From the director

Times are changing...

As the end of yet another academic year looms large on the horizon, it is striking how much has been happening around here since I last wrote to you.

Study abroad advisor Jeff Sherman left CIE to devote his full time and energy to the completion of his masters degree in the Department of Political Science, with an eye out for the right Ph.D. program for the future. We miss him and wish him the best in his academic endeavors. Our wonderful intern from the School for International Training, Bradi Lenentine, completed a six-month-long internship with us, and following a camping adventure in Africa she became marketing and admissions officer for Navitas at UMass-Lowell. Sheila McCurdy, the heart and soul of the Center, will retire at the end of June after 28 years of service to international education. Please note the date of May 13th to come celebrate with us at the Piscataqua Room from 4 to 6 PM.

Our International Affairs majors and alumni continue to make us proud. Sasa Tang ’11 has been selected to receive the 2011 University Women’s Award and Florence Reed ’90 will receive a UNH Honorary Degree at commencement in May.

Adrienne Messe’12 wins $5,000 for spring 2011 study in China

Adrienne Messe, a UNH junior from New Ipswich, NH, won a $5,000 scholarship to support her study in Nanjing, China, this spring. A dual major in international affairs and anthropology, Messe is participating in the Council for International Education Exchange (CIEE) Intensive Chinese Language and Culture program.

Concerning her experience, Messe reports, “I am loving my semester in Nanjing. CIEE provides a great balance of learning and adventure around China, which has been great.”

Her CIEE scholarship was awarded through the U.S. Department of Education International Education Programs Service (IEPS), whose mission is to meet the national needs for expertise and competence in foreign languages and area or international studies. The scholarship is funded for CIEE by the Fulbright-Hays Projects Abroad, a program for students who wish to pursue advanced studies in the Chinese language and a career in academia or public affairs following graduation.

The Center has been immersed in the work of the President’s Panel for Internationalizing UNH. Beth Kilinc is co-chair of the Policies and Procedures working group, and I co-chair the Leadership and Organization working group. Weekly meetings and long hours of work throughout the semester have been slowly and surely leading to the careful articulation of exciting short-term and longer-term goals, which will put international education at the core of UNH’s mission. By the end of this semester, the groups will present a report to President Huddleston with recommendations for implementation as early as next academic year. International education has evolved greatly in the last twenty-five years. More students want to learn in an ever-growing number of destinations. More students want to earn a dual major in International Affairs. More students not only want to study diverse languages and cultures, but also want to solve global issues that affect us all, and thus seek more opportunities for internships and community service. CIE is working hard at supporting their many needs while ensuring their safety and well-being. When the time comes to implement the international initiative of the UNH strategic plan, CIE wants to be ready to move the university forward, taking on the educational challenges we are facing in the 21st century.

Claire Malarte-Feldman, CIE Director
Visit from Roberta Barbieri ‘88 drew enthusiasm from students at different levels and in diverse disciplines

Roberta Barbieri graduated from UNH in 1988 with a dual major in international affairs and environmental conservation. She continued her education at the University of New Haven, earning M.S. degrees in both environmental science and environmental engineering. Her passions for environmental concerns and international involvement have never flagged, and today she is Global Environmental Program Director for Diageo, the world’s largest premium alcoholic beverage company.

When Roberta Barbieri first agreed to come back to UNH to talk with students about her career path, she didn’t realize how diverse her student audiences would be. A participant in CIE’s Happy Returns* program, Barbieri knew she would be talking to undergraduate students in international affairs and natural resources — the two programs from which she earned her undergraduate degree.

But Professor James Malley in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences also invited her to talk to undergraduate and graduate students from environmental engineering and related disciplines. From WSBE’s Department of Hospitality Management, Professor Nelson Barber requested that she speak to his Beverage Management/International Wines class, which includes students in the new UNH Eco-gastronomy program.

In addition to providing information about her current position as Global Environmental Program Director with Diageo in Norwalk, CT, Barbieri tailored her comments to the students’ situations, covering a variety of topics. For example, recalling her own terror of study abroad, a requirement for her undergraduate dual major in international affairs and environmental conservation, she talked with younger students about the great value of study abroad and speaking a foreign language.

Giving resume and job search advice, she noted that regardless of the career choice, students would benefit from learning communication and project management skills.

Whatever the focus of her discussion with students across the disciplines, Barbieri was very impressed by the conversations she had with them. “I was gratified to see how knowledgeable the students were on the environmental issues that face us today. I came away from my visit inspired and with a renewed sense of hope for the future.”

“...This was an excellent experience and a good example of the power of working together across disciplines for the benefit of all at UNH.”

~ Professor James Malley
Civil/Environmental Engineering

Student reactions:

“I was scared about studying abroad and being on my own in a foreign country, but Roberta talked about breaking out of your comfort zone to grow and learn. Now I am thrilled for my study abroad experience in the fall. It excited me about the future!!”

“Loved it! I did not realize that environmental students could go into a field like that.”

“...I would have loved to have a presentation like this earlier in my college career…it was extra relevant to me because my majors are IA and Environmental Conservation.”

“I was very interested in the conflict between marketing sustainability in the industry and the brand’s reputation.”

“...I really got a lot out of what she had to say... good ideas for the job search.”

“This presentation was very helpful in broadening my career plans and gave me a better perspective about what post graduate life will be like.”

“...this will help me make decisions in terms of class choice in the future.”

* Happy Returns is supported by gifts from the Class of 1954 Academic Enrichment Fund and the UNH Foundation.
Reaching the underserved in study abroad: UNH McNair scholars explore UK; Ghana is next

by Antonio Henley

Antonio Henley is director of the UNH McNair Program. This federally funded program supports low-income, first-generation, and racial minority undergraduate students who are interested in pursuing doctoral degrees and careers in academia. Because these students are also underrepresented in study abroad programs, Henley organized a five-week pilot program in the UK last summer for a group of McNair Fellows. This coming summer McNair students will go to Ghana.

The UNH McNair Scholars Program is well poised to emerge as the national leader in undergraduate study abroad programming for underrepresented students. In summer 2010, five UNH students, representing groups traditionally underserved by study abroad, traveled to London and Cambridge to conduct research around a common theme: higher education access in the UK.

The McNair Program offers academic enrichment to students who have been disadvantaged or marginalized in traditional social or schooling systems, working to provide benefits that allow learners to compete with their more advantaged peers. Study abroad is an area of enrichment in which these students rarely participate. To change that trend, we journeyed to England to investigate higher education access issues. Prior to the trip, our McNair Fellows spent time researching the higher education system of the United Kingdom, and during the stay in London the team was challenged to re-conceptualize higher education.

Amidst the jet lag and culture shock, the students assumed that the English education system was similar to that of the U.S. However, what they learned in an intense two-week time frame proved enlightening, and highlighted several obstacles to the team’s understanding. First was the issue of structure because the British education system is considerably different from anything with which the group was familiar. Moreover, the team had to get a sense of the entire process in a matter of weeks.

Second was the financing mechanism. In fact, cost, although quite low compared to the U.S., is heatedly contested in England, and the recent increases have caused numerous riots in East London near the location where the team was in residence.

Finally, British social class presented quite a puzzle because of its rigidity and limited mobility, as the contrasting experiences on the campuses of the University of East London and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University brought into sharp focus. Central in importance to the team’s discovery is that class affects everything in the English education system, including who is perceived as worthy to acquire higher education.

Participants learned a great deal about the English, about academic research, and about themselves, so much so that they pleaded that the program commit to ensure that other McNair students would have a similar opportunity. In addition, since the pilot, a number of McNair directors around the country have expressed interest in the abroad initiative and our London partner has asked that UNH serve as the coordinator in the U.S. whereby other McNair students can access the abroad venture. Unfortunately, the administrative structures and resources to accommodate such access are not yet in place. However, the will to continue to afford the opportunity for underserved populations to study abroad remains resolute. Currently the UNH McNair Program is working on a research abroad venture to Ghana, West Africa, for summer 2011, where a small team of five research fellows will spend eight weeks exploring the challenges of development.

To read more about what these students learned abroad, see detailed accounts of their visit at: http://www.unh.edu/mcnair/londonabroad1.html
2010 marked the 25th anniversary of the first international affairs dual major graduating class. To begin the celebration, held on October 8th during UNH Homecoming weekend, CIE held a pre-game tent reception. That evening, approximately 90 faculty, staff, IA alumni and special friends of the center gathered at the One Hundred Club in Portsmouth. Alumni attended from as far back as the Class of 1987 and from as far way as China! It was truly a wonderful and spirited celebration.

“... Thanks for the opportunity to see old faces and meet some of the new grads. The program is a life changer and all of us grads truly appreciate all the hard work.”

~ Paul “Raisin” Waldner’93
“IT WAS A BLAST” ~ author unknown

Founder/first CIE director Frank McCann celebrating in his new UNH chair while retired professor and co-founder Bernard Gordon, (back right) looks on.

Current CIE director Claire Malarte-Feldman (left) presented a plaque bearing the names of all CIE’s directors. Past directors attending were, l to r: Profs. Frank McCann, Doug Wheeler, Jack Yeager, Cathy Frierson, and Stacy VanDeveer.

“Muchisimas Gracias!!
Abrasos, Flo”
~ Florence Reed ‘90

Past CIE administrative secretary, Helen Wellman

L to r: Andre Hoehl’06, Erin Fisher’05, and John Reed’05

Past CIE administrative secretary, Helen Wellman

“My deepest thanks... you’ve affected so many and the legacy you’ve created will undoubtedly affect others and their ‘international perspectives’ exponentially over time. Your life’s work is both meaningful and critically important on many levels...”
~ Christine (Charest ‘87) Aliouche

Winners of alumni awards: Robert Leavitt’88, National Security Council Director for Africa; Florence Reed ‘90, President of Sustainable Harvest International; and Daniel Hilliard’88, Executive Director of the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group

L to r: Christine (Charest’87) Aliouche, Brigette (Homrig’89) Renaud, Scott Hurlburt’88, IA instructor Ben Cole (UNH ‘06, G’06), and Patricia (Jalbert’89) Kreuther

Sam Schofield’08

L to r: Christine (Charest’87) Aliouche, Brigette (Homrig’89) Renaud, Scott Hurlburt’88, IA instructor Ben Cole (UNH ‘06, G’06), and Patricia (Jalbert’89) Kreuther
McCurdy says farewell to CIE and UNH after 28 years

When I walked in the door in August 1983, the Center consisted of one room in the New England Center Administration Building (behind Stoke Hall), a few files, a couple of pieces of furniture, and Professor Frank McCann. Connected to this spare operation were a handful of Frank’s colleagues, from all five schools and colleges, who shared a dream: to internationalize UNH across disciplines.

Frank hired me that day in August, and off we went on an exciting adventure that included organizing and hosting the New Hampshire International Seminar series, preparing lots of funding proposals, enticing faculty members to develop internationally focused courses, and creating records and advising systems for a brand new Program in International Perspectives (now International Affairs) and a fledgling study abroad endeavor.

Twenty-eight years later, as I prepare to retire, I am heartened by the growth of the Center, its student programs, and its highly dedicated staff. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of it all -- and, of course, I can’t help being amused that we are still dreaming about internationalizing the university!

What has occurred to me again and again over the years is that Frank and his colleagues were way ahead of their time. In the 80s and 90s, I sat through conference discussions, here and abroad, in which colleagues were wrestling with the details of establishing international programming on their own campuses, and I was able to tell them how UNH had solved these same problems (often a decade earlier). It was an eye-opening experience that convinced me we had something very special here at UNH.

Among the memories I will treasure most when I leave are the relationships with hundreds of wonderful faculty and staff members, international affairs students and alumni, Fulbright and Boren scholarship candidates, and special friends of the center. Many, many thanks for a wonderful time,

Sincerely,
Sheila McCurdy

You are invited

If you are available on Friday, May 13 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Honors colleague Chris Sohl (also retiring) and I will be enjoying some farewell hors d’oeuvres and drinks with friends at an open house in the Piscataqua Room at Holloway Commons. I’d love to see you.

Two UNH undergrads chosen to attend meeting in South Korea

Two UNH dual majors in international affairs and political science were selected by the Council on International Educational Exchange to receive Korea-US Youth Network scholarships. Jeanna Diorio and Kevin Kennedy were among the 75 students from universities across the U.S. who traveled to Seoul, South Korea, in March. The students were hosted by Yonsei University, South Korea’s oldest and most acclaimed university.

Says Diorio, “The program allowed for a unique sampling of Korean history, language, and culture. One of the more rare experiences was a complete tour of the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), the strip of land stretching across the Korean Peninsula that acts as a buffer between North and South Korea. The DMZ is one of the most heavily-fortified borders in the world and the tension felt there was eerily palpable. A surreal aspect of the DMZ was a visit to the modern train station at the border, which is presently only a tourist site, but was constructed to serve both North and South Korea once unification comes into effect.”

Fellow participant Kevin Kennedy adds, “One of the great parts of the program, I think, was the requirement that applicants to the CIEE South Korea Scholarship have little to no knowledge of Korean culture. I was eligible before I left, but certainly not after... Any time you can have a first-hand experience outside of school with the subject you are learning in the classroom, the subject is more likely to become ingrained in your brain. As a student of international affairs, this becomes much harder to do as travel abroad is often quite expensive; this is why I am so lucky to have been able to participate in this amazing program.”

Both New Hampshire residents, Diorio is a junior from Kingston and Kennedy is a senior from Londonderry.

Kevin Kennedy ‘11 and Jeanna Diorio ‘12 in South Korea
IA ALUMNI: Where in the world is ...?

Anja (Weitz’86) Broke-Smith - Following graduation from UNH, Anja worked for Bankers Trust in New York, Geneva, and London. Today she and her husband and three children live in Monaco.

Jennifer (Snyder ’89) Lyon - Following an assignment in Russia, Jennifer and her husband are now living in Beijing, China, where Jennifer works in the political section of the U.S. Embassy.

Corey Duefield ’92 works at the Center of Statistical Sciences in the Program in Public Health at Brown University. He earned his Master of Public Health in 1995 at the Tulane University Department of Epidemiology and International Health. He and his wife have one daughter.

Rina Lee ‘05 is working in the field of international education at KAIST, one of the most prestigious science and engineering schools in South Korea.

Nikki Nichols’ 07 won a $7,500 Golden Key QS World Grad School Tour Scholar Award which she will use to pursue a Master of Science Degree in Public Policy and Management at the Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon University.

Sarah Sohm ‘07 is a consular officer with the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC.

Lisa Mulvey’08 earned her M.Ed. in International Education Policy at Harvard University and was hired this spring as the administrative assistant for the UNH London and Cambridge programs.

Peace Corps celebrates 50 years: Many IA alums part of the history

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps, the U.S. agency created in 1961 under President John F. Kennedy to promote peace and friendship around the world.

Many International Affairs alumni have served in the Peace Corps since our first majors graduated in 1985, serving in many locations in Africa, Latin America and Asia. For Florence Reed’90, a Peace Corps experience in Panama was a first step toward building Sustainable Harvest International, the nonprofit organization for which she is president.

Looking back on her experience in Paraguay, National Passport Center customer service manager Susanne Delaney ‘93 notes, “Peace Corps was, as they say, the toughest job I’ll ever love—and I am a better person for having served.”

Nic Tanner ’07 recently returned from his two-year assignment in Kyrgyzstan where he taught English to all ages, served as a teacher trainer, wrote grants, facilitated the construction and use of a resource/learning center, worked on a solar water heating project, and co-authored Cultural Communication in Kyrgyzstan, a book designed to help new volunteers deal with difficult situations such as bride kidnapping and alcoholism.

Currently, IA alumnus John Foss ‘09 is engaged in a community economic development project in Costa Rica. He is helping to plan and develop an organic banana vinegar plant.

(PEACE CORPS, continued on page 8)
Ikegami leads successful effort to raise funds for Japan reconstruction

Dear colleagues,

As many of you know, Pam Ikegami launched the Paper Cranes for Japan event in order to raise money to support the long-term reconstruction efforts in Northern Japan. With her students, the Korean Culture Club, and residents of Fairchild Hall, she collected 2,100 paper cranes.

Over 600 of them were folded during the 90-minute event that Pam led at the MUB. Thanks to Pam’s hard work and leadership, the UNH community raised $4,200 for Architecture for Humanity.

My sincerest thanks and congratulations to Pam for this amazing accomplishment. Seeing the boxes of cranes in her office was truly inspirational and a reminder of how fortunate we are to have such wonderful colleagues.

Warm regards,
Piero

NOTE: Pam Ikegami teaches Japanese in the UNH Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Piero Garofalo, associate professor of Italian, is chairman of that department.

(PEACE CORPS, continued from page 7)

construct an internet cafe, market local artisan work, develop and promote rural tourism with an orchids association, teach English classes, and assisting with various infrastructure projects. In the next three months he hopes to offer computer classes, work with youth groups focused on entrepreneurship, and facilitate the creation of a community credit union.

For more information on opportunities with the Peace Corps, visit http://www.peacecorps.gov/.

About the newsletter

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