



KU Students and Professors Travel to Austria/Southern Germany Summer 2007

For many years, the Kutztown University Program in Austria/Southern Germany was an essential part of the KU summer abroad offerings. Now, almost six years after its hiatus, Dr. Gregory Hanson, Assistant Professor of German, is bringing the program back! With the help of Dr. John Delaney, Professor of History, and Dr. Lesley Pleasant, Assistant Professor of German, the three will travel with a group of KU students to Munich on June 5, 2007. The program will offer three courses; GER 104 - Intermediate German IV, GER 360 - Study Abroad Experience and HIS 227 - History of the Holocaust; students will register for one. Classes will be held in the mornings, Monday through Thursday.



A site near the Hotel Montana in Telfes, Austria

According to the program brochure, Intermediate German IV is an “intermediate language course” where students will “continue to develop basic skills in aural comprehension, speaking, reading and writing.” The Study Abroad Experience is an “interdisciplinary course” aimed at both German- and non-German speaking students. Students will “examine literary, architectural, historical, political, musical, and artistic representations” of Austria and southern Germany.

History of the Holocaust is a history course focused on “the Holocaust in Nazi-dominated Europe.” Special study within the course “will be devoted to historical sites and museums in Austria and southern Germany.” Afternoons and long weekends will be open for excursions to many towns and sites including Salzburg, Berchtesgaden, and the Neuschwanstein castle. Students are also able to plan their own excursions and free time.

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Student Profile

Written By: Anatoly Belousov

Throughout history, change has led to the development of new ideas and many positive advancements. Humans' unique ability to improve their own circumstances through innovation, brainstorming and exploration has brought people from diverse cultures closer together and made the world a smaller place than it once seemed. When the opportunity first arose for me to visit the United States, I jumped at the chance to expose myself to American culture. I knew that doing so would only benefit me in the end, and expand my knowledge of the world around me.

The years I have spent in America have proved to me that my choice was the right one. Six years may not be a long time to some, but this amount of time in the States has given me more than an introduction to American culture and Americans' way of life, and I am grateful for the opportunities I have had to grow as an individual as a result. *Continue on page 3*

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The Dean Scholars Visit Rome

Over the past four years the Dean's Scholars Program has been a part of the Kutztown University community. Started by Dr. William Mowder, Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, the program is offered to the top 5% of freshmen entering the College of Visual and Performing Arts, which measures out to be approximately two students from each department. The program is meant to help students become invested in KU and interact with students from other disciplines. The program also helps in recruiting the "best and the brightest" according to Dr. Mowder.

The Dean's Scholars participate in many events throughout their undergraduate program, including barbeques, on-campus performances and show openings according to Stephanie Melachrinis, Junior Art Education major. "Whenever members of the group have a performance or show opening on campus, an e-mail is sent out to the group so we can support each other."

The students also have the opportunity to travel abroad during their junior year. The trip occurs during winter break and is paid for by fundraising. In order to prepare for their travel abroad, students attend lectures featuring the area which they are traveling. This past winter, eighteen Dean Scholars traveled to Rome between January 8th and 15th. They were accompanied by Dr. Mowder, Professor Roberta Crisson, Chair of Speech Communication and Theatre and Director of International Studies, and Dr. John White, Chair of Art Education and Crafts. During their visit, the students saw classical and renaissance Rome, as well as the Vatican and many other sites. Professor Crisson remembers most vividly the ruins of Ostia Antica, a port city of ancient Rome. She said that the city was so well preserved that it was almost like "stepping back in time". Ms. Melachrinis' favorite part of the experience was the day trip to Florence. She had the opportunity to see the countryside of Italy and many of the beautiful churches, museums, and markets the city had to offer. She saw sculptures by Michelangelo and Botticelli's *Venus*; "overall it was a wonderful day [that] gave us a small taste of Italy outside of Rome". Professor Crisson stated that "Rome is so rich in culture that it's the perfect place to bring scholars of the arts".

For many of the students, this was their first time traveling outside of the United States. Dr. Mowder hopes that trips like this will expand their horizons and help them become more familiar with travel. As Ms. Melachrinis stated, "there's a certain sense of camaraderie in the Dean's Scholars...you can't help but be close when you've traveled around a foreign city together". ■

KU Model United Nations Club Open to all Students

How would you like to learn about the issues important to not only the United States, but also the world? How about promoting and defending positions based on the perspectives of other countries? If this interests you, then join the Kutztown University Model United Nations Club! The club meets every Thursday from 4-5 pm and students need only show up to join. The meetings are used for organizing and practicing for Model U.N. conferences. The students represent different committees (such as the General Assembly) and countries and discuss issues such as nuclear disarmament and millennium development, according to Jennifer Conley, President of the club.

The group of students not only meets on a weekly basis, but also attends and competes in many conferences. In the past, club members have participated in conferences at Yale, McGill in Canada, Berkeley in California, University of Pennsylvania, and Nationals in New York City; a "large Model U.N. competition where people from all over the country [and world] come to compete." At last year's National competition, delegations from China, Iraq, and Africa participated and the simulation is held in the actual United Nations building in New York City. The club hopes to add more competitions this year and perhaps even participate in international competitions.

The KU Model U.N. Club also holds their own annual conference called the Kutztown University Model United National Conference or KUMUNC. The conference takes place every January and invites local high schools to participate in a "simulated" United National meeting; students are given a crisis and topics to react to. The club members along with Dr. John Riley, Assistant Professor of Political Science and club advisor and many volunteers help create the event. Ms. Conley stated that it takes almost a full year of preparation and approximately 100 individuals to organize and run the conference. Preparation for KUMUNC 2008 is already underway.

"We have a lot of fun as a team" stated Ms. Conley "we are closer than a lot of teams on campus even though we are growing larger every day". The club is always looking for new members and they do not have to be Political Science majors. "We have [students from] a variety of majors; from Environmental Biology to Accounting". If you are interested in joining or would just like more information, meet the club next Thursday from 4-5pm in Graduate Center Room 1. ■

Student Profile

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I now own a car—something I did not imagine I would do when I lived in Russia. And I have discovered that friendship in America, although not always attainable in the ways I was familiar with in Russia, can be very meaningful once an interpersonal connection is established with someone. Americans, in my opinion, are quite receptive to new friendships, and a simple gesture, or a kind word, can be the key that swiftly unlocks the door to a new friend's heart. Perhaps it is Americans' physical isolation from one another that causes them to appreciate the simple acts of kindness that would go unnoticed in Russia.



Americans spend a lot of time alone in their cars, and are further isolated from one another by an overabundance of technology which has been incorporated into everyday life. Fast food culture, long hours spent at the workplace, and limited amounts of time for leisure activities with family and friends further contribute to what can be a vague sense of alienation here. Fortunately, America is a culturally diverse nation. Americans' genuine curiosity about other cultures helps bring diverse individuals together, which reduces the opportunities for alienation which one can experience both on a college campus and away from the university life.

Kutztown, I should tell you, is quite different from the typical Russian university. Our school is much bigger in size than most Russian institutions of higher learning. Also, we are fortunate to have great athletic facilities, which many Russian campuses do not possess. In Russia, when one enters school, one typically does so with another group of students with whom one spends all of his/her time. Deep friendships often form within these groups, because everyone spends so much time together. In America, college students have the freedom to make their own course schedules, which leads to more mingling, but also less camaraderie. American professors often teach less formally than do their Russian counterparts, I have noticed. In Russia, professors typically address you by your last name. Such a practice would probably be met with surprise by students in a Kutztown classroom!

All things considered, I am happy that I decided to come to the United States. My eyes have been opened in ways I never could have imagined before I left Russia, and I have learned so much, not just about America, but about the country that I left behind. I now value my own identity as a Russian individual in

a way that I didn't before I came to the United States. I treasure my cultural heritage, and I am proud to share it with my new American friends, many of whom want to know more about how their own cultural traditions compare with those that we have in Russia. I would like to encourage those friends and all of the students here at Kutztown, to do what I have done, either independently or via a university-sponsored travel or study abroad program. Go explore the world! If you do, you just might discover more about yourself than you ever thought possible. ■

Austria

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While studying in Austria and southern Germany, the students will stay in two different facilities. The first three to four nights will be spent in a hotel in Munich; for the remainder of the program, students will stay in a "three star" hotel called the *Hotel Montana* in Telfes, Austria. Telfes is a "small alpine village" approximately twenty minutes south of Innsbruck, the capital of the federal state of Tyrol, Austria. Students' accommodations are included in the price of the program; flights and some meals are an additional cost to the student.

Dr. Hanson is excited about bringing back this program and hopes that it will increase student interest in this area of study. He also hopes the success of this program will enlarge the German section of the Modern Language Studies department and make it more viable. The application deadline for summer 2007 has passed, but Dr. Hanson hopes to make this an annual summer program. If you are interested in this program or would like more information, please contact the Modern Language Studies Department, 610-683-4427 or visit the International Studies website, <http://www.kutztown.edu/acad/intlstudies>. ■

ISO Meeting Information



ISO meets every other Thursday at 5:00 pm, in the Multicultural center in the classroom upstairs. ALL ARE WELCOME! For more information, please contact the International Student

Organization at iso@kutztown.edu.

Interesting Ways to Earn Community Service Hours

The KU Tennis team, along with their coach, volunteered to buy, cook, and serve food at a Reading homeless shelter. It was a great success and the team has been asked to volunteer again next year!

Jenny Harnesk works with Cops 'n' Kids Children's Literacy Program to collect books for needy children in the Lehigh Valley. Since its start in 2003, the LV Chapter has distributed over 111,000 books. To get involved, contact lvcops-n-kids@att.net.

Olga Bocharova volunteers at a local retirement facility where she helps the elderly with crafts, bingo, and even gives manicures!

Editorial: Life as a Graduate Assistant

Since the fall of 2004 I have been the graduate assistant in the Office of International Studies. This May I will be leaving the position I have become so accustomed to in order to start a career that has been years in the making. Although I am very excited to start this new chapter in my life, I will miss the faculty, staff, and students I have come to know and admire. As graduate assistant, I had the opportunity to do more than just answer the phone. I have met every international student with a scholarship at least once and some students I had the pleasure of truly getting to know them. I also conversed with foreign visitors from Ecuador, Russia, Kenya, and China. One of my most memorable moments is when I accompanied Dr. Alexandra Kennedy and Eduardo Vega to the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

On the day of our trip, forecasters were calling for a winter storm; we decided to take the trip and hope for the best. Once we arrived we met Dr. Kennedy's friend who just so happened to be one of the curators of the museum. He offered us passes to the Vincent Van Gogh Portrait Exhibit as well as a behind the scenes tour of the museum. The exhibits were beautiful and the backstage tour was amazing. We were able to see how the museum works and even got a sneak peak of future exhibits. The trip home was snowy and extremely slow, but such a magnificent day with outstanding company was well worth it. I will never forget Alexandra and Eduardo or my experiences that day. If you get a chance, visit Eduardo Vega's beautiful piece of art in the Academic Forum.

I have also had the opportunity to work on many projects including the bi-annual International Conference. The China at the Crossroads conference was a lot of fun and hard work. I enjoyed meeting all of the speakers who participated and learned a lot by listening to what they had to say. The Philadelphia Chinese Opera Society's performance was a spectacular sight that I wish everyone could see.

Writing *The Globe* each semester has been a fun way of expressing myself. It was through writing this newsletter that I learned about campus wide international projects and was able to share them with the university population. I included an editorial section because I felt it was important for our international students to introduce themselves to the campus and express their views and beliefs. The student profile is one of my favorite parts of the newsletter and I hope it continues.

By being a part of the Office of International Studies for three years I've experienced so much. I feel like I've traveled the world without leaving Pennsylvania. I've seen the world through the eyes of our international students and visitors. I have received many invitations to visit my friends in their home countries, and I hope I can sometime in the future. I would like to thank Professor Roberta Crisson and Kathi Malloy for seeing something in me on the day they interviewed me. I would also like to thank James Hubbard and Sarah Wade for their support. Finally, good luck to all of my fellow graduates, I'll see you on May 12th.

**Look for the next
issue of "The Globe"
in Fall 2007!**