

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

TARTANS ABROAD

STUDY ABROAD NEWSLETTER

CHRISTINE MENAND: EDITOR



Greetings from the Office of International Education!

As I reflect back on this past academic year, I am delighted by the increased number of student participants in Carnegie Mellon’s study abroad program.

For the 2011-12 academic year, we had over 580 CMU students who took advantage of study abroad! Compare this number to the 214 who participated 10 years ago, and you’ll see why we are so pleased.

Our main goal in our office’s work is to ensure that your experience abroad is impactful; influencing not only your Carnegie Mellon education, but also more largely, your life.

Thus, we look forward to hearing about your experience abroad. Now is the time to journal your thoughts, create that three-minute elevator speech, decide how you want to utilize this amazing experience on your resume, and make those contacts abroad that will last a lifetime. These are just a few suggestions to keep your experience alive, and allow it to truly create *who* and *what* you want to be.

On campus, we have a variety of ways to continue and promote your experience once you return. We even have ways for you to enable this experience for someone else.

As you may know, the Tartans Abroad Scholarship Fund is vitally important in allowing students like you to have life-changing experiences over a Summer or Short-Term Break. Some of you may in fact be current Tartans Abroad Scholarship recipients!

I encourage you to think about supporting another student’s dream of going abroad, by giving now or at a later time to what we call the CMU *Study Abroad Alumni Fund*. Whether small (\$5), large, or something in between; your gift can make a real difference to students. Giving is easy, as well! Just [click here](#) to make a contribution whenever able, select “other”, and write in “Study Abroad Alumni Fund” as the *Preferred Designation*.

Overall, we wish you well this Summer, and look forward to welcoming you back to campus. Make sure to hold the date for our Welcome Back Reception:

Welcome Back Reception

August 30, 2012

4:30 - 6 PM

Danforth, University Center

Warm regards,

Christine Menand

Coordinator of Study Abroad and Exchange Programs

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*“The World is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.”
~St. Augustine*

BOLOGNA, ITALY:
BRENDA LEE JOHNSTON

Today marks 8 months and 1 week since I arrived in Bologna for my year abroad. It had been a dream of mine to study abroad since I was seven and thanks to the MAM-GIOCA (Master of Arts Management-Graduate in Innovation and Organization of Culture and the Arts) double degree from the H. John Heinz III College, I finally got to do so.

The Bologna train station is a central connecting point in Italy so it's quite easy for us to get places from here, which is great. The absolute highlight of my year has been all of my travels. My roommate, Kaitlin, also a MAM-GIOCA from CMU, and I have made some great memories and from these travels, we have developed a lifelong bucket list that we will check off together.

Our first major trip was to Oktoberfest in Munich. It was a quick trip as we left Saturday morning, spent 3 hours at the fest that night, and returned on the 1pm train on Sunday; but it was worth the trip. I don't think I'd laughed that hard in a long time. A funny thing was that after we traveled to Germany on a train full of Americans, we ended up sitting in a biergarten full of Italians! The trip to Germany was my first time traveling through mountains and I fell in love. The beauty of the Alps is indescribable.



Our next big trip fulfilled another lifelong dream of mine—visiting German Christmas markets (Kristkindlmarkt)! After our second term finished we grabbed another train to Nurnberg, Germany for the oldest Christmas market in the world. The next day (Sunday) we headed to the cutest Christmas market in Rothenburg ob der Tauber. It's one if, if not the only, European city whose Mediavel wall is still completely in tact. It's also the home of the Kathe Wolfhart Christmas ornament stores. On Monday and Tuesday we enjoyed the largest Christmas market in Stuttgart. This trip was also good for connecting with long-time family friends.

In Stuttgart we stayed with my uncle's best friend from when he studied in Germany during his undergraduate program over 30 years ago. From Stuttgart we headed to Munich and stayed with a friend who studied at CMU with us last year. In Munich we visited an alternative Christmas market with natural crafts and foods and a Medieval market. We took a side trip to Neuwshwanstein Castle and then after three days, we headed to Salzburg, Austria. On Christmas Eve we went to Oberndorf, the home of the church where Silent Night was originally performed. An outdoor candelight service was shared with hundreds, maybe even over 1,000 people, from around the world. On Christmas morning we flew to Barcelona, Spain and shared the week with more family friends whose son



was an American Field Service exchange student in 1987 when he lived with my grandparents and became my first Spanish teacher when I was in first grade.

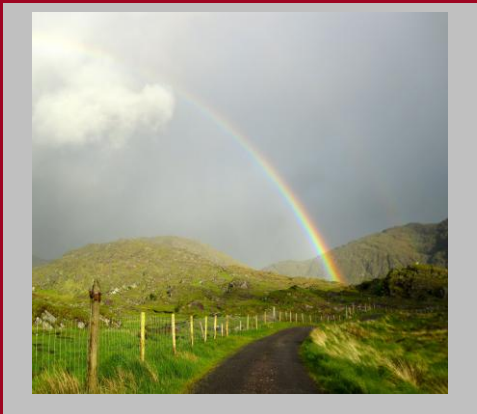
Two friends from our program in Italy joined us for a day and we headed to Tarragona, a city with Roman ruins. But for me, the best part was spending time with Mariangelese and Eulogio whom I hadn't seen in 15 years.

In February we survived the largest snow storm Bologna has seen since 1986 (or 1956 depending on who you asked). I was promised no snow and we had over 3 feet! It even snowed in northern Africa!

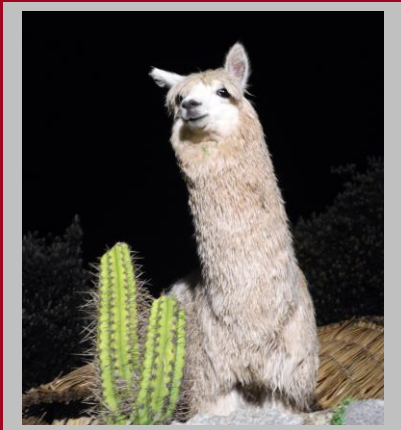


(Cont. on page 4)

*"To travel is to discover that everyone is wrong about other countries."
 ~Aldous Huxley*



Christine Hedden, Limerick, Ireland
Summer 2011



Jenny Hu, Puno, Peru
Spring 2012

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REMEMBER

Check on your CMU classes for next semester while you are overseas!!
Visit <https://enr-apps.as.cmu.edu/open/SOC/SOCServlet?Formname=ByDept> for the list of offerings.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

STUDY ABROAD PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Alyssa Gerharter, Beijing, China
Fall 2011



Amarpreet Bonsor, Masai Mara, Kenya
Spring 2012



Pareek Smriti, LaRaya, Peru
Spring 2012



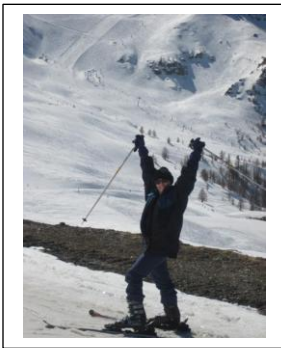
Mukul Bhatt, Barcelona, Spain
Fall 2011

*“When preparing to travel, lay out all your clothes and all your money. Then take half the clothes and twice the money.”
~Susan Heller*

BOLOGNA, ITALY:

(CONT. FROM PAGE 2)

By March we were itching to travel again so after a class trip to Torino, Kaitlin and I headed to Sauze d'Oulx, home of the 2006 Olympic ski runs. Kaitlin's an expert skier. This was my second time skiing in my life (it'd been 13 years since I was a senior in high school and had skied on the hills of Wisconsin), but this was my first time in the mountains. I fell in love with the sport and the mountains. I can't wait to return there next year when I come back for graduation.



We've taken day trips and long-weekends throughout Italy but these have been our major trips this year. This weekend I'm heading to Napoli, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Sorrento and Capri. Next weekend we're celebrating my birthday in Paris with my best friend and a friend of Kaitlin's. A few more day or weekend trips throughout Italy (I still need to see Cinque Terre, Siena and Verona) and the year will be over. It's gone quickly and the trips are memories I'll treasure for a lifetime.

We even came up with our own version of the 12 Days of Christmas for our Kristkindlmarkt trip.

12 Days of Kristkindlmarkts
by Kaitlin Harper & Brenda Lee Johnston

12 days of vacation
11 Trains a Rolling
10 Cups of Glühweine
9 cups of Starbucks
8 New Foreign Friends
7 Christmas Markets
6 Perfect Cities
5 Men in black leather pants
4 German Bratwursts (or 4 Lebkuchen Cookies)
3 Planes a flying
2 Girls a traveling (or 2 Girls in heaven)
1 Million memories to take home (or 1 Freaking amazing trip)

These trips are just the highlights of many trips taken this year. If you'd like to read more, visit my blog at <http://brendalee1981adventures.blogspot.com>.

Ci vediamo a doppio!

Brenda Lee Johnston
MAM-GIOCA '13



Helpful Links:

Center for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov/>

Disability Travel Resources
<http://www.makoa.org/travel.htm>

GLBT Resources
www.gaytimes.co.uk/HotSpots/GayGuide.html

Let's Go Travel Resource
www.letsgo.com

Pittsburgh Post Gazette
www.post-gazette.com/

Sexual Assault Advisors
www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/SA

The Tartan
<http://www.thetartan.org/>

Transfer Credit: Follow-Up SATCs

If you have made changes to your course registration abroad and have not already made arrangements with your academic advisor(s), please use this [Follow up SATC Form](#) to update your courses.

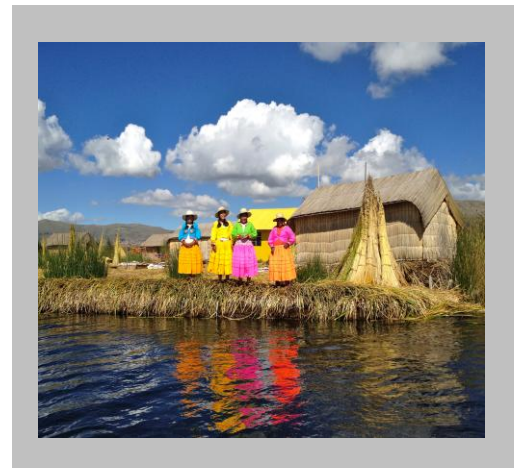
Please complete all categories, including URLs for specific courses. You will automatically receive an email with the changes you are proposing. Once we receive the completed form we will send it to relevant academic advisors. Advisors will review courses and send you confirmations of approval where appropriate.

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - Mark Twain

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR EXPERIENCE

There are plenty of ways to bring your experience abroad back when you return to Carnegie Mellon:

- Attend the Welcome Back Reception.
- Help out with Information Sessions and Pre-departure Orientations.
- Serve as an e-peer advisor.
- Publish your journals, short stories, or poetry.
- Enter the annual Photo Contest.
- Use your experience as a springboard to complete a senior thesis.
- Apply for a Fulbright, Rhodes or Marshall scholarship.
- Continue your experience with an international internship.
- Give to Study Abroad! Visit [here](#), click on "Other" and write in *Study Abroad Alumni Fund* as the *Preferred Designation*.



**Karen Jain, Puno, Peru
Spring 2012**

Thursday, June 21, 2012 - Jasmine Flowers Lindsay Elliott-Foose

On my first house visit in India, I was greeted by the joyful, amazing tea-maker, owner of the hostel where 6 of the other Alliance students are staying. Even before introducing herself as Swatna, I was handed a short string of small, incredibly fragrant, jasmine flowers. Without an explanation, I thought it was a nice gift and forgot about it beyond laying the strand on my pillow when I reached home. Later, at Ganapati Temple, I saw vendors selling the strands and realized there was a symbolism beyond the beauty of the white buds. To show respect to the gods, you offer gifts of food and flowers. In India, guests are to be treated as gods. Thus, you give guests food and jasmine adornments to weave into their hair to thank them for visiting and thinking of you.

Lindsay is currently studying abroad in Pune, India this summer. This is taken from her blog...

*"Travel and change of place impart new vigor to the mind." -
Seneca*

Carnegie Mellon Tartans Abroad

Study Abroad Newsletter

Paris, France:

Ema Woodward

I love Paris!... and I don't want to leave/September 25-October 8

The first two weeks of school flew by as the days filled up with classes, program activities, and general exploring of this city. A few highlights on: school, a night at the Opera, football (soccer), and my biking craziness!

School

Classes are going great so far. I'm taking three classes (technically five classes-worth though): French Language, History of France & the French, and International Relations. I have several professors, Madame Quilici (teaches the language and history classes), as well as three alternating professors for international relations. All my classes are in French, which on the first day, seemed a bit overwhelming, but since then I have gotten into the swing of things. So far, my workload has been far more manageable than what I am used to at Carnegie Mellon- so I'm grateful to have free time to enjoy the city!

Ema studied abroad in France from Summer 2011-Spring 2012. This is taken from her blog...



"Pictures of me with my flatmate, Nicole."

Study Abroad

Work Volunteer Research Study

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*"There are no foreign lands. It is the traveler only who is foreign."
- Robert Louis Stevenson*