

## MDI CONDUCTS UNIQUE FRANCOPHONE TRAINING PROGRAM

Local residents weren't the only ones who were fumbling around in the dark as a result of the unusually hefty rain and wind storms that pummeled Central Illinois this past July. The power outages coincided with the visit of 15 participants of Management Development International's (MDI) training program on the management, monitoring and evaluation of projects. The participants were housed at The Chateau, which experienced a power outage on the eve of the first day of class. Candles, flashlights and a good sense of humor helped our international guests get through the blackout without incident.

The participants all hail from a nation whose primary language is French, and included the African countries of Congo, Cote

D'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, and Tchad. Haiti was also represented by three of the participants. Governments in these countries recognize

that the sustainability of projects initiated by the World Bank, European Union or the United Nations is best served by employing their own people. This summer's program was instrumental in addressing that concern. The trainees were all ministry officials of their respective governments, and are employed as cabinet directors, secretary generals, project coordinators, and financial directors. These individuals are all influential people who are in a position to implement and extend the influence of what they learned in the training program among other key people in their government.

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Illinois State University  
Management Development International  
Management, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects  
July 15-16, 2003

## STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMMING: ENSURING QUALITY

It is easy to take long-established study abroad programs for granted and assume that they continue to serve the purpose for which they are intended, year after year. However, the mission of OISP is to advance the understanding of international and cross-cultural issues across the campus and for the community at large, and it is not sufficient to assume that any study abroad program automati-

cally contributes to our mission. Consequently, during this calendar year OISP decided to devote substantial time and energy to evaluate our semester study abroad programs individually and as a whole. With the exception of the Australia programs, all semester programs have been closely scrutinized for academic soundness and relevance.

Along with careful study of each program ex-

change or linkage agreements, site analyses helped to determine which programs needed adjustment, improvement, or termination. Such analyses also help us to better inform interested students about what they can expect as far as housing, classes, student support, and facilities in general. In addition, potential new sites were considered with the intent to round out our

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Editor: Elizabeth Kosuth



## Area Studies Units Grow....

### New Area Studies Unit Added

Professor Charles Orser of the Sociology and Anthropology Department has been appointed director of the Office of International Studies Unit for European Studies. Dr. Orser is a historical archaeologist, focusing on the years 1650 through 1850. He is particularly interested in the transitions and cultural changes of the time span, including the development of different social systems, and the interactions between European and indigenous peoples.

His research has taken place in three different countries. In Brazil, he studied a 16<sup>th</sup> century runaway slave kingdom (also known as maroon) community that was comprised of

20,000 residents and whose historical icons, such as a former King Zumbi, continues to be honored among inhabitants of the region. In the southern United States, Dr. Orser studied the transi-

tion from slave plantations to tenant farming, which, with its similarities with regard to the social structure of farming, sparked his interest in Ireland. For the past ten years, Dr. Orser has led a study abroad program to Ireland during which students participated in an



Dr. Charles Orser

archaeological dig of a famine site in County Roscommon.

Recently, an estate called Coopershill in County Sligo, which has been in the same family since 1650, has become the site of the

study abroad program..

Dr. Orser's primary focus for his area studies unit is from the perspective of how Europe has impacted and has been impacted by the regions covered by the other area studies units. He is very excited about taking an interdisciplinary approach

to European Studies, and is planning to bring in speakers to campus and develop programs that address what is happening today in Europe as well its historical roots. With that objective in mind, Dr. Orser invited Professor Robert C. Ostergren of the University of Wisconsin, Madison to speak in the Area Studies' International and Global Studies Seminar Series on November 5. Professor Ostergren's presentation was entitled, "European Geographies of Memory, Reconciliation, and Peace." In addition, a long term goal for the unit is to develop a minor in European Studies.

*Education must, then, be not only a transmission of culture but also a provider of alternative views of the world and a strengthener of the will to explore them.*

—Jerome S. Brumer, U.S. psychologist and educator

### Area Studies Activities for 2003-2004

T.Y. Wang, director for the Unit of East Asian Studies, is coordinating the Area Studies Units' activities for this year. A primary focus for the Units this year is to work together in the pursuit of grants to fund the Units' activities. The directors have reached agreement on prioritizing their many ideas and aspirations, and have compiled a framework to use in applying for grants for such things as faculty development, study abroad programs for students, and the International and Global Studies Seminar Series. In addition, the directors are working toward either establishing undergraduate program minors in their respective areas or, when appropriate, re-shaping and tapping into existing minors.

Finally, the directors chose a theme for this year's International and Global

Studies Seminar Series, which is an annual series orchestrated by the five Area Studies Units in collaboration with other entities on campus. This year's theme is called Visions of Peace for a New World Order, and addresses a variety of issues associated with peace-building, including peace and human rights, peace and gender, peace and justice, peace and development, and peace and democracy. For the fall semester lineup, each unit has the opportunity to bring in their chosen speaker for two of the seminars. Presentations take place in Stevenson 401 at 12:00 on Wednesdays, and will continue in the spring with ten more seminars. Current information on the series may be found at [www.internationalstudies.ilstu.edu/areastudy/](http://www.internationalstudies.ilstu.edu/areastudy/)



## ....And Change

### Unit of African Studies



*Dr. Agbenyega Adedze*

The new director of the Unit for African Studies is Dr. Agbenyega (Tony) Adedze of the Department of History. Under Dr. Adedze's leadership, raising awareness of African culture and issues is the primary focus of

the Unit. In his view, combating the lack of knowledge and often stereotypical perspectives that are commonly evident in press coverage and the general discourse about Africa is the first step toward attaining the Unit's objectives. For example, without an institutionally wide effort to teach the African experience of the various subject areas covered by departments, students are unlikely to be interested in obtaining a minor in African Studies or studying abroad in Africa. Therefore, Dr. Adedze feels the most important responsibility the Unit has is to ensure that African issues are explored and explained to campus and local communities in a

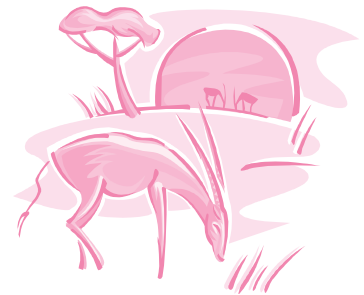
balanced manner that captures a more accurate picture of Africa than what is commonly presented. Africa is a wealth of diversity in culture, natural resources, and governance, and Africans have much to be proud of. It is Dr. Adedze's goal to nurture recognition of the many contributions Africa has to offer to both ISU and the world.

Dr. Adedze believes that one of the best ways to raise awareness of Africa is to create opportunities for both students and faculty to research and study in Africa. This past summer was the first time that study abroad programs to Africa were offered (see the Spring 2003 newsletter for more information). However, participation in any program that involves visiting Africa is inhibited by the high cost of traveling there. Consequently, Dr. Adedze is pursuing outside funding through grants and proposals to obtain financial support for both faculty and students to participate in exchanges to Africa.

As Unit director, Dr. Adedze continues to support existing programs, such as the Area Studies' International and Global Studies Seminar Series, and

hopes to eventually create a similar seminar series that focuses specifically on Africa. In addition, he is working to increase the amount of information available on campus about Africa through books, videos, and African events.

Through all of these efforts, Dr. Adedze hopes to encourage the integration of African history, art, literature, and the many other aspects of African culture into the curriculum and consciousness of the ISU community. It is time for all of us to realize that the problems of Africa are not unique to Africa but are shared among all societies striving to better themselves, and to acknowledge the contributions and gifts the continent has offered and continues to offer the world.



### Unit of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies

Dr. Hassan Mohammadi of Economics and Dr. Ali Riaz of Politics and Government have recently been appointed respectively director and associate director of the Unit for Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies. The Unit covers two geographical areas that have many commonalities but are different enough to bear separate consideration; however, the com-

bined expertise of Dr. Mohammadi, who came to the United States from Iran, and Dr. Riaz, who is originally from Bangladesh, creates a well-rounded vision for the unit.

That vision includes both short-term and long-term plans for achieving the Unit's mission, which is to provide information and resources to the campus and community as well as

encouraging teaching and research about the region, fostering student and faculty exchanges in the Middle East and South Asia, and organizing programs around regional issues. In the short-term, the director and associate director have been working on developing a comprehensive website to serve as a readily available source of information on the region. (The

website is now accessible through the Office of Inter-



*Dr. Hassan Mohammadi*

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## ISU Students Apply for Fulbright Scholarships

Elizabeth Kosuth, Fulbright Program Advisor, and Becky Mentzer, Assistant Director of the Honors Program, are excited to report that four Illinois State University students have submitted applications for this year's Fulbright Scholarship competition. The campus Fulbright Scholarship Screening Committee met on October 1<sup>st</sup> to interview the applicants and offer them suggestions for making their applications as competitive as possible. The Screening Committee--Lucia Getsi, Michael Stevens, Larry Alferink, Becky Mentzer, and Elizabeth Kosuth--was pleased with the students' subsequent revisions, and is confident that the students' efforts reflect well on the quality of education offered at ISU.

The applicants hail from various departments. Laura Lamoureux, an undergraduate student in the School of Theatre, will be graduating in May. The inspiration for her proposed project came through her travels during her spring semester study abroad in Canterbury, England in 2002. She is interested in attending King's College of the University of London, which is launching their new MA program in Shakespearean studies. This unique program is partnered with the Globe Theatre, and utilizes the Theatre's col-

lection of original artifacts and playhouse documents to allow students to study the master's works within his own social and historical context. In addition to academics, Laura's proposal includes volunteerism. She plans to volunteer with the Globe's tour program in order to familiarize herself with their education programs, and to bring that knowledge back to the States by sharing it with the Illinois Shakespeare Festival and its touring company as well as when she has the opportunity to teach in a university theatre program. Her plan also includes observation of stage managers at the Globe and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Laura's impressive background in American stage management offers a new perspective for her British counterparts, and she herself is very interested in learning about British methodology in the field.

King's College in London has also attracted Scott Stuart, who expects to graduate with his Master's degree in music therapy this coming spring. Scott is interested in King's College year-long palliative care program, which differs from its American counterparts in its interdisciplinary approach to the care of terminally ill patients. The program covers research

*"The Fulbright that I received has determined for all practical purposes the course of my life. I became, perhaps deliberately, a product of two cultures"*

*—former Fulbright Scholarship recipient*

techniques and explores psychosocial, spiritual, and ethical issues associated with palliative care. In his proposal, Scott outlines his plan to conduct quantitative research by comparing the effectiveness of various music therapy interventions in meeting the needs of patients requiring palliative care. Scott also plans on volunteering during his stay in London as a music therapist

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## Study Abroad Audit

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study abroad program offerings to meet the academic and geographic demands of a wider array of students. For example, Chuo University in Tokyo, Japan offers a special short-term intensive program for international students that is taught in English but combines Japanese language study as well as numerous lectures on Japanese culture, society, history, and business. This program would offer students without Japanese language skills to study abroad in Japan, and prepare



*A residence hall at the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom, one of the sites recently audited.*

themselves, if so desired, for a longer program that does require some Japanese language. Another potential site for study abroad is in Paris, a destination that students find very attractive. Look for a summary of study abroad programming changes, once finalized, to appear in an upcoming newsletter.



## Change in Unit of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies

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national Studies home page.) Programming activities include participation in the annual International and Global Studies Seminar Series. Long-term plans include initiating both a new Master's program and an undergraduate minor in Middle Eastern and South Asian Study. The pursuit of viable and successful faculty and student exchanges with a number of universities within the region is also on the agenda.

One of the goals of the Unit in the coming year is to establish institutional relationships with organizations in the United States and in South Asia. The unit plans to establish collaborative relationships with those centers and organizations involved in South Asian studies and research in the United States, such as the Department of South Asia Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, the Center for South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Center for South Asia Studies at the University of California at Berkeley, and the Center for Asian Studies at the

University of Texas at Austin. The unit also intends to engage in joint efforts with educational institutions like the Asia Society to help enhance understanding about South Asia, and exploring the possibility of establishing relationship with research organizations in South Asia.

Work is underway toward establishing the new degree programs, including an undergraduate minor or a Master's in International Studies with specialization in Middle Eastern and South Asian Study, and it is hoped that the process will be complete within five years. Such degree programs would allow students to take core courses in their primary focus (such as economics, sociology, political science, or history), but complete their requirements with electives selected among those courses that are international in content but offered by other departments. This



Dr. Ali Riaz

interdisciplinary approach offers students the opportunity to tailor their degree program according to their interests and the increasing demands of a globalized world, and will encourage teaching and research on the Middle East and South Asia.

Efforts toward cultivating student and faculty exchanges have also already begun. Dr. Mohammadi has met with favorable responses in his initial contacts to the University of Jordan and Turkey's Middle Eastern University and Marmara University. Dr. Riaz is working on similar initiatives with universities in Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The Unit's ambitious program has great potential for raising awareness and visibility of the Middle East and South Asia on the ISU campus, and OISP is excited to welcome Dr. Mohammadi and Dr. Riaz as directors of this important component in furthering the mission of international studies.

## Educational Opportunities in Russia: A Role for the American Home

The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 opened the door to a wide variety of opportunities for educational exchanges and cooperative research between U.S. and Russian institutions of higher learning. However, in trying to take advantage of these opportunities, it can sometimes be a challenge to identify good projects and maintain effective communications across the Atlantic. The American Home in Vladimir, Bloomington-Normal's Russian Sister City, is in an excellent position to assist with identifying exchange opportuni-

ties, developing contacts, and assisting with the implementation of academic programs in Russia. While it is possible to pursue projects in the former Soviet Union without the assistance of the American Home, the experience and connections the Home management team brings to the table greatly enhance the chances of success.

The American Home is a private organization operated by Serendipity-Russia. It was founded in 1992 by ISU Politics and Government Associate Professor, Ron Pope. The Home was

conceived as a project that would contribute to Russia's transition to a stable pluralist system. The Home's largest project is its English program, which currently enrolls more than 350 students per term in classes taught by nine American teachers. To date, it has served more than 7,000 students and more than 100 Russian English teachers.

The American Home has been actively involved in a number of other educational projects. These have included organizing 5 very successful Criminal Justice

trips to Russia for ISU and initiating and helping to sustain a law enforcement exchange program between ISU, the U of I, and the Vladimir Juridical Institute. Plans are being developed to bring some graduates from the Vladimir Juridical Institute, which trains officers for both the regular Russian militia and the correctional system, to ISU for the Master's program in Criminal Justice.

With the assistance of the American Home, major efforts are currently underway to get ISU faculty and

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## Francophone Program

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The training program, which is taught in French, covers various facets of planning, implementing and evaluating development projects. During the program each student worked on designing and presenting a project that was relevant to their particular country and position. The presentation portion prepares the participants for their future task of presenting their project to a funding agency (such as the World Bank) in the hopes of obtaining the necessary funding in which to carry it out.

The projects are not limited to infrastructure, but range according to needs. For example, the two individuals from the Congo's Ministry of Social Affairs worked on developing a literacy program. Their project addresses illiteracy among those of the Congo countryside who are recipients of funding provided to help build small business operations. The inability to read and write among these recipients has had a negative impact on the success of the small business development program, and the two cabinet directors' project seeks to remedy this problem. Another project, developed by the director of the Ministry of Health's center for tracking dis-



*Ms. Marie-Celine Tchissambou from the Ministry of Social Affairs in the Congo, receives her certificate from Interim President Al Bowman as Gary McGinnis, Momar Ndiaye, Richard Vengroff (U. of Connecticut), and Bert Pena look on.*

eases in Mali, focused on creating a program to address the HIV/AIDS crisis. His project specifically addressed the challenge of communicating best practices for the mitigation and prevention of HIV/AIDS in a culturally sensitive, comprehensive manner among the predominantly Muslim population of Mali.

Participants were sponsored by government agencies and the private sector. The five participants from Tchad, for instance, were sponsored by the World Bank, which currently has a very

influential role in the development of Tchad. The country is one of the poorest in the world, but has recently been found to have substantial amounts of oil as a natural resource—thus the World Bank is involved in making the most of this development opportunity. The United Nations Development Program, whose mission is to assist countries in the areas of democratic governance, poverty, crisis prevention and recovery, technology, HIV/AIDS and environmentally sustainable development, sponsored participants from the Congo. GlaxoSmithKline, a research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare company, sponsored one of the Cote D'Ivoire participants. The sole participant from Niger was sponsored by the U.S. Embassy and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

As more and more governments in the developing world realize that importing the expertise to initiate or sustain projects is not a long-term solution, the demand for training programs focusing on development issues—particularly when offered in a language other than English—continues to increase, and is increasingly competitive.

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## American Home

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students even more involved in Russia. For example, ISU is cooperating with the Russian and East European Center at the University of Illinois and the American Home in seeking federal funding to send 15 elementary and secondary social studies teachers to Russia. If funded, Dr. Pope will be the co-director for this project along with Dr. Mark Steinberg, U of I Professor of Russian History and Director of the REEC.

According to Dr. Pope, four interrelated projects are of particular promise, and will hopefully lead to visits to Vladimir by six ISU faculty this next summer. These include assistance with a comprehensive tourism development project led by Prof. Doug Turco, Dept. of Kinesiology and Recreation, and Prof. Rodger Singley, Dept. of Marketing; assistance with the design of English language web sites for the City of Vladimir and the tourist industry supervised by Prof. Joaquin Vila, School of Information Technology; the development of a sum-

mer recreation program led by Prof. Barb Schlatter, Program Director, Recreation and Park Administration; and research on the problem of domestic violence by Dr. Frank Morn and Dr. Sessa Kethineni from the Dept. of Criminal Justice Sciences.

The Office of International Studies and Programs is in contact with several universities in Russia and is actively exploring ways to take full advantage of the experience of the American Home in determining the type and form of relationship that is appropriate and feasible in each case.

For more information on the American Home go to: [www.serendipity-russia.com](http://www.serendipity-russia.com).



## Fulbright Scholarship Applicants

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through either a hospice organization or a hospital. Upon his return, he intends to use the knowledge and experience gained through the program to promote the clinical use of music therapy in palliative care.

Amy Attivissimo, a Master's student in Psychology, has taken her passion for horses to a unique level, and she is hoping that the Fulbright Scholarship will help pave the way for her to kick it up another notch. Her graduate research has focused on the cognitive abilities of horses, in which she discovered that horses can learn common discrimination and matching-to-sample tasks. Amy's research area is shared by very few, and she found that the structure of university programs in the United States did not accommodate her objectives very easily. Consequently, she has applied for a doctoral program at the University of Waikato in New Zealand, which houses the internationally recognized Animal Behaviour and Welfare Research Centre. The Centre assesses the psychophysical and learning abilities, preferences, and needs of a variety of animals, including horses, and its directors are very excited about Amy's plans. Her extensive experience with horses has led her to believe that



the current practices among American horse trainers are unnecessarily punitive. She hopes that by continuing her research and sharing her results with the horse training world and among the public, horses will attain their rightful place among the intelligentsia of the animal world. Such a shift in perspective would change the manner in which horses are treated and trained. The American arena in particular would benefit from a shift toward positive reinforcement, as it lags behind its European counterparts in this regard.

A three-week independent study in Ghana with Nancy Tolson of ISU's Department of English this past summer was enough to get Jamillah Gilbert hooked on the idea of implementing storytelling as an alternative assessment tool when teaching science and history. Jamillah, a special education teacher and Master's level graduate student in Curriculum & Instruction, was very impressed with the impact that storytelling has on Ghanaian children. In their culture, the storytelling

that is an integral part of home life serves as an informal form of education and an important factor in children's character formation. Jamillah has proposed researching what it is about the storytelling tradition that creates such an enduring influence on its participants, and tangentially how storytelling may be used as an assessment tool. The University of Cape Coast in the city of Cape Coast, the site of her independent study, is the chosen site for her project.

Laura, Scott, Amy and Jamillah all put a great deal of effort into their applications, and Becky and Elizabeth were proud to forward them on to the administrative body of Fulbright Scholarships, the Institute of International Education. Whether or not each of them receive the award they seek, they are all better scholars for the experience and have exhibited laudable initiative and perseverance. The Office of International Studies congratulates them on their efforts.

Students who are interested in pursuing a Fulbright Scholarship should contact either Elizabeth Kosuth in International Studies (438-3362; ehkosut@ilstu.edu) or Becky Mentzer in Honors (438-7405; rementz@ilstu.edu).

# Spread the Word to Your Students!

### Fulbright Scholarship Information Meeting Scheduled

**Date: April 13, 2004**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Where: McCormick 106**

Fulbright Scholarships are designed to give recent graduates, postgraduate candidates, and developing professionals and artists opportunities for personal enrichment and international experience. These student grants (covering up to one year) are awarded through a merit-based competition to men and women who create a plan to conduct career-launching study and research abroad. Some teaching opportunities are also available. U.S. citizenship, B.A. or equivalent, language proficiency and good health are required.



## Francophone Program

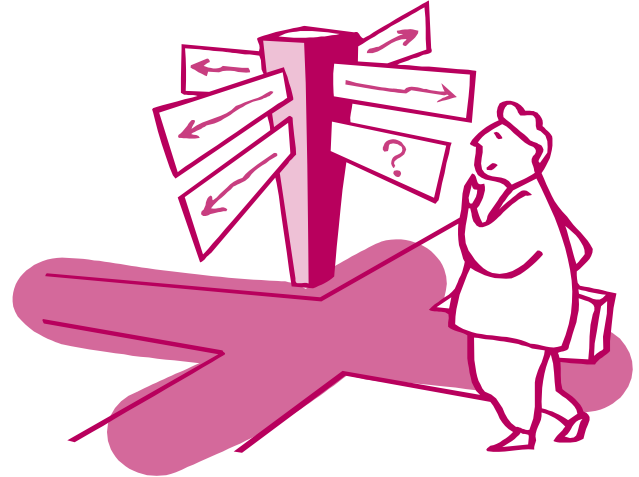
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Sponsors of participants must have confidence in the efficacy of a particular program before investing their human resources, time and money. This is particularly true for impoverished nations such as Haiti. The fact that Haitian government officials, in spite of their limited resources, chose to send three individuals from their Ministry of Finance through the training program is a welcome vote of confidence to MDI staff and the International Studies Office. The size and success of this program's debut is further cause for celebration and optimism among those of us striving to increase the visibility and credibility of ISU's international programs.

Management Development International is building an international reputation for conducting top quality programs, and each program offers a number of opportunities for ISU. For instance, each one of the participants of this summer's program expressed a desire to institutionalize the relationship between their agency and the university. These relationships would take the form of exchanges between their agencies and ISU faculty and students. This kind of arrangement provides opportunities for faculty and students to link up with people in their field, and strengthening these ties lays the groundwork for an expanding network of interchanges among ISU and various international entities. With the help of MDI, we are entering the 21<sup>st</sup> century with a head start in establishing ISU's presence throughout the world.

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