

STUDY ABROAD NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 10, FALL 2010



*"The traveler sees what he sees. The tourist sees what he has come to see."
~G.K. Chesterton*

Spring 2011 Gilman International Scholarships Winners

Congratulations to **Maeve Alexander** and **Meaghan Daly**! They have won the Gilman International Scholarship (sponsored by the State Department) for their study abroad in South Africa (Maeve, \$5000) and Ireland (Meaghan, \$3500). They are first Saint Mary's winners of this scholarship. <http://www.iie.org/en/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program>

Intercultural Learning Showcase Recap

On November 16, the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL) hosted the annual Intercultural Learning Showcase during the International Education Week celebration. Twelve groups of students presented their reflections of their study abroad experience as part of the follow up to their study abroad grants. The winners of the 2010 Study Abroad Photo, Video, and Essay Contest Winners were announced and the peer advisors for the study abroad programs were recognized (see next page). When asked about the showcase, Karolyn Wojtowicz '11 (South Africa peer advisor and CWIL student assistant) stated, "I think the Intercultural showcase on Tuesday night was a good way for study abroad returnees to share their experiences and for other study abroad returnees to hear some of the stories and think of how they might have had a similar experience in their different country."

The following are excerpts from journals of students who are currently studying abroad. Enjoy.

Exploring Spain - By Silvia Cuevas '13

Que hermosa vida viven los Sevillanos! (What a beautiful life the Sevillanos live!) Wow, I cannot believe it has been a month studying in this gorgeous city of Sevilla! I walk out of my piso (apartment) everyday, close my eyes, and thank God for this blessing. Classes have been going great, but exploring the city and meeting new people is my favorite part. I don't like to pick favorites, but I am hooked on gazpacho (a cold tomato soup that you can eat with chopped cucumber)! My escuela (school) is only a five minute walk, but it usually takes me fifteen minutes because I stop and look at things or take new routes. Although I have to be careful because it is rather easy to get lost since the streets aren't all parallel and perpendicular to each other. The centro notreamericano (school) makes sure we are exploring, and they often take us to go see new sites, like the cathedral, La italic (Italian ruins), bullfights (amazing!), etc. The history is amazing and unbelievable. I LOVE Sevilla, and I am ready for month number two!



Environmental Concerns in South Africa - By Kate Kirbie '12

I've greatly enjoyed getting a better understanding of the water and environmental issues in South Africa. When I came here I saw a first world country with the occasional side effects of it actually being a third world country. Although I saw townships and thought I knew what poverty meant here, I was still blind to the numbers. South Africa has the worst wage gap in the world. I found out after researching for policy that just over 60% of SA citizens have access to clean drinking water and a similar number has access to a functional toilet facility (including toilets and the outhouses) within 200m from their house! Even these people have problems getting to this "facility," which can be rather rundown, due to violence at night. The government has a good law set up, but recently the concept of improving water quality has slowed while testing equipment has become further from accurate.

Shopping in South Korea - By Laura Corrigan '13

The area around Ewha is so cool and perfect for any college girl! It is covered from street to street with people selling all sorts of delicious treats on the street. From door to door there are clothes and shoes being sold for prices we could only dream for in NY in little boutiques and open streets that are like mini-fashion markets. =D The hills up and down each block make each street more and more exciting because it seems like you are trekking to each place and each street has more wonders to be discovered. Each building has inexpensive Korean specialties, cafes, and bakeries on all levels of the floor and you never know what you will find. It is such an adventure each time! I am constantly making mental notes of places to return to and try to remember, but it is impossible!



*Through travel I first became aware of the outside world; it was through travel that I found my own introspective way into becoming a part of it.
~Eudora Welty*



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Peer Advisors

Do you have questions about studying abroad in a certain country? Want to hear what the experience was like from students who have studied abroad? Here is a list of student advisors who have studied abroad in these countries. They are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Argentina	Rachel Thiel	rthiel01@saintmarys.edu
Australia	Stephanie Parshall	sparsh01@saintmarys.edu
Austria	Meghan Price	mprice02@saintmarys.edu
China	Julie Hagopian	jhagop01@saintmarys.edu
	Caroline Proulx	cproul01@saintmarys.edu
France	Jingqui Guan	guan01@saintmarys.edu
Greece	Becky Johnson	rjohns02@saintmarys.edu
Honduras	Joy Johnston	jjohns01@saintmarys.edu
Ireland	Caitlin Housley	chousl01@saintmarys.edu
Rome	Molly Gahagan	mgahag01@saintmarys.edu
South Africa	Karolyn Wojtowicz	kwojto01@saintmarys.edu
South Korea	Rachael Chesley	rchesl01@saintmarys.edu
Uganda	Bridgette Balcerzak	bbalce01@saintmarys.edu
Ecuador	Mona Rodriguez	mrodri01@saintmarys.edu

2nd Place Interactions



Study Abroad Scholarships Resources:

Saint Mary's CWIL Student Travel Grants (2011 summer programs and 2011-2012 Rome Program) due Jan 31, 2011

Humanistic Studies Department Study Abroad Scholarships (via CWIL) due Jan 31

Boren Scholarships of the National Security Education Program (2011-12) due Jan 31

Rotary Ambassadorial/Peace Scholarships (2012-13) due March 1

Gilman Scholarship sponsored by the U.S. Department of State (must be Pell Grant Recipient) (for Fall 2011) due April 2011

Fulbright U.S. Student Program (for seniors) due Oct 3 (campus deadline for 2012-13)

Davies-Jackson Scholarship (for first generation seniors) (for 2012-13) due Nov. 1, 2011

Critical Language Scholarship Program (for summer 2012) due Nov. 15, 2011

*The rewards of the journey
far outweigh the risk of
leaving the harbor.
~Unknown*

2010 Study Abroad Photo/ Video/Essay Contest Winners

Photo Contest:

Interactions:

- 1st place-Melissa Wagner
- 2nd place-Karolyn Wojtowicz
- 3rd place-Melissa Wagner

Reflections:

- 1st place- Michelle Leonard
- 2nd place- Claire Schaffner
- 3rd place- Monica Palicki

Scenic Beauty:

- 1st place- Michelle Leonard
- 2nd place- Taylor Paton
- 3rd place-Rachel Thiel

Video Contest:

- 1st place – Stephanie Cherpak
- 2nd place – Caitlin Housley
- 3rd place – Katrina Mesina

Essay Contest:

- 1st prize: Alexandra Davin
- 2nd prize: Kelsey Smolek

1st Place Reflections



1st Place Interactions



1st Place Scenic Beauty

