unique literary identity for contemporary women writers in Slovenia over the past two decades.

Sarah Stickney G’10 (MFA, poetry writing), of Santa Fe, NM, will spend the year in Bologna, Italy, studying the new movement of immigrant writers who are producing literature in Italian. Working with Albanian poet, Gezim Hajdari, and with editors of the University of Bologna’s Scritture Migranti, a publication devoted to disseminating the works of immigrant writers, Stickney’s task will be (FULBRIGHT, continued on page 8)
Happy Returns ~ IA alumni back on campus

Visits launch 25th anniversary celebration, more to come

Thanks to support from the Class of 1954 Academic Enrichment Fund and the UNH Foundation, the Center for International Education has begun its celebration of the International Affairs 25th anniversary with a new program called Happy Returns ~ IA alumni back on campus. The funds enable CIE, together with cooperating faculty members from each of the UNH schools and colleges, to schedule visits by UNH alumni who graduated from the multidisciplinary International Affairs dual major.

This past spring semester, we enjoyed visits from IA alumnae Florence Reed and Emily Roberts. Their visits included presentations in a variety of UNH classes as well as special lunch and dinner discussions. In addition, the women were invited to participate in Oyster River High School classes taught by social studies teacher Pam Raiford.

Florence Reed graduated in 1990 with a dual major in Environmental Conservation and International Affairs, a minor in Spanish, and a foreign experience in Guatemala. Following graduation she spent two years in Panama as a Peace Corps volunteer. That experience, together with work she did with several non-profit organizations, led her to start Sustainable Harvest International (SHI) in 1997. Since then, SHI has evolved into a very successful non-profit operation providing technical assistance to rural families and community groups in Honduras, Panama, Belize and Nicaragua.

Emily Roberts graduated in 2008 with a dual major in Nursing and International Affairs, a minor in French, and a foreign experience doing research in Uganda through the UNH International Research Opportunities Program. She is a registered nurse who has returned to Africa since graduation to do volunteer work at a Health Center in Pallisa, Uganda. She was recently accepted by the University of California-San Francisco for their PhD in Nursing program through the Department of Family Studies in Health Education, Promotion and Program Development.

UNH students said:

"[I] love having IA alums on campus to talk about what they are doing around the world."

"It brings relevance to materials we study in classrooms, from international engagement to business decision making."

"Please bring more IA alums to campus!"

Washington, DC, alums Hilliard and Leavitt to meet students on October 8

When they travel to New Hampshire for the October celebration of the International Affairs (IA) Dual Major 25th Anniversary, 1988 IA alumni Daniel Hilliard and Robert Leavitt will meet with students from across campus to talk about career paths that have led them to Washington, DC. The event will be held Friday, October 8 from 10:00-11:30, location TBD (call 603-862-4788).

Hilliard (IA and Political Science) studied Portuguese language while at UNH and completed his IA foreign experience in Brazil. He earned his PhD in Latin American Studies at Tulane University. Hilliard is adjunct professor of Latin American Studies at Georgetown University and Executive Director of the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group, an organization concerned with the preservation of species in Latin America.

Leavitt (IA and English) studied in Spain while at UNH and earned a minor in Spanish. After serving for a number of years as a Senior Peace and Security Advisor for USAID, he recently moved to the White House where he is a National Security Council Director for Africa.
“The rain in Spain” didn’t dampen spirits in Granada

By John Chaston, Associate Professor of Spanish

Eliza Doolittle may have sung, “The rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain,” but the twenty-four Spring 2010 UNH-Granada Study Abroad participants will quickly straighten you out on the matter. At least this year, the rain in Spain fell mainly in Granada, our host city nestled in the Sierra Nevada mountains, far from the plains. For the Granada residents this type of rain was a first, but most welcomed since the moisture would be needed for the inevitable long and dry season ahead. This was just an introduction to an entire semester filled with new and memorable experiences. While each participant will have his or her own memorable firsts, I will attempt a composite list that hopefully represents who we are and what we learned. So let our hopelessly incomplete list begin:

Seven Memorable “Firsts” of the Spring 2010 UNH-Granada Experience

7. We learned that hospitals and emergency room doctors are every bit as competent in Spain as back home. “X-rays show that you have a bad sprain, but nothing is broken,” “We’ll sew up that nasty gash and you’ll be good as new,” “Just relax, this medicine will do the trick (and it’s good you came right here before anaphylactic shock set in because of your allergic reaction to nuts.)” All now is well, and the insurance paid for EVERYTHING!

6. After traveling to Valencia to experience Las Fallas, a five-day holiday/celebration in which: (a) fireworks, firecrackers, and just about anything else explosive or burnable fulfills the measure of its creation; (b) hundreds of thousands dress in traditional costumes and parade through the streets to pay homage to and give gifts to the Virgin Mary; and (c) over 500 ‘scenes’ made of wood, Styrofoam, and paper mache are burned on the last night; we will have to work at taking our Fourth of July festivities and pyrotechnics seriously.

5. We cheered on the world class Real Madrid soccer team as it defeated Español 3-0, and even though Cristiano Ronaldo was on suspension and we missed him, we did see Kaká, Sergio Ramos, and Gonzalo Higuaín, all World Cup performers for their respective countries (Brazil, Spain, and Argentina) score goals. We also became fans of the Spanish national team in time to revel in its first World Cup title shortly after our return home.

4. Having already been to see 16-time Grammy winner Alejandro Sanz in his concert tour, Paraíso Express, in the Bullring in Córdoba on May 1, we didn’t know if we could surpass such an event. But, two weeks later when we caught the internationally famous Sueño de Morfeo concert, one of our own students, Kevin, along with a teenage Spanish girl was invited to join the group on stage to be introduced and serenaded by lead singer Raquel del Rosario. It was definitely a first for Kevin and a highlight for us all. To see a picture of Kevin on stage, go to http://blogdeelsuenodemorfeo.blogspot.com/search?updated-max=2010-05-16T16%3A19%3A00%2B02%3A00&max-results=7.

3. The food, while mostly a delight, is sometimes, well, a little scary. Danielle, for example, after eating rabbit for the first time and finding it to be quite delicious hears her host mother ask: “Now, who wants the head?” Without pause her host sister shrieks: “Me! Me! Me!” and upon receiving this special surprise proceeds to dig in and eat with gusto the brains, eyes, and well, you get the idea. Though some of us still would rather that our food not be looking at us while we eat it, we are now convinced that olive oil, garlic, onions, and salt are gastronomical necessities and our palates will continue to long for such treats as real Spanish churros with chocolate from Café Fútbol, an endless variety of pastries and breads, and Italian gelato.

2. Up close and in person, Velázquez’s Las Meninas, Goya’s Second of May and Third of May, Picasso’s Guernica, and countless other masterpieces became alive to us and we felt personally part of Spanish history. Equally etched in our consciousness are the cathedrals, monasteries, palaces, mosques, plazas, bridges, gardens, aqueducts, amphitheaters, coliseums, and monuments.

1. The city of Granada and the Alhambra; the Centro de Lenguas Modernas, where we studied; our favorite professor and personal tour guide, Mari Carmen Alonso; our host families; and our new friends, be they in our group or be they Spaniards, top the list. As one of the students said, “I can say with confidence that I have developed new friendships that will continue after I return to the United States.”

Seconds anyone?
The Washington Center offers credit internships to UNH students in all fields

UNH, in cooperation with The Washington Center (TWC), offers internships in our nation’s capital. Washington, DC, is home to hundreds of think tanks, multinational corporations, agencies, and organizations. And as UNH-Washington Center liaison Paula DiNardo tells interested students, there are opportunities in all fields of study including the arts, communication, health and human services, business and economics, advocacy, science, law, international affairs, energy, journalism, and the environment. For more information, visit http://www.unh.edu/washington/. You can contact Paula DiNardo at paula.dinardo@unh.edu, at (603) 862-3485, or in Hood House 106. See the articles below from three recent internship recipients.

National Defense University was work site for Joelle Calcavecchia

International affairs/political science dual major Joelle Calcavecchia was placed in the National Defense University’s Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies.

Spring semester 2010, I was an intern in Washington, DC, with the National Defense University’s Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, also known as the NESA Center. Created in 2000, the NESA Center is the youngest of the National Defense University’s five regional centers. Its participating countries include: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The NESA Center hosts many seminars every year which draw military and diplomatic officials from the NESA region and other United Nations countries. The purpose of these seminars is to enhance and build better relationships between and among nations. The participants range from generals to ambassadors and are placed in a classroom-like atmosphere where National Defense University professors teach them about American foreign and domestic policy. They also discuss contemporary issues facing the world today such as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Arab/Palestinian conflict, matters on terrorism, transnational issues, and environmental issues. As an intern, I had the opportunity to sit in on these discussions and network with the participants, guest speakers, and NESA faculty. My chief responsibilities were to assist with logistics, attend seminars, and take notes during group discussions. It was a truly engaging experience, and I felt privileged to be in the same room with these distinguished and exquisite people.

At first I thought these participants would be very intimidating, but to my surprise it was quite the contrary. The participants of the NESA region were warm and thoughtful. They were very inquisitive about American culture and also liked to share their own cultures with us. I had interesting informal conversations with many people from Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Oman, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Yemen, Morocco, and the United States. It was an insightful experience to listen to their stories and learn about various perspectives on issues. For example, I talked with an ambassador from Israel and a general from Lebanon about the Arab/Israeli issue. It was interesting to hear their personal stories and thoughts, and really made me think differently about the current conflict. At the end of a seminar, many of the participants exchanged contact information and gave us (INTERN, continued on page 7)
Christine Kratz served internship in the Office of the First Lady

Christine Kratz, a dual major in international affairs and tourism, spent spring semester at the White House doing advance work for First Lady Michelle Obama.

When I decided to participate in an internship in Washington, DC, through The Washington Center Program, I never imagined that I would be waking up every morning and commuting to the White House. I pictured myself making coffee for my boss, making hundreds of copies a day, and sitting in on a few meetings as everyone assumes the typical intern will do. However, the day that I received a phone call from the Office of First Lady Michelle Obama congratulating me on being offered a position in the First Lady’s Scheduling and Advance Office, my life completely changed.

From mid-January until the end of May, my main responsibilities in the East Wing of the White House included receiving, sorting, and responding to every invitation that the First Lady received, helping plan and execute many of her local events, and assisting with many of the larger events that the White House held during my time there. While it was probably the most stressed that I have ever been in my entire life, the challenge made me work hard to benefit as much as possible from the experience. I loved the fact that even as one of the youngest interns in the White House, I had so much responsibility, and that I was trusted by so many people. I also firmly believe that my internship was as remarkable as it turned out to be because of the people that I worked with on a daily basis. The East Wing is full of some of the most dedicated and talented individuals I have ever met. They truly inspired me to work harder, do more

(KRATZ, continued on page 7)

For Kate Shriver ‘09, Washington internship leads to a job

As an honors student in international affairs and political science, Kate Shriver ’09 was a Washington Center Intern in fall 2008. Like Joelle Calcavecchia (see page 4), Shriver worked with the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA), a regional center affiliated with the National Defense University under the umbrella of the Department of Defense (visit the NESA Center at http://nesa-center.org/en.)

Shriver is now an employee at NESA and shares her experience below.

I graduated in May 2009 and was offered a job as a Program Planner at NESA in the middle of July 2009. As a planner, I coordinate the necessary logistics for the seminars to take place — anything from setting up lodging and transportation contracts to working with officials in the Pentagon and State Department to facilitate sessions with key speakers from those agencies.

I recently completed work on a Yemen bi-lateral seminar which brought 39 Yemeni officials from 17 different ministries of the Yemen government for two weeks. During that time we met with Senator Bob Casey (PA) on Capitol Hill; visited the State Department, where we took a group photo with Secretary Clinton and had sessions with top State officials; held sessions at the Pentagon and participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the 9/11 memorial; and traveled to CENTCOM headquarters in Tampa, FL, to meet with General David Petraeus and receive CENTCOM briefings.

My job has allowed me many interesting and exciting opportunities like the ones listed above. During the Yemen seminar, I met the Yemeni ambassador who attended the Tampa portion of the program and hosted a luncheon at his house. Not long after, I was able to have tea with him when I stopped by the embassy.

I am now beginning to explore graduate school possibilities; by working in this capacity for the past year, I have found that I would really like to earn my masters degree in Middle Eastern studies.
Year in Egypt reinforces desire to continue Mid East studies

UNH junior Jeanna Diorio spent last academic year on a Boren Scholarship studying Arabic language and culture at the American University in Cairo, Egypt. While abroad, she also had opportunities to teach English and travel.

If you had told me this time last year that I would be spending the summer before my junior year preparing arts and crafts materials for my Egyptian first grade class at AMIDEAST, a private non-profit organization aimed at promoting cooperation between the Middle East and the United States, I would never have believed you.

Rewind a little over a year ago and I was peering over a stack of Egypt travel guide books at Barnes and Noble. Having been recently awarded a National Security Education Program (NSEP) undergraduate Boren Scholarship, I flipped through glossy pages of camels, pyramids, and far-away lands. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense, NSEP Boren Scholarships provide funding to undergraduates to study abroad in regions of the world deemed critical to U.S. interests abroad in exchange for a year of government service. I first heard about the Boren Awards from the University of New Hampshire Center for International Education website at the end of my senior year of high school. By October of my freshman year at UNH, with the generous support of the CIE staff, I had begun the application process, consisting of short essays, transcripts, recommendation letters, and culminating in an on-campus interview.

Within months, I was applying for my first passport and shortly found myself on a plane to Cairo, Egypt, to begin my studies at the Arabic Language Institute at the American University in Cairo. Taking five classes in both Modern Standard and Egyptian Colloquial Arabic, I went from learning the alphabet in the early weeks of September to being able to converse freely with my Egyptian neighbors by the end of May. In the evenings, I had the privilege of teaching an intermediate-level English class to a class of Iraqi and Sudanese refugees through the Student Action for Refugee Program. During Islamic holidays I used my breaks to travel throughout the region, from climbing Mt. Sinai under the stars to watch sunrise, to exploring the ancient ruins of Petra, Jordan, to traveling back in time wandering around Souq al-Hamidiyya in Damascus, Syria, and spending a week in and around Lebanon’s bustling Beirut.

And now, back in New Hampshire, I will begin my junior year thousands of miles away from daily call to prayers, weekends playing in the desert, and roadside vendors selling falafel for under a dollar. Continuing my Arabic language studies at UNH, I anticipate completing a dual major in international affairs and political science with a minor in history.

Upon graduation, I intend to complete my compulsory year of service with the U.S. State Department before continuing to graduate school to concentrate on Middle Eastern studies. Ideally, I intend to work for the United Nations or for an NGO, either through the political or human rights sector. More specifically, I hope to focus on Middle Eastern peace, security, and political reform and become part of the international effort to promote a peaceful and prosperous Middle East. One political perception that has been reaffirmed during my year abroad is

2010 UNH Research Conference: 30% of awards went to IA majors

Over 900 students participated in the 2010 UNH Undergraduate Research Conference and, as in past years, the event was a huge success. And once again, the dual majors in international affairs (IA) accounted for a large share of the Awards of Excellence. Of the 44 cash awards presented, 13 went to IA students. Recipients and their research project titles are as follows:

Elizabeth Aleo ‘10, IA/Psychology, From Tradition to Transition: Spain’s Relationship with the Catholic Church

Patrick Cambiasso-Helfer ‘10, IA/ Business Administration, A History of Angel Groups and Their Impact on European Public Policy

Patricia Donahoe ‘13, IA/Political Science, American Missionary Involvement in China

Bridget Farmer ‘10, IA/Political Science, French Xenophobia Towards Muslims

Kristin Keohan ‘10, IA/Math/Spanish, Development and Neoliberalism in Nicaragua

John Lennon ‘11, IA/Spanish/Asian Studies, China’s Reasoning for Joining the Korean War

(AWARDS, continued on page 8)
IA ALUMNI: Where in the world is ...?

Molly Hodgson ’91 Smith is Executive Director of New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility.

Todd Bailey ’94 earned his JD from the University of Maryland in 1999. He is an attorney at the Natick Soldier Research Development and Engineering Center, advising and litigating in the areas of government contracts, ethics and procurement fraud.

Wendy Yoder ’94 Beach is Director of Marketing and Communication for Global Impact in Alexandria, VA.

Amy DeSantis ’03 is Business Development Specialist for FCm Travel Solutions in Boston.

Rachel Olsen ’04 joined the US Peace Corps following graduation and served in Turkmenistan. Today she is pursuing a masters at Tufts School of Medicine to continue her work in international development and humanitarian aid.

Nora Larkin ’06 has been promoted to Executive Assistant to the EVP of Academic Programs at IES Abroad in Chicago. She was recently engaged and named the winner of a Fulbright grant to teach English in Austria this coming academic year. After an August wedding, Nora and her new husband will be apartment hunting in Salzburg!

Alexandra Varga ’07 completed her MPA in Environmental Science and Policy at Columbia University in May 2009, and is now working with Columbia’s Center for Environmental Research and Conservation.

Zach Zoulias ’07 passed the International Guild of Sommeliers’ exam making him one of the youngest sommeliers in New England. To pursue his interest in wine production, he worked last fall as an apprentice for Hopler Wines in Burgenland, Austria.

Holly Eaton ’09 will spend the coming year pursuing a masters degree in Social Anthropology at the University of Bristol in the UK.

(INTERN, continued from page 4)

small gifts to show us their appreciation. One of the generals from Iraq actually handed me a plaque from the Iraqi Army.

Outside of the classroom, we accompanied the participants to meetings around the DC area. We had sessions on Capitol Hill with members of the Foreign Relations and Intelligence committees. We also met at the Pentagon and State Department with senior military officials and ambassadors from the NESA region. I had the opportunity to go on my first business trip with the NESA Center. We traveled to Norfolk, Virginia, to conduct an important Pakistani military seminar. Here, we visited several interesting military bases including Langley Air Force Base, Norfolk Navy Base, and United States Joint Force Command.

I feel extremely grateful to have participated as an intern with the NESA Center because it has made me a stronger, more independent individual. I believe this has been the best academic decision and one of the best personal decisions I have made in my life. I find myself fascinated with the cultures of the NESA region and wish to pursue my career in the diplomatic field with emphasis on enhancing national security.

(KRATZ, continued from page 5)

than was asked of me, and to have the confidence to make a difference in such a prestigious environment.

In addition to my internship, I took one evening class, volunteered at a local soup kitchen, and participated in a number of The Washington Center’s programs and activities. The combination of these things helped make my experience in Washington, DC, extremely meaningful and well-rounded. I learned about the different cultures of the locals and was able to give back to the community through volunteering, two things that were very important to me going into this experience.

During my time in Washington, DC, I became more confident, independent, and a stronger person. I now have a clear direction for my life after graduation; I will explore the field of event and travel planning. I honestly feel as though I can handle any job given to me in the future. The people of both The Washington Center and the White House encouraged me to go above and beyond what is expected. For that, I will be forever grateful. This internship was honestly the opportunity of a lifetime and certainly something I will never forget.

(DIORIO, continued from page 6)

that, as a nation, the United States continues to lack understanding of Middle Eastern culture and the Islamic religion, which is essential to furthering multilateral ties within the region.

While my year in Cairo has confirmed my academic and professional objective to focus on Middle Eastern affairs, it has also offered me invaluable experiences. From renting my first apartment from an Egyptian landlord with whom I conversed only with hand motions for the first few months, to setting off on a two-week backpacking adventure with nine friends and a travel guidebook, I went from having never left the United States to venturing across four continents in a matter of months.
(AWARDS, continued from page 6)

Maureen McHugh '10, IA/Civil Engineering, Infrastructure Differences Between Spain and the United States

Kayla Timmons '10, IA/Communication/Linguistics, Intersexuality in Women’s Sports: The Case of Caster Semenya

Danielle Vasan '10, IA/Communication, Spain and the Bologna Plan: A Modern Day Controversy

Brittany Weaver '10, IA/Political Science, Italy in Debt

Sophia Weeks '10, IA/Political Science, Defining Democracy: Is Cuba a Contender?

Wegene Wells-Bogue, IA/Political Science, The State of Ethnic Federalism in Ethiopia

Megan Wengrove, IA/Civil Engineering, Upstream to Downstream: Water Quality in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

(FULBRIGHT, continued from page 1)

to select and translate a representative selection of immigrant poetry for publication in the United States.

Bethany Wakeman '10 was selected to teach English in Macau. A resident of Barrington, NH, and a member of the University Honors Program, Wakeman graduated in May with a B.A. in psychology. Following her year abroad, Wakeman plans to pursue a master’s degree in social work, preparing her to work as a counselor with clients from diverse cultural backgrounds.

About the newsletter

The Center for International Education publishes its newsletter once each semester. You can contact the editor, Sheila McCurdy, by phone at (603) 862-4788 or via email at sheila.mccurdy@unh.edu. The newsletter can be viewed in electronic format at http://unh.edu/cie/newsletter/index.html.