

# Cultural Happenings



college credit for studies associated with the trip. The other trip involved 17 people who were teachers and activity director for the 20th Annual Summer English Workshop at Yantai University, Yantai, China. Over 300 Chinese students from middle school to college age enrolled. Spoken English and listening comprehension were emphasized during the three week workshop.

**Union University** offers opportunities for students to study Less Commonly Taught languages such as Arabic through programs such as CGE in Amman, Jordan. By combining language learning, immersion opportunities, and extensive traveling in the region, Union students receive a multifaceted global experience and develop intercultural navigation tools to last a lifetime.

Union promotes global experiences through agreements with Study Abroad agencies who partner with academic institutions around the world. The Institute for International and Intercultural studies works with the academic departments and the registrar to guarantee classes taken off campus fit seamlessly with a student's degree program. Students can choose from short or long term options. There are also scholarships available.



Faculty-led study tours are another way that Union encourages experiential learning abroad. These trips offer a chance to travel with a group and to take Union courses that fulfill core course requirements. Students often follow these introductions to study abroad with longer more intensive programs.

The College of Education offers the opportunity for its students to do their student teaching in an international setting. Working with CCTECC, a placement organization, Union matches future teachers with assignments in their area of interest. The program is designed to help students develop intercultural skills and prepare for future teaching in multicultural or overseas settings.

**Wayland Baptist University** continues to explore new opportunities for students overseas, while keeping a close tie to the African nation of Kenya, where WBU maintains an extension site to offer the bachelor's degree in religion to native students. Professors make three-week trips to the country to teach core courses toward the BA, and students continue to show interest

in achieving the elusive college degree so they may better serve their countrymen and women.



During the summer of 2009, a group of nearly 40 traveled to Kenya to work in various teams, doing medical work and work with orphans. Students also continued a water purification study using research developed in the WBU science lab by undergraduates to record the work being done for future promotion.

Students saw hundreds treated in a clinic and made great strides in using research to help the Kenyan people.

Three Wayland students spent their summer in Macedonia, with one slated to stay for the fall term as well, doing relational service work. Two others are in Africa for the fall term. Wayland also continues to build its participation in overseas study programs through BestSemester.com.

**William Carey University** hosted international students on campus as well as sending students abroad. Students studied in such locations as the Alhambra Granada in Spain; Dominus Flevit, the traditional spot and church marking Jesus weeping over Jerusalem; and the mountains of Peru.



**Wingate University** students traveled to a variety of locations this year, including the following:

- A group went to London in May 2009 on a ten-day seminar themed "Mecca of Theatre and Art: Becoming a Visual Critic." While studying various aspects of English theatre and notable works of art, the students visited several museums and plays to practice their abilities to thoughtfully critique and interpret art in London.

- In Fall 2008, Wingate University students in the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity enjoyed the sights of Singapore and the Merlion, the symbol of the city. The students studied the fascinating confluence of ancient tradition melded with the very modern, and the peaceful co-existence of several ethnic groups including Chinese, Malay, Indian, and European immigrants.

- In May 2009, 13 students traveled to Costa Rica for a two-week program to complete their studies an intensive Spanish class. The group stayed with host families, navigated the bus systems, and enjoyed learning about the natural beauty of the area. This was Wingate's first Spanish Immersion program abroad.



## CGE Global Connections – Coming and Going!

CGE faculty and students report on their international programs and experiences in the Global Impact newsletter. These programs include short-term faculty-led initiatives, summer learning abroad courses, as well as traditional semester and year-long study abroad opportunities.



This past year, as some institutions are considering plans that would encourage every student to have an overseas study experience, there has been an increased interest in all types of study abroad opportunities through CGE. Students have inquired about study abroad programs, joint study and internship programs, and specialized internships in the Holy Land, Europe, Australia, and South America, with emphasis in multiple disciplines. These interest areas include biology/sciences and language, cross cultural history/arts and language, and economics/media and language. In response to this growing



interest, several CGE member institutions (Anderson University, Campbellsville University, Carson-Newman College, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Mercer University, Southwest Baptist University) are currently working on innovative, cooperative semester study abroad offerings as others consider valuable courses in equally impactful locations.

As these Global Connections semester study abroad programs come "on-board" CGE will be providing the opportunity for more students to study overseas while staying connected and enrolled at their home institution. Watch the CGE website for these semester study program opportunities to begin in 2010.



- Anderson University
- Baptist College of Florida
- Baylor University
- Belmont University
- Bluefield College
- Brewton-Parker College
- California Baptist University
- Campbell University
- Campbellsville University
- Carson-Newman College
- Charleston Southern University
- Cumberlands, University of
- Dallas Baptist University
- East Texas Baptist University
- Georgetown College
- Grand Canyon University
- Hannibal-Lagrange College
- Hardin-Simmons University
- Houston Baptist University
- Howard-Payne University
- Judson College
- Louisiana College
- University of Mary-Hardin Baylor
- Mercer University
- Meredith College
- Mid-Continent University
- Mississippi College
- Missouri Baptist University
- North Greenville University
- Oklahoma Baptist University
- Ouachita Baptist University
- Palm Beach Atlantic University
- Samford University
- Shorter College
- Southwest Baptist University
- Truett-McConnell College
- Union University
- Wayland Baptist University
- William Carey University
- Williams Baptist College
- Wingate University



Website: [www.cgedu.org](http://www.cgedu.org)  
Email: [info@cgedu.org](mailto:info@cgedu.org)

# Cultural Exchanges

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**Anderson University** hosted the 21st CGE Annual Meeting with great success. International guests shared the growing number of opportunities for students and faculty to be involved.

**California Baptist University** students experienced the following international locations:

- Students and staff served in the Middle East
- Students utilized training in ethnographic research to build relationships with the people of Paris, France, as well as present informative research to local field workers.



villages.

**Campbellsville University:** During this past year's annual International Education fair, Campbellsville's 60 Japanese students performed. Campbellsville students participated in such programs as a year-long study abroad program in Kenya, the Ukraine TESOL program, and a study abroad trip to China.



**Carson Newman University:** The International Club participated in activities such as Homecoming events, by dressing up in traditional clothing from different countries.

They also helped with campus service day Operation Inasmuch by cleaning up several creek areas in

town. Additionally, a group of Carson-Newman nurses spent 15 days in South Korea at Ansan College, visiting healthcare facilities in and around Seoul.

**Dallas Baptist University** has experienced a flurry of international activity this year, both on and off campus. The number of International students enrolled has remained stable, in spite of global economic woes. This fall, DBU is once again hosting students from more than 50 countries around the world.

Some of the overseas international programs for the last year include:

- Guatemala: During last spring, Dr. Shannon Wolf took a team of DBU graduate counseling students to hold seminars for educators, pastors and orphanage workers in Guatemala.
- Hong Kong, PROC, Manila and Philippines: As a summer trip, Jon Dooley, Director of the BSM, led a team of DBU students to join with a youth group from Hong Kong to teach Children's camps for orphans and local children in China, Manila and the Philippines.
- Peru: The DBU women's volleyball and soccer teams headed to Peru



during spring break to help orphans, and play several games with national athletic teams.

- Israel: March 6-16, a DBU team of students, alumni, faculty and staff traveled to Israel. The group shared experiences as they grew in understanding of Hebrew thought and culture.
- China: A group of DBU graduate students from the DBU English as a Second Language Department led by Director Amie Sarker went to China in early summer.

• Brazil: Last March, Dr. Dave Arnott, Professor of Strategic Management at DBU, guided students for an extensive and intensive study of businesses in Sao Paulo, Atibaia, and Rio de Janeiro.

**East Texas Baptist University** offered a variety of international opportunities. Students spent four days tending pandas in a May Term Biology Course in China. They also spent time volunteering with orphans in Chengdu. ETBU also hosted visiting science teachers from a sister school in Poland. Seventeen ETBU students and faculty reached out to AIDS orphans in Honduras.



**Georgetown University** students participated in a variety of study abroad opportunities that included the following:

- A recent grad spent a semester in Monterrey, Mexico, studying and interning last Fall semester. He used this experience to great advantage and is currently back in Mexico with the Fulbright program, on a Bi-national Business Grant.
- One student went to Buenos Aires, Argentina, during the Spring 2009 semester to study Spanish language.



• An Art major student spent Spring 2009 semester in Florence, Italy, studying art and had a truly life-changing experience of self-discovery during her time abroad.

• Students benefited from our special partnership with Regent's Park College, Oxford University. Jason studied "Art History, With a British Accent" as

he titled his blog.

**Louisiana College:** Louisiana College has developed a Peer Advisor Program that pairs an incoming international student with an American student who helps them navigate their first semester of college. A Peer Advisor is responsible for helping international

students with such things as finding their classes, understanding the American educational system, and finding their way to Wal-Mart. The Office of International Student Services periodically plans events specifically geared toward new international students and their Peer Advisors. One such event was a bonfire where the Advisors were able to introduce their new friends to the art of eating SMORES and the International students were able to teach their new friends traditional dances and songs to sing around the campfire.

This spring, the Nepali students at Louisiana College hosted a Festival of Colors and invited the entire campus. American students were introduced to the tradition of throwing "color" on your neighbors and friends as a form of celebration to usher in the spring season of every year.



**Mercer University** students and Dr. Eric Spears, Mercer faculty sponsor, participated in service-learning projects with 50 children from a private institute in Vitoria, Brazil, where they conducted sessions in photography, crafts, cooking, and sports. In Recife, they worked in three urban slum areas and helped 30 children from ages 5-18 with similar projects in addition to participating in a government housing renovation project.



**Meredith College** is excited about our latest faculty-led study abroad opportunity. For the first time ever, we are offering a semester faculty-led program which will be based in Sansepolcro, Italy. Meredith College has been traveling to Sansepolcro



for over 15 years – typically for a summer abroad program - but we are happy to be establishing a more permanent presence there. It will be an academically rigorous program with much emphasis put on learning and using the Italian language. Our newest venture can best be summed up by the following that comes from our Semester in Sansepolcro program statement, "The birthplace of Piero della Francesca, Sansepolcro is a small gem, a walled city in the Tiber valley—a place where students can not only observe but also participate in what has come to be called "la bella vita." More information about the program can be found at our website: <http://www.meredith.edu/abroad/italy/default.htm>.

**Midcontinent University's** International Student Fellowship met this year in their newly created iCenter. MCU's International Student Fellowship participated in World Refugee Day fair in Bowling Green, KY, sharing with children and helping them learn such things as blowing bubbles.



**Mississippi College's** cafeteria is always a popular meeting place for MC students, whether they come from other nations thousands of miles away or from around the United States. MC enrolls 300 international students, with the bulk of them coming from China. Every year, Mississippi College hosts an international festival to showcase the musical, artistic and martial arts talents of the university's international students. The evening program during the spring semester is always a crowd-pleaser.

**Missouri Baptist University** international students & ISI [International Students Incorporated] volunteers enjoyed a trip to the St. Louis Zoo. Students also visited the London Tea Room in downtown St. Louis.

**Oklahoma Baptist University:** The



European Studies Program group travels to Germany and France for three weeks in the Summer. The 2010 trip is still being planned, but their past trip in 2008 offered a Fine Arts course and a History of the Reformation course.



**Samford University** students and faculty participated in a variety of international opportunities:

- Samford University and Campbell University students took "Problems and Practical Experiences in Health" in Jilin, China, in Summer 2009. Taught by Samford professor and Assoc. Dean of Education, Dr. Chuck Sands, the class served in residence at a hospital in Jilin, in northeast China.
- Samford's summer class in Israel, Field Methods in Archeology, is taught by religion professor, Dr. James Strange.
- Samford University students visited the ruins of Machu Picchu in Peru with Biology professor and Carnegie Professor of the Year from Alabama, Larry Davenport.



Twenty-seven Samford students took "Biodiversity in the Peruvian Amazon" in January.

• Samford University exchanged students with Padagogische Hochschule, a teacher education university in Weingarten, Ger-

many. The university boasts the largest baroque cathedral north of the Alps in Europe.

**Shorter College**

• The Europe Program took fifteen students to England and France over spring break. They studied international marketing and global studies.

• The Mideast Program took six students to Israel in May and June and excavated at Bethsaida.

• The Americas Program took twenty students to Ecuador. They studied Spanish and Literature.

• Eight students studied for a semester in the year. Their destinations included London, Argentina, Mexico, Spain and Germany

• Shorter officially approved use of the graduation sashes to commemorate graduates who had an international education experience.

• 20.8% of the May 2009 graduating class had an international educational experience while at Shorter College.

**Southwest Baptist University** students were involved in study abroad at various locations this year, including the University of Leicester. Shown here is the display of flags, in which a flag is displayed for each current international student/faculty member.



**Truett-McConnell College:** Two groups from Truett-McConnell community were involved in international programs during the summer of 2009. One group of 15 traveled to Thailand, including eight students who received six hours of

