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CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Newsletter

First African Visiting Scholar at CSU

The Center for International Education is pleased to welcome the inaugural visiting scholar in African Studies, Dr. Wotsuna Khamalwa, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology and Religion, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. Khamalwa holds a Ph.D in Philosophy of Science of Religion from Universität Bayreuth, Germany. He has been teaching for 17 years, including time at the University of Wales as a research fellow. He was also a visiting professor at the Universität Bayreuth. At CSU he is being sponsored by the College of Science and the Center for International Education. He is teaching two courses: Religions in Africa (SOCI 3508) and People and Cultures in Africa (SOCI 3125).

When asked about his impressions of the people on campus, Khamalwa says that everyone has been very friendly, stopping him on campus to talk, and being "very African." He explains that in Africa people enjoy quick greetings when

**Dr. Wotsuna Khamalwa**

meeting someone new and moving beyond the uneasiness associated with strangers. Khamalwa also comments on how attentive and involved his students are in his classes. Bonnie Storey, a student in Khamalwa's SOCI 3508 class, feels very lucky to have gotten into both of Khamalwa's classes this semester. She finds Khamalwa very friendly and intriguing. "I am really excited to have him here [at CSU], he has so many unique ideas, sayings, and a lot of experience from around the world." Storey describes Khamalwa as engaging, moving around the classroom and conveying his natural enthusiasm. **continued page 2**

CSU Welcomes Spring Fort Scholar

The Center for International Education would like to welcome this year's Mildred Miller Fort Visiting Scholar in European Studies, Dr. Igor Kuzmin. Kuzmin comes to CSU from the Institute of International Educational Programs, Saint-Petersburg State Technical University, Russia, where he holds the title of Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor of Historical and Political Sciences. Kuzmin holds a Ph.D in Historical Science, a MA in Political Science, and for more than 25 years has taught courses such as History of Russia, Contemporary Russia,

**Dr. Igor Kuzmin**

and Government and Politics of the Soviet Union and Russia.

Kuzmin has more than 10 years experience teaching western students at Saint-Petersburg and at universities such as Augusta State. Kuzmin is teaching two courses at CSU, Russia During WWII (HIST 5565U / HIST 5565G), and Russian Foreign Policy Since 1991 (POLS 3555).

Shane Larkin, a student in Kuzmin's "Russia During WWII" class, describes Kuzmin as a "very knowledgeable professor." He says that Kuzmin has a range of information from a variety of subjects. Larkin also enjoys "the unique perspective that a visiting professor can offer," especially since Kuzmin is **continued page 2**

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She also recognizes Khamalwa's willingness to share his personal stories as an African with the class to help the students retain what he teaches.

Commenting on his role in Columbus, Khamalwa explains "America is the big brother the world looks up to. There are many American NGOs and ...multinationals working in and with Africa. It is imperative that American students come to know Africa a bit better." He believes that he can

help the students at CSU to understand Africa, including the peoples, the cultures, and the religions. This understanding, he

says, will enable the students to be successful when engaging with people from Africa.



Dr. Khamalwa's class

He notes also that "as an international researcher and scholar, my exposure to the American educational system, as well as engaging with American

students and staff, helps to expand my horizon." In addition, "Africa wants to share in the ideas espoused by America,

such as human rights and democracy," but at the same time he believes that his objective here should be "to try and widen the horizon of American students." As a visiting scholar, Khamalwa acts as a bridge between the American students and his home country. "The world may be globalized, yet there are local differences that spice up our interaction with one another." And by participating in exchange programs, Khamalwa believes that people will be better equipped to understand each other.

Khamalwa would like to thank the academic community of Columbus State University for hosting him. "I pledge to make my contribution, however little."

CSU Welcomes Spring Fort Scholar continued from page 1

from the country that he is teaching. Kuzmin says that he is really enjoying the cleanliness, and the slower pace of a medium sized city rather than the hustle and bustle of a big city like Saint-Petersburg. He is

also enjoying his classroom experience as well. "American students are more serious about learning and they put more effort" into their studies than their Russian counterparts Kuzmin says. He adds that the Russian students require a firmer



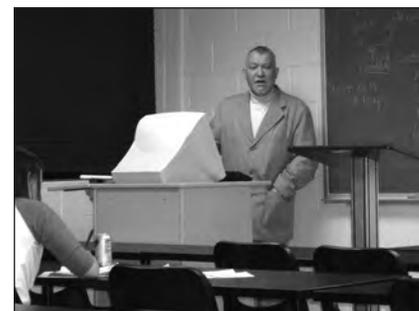
Shane Larkin, Dr. Kuzmin's Russia During WWII class

hand, they aren't as excited about learning, and also try to find many ways to "beat the system." "The students here are very attentive, understanding, and seem to enjoy the topics being presented," Kuzmin said. The students, he says, have great

interest in discovering his perspective as a Russian.

Kuzmin is also very impressed by the university as a whole, the administration which made his first days go very smoothly, his colleagues who help him to

prepare and use materials for his lessons, and also the Fort Foundation that has made his time here possible. Kuzmin believes he inherited a great situation and hopes to leave as many teaching materials and ideas behind as he can for future learning.



Dr. Kuzmin lecturing on WWII

- About the Center for International Education -

The Center for International Education leads the university's effort to internationalize the campus. The center enriches and broadens students' and faculty members' understanding of the world. It promotes an awareness of world cultures by providing opportunities for international education.

Our mission is to coordinate and develop international programs, promote greater campus awareness of the international arena through activities and publications, cultivate an international curriculum and promote campus and community collaboration.

Staff includes:

- **Dr. Neal R. McCrillis**, Mildred Miller Fort Foundation Distinguished Chair of International Education, Director of CIE and Associate Professor of History
- **Dr. Julie Ballenger**, Assistant Director of CIE and Professor of Biology
- **Amy Nyland**, International Student Coordinator
- **Christine Murphey**, Administrative Coordinator
- **Charlene Hatch**, Student Assistant (Publications)
- **Sydney Lanier**, Student Assistant (Study Abroad)
- **Tamika Oaks**, Work-Study Student

The Culture Shock of Asia: Studying in Korea

By **Joanna Ahlman**

Korea met me as I stepped off the plane on August 26, 2006. I had the privilege of studying art for one semester at Ewha Woman's University in the heart of Seoul. I was the first foreigner to study in their art department. The friendliness, hospitality, and helpfulness that I experienced from the minute I got there until my departure was overwhelming. I was able to become immersed in Asia's aesthetic qualities as I studied Korean painting, drawing, art history, and ceramics. I came to understand the emphasis on symbolism and respect as well as the focus on detail and precision. I was inspired and challenged by the technical excellence that was continually exemplified. During my time there I also worked with a variety of Christian churches, was a private English language tutor (I had at one point eight students), and also experienced the religion and culture of Korea with my fellow exchange



Joanna Ahlman with hiking group and Korean guide.

students.

Korea is famous for its mountain ranges and hiking. I was able to take weekend trips to see these mountains. In September, just as the leaves were changing colors, a German, a Finn, Australian, and I took a bus to the east coast of Korea and began our adventure. The first night we stayed in a Buddhist temple. We were provided with vegetarian meals, a mat, blanket, and we all slept in a little room with a heated floor. Early in the morning we heard the sound of the Buddhist bells and chants from the temple monks. When we awoke, we were fed rice and given rice balls before we started hiking. We quickly discovered that Koreans are serious about hiking. We were passed by young and old. They always smiled at us and tried to communicate in English. They often gave food to us, exemplifying their innate generosity. Just as the sun was setting and a cold

front moved in, we reached the top of the mountain where there was what we learned to be a famous temple that received up to 900 Korean Buddhists a day. We also learned that only Buddhists were allowed to stay there. However, they not only made the exception for us, but the head monk also invited us into the office and gave us hot tea and fruit. They also gave us a guided tour of the grounds and prayer sites. As a Christian, I was touched by what I saw and heard as I conversed with the monks about my faith.



Joanna Ahlman and friends with Korean Buddhist monks.

The next morning they fed us and packed a lunch for us as we set out for the mountain peak that gave us a view of North Korea and then down all the way to the ocean coast.

These are just a few of the experiences I had while living in Korea. All of them challenged and reshaped my perspective on various aspects of Korea. I will feel the impact of this experience for years to come.

Recollections of a Past Oxford Student

By **Corey Johnson**

It is very hard to believe that it has been one and a half years since I left "The City of Dreaming Spires" and my compatriots at Greyfriars Hall and the greater University of Oxford community. Looking back on the year I had at Oxford, in terms of my education, I do not think I could have gotten the depth and variety of knowledge from anywhere but Oxford. While there, I had the privilege of working under top historians and studying alongside the brightest students the world has to offer. I often found that even when I wasn't in a class, the conversation frequently turned toward the intellectual side of things, so no matter where I was I was always learning something new.

Aside from adding to my intellectual development, the Oxford experience

taught me a lot about myself. When you are put in a foreign environment, the things that you found so easy to do at home are not so easy to do any more. For instance, instead of hopping into your car to buy a week's worth of groceries at the supermarket, you have to walk or ride your bike down to the corner store to buy just enough food for a couple of days. Not that it is so difficult to adapt to, but when flooded with a hundred or so other small tasks, life can be very challenging.

So, I strived to learn how to adapt to the environment that I found myself in. I think by the time I left Oxford I had gotten to the point where I was comfortable with all the changes, and all the things that seemed so new to me when I first arrived.

I do believe that my future plans

have definitely been shaped by my time at Oxford. I have just started working for a large Swiss based insurer in Chicago, and due to my experiences while in Oxford, I know that I would like to work and travel in Europe while I'm with the company. Of course, even if I don't get the opportunity to do that with my present employer, I know I will be constantly seeking out new places in the world to explore.

The time I spent traveling through Europe while I was at Oxford was probably the most exhilarating of my life, and has instilled in me a desire to continue exploring. I am sure that my time at Oxford will always follow me and I will continue to look back fondly on that time in my life for years to come.

Miss Africa Pageant a Great Success

The 2nd Annual Miss Africa Pageant was held on November 9, 2006. With six contestants, two group performances, and a full audience, this year's pageant was full of excitement.

The event started at 6 p.m. in the Davidson Student Center. Linda Bomboka, President of the African Students Association, hosted the event with fellow association member Cedric Nzomo. Each non-



Hiwot Terefe, Tola Adeyeye, and Vanessa Fomunung. Dancers from the night's performances.

African contestant was given a country in Africa; they then had to learn everything they could about that country to ensure that they represented the country well. Asia Reynolds, the contestant for Ethiopia, explained that the preparation for the pageant was intensive and long. "This is my first time in the contest" she said, and she hadn't expected all the work that was needed, but according to her it was worth it. Another contestant, Myshante Howard, had a great support group; cheering her on was her mother, Marva Howard, and her grandmother, Celestine Martin. Both mother and grandmother were very proud of Myshante who worked hard to represent the Democratic Republic of

Congo.

The contestants gave an introduction while dressed in casual wear, a talent presentation showcasing something from the country being represented, and then a question session while wearing formal wear.

Judging the contestants were Ms. Amy Nyland, Dr. Cecil Accelien, Dr. John Vandoorn, and Prof. Arlene Johnson. Bomboka said "I personally think that the pageant was a success with the contestants all

doing a wonderful job in representing their respective countries. They definitely showcased the characteristics and behavior of people from their chosen country." She says that she is glad that the contestants got a chance to learn about Africa and also educate the public. "I hope that this pageant brought awareness to the African continent, and inspired people to learn more about it. I hope to see more people there next year!"



Dr. Florence Wakoko and Dean Beverly Davis, faculty spectators.



Miss Africa contestants pose with the former Miss Africa. (left to right) Danielle Calloway, Aracelis Trinidad, Melissa Nestor, Natassia Bouldin, Myshante Howard, Sharonda Burrell, and Asia Reynolds.

The contestants:

Myshante Howard representing the Democratic Republic of Congo
-Miss Africa

Aracelis Trinidad (from Costa Rica) representing Cameroon
-2nd place

Asia Reynolds (from Columbus, GA) representing Ethiopia
-3rd place

Melissa Nestor (from Trinidad) representing Uganda

Natassia Bouldin (from Columbus, GA) representing Kenya

Danielle Calloway (from Georgia) representing Nigeria

World Without Borders Update

After careful review, the International Education Committee approved 29 proposals for the World Without Borders international theme project. Some classes are planned to begin Fall 2007 and still more in the Spring 2008 semester. The classes that will be offered are "from every college on the CSU campus and cover every level, from freshman classes to graduate classes," according to the chair of the international

themes subcommittee, Dr. Dan Ross. The subcommittee is also planning to hold workshops for faculty in April and August. The International Film Festival next fall will also be planned in conjunction with the World Without Borders classes. The committee is "currently working on a reading list of recommended books that will be circulated around campus," says Ross.

Ross is also hoping to offer some

lunchtime lectures by faculty members involved in the project so they can share the results of the new courses with others who may be interested in the program.

The hope of the World Without Borders program is that by combining various courses and activities along an international theme, students will develop an integrated perspective and a better understanding of themselves as global citizens.

Exciting New Scholarships for International Students Opens up New Doors

A new scholarship for international students was recently approved by the International Education Committee. The International Student Service Scholarship (ISSS) is the first scholarship that is being offered exclusively to the international population at CSU. The ISSS waives the cost of out-of-state tuition, providing approximately \$8,000 a year in financial assistance to recipients.

According to Amy Nyland, International Student Coordinator, the ISSS is a wonderful tool for recruiting new international students from around the globe and providing incentive for current international students to stay and study at CSU. "This scholarship will open doors for international students who might not have had the chance to study at CSU if it weren't for some type of financial assistance," Nyland says. She also comments that quite often international students who come to CSU do not finish their program of study because of financial issues. "There are many international students who come to study at CSU, but are forced to return home after one or two years because the cost becomes too much. The ISSS can ease this financial burden and may prevent many of these international students from having to leave CSU before gaining their degree."

The ISSS is different from the general out-of-state tuition waiver because recipients are required to complete 20 hours of international service each semester. Because of this service requirement, the scholarship is helping to further CSU's goal of internationalizing the campus, Nyland said. A couple of programs are currently being developed to help students fulfill their service requirements. All programs provide an avenue for international students to interact with American students on and off campus as well as with members of the community. The deadline to apply is March 30th and announce-

ments will be made in late April.

International Student's Comments on the New ISSS

By Shenja (Marga) Velasquez

I believe that the new ISSS is a great opportunity for many international students to continue their education at CSU. Why is this? Because it is easier for an international student to afford to pay in-state rather than out-of-state tuition.

I have been a student at CSU for the last three years. My first year at CSU I came as a Rotary student, and I was lucky because I did not have to worry about paying out-of-state tuition. After I finished my first year I decided to continue studying at CSU, and the only way that I could make that possible was by obtaining an out-of-state tuition waiver. I have been lucky enough to receive the out-of-state tuition waiver for the past two years but it has not been easy since there is much competition, and at times I was not exactly sure what determined the granting of the waivers. It was also very hard for me because as an international student I would leave over the summer to go home and see my family, and the out-of-state tuition waivers were not announced until July, so I never knew if I would be returning to CSU.

I know that my brother and I have really been blessed with the granting of these waivers, and that is why both of us have always tried to be involved with different activities on campus. In a way I

feel that I should do my best to contribute to CSU and give back all that CSU has given to me.

I believe that this new scholarship will enable more international students to

study here at CSU and participate in events. This is a great opportunity for students to get involved with the programming, as well as supporting activities on campus. The ISSS is a good idea because it will also permit the students to work together and provide new ideas for the international meetings and related activities.

Even though the ISSS has a requirement of 40 hours of service (20 per semester), the schol-

arship is more than worth the time for the benefit you receive. This will also encourage international students to make the most of their experience at CSU, organizing events that they will enjoy, and sharing their culture with the rest of the student body. I think that most of the international students will be grateful for this scholarship since they are only competing against other international students and not all of the out-of-state U.S. students.

I would be delighted, honored, and truly dedicated to the commitment of working for such a good cause as this scholarship, because it is not only benefiting me but all those interested in international education and the international community.

For more information, contact Amy Nyland via email at nyland_amy@colstate.edu.



Shenja (Marga) Velasquez, International Student

**For scholarship guidelines and forms visit;
<http://cie.colstate.edu/internationalstudentscholarships.asp>**

Georgia International Leadership Conference

The Georgia International Leadership Conference was held in Rock Eagle, GA, from February 23-25, 2007. This year eight students and two staff members were sponsored by the CIE to attend this conference. The conference is organized for international students, and U.S. students who have studied abroad from colleges and universities all over Georgia. The aim of the conference is to use the students' experiences to promote leadership and cross-cultural communication. The students participate in community projects (this year's project was helping to make the rock trail at Lockerly arboretum), cultural games, talent shows, and workshops. These activities are designed to help the students gain a better understanding of leadership styles according to



GILC 2007 participants

Dorothy Cheruiyot, one of this year's participants.

"I learned how to be a global leader,

leading by example," says Cheruiyot. She says that this year's conference was a great environment to learn, network, and relax, allowing her to better understand cultural and social diversity. Cheruiyot says "we need to be more active on matters that affect international students...and be a positive influence in the community."

Cheruiyot says that the conference went really well, however, she would really like to have more students participate next year, especially U.S. students. "We are so stuck in thinking that U.S. students are not part of the international community," Cheruiyot says, yet everyone can and should be involved.

Experiences at Oxford

By **Audria Crain**

During my first few weeks in Oxford I was concerned about how I was going to manage. But as time progressed, so did I, and by my eleventh and final week in Britain my worries had subsided, and my story of Michaelmas term became one of building new ideas, new relationships, and new skills.

In surviving my first week, I entered what is known as Fresher's Week. This is the week before the start of the academic year. It's organized by a college or a hall's student organization, the Junior Common Room (JCR), with the intention of orienting the first year students or Freshers. One of the most important events of Fresher's Week is Fresher's Fair, which is held every year in the stately Exam Schools on High Street. I put my email address on many club lists that day, but the main result was I became a member of the Oxford Modern Pentathlon Association (OUMPA).

How on earth I picked OUMPA out of all the things to do in Oxford, I'm not sure. As one can guess, a pentathlon consists of five events. I do not know how to ride, so technically I'm a tetrathlete. The four events in which I compete are running, swimming, shooting, and fencing. I know it sounds crazy, especially when I

had never done any shooting or fencing before the first week of term, but joining OUMPA was a very wise decision. I have learned two new skills, and have had surprising success with one -- fencing. I placed fourth in Novice Varsity against Cambridge and first out of the girls in OUMPA coppers. But, in joining OUMPA I have also built many new relationships, and have been able to get a taste of a very famous aspect of Oxford life -- the life of an Oxford Blue or varsity athlete.

In addition to OUMPA training and socials, riding my bike everywhere, JCR events, and special occasions like the Thanksgiving Dinner we hosted at the Spencer House, some may wonder if I did much studying at all. But, of all the things I did in Oxford, one thing I did not do was lose sight of my top priority -- school! Reading and essay writing con-

sumed the vast majority of my week.



Kelly Twilley, Patrick Larson, and Audria Crain enjoying the winter in Oxford.

My essays were due via email every Thursday night at 6:00, and my tutorial was every Friday morning at 11:30 in one of the various rooms surrounding Exeter College "quad." I worked every week with the hope of my tutor telling me that I had written a "First Class" paper (a "First" is the highest distinction a graduating British student can earn), and while my last paper did evoke the word "great," "first" remained elusive.

However, my work for last term is not over as of yet, and as I'm writing now, I'm surrounded by stacks of material to review for the collections I will sit once I return to Oxford in January. I've yet to give up my quest for a "First." Luckily, I've got two more terms to do that, to run a sub-thirteen minute 3k, to make friends at every college in the University, and to shop at the farmer's market at Gloucester Green.

Induction of New Members: International Honors

This year's annual Phi Beta Delta induction, held November 14, 2006 at the International House Event Hall, saw a total of 28 students, faculty, staff and honorary inductees. The inductees ranged from international students who were recognized for excellence in their programs here at CSU, to study abroad students and faculty recognized for their international excellence overseas.

This year's induction included a keynote address by Ms. Melanie Fallon, the first Marguerite and Lamar Smith



Phi Beta Delta inductees, November, 2006

Writing Fellow at Columbus State University's Carson McCullers Center for Musicians and Writers. Fallon recounted her own experiences as a Scottish girl growing up in Georgia, and emphasized

why it is so important in today's world that students and faculty alike become internationalized.

The 2006 Outstanding Student in Study Abroad Award was given to Shanna J. Ryan who participated in the Andros Island Biology program. Ryan was nominated by Dr. Bill Birkhead who described Ryan as a student who "did an outstanding job guiding lower division students, interacting readily with the native Bahamians" and was generally a remarkable student who took the opportunity to experience another culture and made the most of it.

Student Inductees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Study Abroad Location or Home Country</u>	<u>Major</u>
Alfred R. Barber	Andros Island	Management
Henry Boateng-Anfom	Ghana	Exercise Science
Contessa Bly Bowman	Australia	Biology/Pre-Vet
Yvonne Bryant	Andros Island	Finance
Sandra Gaskins	Andros Island	Mathematics
Brittany LeAnn Goodson	Belize	Early Childhood
Luis Alberto Hernandez-Rosado, Jr.	Mexico	Exercise Science
Preston H. Hicks	Paris	Music
Christopher Kendrick	Ireland	Exercise Science
Sydney Lanier	Germany	English
Rebecca Jean Lindley	Mexico	Spanish
Bona Liu	S. Korea	Management
Jose Lugo	Brazil	Marketing
Vanessa Rosa	Mexico	Finance
Shanna J. Ryan	Andros Island	Biology/Sec. Education
Sandra J. Shorey	Oxford	Sec. Educ./English
Shenia M. Velasquez	Honduras	Marketing
Charles E. Watkins, Jr.	Mexico	English

Italics denote the home country of an international student.

Faculty / Staff Inductees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Dr. Cecile Accilien	Language and Literature
Prof. Erika Adams	Art
Dr. Hazel Hall Brennan	Theatre - Retired (Honorary)
Dr. Susan F. Hrach	Language and Literature
Dr. Teresa S. Irvin	Basic Studies
Dr. Kyongseon Jeon	Language and Literature
Dr. Vicky C. Langston	Business
Ms. Christine S. Murphey	Center for International Education (Honorary)
Prof. Trish Ramsay	Art
Dr. Glenn D. Stokes	Acting Dean, College of Science



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COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Semester or Yearlong Programs

- CSU in Oxford, England**
- spend a year in the oldest English university
- Edge Hill College**
- study in the heart of Lancashire, near Liverpool and Manchester
- Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, Ireland**
- spend a semester in beautiful western Ireland
- ISEP Exchange Programs**
- 100 institutions around the world
- Kansai Gaidai in Japan**
- range of courses in English plus Japanese language study
- Laval University**
- French speaking university exchange for history majors
- Northumbria University in Newcastle, England**
- semester or year long study in one of 200 majors
- Zeppelin University, Germany**
- spend a semester in the Bodensee, near Lake Constance

Spring & Winter Break Programs

- Costa Rica** - Biology
- London** - Business
- Andros Island** - Biology / Community Health
- Japan** - Art
- Germany** - Computer Science

Maymester

- Switzerland and France** Business Program
- Belize** Education Program
- Brazil** Business Program
- Africa** Biology Program
- London** Theatre Program

Summer Study Abroad Programs

- CSU in Oxford, England**
- classes in literature and others, 3 weeks - \$2,495 plus tuition
- Cuernavaca, Mexico - 4 weeks in June**
- 8 credits in Spanish language, Contact Dr. Alyce Cook 568-2054
- London, England (Westminster) June 20- July 27**
- 6 credits in various subjects, 5 weeks- \$4,450
- Montepulciano, Italy - May 19 - June 26 or June 30 - August 7**
- 6 credits in geography, music, art, Italian, literature or history in Tuscan hill town, 5 weeks - \$3,895 plus tuition
- Paris, France - June 29 - August 2006**
- 6 credits in art & photography, French, history, music, business & management, geography, literature or political science
- 5 weeks - \$4,450 plus tuition
- St. Petersburg, Russia - June 4 - July 6**
- 8 credits in art, literature, political science, history, accounting or Russian, 4 weeks - \$3,700 plus tuition
- Thessaloniki, Greece June 24-July 28**
- 3-6 credits in history, literature, philosophy, Greek, theatre, or international relations, 5 weeks - \$4,100 plus tuition
- Bonn, Germany- June 22- July 26**
- 3- 6 credits in business, German, history, film, philosophy, literature, or political science, 5 weeks - \$4,250 plus tuition
- French and Fashion in Paris** - Contact Professor Jackie Konan, 568-2024
- Madrid, Spain - June 30- August 5**
- 3- 6 credits in art, drawing, Spanish, theatre, theatre history, geography, literature, or anthropology. 5 weeks - \$3,950 plus tuition