New International Cooperations

IWU is going to China!
This past June, Provost Jonathan Green, his wife Lynn Buck, and Professor Teddy Amoloza traveled to Hong Kong and Guangzhou, China, to finalize new international partnerships. IWU and Lingnan University in Hong Kong have agreed to exchange students on study abroad programs, and Lingnan is anxious to host IWU faculty as visiting scholars and teachers. IWU and Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou are exploring future faculty collaborations.

In Hong Kong, Provost Green and Professor Amoloza were the guests of Professor William Lee, Lingnan’s vice president and registrar, and the staff of the Office of Mainland and International Programs. While at Lingnan, Provost Green signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which provides for the student exchange. The agreement also invites IWU faculty to teach at Lingnan, either during a sabbatical or over a summer. Faculty benefits would include free airfare for the faculty member, free lodging for the faculty and his/her family, and a monthly stipend. Faculty interested in more information should contact Professor Amoloza (tamoloza@iwu.edu).

From Hong Kong, Provost Green and Professor Amoloza traveled to Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China. IWU signed an agreement of cooperation with Sun Yat-sen in February 2012; this summer’s visit explored specific areas of cooperation. They met with the Dean of the School of Chinese as a Second Language to discuss Sun Yat-sen faculty perhaps teaching Chinese at IWU; and with Professor Chang Chenguang, the Dean of the School of Foreign Languages, and Professor Dai Fan, the Chair of Department of English, to explore the possibility of Sun Yat-sen students studying at IWU starting in spring 2013.

While traveling, the IWU group also had the chance to connect with several of IWU’s Chinese students. In

Technos Celebrates 50 Years
Technos International College, which hosts an IWU faculty member and several students each summer for the Technos International Week, celebrated its 50th anniversary this summer.

Participating in the 2012 International Week were Professor Edgar Lehr (biology), and students Brad Gresik, Audrey Ito, Samantha Reiter, and Rosa Rivera. Joining them for part of the anniversary celebration was Provost Jonathan Green.

The Technos International Week brings students and faculty from IWU, Bates, Carleton, Hobart & William Smith, Hope, and McKendree Colleges, in addition to groups from New Zealand and England, for a two-week program intended to foster international exchange and understanding. IWU’s participation in the program stems from our long-standing relationship with Dr. Kenji Tanaka and the Tanaka Ikueki Educational Trust, which fund Technos International College.
Study Abroad Alums—Where Are They Now?

The International Office contacted recent study abroad alumni to ask what they were doing and how they were keeping their international experience alive. The response was incredible—and we’re eager to hear from more of you!

Below are some of the responses.

Megan (Adams) Folkerts (SIT Mexico 2004) — Is entering her fourth year of teaching high school Spanish in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Linda Ayagpong (DIS Copenhagen 2008) — Is a second-year medical student at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria.

Coco Bassey (IES Berlin 2009) — Recently completed a master’s degree in Media and Communications through Brandeis University’s Global Studies Program and received an employment offer from Fraunhofer CSE, a German-based research organization in Boston.

Matt Bernet (IWU Madrid 2009) — Finds himself living in Charlotte and working in product marketing and product development for the international appliance company Electrolux. He writes, “I find myself using the experiences I gained from studying abroad every day. I work side by side with people from all over the world […] am in constant conversation with co-workers and suppliers in China, Hungary, Sweden, and South America, and frequently travel to places such as Shanghai and Stockholm. The experiences I had and the relationships I formed while studying abroad helped fuel my passion for International Business and lead me to the position I am in today. I can honestly say my study abroad in Madrid was one of the best experiences of my college career and I wish I could do it again!”

Kathryn Breisch (IES Nantes 2011, IES EU 2011) — Will be teaching math in Baltimore, MD, as part of Teach For America.

Chris Burrichter (IWU Madrid 2006) — Recently visited his Spanish host-mother in Madrid, and in October will begin work at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Brad Cannella (Arcadia Ireland 2009) — Returned to Ireland last May to perform a saxophone concert, before visiting IWU study abroad student Courtney Balk in Copenhagen. Next month, he is off to Argentina to visit IWU study abroad student Chloe Staub, before starting chiropractic school at National University in Lombard, IL.

Emily Coles (DIS Copenhagen 2009) — After a year in Bulgaria on a Fulbright Grant, Emily moved to Nairobi, Kenya, where she works for the Danish Refugee Council as a research assistant. Earlier this summer, she conducted interviews and focus groups in Jigia, Ethiopia, and is now working on a report on durable solutions for Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa. This fall, she will begin her studies at the London School of Economics and, after graduation, plans to move to Belgrade, Serbia, to work for an NGO.

Anna Deters (IES Amsterdam 2004) — “How am I keeping my international experience alive? Well, I married my Israeli housemate, who was studying in Amsterdam as well—and just a few weeks ago had our first baby! We travel to Europe at least once a year and make a special point of visiting Amsterdam and our old neighborhood as often as possible.”

Elizabeth Doerr (DIS 2008) — Completed a master’s degree in International Relations, with a focus on multilateral & NGO management and conflict resolution from Syracuse University in December. As part of her graduate program, she studied in London and Strasbourg, and then interned with Amnesty International in Washington, DC.

Brandon Dorn (IFSA Butler England 2009-10) — Is soon to marry IWU study abroad alumna Beth Anne Roberts (IES Freiberg 2009). For their honeymoon, they a kind of study abroad reunion tour to Oxford and Freiburg.

Amanda Fuerst (IES Vienna 2005) — Earned a master’s degree in Music at Northwestern University and returned to IWU last winter as a visiting faculty member. She is now a free-lance musician in Los Angeles.

Amy Grigolatti (Arcadia England 2007) — Works for KPMG in New York, but is currently on a short-term assignment in Sydney, Australia.

Rachel Halfpap (IWU Madrid 2006) — Graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2011 and is clerking for the Hon. Michael M. Mihm of the Central District of Illinois.

Ellen Ho (CEA Paris 2008) — Is taking graduate classes soon at Concordia University in the hopes of receiving an ESL teaching endorsement and then hopes to teach English language learners (possibly abroad).

Emily (Israel) Tasch (DIS 2006) — Is currently working as a Physician Assistant in an outpatient office in the Chicagoland area. While studying to be a PA, she traveled to El Salvador for a medical mission trip with 15 classmates.

Qinfang Cha Cha Jiang (Central Paris 2010) — Recently finished a seven-week German language program through the Middelbury Language program and is beginning a master’s degree at Rice University in Houston, TX.

Cassie Jordan (SIT Kunning 2010) — Is teaching English in Shenzhen, China.

Hannah Kiefer (IES London 2010) — Works for LCMC (Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod) International in Hong Kong. Hannah invites people who want to learn more to contact her at hannah.kiefer@gmail.com.

Brian Kowalski (IFSA Butler Northern Ireland 2006) — For four years working in the theatre, Brian has returned to school—specifically, the Navy’s Nuclear Power Training Command (NPNSTC). So, in another year or two, he’ll be returning abroad.

Gail Kramer (IWU London 2007) — Will be returning to London in September for a one-year business internship.

Samantha Krueger (IES Nantes 2010) — Starting next month, she begin work as an English teaching assistant in Chalon sur Saône, Burgundy, France.

Ayumi Kunihira (IES Tokyo 2002, Keio University 2004) — Is a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in the Lalitpur district just outside of Kathmandu, Nepal. Ayumi also volunteers with the English Access Microscholarship Program, a program cosponsored by the Nepal English Language Teachers’ Association (NELTA) and the U.S. Embassy to develop the English language skills of Nepali adolescents while also introducing them to American culture, and with the United States Educational Foundation in Nepal, which works with students seeking to study at American universities.

Natalie Lalagos (IES Barcelona 2011) — “I love my job!” Natalie writes. She teaches high school Spanish in Eastern Kentucky (Appalachia) as part of Teach for America. “I talk to students every day about… how the understanding of a second language gives us greater opportunities and power in society. I have pictures from my study abroad experience up around my room, and I talk about my experiences in Spain, and my students are eager to learn about studying abroad.”

KwanYee Queenie Li (IES London 2009) — Moved back to Hong Kong after graduation to work for a French market research company. Now, she does marketing at a fashion company in Hong Kong.

Evon Lowery (IES Milan 2007) — Was finally able to show his family where he studied abroad and to introduce his family to Italy. AsiaLinn Lowry (NYU Evelyn 2009) — Is a Donor Relations and Special Events Coordinator at Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. As part of her work, she currently co-leads Shedd Aquarium’s Iguna Research in the Bahamas (2012 and 2013) that focus on the endangered rock iguanas inhabiting the Exuma islands and the island of Andros.

Milos Martinov (Pembroke College 2005-6) — Returned to Pembroke College for a master’s degree and is now a development officer for St. Catherine’s College, Oxford. Molly McKay (IWU London 2003) — “Finally made it back to London in 2010,” almost seven years after first studying abroad.

Marcus Mitchell (Central London 2008) — Is in his second year of a PhD in English at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH, and he plans to London to undertake research for his dissertation. He adds, “Whenever someone refers to my resume during an interview, my experience in London usually becomes the focal point of the conversation…. I remain grateful, therefore, that I had the chance to go abroad during my time at IWU.”

Sarah Moir (IES Berlin 2011) — Started an IT job at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, but is planning to return to Germany for graduate study as soon as possible.

Erin Mol (IES Vienna 2006) — Lives in Paris, France, where she is pursuing a career in opera.

Megan Mondi (IFSA Butler England 2004) — Four years after studying abroad at Worcester College, Oxford, Megan returned to complete a master’s degree in modern European history. She is now a senior marketing executive at Hodder Education, a division of the UK’s largest publisher, in London.

IWU Professors Study Abroad in London, Italy, and the Former Yugoslavia

Illinois Wesleyan professors Meghan Burke (Sociology) and William Munro (Political Science) undertook their own study abroad experiences this past summer through IES Abroad Faculty Development Seminars. Professor Burke spent a week in London and Milan studying how news is funded, gathered, and shared as part of IES Abroad’s “The King’s Speech: Power and the Transformation of Media in the 21st Century.”

Together with colleagues from across the US, Burke explored such issues as the coverage of politics in Italy; sport journalism and the proprietorship of the Summer Olympics in London; and the EU Television Without Frontiers directive (TVWF), which also applies to some internet-based services.

At the time that Burke was returning to IWU, Professor Munro was setting off to consider “Conflict Transformation in the 21st Century” in Rome.

As part of this IES Abroad Seminar, Munro and colleagues spent six days in Bosnia and Herzegovina meeting with journalists, academics, and human rights activists; visiting court hearings; and interviewing war survivors as they examined the challenges of transitional justice and reconciliation in a divided society.

Founded in 1950, IES Abroad is one of the oldest and most reputable not for profit study abroad organizations in the US. As part of its mission, it seeks to help university faculty enhance their own knowledge and skills.

For more information on their experiences, IES Abroad Faculty Seminars, and other international faculty development opportunities, please come to the Non-Org on Monday, October 22.
Alumni Updates (cont.)

Jaclyn Morrison (IWU Madrid 2009) — After graduation, Jaclyn spent five weeks in Madrid with study abroad alums Kristen Hosack (IWU Madrid 2009), Kari Grace (IES Ecuador 2009), and Emmy Grace (IES Ecuador 2009), living with her former host mother. She now teaches Spanish here in town at Normal Community High School.

Leslie Morrison (IWU Madrid 2009) — After graduation, Leslie went through a one-year training program called Green Corps, which has led her to work as a public school and many of her students were Kichwa. Most very eager to learn English so that they would be able to work in eco-tourism, which is basically the only industry in Tena. They also wanted to teach me about their culture, including things like how to speak a little bit of Kichwa, or when they were using the school. They have just been down on top of a mountain, complete with palm trees and old Catholic cathedrals, whose interiors were encrusted in gold. However, unlike in Barcelona, there were women dressed in indigenous clothing sewing handmade items. I was interested to see the stark contrast between indigenous people and the Spanish architecture.

After about three weeks in Quito, I travelled around as a translator for a close family friend, who is a professor and who has traveled throughout the Amazon and its surroundings. We spent two days in Tena, which is a city of 30,000 people in the rainforest. I was offered a job as a translator for a close family friend, who is a professor and who has traveled throughout the Amazon and its surroundings.

Aomori Prefecture, Japan, where she graduated with a master’s degree in Teaching of Spanish as a Second Language and her thesis focuses on students from the U.S. who study in Spain.

Jacobs Rhodes (IES Toledo 2008) — is back on Tokyo working for CRASH, a disaster relief organization that provides relief assistance after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Nola Richardson (IES Viena 2007) — is a professional musician in Baltimore, where she sings with the Baltimore Choral Arts Society, the Washington National Cathedral, Chantilly, and numerous opera companies and performance organizations on the East coast.

Eric Roberts (IFSA Butler Lang 2005) — Completed a master’s degree at the University of Illinois and now lives in London with his wife.

Jason Rocheley (CIEE Guanajuato 2009) — Completed his Fulbright in Teaching English in Aguascalientes, Mexico. He recently started a master’s degree program in Spanish at Illinois State University and plans to return to Mexico to teach English when it is completed.

Caroline Rohloff (IES Nantes 2010) — “I loved my time abroad in France and I’m very excited to be continuing my international experience this year” by attending the University of Glasgow in Scotland for a one-year master’s program in Economics and Political Science.

Stephanie Ross (DI FSA Butler Chile 2009) — is a Peace Corps volunteer in the Manara region of Tanzania, where she teaches science at the Mulubadwa Secondary School.

Hayley Streege (IFSA Butler Chile 2007) — is a dual-language teacher in Streamwood, IL, and is working on her bilingual teaching endorsement.

Aaron Sutherland (IES London 2009) — is living in Chicago, working at a career in stand-up comedy.

Patty Troxell (DIS Copenhagen 2008) — is in the third year of medical school at UIC, where she serves as the student coordinator for the Global Health Leaders Program and conducts research for the UIUC Center for Global Health. She writes that her interest is comparative health practice and policy grew out of her studies in Denmark—"possibly the single most formative experience that I have had!"

Kristina Walin (IES Argentina 2011) — Recently returned from a month in Taiwan, where she traveled and learned about Buddhism.


Megan Weinstein (IES EU 2010) — As part of her graduate studies, Megan is currently working with the University of Chicago, working with the IES European Union Program and conducting research with the IFSA Butler Chile 2007. She works as the Norwegian Refugee Council in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She is the project coordinator in charge of all education in emergencies programming in the country, including building temporary schools, training teachers, and providing classes for students who have fled their homes due to war.

Lauren Ostrowski (IES Madrid 2003) — Worked for IES Abroad from 2006 to 2010 as an Academic Project Manager for Spanish-speaking programs. In 2010, she traveled through Mexico on a Rotary Scholarship before returning to Madrid with a Fulbright grant to teach English. Lauren is now working on a master’s degree at the Universidad de Alcala in Teaching of Spanish as a Second Language and her thesis focuses on students from the U.S. who study in Spain.

Rachel Slough (IES Salamanca 2006) — is a librarian at the University of Wisconsin—La Crosse and trying to keep her Spanish alive "wherever and however" she can. Last summer, she taught for Concordia Language Village’s camp El Lago del Bosque, and this year co-led a trip to Peru for area teenagers.

Bianca Spratt (SIT South Africa 2010) — Bianca currently serves as a Public Ally in Chicago. In her first year of service, she worked as a Youth Worker Associate with the Chicago Youth Centers ABC Polk Bros, mentoring and tutoring 5–18 year olds. As a second-year Ally, she now works with the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago.

Ariana Treadwell (CIEE Guanajuato 2010) — is a Peace Corps Volunteer in Micronesia, working as an ESL Teacher and Community Developer. She started her service November 2010, and has extended her contract for an additional six months to finish May 2013. “Joining the Peace Corps after IWU is a wonderful way to apply what you have already learned through studying abroad and to continue to challenge yourself in helping the jungle and across streams to his house. Along the way, I saw tiny one-room school houses, monkeys in the trees, people crossing shallow rivers with huge propane tanks on their backs, and kids browsing their cell phones, updating their Facebook pages.

When we reached the house, my friend was so excited to show me the project he, his father, and two of his ten siblings had been working on. It was a community museum that they had started to build, hoping to be able to showcase the various Amazonian cultures, and attract tourists to their village. Unfortunately, many times artifacts were dropped on top of a mountain, complete with palm trees and old Catholic cathedrals, whose interiors were encrusted in gold. However, unlike in Barcelona, there were women dressed in indigenous clothing sewing handmade items. I was interested to see the stark contrast between indigenous people and the Spanish architecture.

With the museum is far from being completed, due to the lack of money and resources, I started to realize the power that knowing English could give to the native people in Ecuador. I know it sounds cliché, but knowledge is power. It took me going to the Amazon forest, and meeting people who had no access to the things they wanted to learn to truly and simply understand that. My dream before Ecuador was to go to Barcelona and teach English for a while. Now, I want to create an English language curriculum for developing countries. I want to make a difference.

Hilary Anderson and students. (Photo courtesy of H. Anderson)
International Arrivals

We are currently welcoming the following international students to campus:

- China
- Cambodia
- Colombia
- Denmark
- Ecuador
- England
- Morocco
- Spain
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Zambia

Please join us in welcoming the

Study Abroad: Fall 2011 students!

Bon voyage! Enjoy your fall 2011 adventures!