



# The Globe

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(610) 683-1390 **Fall 2009**

Written / Edited by: Patrick Haggerty

## Latin America Recruitment Trip

From September 1 - 25 Sarah Wade, the Director of International Initiatives and Student Services, traveled through nine countries on an international student recruitment tour. During the four-week period she had encounters with approximately 5,000 students in Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, and El Salvador. The first leg of the trip was spent by herself in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Santiago, Chile where she met with representatives from Education USA, a global network of more than 450 advising centers for prospective international students, supported by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs within the U.S. Department of State. For the second leg, Sarah joined a group of international recruiters from various institutions and together they visited high schools, participated in public exhibitions, and held receptions with foreign school counselors.

Central and South America have largely remained untapped resources for Kutztown's international student population and Sarah was very excited to lay the ground work for what will hopefully be a stronger representation of this region in the semesters to follow. "With our university's President (Dr. Javier Cevallos of Ecuador) and Provost (Dr. Carlos Vargas of Mexico) being natives of this part of the world, the recruitment trip served as a good fit to where we are as an institution," she observed. With the exception of a few logistical challenges, she described the trip as being "very successful" for the future of diversity in the campus community. In the second half of the semester, Sarah will be completing another recruitment trip to China and a few other Asian nations from October 18 - November 17. Details on her travels will be highlighted in the spring edition of *The Globe*.

## ISO Happenings

The International Student Organization, currently presided over by senior Ibrahim Addou, has planned a semester full of fun cultural experiences. To kick off the semester a group of students attended the Hamburg-er Festival in Hamburg featuring a variety of different restaurants and organizations in a burger grill-off. To introduce students to America's pastime, ISO engaged in a friendly game of softball during an afternoon early in September here on campus. Over Columbus Day weekend, some members of ISO participated in two days of outdoor team building activities, zip-line riding, and a nighttime bonfire at Kenbrook Retreat Center in Lebanon.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
ORGANIZATION

To celebrate Halloween students went to Shocktoberfest in Sinking Springs to brave the renowned haunted house and hayride. Throughout the semester there has been an international movie night series at which Spanish film, *The Motorcycle Diaries*

and French film, *Bon Cop, Bad Cop* have both been featured. Coming up, ISO will be holding its annual Thanksgiving dinner which will take place on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Each student brings a traditional dish from their home country to make a unique international banquet. Furthermore, new to the ISO tradition of having the Thanksgiving feast will be a pick-up football game held the day before, Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. ISO meetings are held every other week in the Multicultural Center's Unity room. Please access ISO's website for further information:

<http://www.kutztown.edu/activities/clubs/iso/>

**Did you know...** International students contributed over \$15.5 billion to the US economy in 2007/08.

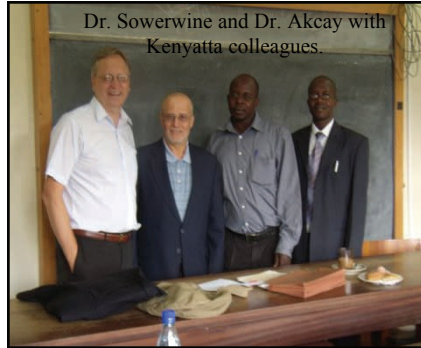
- 623,805 international students were studying in the US in 2007/08, up 7% from the previous year.
- India, China, and South Korea have been the top 3 countries of origin the last 7 years.
- 241,791 US students studied abroad for academic credit in 2006/07, up 8.2% from the previous year.

(Open Doors, 2009)

## Kutztown Faculty Go to Kenyatta University, Kenya

This past June into July, Dr. James Sowerwine of the History Department and Dr. Okan Akcay of the Marketing Department had the opportunity to participate in a faculty exchange to Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya. The trip served as an opportunity to interact with students and faculty from Kenyatta and other American and foreign institutions, to give seminars in their respective fields of study, and to discuss future research collaborations and summer programs.

This was not the first time Drs. Sowerwine and Akcay travelled to Nairobi. Back in 2003 the two professors participated in another faculty exchange. When I asked about any changes to the campus, they noted the new construction of the Kenyatta University Conference Center which includes a hotel where they stayed while on campus, a restaurant, hi-tech conference rooms, and a recreational facility.



Upon arriving in Nairobi and meeting with Kenyatta representatives from their respective departments, arrangements were made for their lectures, as well as trips to National Museums in Nairobi and the Kenyan coast. Through the advice of a Kenyan colleague, Drs. Sowerwine and Akcay were escorted to the National Museum for a guided tour and met with the Director of National Museums of Kenya who helped to arrange other museum tours to further broaden their knowledge of the cultural and historical heritage of the East African nation. Other cultural tours included the David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, Giraffe Center in Nairobi, National Game Parks at Amboseli and Tsavo East, and some time on the Swahili coast (including a dip in the Indian Ocean).



After completing the cultural tour and returning to Kenyatta University both professors gave seminars to faculty members and graduate students who were on campus at the time. Unfortunately, due to recent student unrest on campus, they did not have the opportunity to meet with any undergraduate students. Dr. Akcay's seminars were titled "Why New Products Fail Most of the Time in the United States" and "The Importance of Color in Global Markets." Dr. Sowerwine's seminars included "Turkey: Crossroads of Civilization" and "Middle Eastern Issues."

Overall, both professors had overwhelmingly positive experiences. They believed the seminars generated a lot of interest and discussion among faculty members and graduate students, important steps were taken toward possible research collaborations and summer programs, and a greater understanding for the cultural and economic connections between the Middle East and Eastern Africa were fostered.

### Kenyatta In Retrospect

Back in April of 1996, now retired Professor of Art Education Dr. Aldon Katter became the first representative of Kutztown University to take part in a faculty exchange with Kenyatta University. Having already completed a two-year Peace Corps tour in Ethiopia in the early 1960s and a two-year residency in Uganda soon after, Dr. Katter was clearly the most qualified faculty member at the university to make the trip. Before leaving, it also became his duty to select a Kenyatta representative to act as his exchange and come here to Kutztown. After reviewing various candidates he selected Dr. Elizabeth Orchardson from the Kenyatta Arts Department. An accomplished artist, professor of art curriculum, and author of several textbooks, the choice was made simple for Dr. Katter.

Accompanied by his wife, Dr. Katter took off for Nairobi with the purpose of teaching a few seminars to students, conducting teacher prep courses for educators, and delivering a quantity of donated books. Upon his arrival in Nairobi, Dr. Katter did not find a (continued on page 6)



## *Middle East and North Africa At a Crossroads*

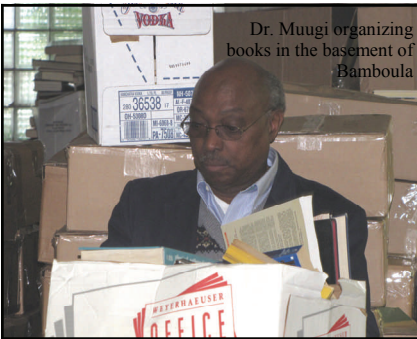
The Office of International Studies will hold its biennial conference on campus

**March 22-23, 2010**

Lectures and workshops will highlight the art, religion, politics, and other cultural aspects of this unique region. The conference is co-chaired by Dr. Mary Theis & Dr. Pietro Toggia.

### **Educational Resources for Kenya**

It is an unfortunate reality that too many children around the world lack the tools and resources to build a quality education. In Kenya, the native country of Dr. George Muugi, Associate Professor of Psychology, very few people have access to modern technologies such as televisions and computers that could be used to foster learning. Without having such multimedia resources, the best option for general education is



Dr. Muugi organizing books in the basement of Bamboula

to read books. In an effort to help promote learning in his home country, Dr. Muugi with the assistance of his wife, Jasperdean Kobes, Psychology Professor Dr. Dennis Rains, his wife Mary Rains, retired profes-

sor of Elementary Art Education Dr. Aldon Katter, and his wife Adrienne Katter, launched the Educational Resources for Kenya project in 1998 and began collecting book donations - text books, children's books, novels, and any other type of literature people were willing to donate.

In the past decade, Dr. Muugi and his team have sent three 20-foot long and two 40-foot containers packed with pallets full of neatly boxed books (one 40-foot container fully loaded weighs a staggering 54,000 lbs.) Past shipments have also included over 400 computers for use in high schools outside of Nairobi. At Kenyatta University, Dr. Muugi made a significant startup donation of psychology books, videos, and cassettes for the Kenyatta University Educational Psychology Library. "I often ask retiring colleagues and professors if they would be willing to donate part or all of their personal library. I like to jump on those

opportunities because they always have a great deal of quality literature," stated Dr. Muugi. Currently there are enough books in storage to fill two 40-foot containers, largely thanks to a generous donation from the Used Book Store once located next to the Uptown Espresso Bar on West Main Street. They are currently being stored in the basement of Bamboula Limited, his wife's African art and craft shop on West Walnut, but there are a few challenges preventing Dr. Muugi from taking the final measures to sending these resources overseas.

First, about \$5,000 needs to be raised to pay for the shipping, and secondly a corps of volunteers is needed to pack books in boxes and then load them into the shipping container. According to Dr. Muugi, "It took two physically fit men five days to pack all the books into boxes then load them neatly into a 40-foot container for transportation." Clearly there is a great need for (wo)manpower to complete this important final step.

Dr. Muugi would like to ask that if any individual or organization is interested in fundraising or volunteering to help get these books packed up and shipped to Kenya, to please contact him through his KU email [muugi@kutztown.edu](mailto:muugi@kutztown.edu), or to call his office at (610) 683-4460.



# Study Tour “Down Under” With Amanda Snyder

In the Spring of 2009 B.S.Ed. (Early Childhood) candidate Amanda Snyder had the opportunity to spend the semester at the University of Newcastle in Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia. Located two hours north of Sydney, the region was originally settled in the late 1700s as a destination for convicts to mine coal, limestone, and to cut timber in order to meet the needs of England’s ever expanding Sydney colony. After being abandoned in 1802 due to widespread mutiny amongst its occupants, two years later it was resettled and officially named Newcastle after England’s major coal mining region of the same name. Newcastle remained a penal destination for English convicts until 1822 when the majority of criminals were moved further north to Port Macquarie and the town began to acquire the characteristics of a typical Australian colonial settlement. Today, the city remains the economic and trade centre for the resource rich Hunter Valley and is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest metropolitan region of Australia.

Like many other undergraduates that study abroad, Amanda was in search of a new experience different from the life she has known growing up and living in eastern Pennsylvania. After meeting with study abroad administrators in the International Studies Office, she narrowed her choices down to studying in the UK or Australia and it was the reputation of Australia’s warmer climate and beaches that finalized her decision to go “down under.” Before leaving home, Amanda recalled feeling anxious and excited to make the 22-hour trek across the continental US and Pacific Ocean. Upon arriving in Sydney, a two hour bus ride north to Newcastle awaited her where she would spend the first few days living out of a hotel while she searched for a room to rent. Soon

enough, Amanda got settled in a four-story house rooming with five other Americans and three Aussies. She really enjoyed the dynamics of her accommodations because she was able to relate with other American students who were experiencing life abroad for the first time while still being exposed to natives on a daily basis.

At the University of Newcastle, Amanda enrolled in four courses: Econometrics (statistics), Nutrition I, Philosophy, and Australian Sign Language. She observed, “One thing that was really important for me was to have the cultural experience of living in a new place while staying on schedule to graduate on time.” Classes were also structured differently than they are here at KU. By contrast she stated that, “Each class has two sections that meet once a



Amanda with her kangaroo buddy.

week – a two hour lecture and a two hour tutorial where homework is gone over, questions can be asked, and projects are assigned and presented.”

Although Amanda studied in an English speaking country, national and local expressions made for a unique communication experience different from American English vernacular, “The afternoon was referred to as ‘arvo’, board shorts were ‘boardies’, and a good job

was recognized with ‘good on ya’.” As for food, an Aussie’s diet includes a lot of meat pies and sausage. More exotic food that she had the opportunity to try were kangaroo and crocodile meat. These linguistic and dietary differences were among a few of the cultural habits that amplified the uniqueness of her study abroad experience.

When asked what the most memorable moment of her trip was, without hesitation she raved about her experience sailing through the Whitsunday Islands on the northeast coast of the continent bordered by the Great Barrier Reef, home to some of the most photographed beaches in all of Australia. As for advice she would pass down to prospective study abroaders, “Definitely do it. See as many places possible and meet as many people as you can! It is a decision you *will not* regret!”

## International Influences: KU Rugby Rises to be Among Nation's Best Club

If you travel to Pretoria, South Africa and ask a local a few questions about Pennsylvania they may be able to ramble off a few random facts about the state. Surprisingly, among those potential few tidbits of knowledge, most would not expect them to know about Kutztown University – or even more specifically, our nationally ranked rugby team, but they do.

In the past three seasons, the KU Rugby squad has been finding great success on the pitch, gaining a national reputation for being able to go toe-to-toe with the country's best programs. There is no doubt that one of the key components for the program's blast-off into the spotlight is senior scrumhalf Marco Barnard of Pretoria, South Africa. With the addition of Marco to the team in the spring of 2006 the club immediately saw positive results ranking #16 in the nation, a status that had not been achieved in the two decades prior. During the 2007 campaign KU was pre-ranked #1, a first time accomplishment, and made it to the Elite 8 of the NCAA national tournament with the likes of such powerhouse programs as Cal-Berkeley, BYU, San Diego State, Arkansas State, Army, Penn State, and Saint Mary's-California. Having only graduated one member from the 2007 squad, Marco and the rest of the team had high expectations for the 2008-2009 effort and they got off to a fiery start, sweeping the MARFU Conference (Mid-Atlantic Rugby Football Union) and handing Navy, historically one of the nation's best teams, the biggest loss in their program's existence (67-27).

Although an extremely talented player, Marco will not hesitate to recognize the high quality efforts of the entire KU Rugby club, especially the unpaid volunteer head coach of over 20 years Dr. Gregory "Doc" Jones and volunteer team trainer Dr. Joe Blasiol. Also play-

ing a vital role in the success of the program are the Alumni and Parent Associations, Jeff Reiss, and Paul Presinzano whose efforts help to keep the team afloat. According to Marco, among the 88,000 registered rugby players in America, there are only between 50 to 100 international participants making these players a unique population in the sport. Among the other international students on the pitch for KU are brothers Dirk and Ruan Scheepers of South Africa (Dirk was a 2008 All-American Honorable Mention), Jamie Gregory of England, and Kyle von Berg of UAE/South Africa.



Marco on the pitch.

Beyond the KU Rugby Club's success as a team, Marco has built an impressive personal resume since joining the team in 2006. Since the founding of the club in 1984, Marco is the longest standing captain in KU history. He has three times been an All-American honoree (2006, 2007, 2008). This past May he played for the USA Eagles national team at the IRB 7 series in London, England which had coverage that reached 139 countries across six continents. The matches were carried in 15 languages with a potential reach of 334 million homes worldwide.

It was also in London this past summer that Marco did some indirect KU Rugby recruiting when his interactions with Jamie Gregory led to him enrolling at the university. Also, this past July Marco played for the US team at the 2009 World Games (an international multi-sport event meant for sports not contested in the Olympics) in Kaohsiung, Taiwan where the squad finished in eighth place out of twenty countries, the best finish in US history.

According to [rugbymag.com](http://rugbymag.com), as of November 10, KU Men's Rugby club was ranked #6 in the nation and they look forward to being serious contenders for the NCAA national championship.

<http://www.eteamz.com/kurugby/>

## “...Retrospect” continued

bustling campus of students, faculty, and staff, but rather an empty and barren institution – school was out of session. At first this unexpected situation seemed to be a major blow to the mission of his exchange, but things would eventually work themselves out.

While Dr. Katter arrived and got settled in Nairobi, the Kenyatta exchange representative Dr. Elizabeth Orchardson was having some problems with travel documents. Due to an issue she encountered while applying for a visa, she was unable to attain the proper travel documents to fulfill her end of the exchange at that time. With Dr. Katter lacking students and staff to instruct, coupled with Dr. Orchardson’s inability to leave Kenya for the US, the natural solution became a collaboration between both scholars in Nairobi. It was then Dr. Katter and his wife embarked on a spontaneous and entirely improvised three week tour of Kenya with Dr. Orchardson as their guide to observe and videotape grade school instructors, and see local artists in their studios practicing their trades (weaving, pottery, stone carving, and woodworking).



Conversely, when Dr. Orchardson finally made the trek to the US, Dr. Katter featured her as a guest lecturer in his classes, she visited the weaving studio here at KU, spent some time at local one-room Mennonite school houses, experienced life in a Mennonite home, and received a tour (and donations) from the Crayola Factory in Easton.

It has been over a decade since this first exchange between Kutztown University and Kenyatta University took place, and it is quite evident that the relations have bolstered educational and professional development on both ends. Here’s to the continued success of this exchange program and future interactions of students and faculty alike.

### Germany Study Abroad Scholarship

The Danzer Foundation is proud sponsor of the Reutlingen/Reading Fellowship awarded to two students from *Kutztown, Alvernia, Albright, Penn State-Berks*, or *RACC* each year to study at **Reutlingen University**.

This scholarship opportunity is intended for students in the **College of Business** during the **Fall 2010**.

For more information or to pick-up an application, go to the College of Business located at 119 de Francesco Building or the Office of International Studies located at 204 Stratton Administration Building.

**Completed application and documents due by November 30, 2009.**

## Short-term Faculty-led Summer Programs in 2010



Can’t study overseas during the regular school year? Want to do something different this summer? Then consider one of Kutztown University’s short-term faculty-led summer programs. Below is a list of locations and the Kutztown faculty members who will be leading the study tours. Contact the instructors directly or come to the International Studies Office located at Stratton Administration Building Rm. 204 for more details.

### London “KU-UK”

Dr. Matthew Nesvisky, [nesvisky@kutztown.edu](mailto:nesvisky@kutztown.edu)

Dr. Anthony Bleach, [bleach@kutztown.edu](mailto:bleach@kutztown.edu)

June 21 - July 4, 2010

### Austria/Germany

Dr. Greg Hanson, [hanson@kutztown.edu](mailto:hanson@kutztown.edu)

May 30 - June 23, 2010

### Mexico

Prof. Kevin McCloskey, [mccloske@kutztown.edu](mailto:mccloske@kutztown.edu)

May 12 - 27, 2010

### Costa Rica

Dr. Carolyn Bell, [bell@kutztown.edu](mailto:bell@kutztown.edu)

Rolling dates, contact director.

### Spain

Dr. Jesus Rodriguez, [rodrigue@kutztown.edu](mailto:rodrigue@kutztown.edu)

May 24 - June 25, 2010

## Graduate Assistant Introduction

For the 2009-2010 academic school year the Office of International Studies would like to welcome Patrick Haggerty as the new Graduate Assistant. Hailing from Pompton Plains, NJ, Patrick earned a B.A. in Psychology at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey in the spring of 2008 and is currently a second year M.Ed. candidate in the Student Affairs in Higher Education (Administration) program here at KU. Patrick’s interest in International Studies is rooted in a very positive study abroad experience he had as an undergraduate at the University of Limerick in the southwest of Ireland where he realized his love for interacting with people from diverse cultures. “Between the ‘buzz’ of the college campus atmosphere and all of the interesting students and scholars who come through the international office, I am thrilled to be a part of the International Studies team here at Kutztown and look forward to an exciting school year!”