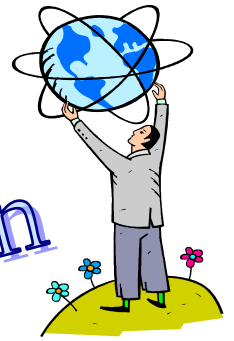


UC International Programs Newsletter: Fall Edition



Programs Abroad Expo Draws large crowd!



This year's Programs Abroad Expo was held outside on McMicken Green. It was a gorgeous sunny fall day, attracting a crowd of over 1,000 students. Over 45 tables highlighted programs in over 50 different countries. There was information about short term and long term programs and opportunities to study, co-op, intern, work and volunteer abroad. There was live music with an international flair, great raffle prizes, and fortune cookies with messages such as "you will find romance in a foreign land".



"The Expo is really the best way to start looking for programs and opportunities abroad" Programs Abroad Manager Karen Ramos said. "It allows for you to ask questions to the program reps themselves to get the inside scoop as to what the program is all about".

Passport Day Eases Passport Process



On November 10th, officials from the Cincinnati Public Library helped students get a first time passport right on campus with free passport photos. It was all sponsored by UC International Programs and Photographic Services.

Exchange students share in American Culture

This quarter we welcomed eight exchange students: Mathew and Alice from England; Taku, Yangsoon and Yukari from Japan; Hyun from South Korea and Ruben and Paola from Mexico.



Throughout the quarter they grew accustomed to life at UC and aspects of American Culture. They jumped in leaf piles, carved pumpkins, ate thanksgiving dinner, and cheered for the Bearcats.

They grew close to their American Buddies, took hard exams, rode horses, went to Cincinnati's Oktoberfest and Bengal's games and shopped at Newport on the Levee. Many have traveled to New York, Boston, DC, Chicago, and others have plans to go to Florida, Niagara Falls, San Francisco, LA, Las Vegas and the Grand Canyon before they leave.



For information on how YOU can be a Buddy to an incoming Exchange student or study abroad in one of their countries, please contact us at 556-4402 or global@uc.edu

International Education Week – Huge Success!

The second annual International Education Week lasted two weeks this year from November 7th-November 18th because of the abundance of great festivities. From the comedy routine “One Muslim, One Jew, One Stage: Two Very Funny Guys” to the North African dinner at Market point, students raved about the fun and exciting international activities.



Over 30 posters were on display in TUC highlighting students experiences abroad. The World Music Concert showcased CCM’s talented performers of African and AfroCuban music. The Global Business Forum had a full and captive audience as international issues in business were discussed by top business leaders. The international film festival showcased many popular dramatic and comedic



foreign films. And the Study Abroad panel and information session has already inspired more students to study abroad. International Education Week reminds us how important it is to think globally so hopefully you’ll join us to these events and more next year!

Students Receive Scholarships to Study Abroad

In addition to the thirty two students that were awarded Globalization Grants this fall to study abroad this upcoming winter, several other students received prestigious awards. Matt Mercer received the Butler Affiliate Scholarship to spend a year in Chile. The recipients of the USAC scholarships this quarter were Sean Kelley who just returned from a semester in New Zealand and Hillary Smith who is spending the year in Puebla Mexico. The CEA affiliate scholarship recipients were Lori Sears who is in Italy for the academic year, and Kimberly Bauer who will be in Spain for a semester. Other UC students have received many other types of prestigious scholarships to study abroad.

Letter from the Field:

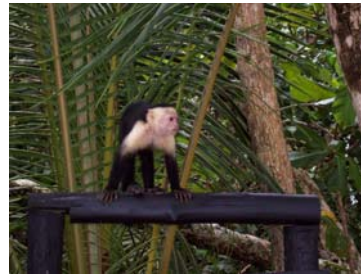
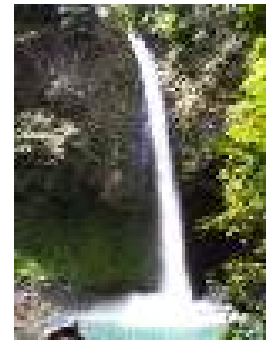
Leslie Schuler, fall quarter in Costa Rica

Seeing the Benefits of Studying Abroad, after Only Three Weeks!

Hi! My name is Leslie and I’m at 3rd year business student at UC. I’m spending fall quarter studying in Costa Rica. In just three weeks so much has happened! So far, my learning experience has been enhanced by the intensive language program, the people and the traveling.

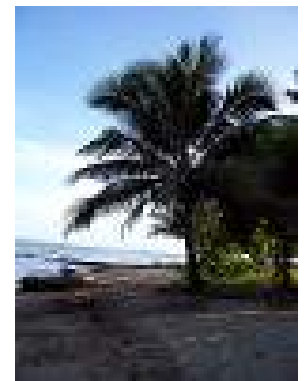


Upon arrival the use of Spanish during daily activities was overwhelming, but that feeling quickly faded, and the classes and time spent with my host family is very helpful. My Spanish language skills have already improved greatly due to the intensive language courses. I have also had the opportunity to practice speaking with my Costa Rican host family during meals and in the evenings. Beyond the obvious benefits of learning to speak, read and write a foreign language, I am also living in the unique Costa Rican culture. This includes everything from beans and rice at every meal, fruit markets and the bar scene.



I also interact with a diverse student body at my school, Veritas. It includes members from Costa Rica and other Central American countries, the United States and Europe. The people I’ve met are amazing! There are few settings outside of studying abroad where you can spend three months with such a diverse group of people. Some of my good friends here include students from Costa Rica, Sweden, both US coasts and the Midwest. Despite our differences we have many common interests. I spend time with my friends at school, at the gym, at home and at bars and discos, just as I would at home.

In addition to everyday activities, studying abroad has given me the opportunity to travel extensively within Costa Rica. So far I have had the opportunity to visit gorgeous beaches on both the Caribbean and Pacific coast, as well as, active volcanoes, large waterfalls and cloud forests in the more central regions of the country. My study abroad agency, Cultural Experiences Abroad (CEA), provided two of the weekend trips as part of my study abroad package, and I



opted to attend an additional planned trip. This makes traveling fun and easy, because it’s in a large group and transportation and lodging are prearranged. The exotic sites and animals are unique to Costa Rica and have greatly enhanced my experience here.

It’s hard to believe that so much has taken place in just three weeks. There are still nine more to come, and my future experiences in Costa Rica are sure to build on my current language skills, friendships and travel experiences.

Letter from the Field:

Maureen Valko, UC Summer in Queretaro, Mexico



I have always had a strong desire to travel and observe other parts of the world, but I never really knew how to go about it. It always seemed like a lofty dream to me, one that would never actually come to fruition. Then one day in Spanish class, I received a pamphlet on a Study Abroad Program in Mexico. I decided to make my dream become a reality. I made an appointment at the Global Studies and Affairs Office, and found everyone there to be very helpful. Soon I would be on my out of the country for the first time.

When I arrived in Mexico, I wasn't sure what to expect. So often people only talk about the overwhelming poverty and corrupt government. But I knew there had to be more to it than that. And I soon fell in love with a country that I had previously known very little about.

I stayed in the beautiful city of Querétaro, right in the heart of Mexico. I lived with a wonderful woman who made me feel right at home, and we would laugh and joke while she recounted stories about her very extensive family, many of whom I met during my stay. The TEC de Monterrey, where I attended school, had a beautiful campus and very helpful professors and staff.



We also took many field trips to see other cities in Mexico. My favorite was our visit to the pyramids in Teotihuacán, just outside of Mexico City. From these trips I gained an appreciation of the vast and diverse cultural influences in the Mexican culture.

I would not trade this experience for anything, and I highly recommend Studying Abroad to anyone with an even remote curiosity in other cultures. The best way to learn about another country is to live within it, and you will also learn a lot about yourself.

Letter from the Field:

Colleen Maura Strathern – fall quarter as an exchange student in Mexico

Hola! My name is Colleen Maura Strathern and currently I am in Guadalajara, Mexico studying abroad at a University called UNIVA. I arrived here August 23, 2005 and will be leaving on December 17, 2005. I am having a great time here. The weather is beautiful! Right now it is about 60-65 degrees F and sunny. The weather is always nice here. At first, it was hard to adjust but now that I have adjusted, this is a really great experience.



Everyone here is pretty nice. I have many new friends including other exchange students. One strange thing is that right now there are no other exchange students from the US or Canada. I am the only one from an English speaking country, which is good because I can practice my Spanish more. The classes are really easy in my opinion, which is good because I don't have to study as much and I have more free time.

Downtown Guadalajara is a beautiful place. There is a low crime rate, and I always feel safe. There is a small metro and many taxis. The best way to get around is with buses, which only cost 4



pesos per ride (less than 40 cents). The city is really clean and well cared for, although there is a little bit of air pollution from the traffic. There are many bars and night clubs as well as museums and beautiful gardens. The local people are very helpful and friendly when it comes to giving you information. On Sundays there is a market place called Tianguis. It is basically a really big flea market where you can buy anything such as food, house hold appliances, clothes, shoes, cosmetics, books, jewelry and much more. Basically, you can find anything at Tianguis, but it is very easy to get lost there! It is also a fun part of the culture because you can barter with the sellers.

In September, I went to Mexico City to visit a friend of mine who lives there. It is about a 6-7 hour ride on bus. The bus that took me is very luxurious. There is a lot of pollution in the downtown part, but other than that, it is a nice place. I plan to go back in December.

November 2 was the Day of the Dead. I went to Michoacan, the state next to where I am now, Jalisco, and it was really beautiful. I'd say it is the most beautiful part of Mexico I have seen so far. Michoacan is famous for its Day of the Dead activities. I went to a graveyard and saw flowers and offerings everywhere for the deceased.



The food is pretty good here, but last week I made a mistake and didn't check what I was eating. My friend and I went to a taco stand and she ordered us her favorite kind of tacos and assured me that they were delicious. Well, I didn't ask which kind of meat it was, and after I ate it, I found out that it was cow tongue! That was quite an experience. Mexico is a great and fun, not to mention beautiful place! I don't want to leave, and once I do, I can't wait to come back!

For more information about these programs and more all over the world, please contact your study abroad advisor!

UC International Programs
3134 Edwards Center One - (513) 556-4402
global@uc.edu – www.uc.edu/global