



EXPANDING HORIZONS

International Programs, The University of Montana, November 2006

CONTENTS

College of Forestry and Conservation in Bhutan 2

Pharmacy in the Czech Republic 3

New Travels on Old Roads.....3

Impressions from Ukraine.....3

IP Holiday Reception 4

Directory 4

International Education Week 2006: November 13-17

By George M. Dennison, President, The University of Montana

International Education Week this year begins on 13 November and continues through 17 November. The U. S. Department of State and the U. S. Department of Education have once again collaborated to announce this year's theme: "International Education: Engaging in Global Partnerships and Opportunities." Both Secretaries emphasize the importance of international education to the well being of the American people. We simply cannot thrive in a world increasingly "flat" unless we interact cooperatively with other peoples around the world. Celebrated worldwide, International Education Week provides an opportunity to inform students, faculty, and staff of the University and the Missoula community about the various regions of the world and their diverse cultures and civilizations. It also provides occasions for faculty and students to share their experiences in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe, and Oceania and to educate their colleagues, students, and fellow Montanans about contemporary issues affecting the increasingly



interdependent global society. Finally, we have the opportunity to alert the community to new developments on the horizon that have the potential to increase our global awareness. Some thirty Senators have co-signed as supporters of the legislation to establish the Lincoln Scholarships and Fellowships to encourage, promote, and help to fund study abroad for more American students. Currently, only about 190,000 study abroad, compared to some 580,000 international students studying in the United States. With all due energy and effort, this country can achieve the goal of having one million American students from all across the country studying abroad annually by 2015. Let us join together to realize that vision. Please join us in celebrating the rich history, cultures, music, and artistic traditions of the world's five continents during this week of International Education, which begins on 13 November on the campus of The University of Montana.

Making New Partnerships

By George M. Dennison, President, The University of Montana

In early October, Assistant Vice President Mehrdad Kia, Dean David Forbes of the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, and I visited three Universities in Europe to seek new opportunities for student and faculty exchange and research collaboration. We stopped first in The Netherlands and talked with the Rector and interested administrators of the University of Leiden, one of the oldest and finest Universities in Europe. We found that we share many common interests and have planned to arrange a reciprocal visit in the near future to finalize the initial exchanges and collaborations. For our next stop, we went to Moscow and Moscow State University, the largest and most prestigious University in the Russian Federation and an internationally known institution. Professor Leonid Kalachev, Department of Mathematics, joined us for the discussions, and his many contacts helped immensely. University of Montana students have studied Russian language at Moscow State University in prior years, but we recognized a need to strengthen and broaden the relationship to include areas in addition to language study. The discussions proved very fruitful and we will, in the next few months, develop plans for additional exchanges and collaborations in fields such as Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Nanoscience, and Russian as a Second Language. Finally, we were joined by Dean Sharon Alexander of Continuing Education and Dean Jerry Brown of the College of Journalism to sign an exchange and cooperative agreement with Charles University in Prague, the capitol city of the Czech Republic. This last agreement will initially involve Pharmaceutical Science, Journalism, and Education. Students and faculty of The University of Montana will have some splendid opportunities for study abroad and collaborative research because of these new partnerships.



President Dennison, Dr. Kia, Dean Forbes, Dr. Kalachev, and Professor Yagola in front of Moscow State University

College of Forestry and Conservation (CFC) in Bhutan

By Jill M. Belsky, Professor and Director, Bolle Center for People and Forests

Forests cover almost 73 percent of the total land area of the Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan. Ranging from subtropical forests in the south to cool temperate and alpine flora in the north, Bhutan is one of the most biologically diverse areas in the world. It is also a land that has been extensively used and managed for centuries by small farmers, grazers and forest product collectors. The Department of Forests under the Ministry of Agriculture was established in 1952 to oversee and manage Bhutan's forests. Recent analyses of forestry training suggest the need to strengthen education in conservation and sustainable forest management and to up grade existing Park and Forest Management Ranger diploma courses. This was the impetus to create the Ugyen Wangchuck Institute of Environmental and Forestry Studies (UWIEFS) which is now under construction on a 666-acre campus around the 120 year old Lamigoemba Dzong (fortress) in Bumthang. Construction is supported by funding from the MacArthur Foundation and Danida, the Danish aid agency.



Bhutanese woman carrying firewood

UWIEFS is collaborating with other Bhutanese institutions and several international partners in curriculum, faculty and program development. The College of Forestry and Conservation (CFC) Associate Dean, James Burchfield, visited Bhutan in May 2004 and participated in a planning workshop. Soon thereafter a delegation from Bhutan visited UM. In February 2006, a letter of intent was signed between the Director General of Forests in Bhutan on behalf of UWIEFS and the CFC to pursue scholarly interaction, joint technical assistance, and cooperative research related to the sustainable management of forest resources.

In February 2006, Ron Wakimoto (Professor of Forest Fire Science) taught a 3 day short-course to 45 extension foresters on Forest Fire Ecology and Management which included a prescribed burn as part of the training. Wildfires are

an increasing concern in Bhutan and nearly all are human caused. Few fires are started by lightning despite the country being known as "Land of the Thunder Dragon". Dr. Wakimoto also supervised a Bhutanese graduate student, Kinley Tshering, who studied fire ecology and management and completed his M.S. degree earlier this fall. Kinley has now returned to Bhutan and is preparing the country's first fire management plan.

I (Professor of Rural and Environmental Sociology) and Steve Siebert (Professor of Tropical Forestry) spent July in Bhutan where we assisted UWIEFS with curriculum development by organizing, facilitating and making presentations in two national workshops. One of the challenges facing Bhutan is to reorient forestry from a timber-based, protectionist approach to one that combines forest science-based education with a more interdisciplinary and dynamic approach that includes attention to spiritual, medicinal, non-timber forest prod-

ucts and other values in sustainable forest management. As such, the workshops highlighted the need to develop curricula in non-timber forest product use ecology and management, watershed management, sustainable rural livelihoods, and participatory natural resource management. Throughout the month, we shared perspectives from our collaborative research on these issues elsewhere in Asia and from some of our courses, especially "Community Forestry and Conservation" which we have co-taught at UM since 1991. We both plan to return to Bhutan and assist UWIEFS with specific curriculum development and co-teach courses with Bhutanese faculty when the institute opens in 2008. We also look forward to conducting collaborative research with others in Bhutan on community managed ecotourism and the ecology and management of non-timber forest products in Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park where communities have long resided in areas now declared a national park. We are also working with a Bhutanese masters' student, Tempa Tshering, who began studies this fall and will become the UWIEFS curriculum coordinator upon completing his degree.

In January 2007, Dan Pletscher, Director of the Wildlife Biology Program, Scott Mills, Professor of Wildlife Population Ecology, and Tshewang Wangchuk, PhD student, will visit Bhutan to help assess conservation priorities for the 10th Five Year Plan (FYP). The 10th FYP will begin in 2008 and coincides with the introduction of the new constitutional monarchy political system in the country. They will meet with wildlife conservation officials, collaborate with the Department of Forests to conduct a stakeholder consultation workshop to identify issues related to wildlife and capacity building and identify areas where technical assistance can be provided by UM on wildlife conservation.

UWIEFS and CFC have embarked on what promises to be a long and exciting collaboration of great benefit to the teaching, research and civic engagement missions of both institutions.

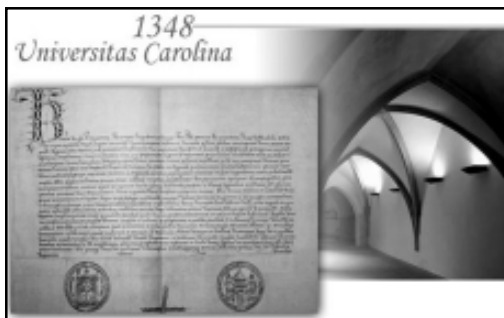


Pharmacy in the Czech Republic

By David Forbes, Dean, College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences

As reported in this issue of Expanding Horizons by President Dennison, a University contingent visited Europe this fall, and one of the universities visited was Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. This was my third visit to Charles University and during my second visit, in the fall of 2005, Professor Vernon Grund and I visited the pharmacy program at Charles University. Charles University in Prague was founded in 1348 by Charles IV, and has an enrollment of about 42,000 students. The Charles University Faculty of Pharmacy (pharmacy program) is not located in Prague but rather in Hradec Králové which is about 100 kilometers to the northwest of Prague and not far from the border of Poland. The pharmacy program

was started in the late sixties in the community of Hradec Králové because the city leadership provided the University with a building which when renovated served as the first of several buildings serving the pharmacy program. The Faculty of Pharmacy consists of approximately 100 faculty, 135 technical staff, 1100 undergraduate students (approximately 200 students graduate each year), and 175 Ph.D. students (approximately 20 Ph.D. students graduate each year). The Faculty of Pharmacy's main research areas are: design and syntheses of novel drugs, drug analysis, interaction of drugs with biological systems, investigation of the mechanism of drug action, pharmaceutical technology, clinical pharmacy, and social pharmacy. In January of 2006, Vice-Dean Miroslav Polášek from the Faculty of Pharmacy at Hradec Králové visited The University of Montana in order to meet with pharmacy faculty, provide a seminar of research interests, and tour laboratory space to learn about the level of scientific equipment available to UM faculty. The next step necessary to build upon the agreement signed by President Dennison and Charles University's Vice-Rector for Foreign Affairs, Professor Jan Skrha, will be for a contingent of UM pharmacy faculty to visit Hradec Králové.



Charles University was established in 1348. It is the oldest university in Central Europe.

New Travels on Old Roads

By Sarah Halvorson, Professor,
Department of Geography

I received a grant from the U. S. Department of Education's International Research and Studies Materials Grant Program for \$360,000 for a three-year project entitled New Travels on Old Roads: Undergraduate Teaching Materials on the Geography of Central Asia and the Caucasus. This project aims to develop a curriculum package consisting of an undergraduate textbook, an instructor's guide, and CD-ROM of supplemental materials that will enhance teaching and learning about the regional geographies of the vitally important regions of Central Asia and the Caucasus. Currently there is no integrative regional geography textbook on Central Asia and the Caucasus (there are, of course, many trade books out there and treatment of these regions in world regional geography textbooks, but there are no textbooks singularly devoted to these world regions). The project represents a collaborative effort on the part of UM faculty involved in the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program, one that is aimed to highlight the strengths and areas of expertise of professors and colleagues on our campus.

Impressions from Ukraine

By Edward Rosenberg, Professor, Department of Chemistry

Last June 2-8, I spent a most enjoyable and stimulating period in the cities of Kiev and Odessa in the Ukraine. I gave seminars in both cities on my work in polymer composite nano-materials and interacted with scientists in the areas of polymer and materials science. I was favorably impressed with the level of science in these areas, particularly in Kiev. The scientists I met were well trained and familiar with the current literature in their areas of interest. Several had ongoing collaborations with research groups in Western Europe but except for one person who had received his graduate training in the US no one had any interactions with the US scientific community.

Infrastructure and resources were far below the intellectual level of the people. Although the National University of Kiev had a beautiful administration building the laboratories were nothing short of antique. In Kiev this problem was slowly being addressed while in Odessa there was no mention of upgrading what I thought were laboratories that were unsafe to work in.

I met with several graduate students during my visit all of whom had usable English and real working knowledge of their subject. I think that Ukraine could be an excellent source of well prepared graduate students in the sciences and two students that I met were interested in applying to UM.

The city of Kiev is very attractive, full of beautiful parks, museums and elaborate Orthodox churches. Ukraine has many political and economic problems at the moment. The country seems to be sharply divided between maintaining a close association with the Russian Federation and moving towards Western Europe with dreams of becoming part the EU.

Most importantly, I found the academic people I interacted with to be warm, friendly and very thoughtful about their future and their place in the world. I was particularly touched by an incident that occurred one evening while walking with my host in a park in Kiev. As we walked the music of Glen Miller and Benny Goodman could be heard, becoming increasingly louder. As we turned a corner I saw perhaps 50 Ukrainians of all ages dancing the Lindy Hop. It occurred to me that for all of aspects of US culture that we have spread around the world our music is perhaps our most valuable gift to civilization. We in Montana probably have many cultural gifts to receive from places like the Ukraine if we can open up opportunities for cultural exchange at UM.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

The Newsletter of the International Programs at The University of Montana



The University of
Montana

International Programs
International Center (MIP005)

IP Holiday Reception

International Programs
invites you to celebrate
the season with us

**Wednesday, December 6,
2006**

3:00-5:00pm

The International Center

Please join us for
beverages and hors
d'oeuvres!

We welcome items of international or intercultural interest for the next newsletter. Please send them to International Programs, International Center, or email us (goabroad@mso.umt.edu).

If you are interested in receiving an email notification regarding upcoming international events and IP activities, please send your name and email address to goabroad@mso.umt.edu or call 243-2288.

International Programs Staff

Mehrdad Kia
Assistant Vice President
Director of International Programs
mehrdad.kia@mso.umt.edu
406-243-2289

Quincie Albrecht
English Language Institute
quincie.albrecht@mso.umt.edu
406-243-2084

Heather Breckenridge
English Language Institute
h_breckenridge30@msn.com
406-243-2084

Julie Brown
English Language Institute
julie.brown@umontana.edu
406-243-2084

Tara Dunlap
English Language Institute
taradunlap@hotmail.com
406-243-2232

Meghan Easley
English Language Institute
meghaneasley@hotmail.com
406-243-2232

Nancy Gass
Assistant Director
Financial Affairs and Budgeting
nancy.gass@umontana.edu
406-243-2212

Carolyn Grimaldi
English Language Institute
Carolynarie@yahoo.com
406-243-2232

Jana Hood
Assistant Director
English Language Institute
joan.hood@mso.umt.edu
406-243-6865

Khaled Huthaily
English Language Institute
khaledenglish@yahoo.com
406-243-4385

Alice Jones
Study Abroad Assistant
mjpjv@juno.com
406-243-2296

Brian Lofink
International Liaison
brian.lofink@mso.umt.edu
406-243-2299

Jeanne Loftus
Administrative Assistant
jeanne.loftus@mso.umt.edu
406-243-2288

Anna Lokowich
English Language Institute
alokowich@aol.com
406-243-2288

Lee Ann Millar
English Language Institute
leeann.millar@umontana.edu
406-243-2084

Marion Nielson
English Language Institute
marion.nielson@mso.umt.edu
406-243-2084

Josh Rosenberger
English Language Institute
joshuarose91@hotmail.com
406-243-2084

Doug Saxen
English Language Institute
dsaxen@gmail.com
406-243-6792

Barb Seekins
Assistant Director
Student and Scholar Services
seekinsbh@mso.umt.edu
406-243-6183

Meghan Squires
Assistant Director for Faculty Exchange
meghan.squires@mso.umt.edu
406-243-6865

Robert Squires
English Language Institute
robertsquires@yahoo.co.uk
406-243-2232

Marja Unkuri-Chaudhry
Assistant Director for Study Abroad
marjac@mso.umt.edu
406-243-2296

Julie Vetter
Assistant Director
Special Language Programs
julie.vetter@umontana.edu
406-243-2084