



## Table of Contents

**UF STUDENTS HAVE NEW STUDY-ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES**

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF**

**IMMIGRATION UPDATE**

**PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS**

**UF'S INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHARE THEIR CULTURE WITH  
ALACHUA COUNTY STUDENTS**

**FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS VISIT UF**

**INTERNATIONAL FULBRIGHT STUDENTS LEARN AND TEACH AT UF**

**INTERNATIONAL AND U.S. STUDENTS MEET AT INTERNATIONAL COFFEE  
HOUSE**

**UFIC TO SELECT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

**FALL AND WINTER CALENDAR**



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## International News in Brief

### NEW UFIC STAFF

The International Center welcomes two new staff members this fall.

**Yvette McKinney** joins the UFIC as coordinator of International and Faculty and Scholar Services. Yvette returns to UF, having earned her bachelor's degree here in business administration with a concentration in marketing. She later obtained a master's degree in liberal studies at Georgetown University while working for the Georgetown University Law Center in the Office of Faculty Support and Campus Services. She assists visiting faculty and scholars, international researchers and post-doctoral students with obtaining immigration status and preparing to work on the UF campus. Her e-mail is [mckinney@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:mckinney@ufic.ufl.edu)

**Amisha Sharma** is a new international student adviser with UFIC.

Sharma completed her master's degree at Tulane University in Latin American Studies this spring. She conducted her research on democratization in Guatemala, spending three summers there first studying Spanish and later conducting research for her thesis. She earned her bachelor's degrees in women and gender studies, and religion studies at Louisiana State University.

Sharma helps international students obtain and maintain their immigration status while they complete their studies at UF. Her e-mail is [asharma@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:asharma@ufic.ufl.edu)

### NSF GRANT FOR ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

UF researchers **Mark Brown** and **Sandra Russo** have been awarded a \$3.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation for a doctoral program in the wise use of water, wetlands and watershed, drawing on UF and international resources.

See *International Briefs*, p. 7

## UF STUDENTS HAVE NEW STUDY-ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

With new study-abroad programs throughout the world and schedules tailored to tight academic calendars, University of Florida students have more choices than ever before for international education.

New programs in France, Germany and Spain are quickly catching the attention of students. Well-established programs are attracting students in record numbers.

The University of Florida International Center assesses the interest of students and their availability to study abroad, and assists faculty in designing programs to fit their needs.

This academic year, 1,950 UF students studied abroad, an increase of 16 percent over the previous academic year.



### NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Among the trends this year is a strong interest in programs in China, said Susanne Hill, UFIC study-abroad coordinator. At UFIC's Study Abroad Fair in September, students expressed an interest in studying in China.

"I was surprised at how many students wanted to go to China. It is really a trend now," Hill said.

It also is an opportunity. The UF Center for International Studies in Beijing opened in June, joining a growing number of U.S. universities establishing programs in China. The conference center is located in the city's Haidian District, an area known as the "university zone" because 10 Chinese universities

See *Study Abroad*, continued

## *Study Abroad, continued*

are based there. The center supports existing international study programs and the creation of new ones focusing on Chinese language and culture. The center also expects to serve Chinese students interested in earning credits and degrees from U.S. universities through distance-learning programs.

In another positive move for international studies, students are likely to return to Israel for their international studies following the recent UF decision to lift the ban on studying in Israel, where UF has programs in Haifa, Tel Aviv and at Ben Gurion University in Be'er Sheva.

### **SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS**

**S**hort, intensive courses during spring break and the intersession between the spring semester and Summer A are popular because many students are in rigid schedules that do not permit studying abroad for a semester. This year for the first time, a study-abroad course in Munich is scheduled for the week of Thanksgiving. The two-credit-hour history course in Munich features tours of nineteenth and twentieth century scientific, technical, historical and cultural sites.

Another new international opportunity is UF in Osnabrück, Germany, a six-week summer program through the UF Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering in engineering technology. Other programs are available in Prague, the Czech Republic, and Krakow, Poland.

### **STUDY IN PARIS**

**T**he Paris Research Center study-abroad programs, initiated during the 2003-2004 academic year, are quickly gaining popularity, in part because of an attractive venue but also because of the diversity of programs and scheduling options. In its first 15 months, more than 50 UF scholars participated in research initiatives and workshops facilitated by the center. In addition, the center has hosted more than 150 international scholars at UF-organized events and facilitated study-abroad programs from all corners of the campus, with more than 220 students participating. With programs in the fall and spring terms, as well as spring break, May intersession and summer, the Paris Research Center offers myriad opportunities for students on restricted schedules to enroll in a wide variety of courses in many disciplines including the arts, history, culture,

architecture, language and literature, with many more under development.

Study abroad programs also provide unique opportunities in exotic venues. The UF in Andros Island, a summer program first offered two years ago, features Caribbean woodcarving and tropical ecosystems, with visits to historic archeological sites, excavations, and animal and plant surveys.

The College of Business Administration's semester programs in Madrid, Rouen and London continue to attract high numbers of students, with up to 35 students in each per semester. In addition, 30 UF students are taking an internship program in London this semester.

### **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IS A PRIORITY**

UF has made international education a priority and students increasingly seek international opportunities to prepare them for careers or graduate studies. The UFIC has responded to this need by helping faculty develop study-abroad courses. As part of International Week, the UFIC is offering workshops on setting up study-abroad programs.

The Study Abroad Fair in September hosted more than 60 UF programs and independent providers offering study abroad opportunities and support services. The event, sponsored the University of Florida International Center, highlighted international study opportunities in every continent in a variety of academic fields. Close to 2,000 students gathered information on studying abroad at the event at the Reitz Union colonnade.

For a complete list of programs, visit the UFIC website at <http://ufic.ufl.edu/sassponsored.htm>.

Contact: *Susanne Hill, [SHill@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:SHill@ufic.ufl.edu)*

### **International News**

is published twice a year by the University of Florida International Center.

Dean: Dennis Jett

Executive Editor: Sandra Russo

Editor: Larry Schnell

We welcome submission of articles and photographs on international themes from faculty and students. Send submissions to [srusso@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:srusso@ufic.ufl.edu).

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# Photo Contest

Return to Table of Contents

## 2004 Global Culture Photo Contest



***RICH WITH TRADITION – TWO SOLDIERS  
GUARD THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN  
SOLDIERS*** by Eric Staufer

**Winner**  
**Study Abroad Student Category**

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### IMMIGRATION UPDATE

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is increasing the immigration filing fees effective Oct. 26. For additional information, visit the USCIS Website at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-19226.htm>.

The Department of State has announced that registration for the 2007 Diversity Visa (DV) Lottery will begin at noon on Oct. 5. Persons seeking to enter the lottery program must register online through the designated Internet website during the registration period. The website for registering for the 2007 DV Lottery, [www.dvlottery.state.gov](http://www.dvlottery.state.gov), will be available from noon Oct. 5 through noon Dec. 4.

## PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Winners of UFIC's 2004 Global Culture Photo Contest are included throughout this newsletter.

The winners, pictured on this page and pages 6 and 7 are the best of each of four categories based on the status of the photographers:

Study Abroad Students  
International Students  
Photography & Journalism Students  
Faculty, Staff & Alumni

With hundreds of great photographs submitted, these truly are the best of the best. Additional photographs are available on the International Center Website, <http://ufic.ufl.edu/photocontest04.htm>.

Judges are reviewing submissions for the 2005 Global Culture Photo Contest.

## 2004 Global Culture Photo Contest



***THE DANCE***, by Piotra Matloka

**Winner**  
**International Student Category**

## UF'S INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHARE THEIR CULTURE WITH ALACHUA COUNTY STUDENTS

From every region of the world, they bring a capsule of their culture to the students in Alachua County schools.

Their encounters are brief – lasting no longer than a school period – but their interactions are intense as they present, answer questions and share personal items such as clothing and photographs with students in elementary, middle and high schools.

These volunteers are participating in the International Student Speakers Bureau in the University of Florida's International Center. They are proud of their cultures and that is the foundation of their volunteer-

### EXPERIENCING SOUTH KOREA



Students at the Gainesville Country Day School learn about customs in South Korea from UF student Ellie Kang.

ing – to tell young people about their home countries.

In an increasingly global environment where economy, politics, conservation and recreation are crossing borders like never before, their direct message plays an important role in preparing young people in the United States for a world that is much more international than that of their teachers, their parents or the previous generation.

The United States has extended its international involvement to every part of the world, sometimes in

friendship, sometimes in war. The international speakers believe that by bypassing government information sources and media, they can plant seeds of diplomacy that will change how at least a few people think about other nations and cultures for years to come.

### STUDENTS SHARE CULTURES

Rania Habib, a Fulbright student in a UF doctoral program in linguistics, is volunteering for her third year. With U.S. conflict and negative rhetoric all too close to the border of her native Syria, she wants to tell people that Syria is really a warm and hospitable country. Not everyone embraces a fundamental religion, not all women dress from head to toe in *burkas*, and peace is as treasured as anywhere in the world.

“I felt it my duty to correct some of the misconceptions that many Americans have about Syria and the Middle East in general,” she said.

Atitaya Auiti, a doctoral student in civil engineering, has plenty to share, both similarities and differences, about his native India. He believes students will be surprised to know that English is a common language in India, a unifying factor in a vast country where a different language is spoken in every state.

The volunteer experience is an opportunity to learn about the educational system in the United States and about the values of young students.

Auiti wants to observe the body language, the figures of speech, the interests and ideas of students to see how they differ from students in India. He wants to see how other cultures approach education.

“I want to know about the difference between the elementary school in America and the elementary school in India,” he said.

Other students welcome the opportunity for a variety of reasons, to know young people from an

## CROSSING CULTURAL BORDERS

*Damiana Bonuom, an Italian student in the International Student Speakers Bureau, talks about Italy to elementary children at the Gainesville Country Day School.*



other culture, to observe their attitudes about different cultures, and to practice English before an audience.

### SCHOOL CHILDREN BENEFIT

Students are the big beneficiaries, said Karen Whip-ple, second grade teacher at the Gainesville Country Day School. Through the International Student Speakers Bureau, she has had students from Korea, Greece, Italy and African countries talk about their home countries and cultures during her cultural unit in history.

“We believe it is educational for the children to become aware of other cultures and countries around the world,” she said. “It is a geography lesson as well as an important life lesson. Children need to be taught that the way to bring people together is through understanding and tolerance. Only through the knowledge and education of others’ existence can the students begin to lose their egocentric attitudes.”

### VOLUNTEER TRAINING

In a mandatory orientation session for volunteer- ing this fall, Leslie Owen, the International Center’s coordinator for the project, warns volunteers that while presentations are fun and informative, students can put volunteers in the hot seat for a period. Young students can be embarrassingly candid in their questions. Older students may raise is-

sues of dating and ask personal questions that need not be answered.

Volunteers need to prepare in advance for questions that are provocative, controversial or personal.

The bottom line, however, is that volunteers are a valuable resource to the youths of Alachua County. She tells them: “We’re so lucky to have you here and to share your culture with our children, many of whom have never interacted with people from other countries before.”

A representative of the UF International Center accompanies each volunteer to school presentations to insure that the presentations go smoothly and to better coordinate future presentations.

Teachers can contact the International Center to arrange a visit by one of the volunteers from a country or region of interest. This year’s volunteers are from Canada, China, Costa Rica, Eritrea, France, Germany, Israel, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Jordan, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Morocco, The Netherlands, Norway, Nigeria, Peru, The Philippines, Romania, Senegal, Spain, South Korea, Syria, Thailand, Turkey and Uganda.

Contact: Leslie Owen, [lowen@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:lowen@ufic.ufl.edu)

## FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS VISIT UF

Four international Fulbright scholars are visiting the University of Florida campus this year to share research projects with host faculty.

These visiting scholars from throughout the world have been awarded Fulbright grants in a highly selective process. Working with host faculty, these scholars focus their expertise on research topics of mutual interest. The program is managed through the UF International Center.

Fulbright scholars for 2005-2006 are:

**Dr. Ali Boularbah**, Morocco. Boularbah's research topic is "Remediation of Metal-Contaminated Soils by Using Iron Filings as Adsorbents." His host is Dr. Gabriel Bitton, professor in the Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences.

**Dr. Laura Muñoz Mata**, Mexico. Muñoz Mata's research topic is "Researching Navigation Routes, Ports and Strategic Interest: The Gulf-Caribbean as a Frontier in the 19th Century." Dr. Richard Phillips, head of the University of Florida's Latin American Collection in the George A. Smathers Libraries, is her host faculty member.

**Dr. Lydia Ramahobo**, Botswana. Ramahobo is conducting her research project "Toward Multicultural Education in Botswana" with Dr. Leo Villalon, director of the Center for African Studies. Ramahobo's research begins in March 2006.

## INTERNATIONAL FULBRIGHT STUDENTS LEARN AND TEACH AT UF

One way UF students who cannot go abroad gain insight into other cultures is through the Fulbright Program, which brings students from throughout the world to university campuses.

This year, about 75 Fulbright students are studying at the University of Florida, with some 18 new international Fulbright students this semester. They contribute to the multicultural experience for UF domestic students. In addition, 18 UF students are studying abroad on Fulbright scholarships.

"The Fulbright Fellowship is a prestigious award and it is highly desirable to have these students on our campus, as well as sending U.S. Fulbright students to other parts of the world," said Debra Anderson, coordinator of International Student Services.

Fulbright students are chosen in a highly competitive process. These students make major contributions besides sharing their cultures,

## 2004 Global Culture Photo Contest



*Day of Bible* by Elizabeth Shurik

Winner

**Photography & Journalism Student**

**Dr. Marderos Ara Sayegh**, Syria. Sayegh is researching the topic "Program Integration of Solar Thermal Systems with Architectural Design of Buildings in Syrian Climactic Conditions." His host faculty member is Dr. Dharendra Yogi Goswami, professor of solar energy in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Contact: Lynn Frazier, [lfrazier@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:lfrazier@ufic.ufl.edu)

Anderson said. Most have a teaching assistantship under a UF faculty member. This year, four are teaching language courses in their native languages, Hindi, Indonesian, Turkish and Arabic.

Joita Dhar, from India, teaches Hindi to 25 U.S. students, some of Indian descent, in the Department of Asian and African Language and Literature.

"For the Americans it's totally a new language," she said. "For the Indian students, they are learning their native language."

In India she teaches English while working on her doctorate at Batna University.

The cultural exchange also is an important element of the Fulbright program. Iraqi Fulbright scholar Ayad Kh Ali, in a master's program in pharmacy, wants Americans to see a side of Iraq they do not know. American students often ask him if Iraqis have homes and attend schools.

*Fulbright, continued next page*

## BLENDING OF CULTURES

*Debra Anderson, coordinator of International Student Services, center, meets with students at the International Coffee House.*



### INTERNATIONAL AND U.S. STUDENTS MEET AT INTERNATIONAL COFFEE HOUSE

University of Florida students bridged borders and cultures at the International Coffee House in the Reitz Union.

Students from every continent, with dozens of languages, were represented at the new social event organized by the UF International Center. More than 45 students, including students from the United States, mingled at the Sept. 30 and the Oct. 21 events in the Reitz Union. Another is planned for Nov. 10.

The goal of the program, said Nikki Kernaghan, outreach coordinator for the Transnational and Glo-

bal Studies Center, is to provide a forum for interaction between international and U.S. students, to foster greater cultural understanding and to provide the opportunity to share their experiences at UF.

The International Coffee House is a social opportunity for students to meet and have conversations that do not typically emerge in the classroom.

The group included some long-term international students who gave tips to newcomers. Debra Anderson, coordinator of International Student Services, attended the event to answer students' questions.

Contact: Leslie Owen, lowen@ufic.ufl.edu

#### *International Briefs, from p. 1*

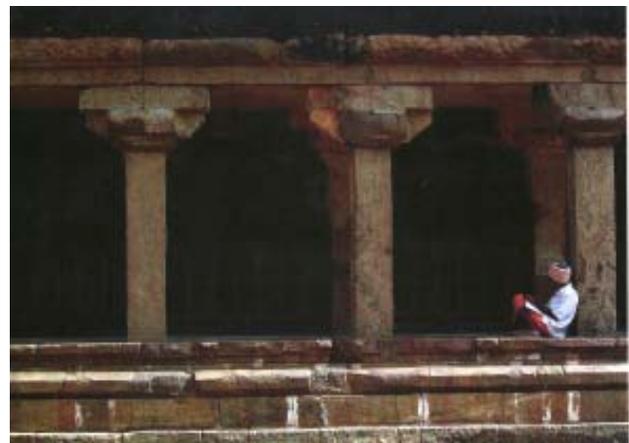
Brown, associate professor in Environmental Engineering and Science, and Russo, director of UFIC Program Development, are using cutting-edge, field-based teaching and research in the development of the adaptive management program for doctoral studies in engineering, biophysical and social sciences related to water, wetlands and watersheds.

Adaptive management is the systematic process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of operational programs.

The program draws on the resources of four colleges, 15 academic departments and three research centers at the University of Florida as well as research centers in Africa, Mexico, South America, Australia and the Everglades in South Florida.

Contact: Mark Brown, mtb@ufl.edu

## 2004 Global Culture Photo Contest



**A QUIET MOMENT** by Tammy Marinuzzi

**Winner**

**Faculty, Staff and Alumni Category**

Americans and Iraqis and to enhance understanding and security.

The Fulbright program aims to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and other countries, through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills.

Contact: UFIC, 352-392-5323 x 706

#### *Fulbright, continued*

"I am astonished with such questions, but I do not blame the Americans for these naive queries," he said. "They forget Iraq is the cradle of ancient civilizations and the starting point of all sciences and knowledge."

He is establishing a student organization called Explore Iraq to further the exchange between

## UFIC TO SELECT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The University of Florida International Center recognizes outstanding contributions to international research and education in November with the International Educator of the Year awards.

The announcement Nov. 15 is a key component of International Education Week. This is the second year the awards are given.

Nominations have been accepted for two awards, one for untenured or newly tenured faculty, the other for senior faculty. A university wide committee judged the candi-

dates based on:

1. The international contributions to the faculty member's discipline.
2. How the international contribution increased students' awareness of international issues and involved students in research abroad, and
3. How their work raised UF's profile as a major research university.

Each winner receives \$500.

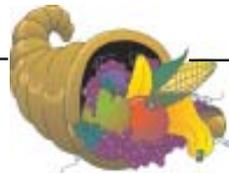
Most colleges submit one nomination per award. The colleges of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Medicine submit two nominations for each

award because of the larger number of faculty.

Last year's winners were:

**Thomas Oakland**, professor in the College of Education for his work in more than 40 countries in establishing enduring professional relationships with colleagues abroad.

**Amie Kreppel**, program director and associate professor in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, for her work in establishing a Title VI Center for European Studies and other international work.



## FALL AND WINTER CALENDAR

### November

1 Appreciation Reception	Grinter Hall lobby	3 p.m.-5 p.m.
3 Fulbright Reception	Grinter Hall lobby	4 p.m.-6 p.m.
4 Executive Advisory Board Meeting:	Wadsworth Board Room	3 p.m.-5 p.m.
5-8 NAFSA Regional Meeting	Biloxi MS	
15 International Educator Award	Keene Faculty Center	3 p.m.-5 p.m.
15 & 17 Faculty Seminars	Reitz Union rooms 284 & 346	10 a.m.-12 p.m, 1-2 p.m.
17 PeopleSpeak Event	Reitz Union room 349	6 p.m.-8 p.m.
18 International Festival	Reitz Union colonnade	10a.m.-3 p.m.
18 International Coffee House	Reitz Union	7 p.m.-9 p.m.
21 Thanksgiving Appreciation Dinner	Grinter Hall lobby	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
30 Study Abroad Pre-departure Presentation	Reitz Union auditorium	
30 Global Workshop for K-12 teachers	FLMNH	8 a.m.-4 p.m.
30 International Photo Competition – Winners Announced		

### December

6 Pre-departure Seminar	Reitz Union Auditorium
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### January 2006

6 Orientation: International & Exchange Students	Reitz Union room 282	3 p.m.-4 p.m.
6 Reception: International & Exchange Students	Reitz Union in front of room 282	4 p.m.-5 p.m.
25 Global Workshop for K-12 teachers	SFCC Zoo	8 a.m.-4 p.m.
25 Study Abroad Fair	Colonnade, Terrace, Bryan/Matthews Lounge	
16-Feb. 9 Global Photo Contest Exhibit	Grinter Gallery	

### February 2006

9 Prof. John Mearsheimer, "Current U.S. National Security Policy"	Keene Faculty Center	6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
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