



# Bods Abroad

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## **2006 Women as Global Leaders Conference, United Arab Emirates by Katharine Potter**

I was blessed to have this experience. My favorite part was getting to speak with the Muslim women and come to understand in some small way (how well can you get to know someone in just a week?) the way their lives compare to ours. I was most shocked to learn that women there are not allowed to drive, but felt proud that their country so values education and that so many women take advantage of it.

Hearing the many speakers and participating in the smaller breakout sessions helped me learn about the different issues women face all over the world. From honor killings in Turkey to saving for entrepreneurship in Afghanistan, to teaching Hutu & Tutsi girls in Rwanda to play soccer (futbol) together, I learned why it is important for women to stand together. It further reiterated my fortune to be an American and deal with so few of these issues. However, it is embarrassing to be in a land with so much promise and opportunity, and to still have the gender gaps that we do. Here there are so fewer excuses for our lack of advancement, and I hope that I can in myself and through leadership of others help to close this gap.



*Katharine Potter attending the Women as Global Leaders Conference, U.A.E.  
photo, submitted by Katharine Potter*

## **Education Students Experience Teaching Jamaican Style by Dr. Judy McConnell-Farmer, Professor of Education**

Teaching third graders to read in classrooms without electricity...reading storybooks to children in their hospital beds...such were some of the transformational experiences of the students who participated in the Department of Education's Student Study Abroad Program in Jamaica, May 14-28, 2006. The students taught either in a fourth grade or a third grade classroom at Hatfield Primary and Junior High School or farther down the hill at the Ward Park Basic

School, teaching three- four- or five-year-old children. Both schools are located in Mandeville, Jamaica and were the nucleus for this transformational experience, where our

Washburn University students taught for Five hours a day and participated in nightly reflective seminars. In addition to teaching, some of our Washburn University students read to hospital-bound children and were presenters at an in-service training session for fifty-five teachers of five-year-olds in the greater Mandeville area. This in-service training session was such a success that the Ministry of Education, in Mandeville, has invited our study abroad program to present another session for their Jamaican teachers when we return in January, 2007! Working hard during the weeks was rewarded by relaxing on the weekends Jamaican-style, enjoying the sun and surf at Treasure Beach and Negril. A fabulous transformational experience---teaching and living in a culture quite different than that in Topeka, Kansas! Dr. Judy McConnell-Farmer, Director, of the Student Study Abroad Program in

**Scholarships Available**

Jamaica and Dr. Mary Wolfersberger, Assistant Director, will be discussing their preliminary research findings, gathered during this trip, "Story Retell: An Effective Adaptation of a Comprehension Strategy with Jamaican Preschool and Primary Grade Students", at The Reading First Round Table, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, July 27, 2007. The next Student Study Abroad Program in Jamaica is scheduled for, December 29, 2006-January 15, 2007.

**Art and Architecture in Paris and Beyond**  
*by Reinhild Janzen, Associate Professor of Art History*

"There is never any ending to Paris, and the memory of each person who has lived in it differs from that of any other..." Ernest Hemingway, *A Movable Feast*, (1964)

The summer art history travel course "Art and Architecture in Paris" attracted seventeen Washburn students and eleven participants from the greater Topeka community, including Friends of the Mulvane Art Museum. Our group's diverse make-up can be appreciated when I say that our age span ranged from 20 to 80 plus and our academic and professional pursuits from art history, anthropology, fine arts, political



science, history, business administration, jazz music, medicine, education, social work and architecture, to name but a few.

All students who took this course for credit received scholarship support from the Art Department, the Mulvane Art Museum, and the office of International Programs and they are most appreciative of this help that made this trip, designed to foster international liberal arts education, possible for them.

Within 13 continuously sunny, blue-sky days in France (not counting travel days), we explored and were "wowed" by 5000 years of art history in magnificent museum collections, public monuments, royal palaces, churches and monasteries in Paris, Versailles, Giverny, Chartres, Amboise, Chenonceau, Chambord, Mont Saint Michel, Bayeux, the American WWII cemetery at Omaha Beech and Rouen. We conquered the 2000 year old city of Paris on foot, by Metro, bus, boat and taxi, but above all with our eyes and almost perpetually through the lenses of our cameras. My estimate is that our group's total count of images captured in pixels and on film exceeds 4000. There were many fine encounters with French people (except one unfortunate pick-pocketing incident on the Metro), many occasions to practice our French language

**Study Abroad Fair**  
**10 am – 2:00 pm**  
**September 14**  
**Memorial Union**  
**across from the**  
**Corner Store**

*Out on the town, last evening in Paris: "More Parisian than the Parisians" exclaimed our guide Antoine when he beheld this gorgeous line-up of Washburn women in front of our hotel on Blvd. Montmartre as we were ready to leave for our farewell dinner, June 13, 2006. Left to right: Erin Wynkoop, Danelle Groth, Cassandra Pope, Christie Goldberg, Daphne Brown, Lauren Smith, Aja Longi, Ashley Goad, Dana Lewis."Photo: John M. Janzen*

skills, and French cuisine will make us miss crusty baguettes, croissants, fine cheeses, and more. We pondered the relationship between political powers - be it that of state, church, or autocratic ruler-, and art, so that our admiration for the visual beauty of the Arc de Triomphe or of the sculptures gracing the Place de la Concorde, or of the grandeur of the palace of Versailles took on a bittersweet flavor. We were moved by many beautiful sites which commemorate the dead throughout history - the royal tombs in the Church of St. Denis, the Pere Lachaise cemetery, the memorial for the 200.000 French Jews who perished during the German occupation of France, and the monument for the American soldiers who died for the liberation of France. We were touched by the power of faith we witnessed in the Cathedral of Notre Dame where a special service of veneration of the relic of the Crown of Thorns was held, coincidental with the time of our visit there, or at the site of pilgrims who paid their devotions to the Cloth of the Virgin Mary at Chartres Cathedral, or at the audacity- fueled- by-faith that had built the church of St. Michael on top of a rocky outcropping on the stormy coast of Normandy. And we encountered the sophistication of other world cultures, among other places, in the astonishing building and collections of the Institut du Monde Arabe.

Our understanding of history, of French culture, and of what it means to be human has certainly been differentiated and tremendously enriched by this journey abroad.

<b>PARTNERSHIP ABROAD COUNTRIES</b>		
<b>Australia</b>	<b>Austria</b>	<b>Belgium</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>China</b>	<b>Croatia</b>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<b>Denmark</b>	<b>England</b>
<b>Finland</b>	<b>France</b>	<b>Germany</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<b>Korea</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Paraguay</b>	<b>Romania</b>
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>Spain</b>	<b>Sweden</b>
<b>... and more!</b>		

**American students bring a Stateside feel to studying in Scotland (from Bell College website, June, 2006) . . .**

STUDENTS from the United States have brought a Stateside feel to studying at Bell College. The students from Washburn University in Kansas flew into Scotland to spend two weeks at Bell learning about the Scottish justice system. The unique visit by the 12 students and course leader Dr. Gary Bayens provided a two-week insight into Bell's acclaimed degree in Scottish Criminal



*Front row, left to right: Adam Boydston, Jon Candea-Kromm, Maggie Leighton, Tony Marsh, and Tony Dibbern. Second row, left to right: Austin Aldophson, Jennifer Wilkins, Elizabeth Hagedorn, Amelia Osborn, Penny Campbell, Belinda Antone, and Melanie Alderson. Holding the Scottish Flog in the background is Geraldine O'Donnell, Professor, Bell College and Dr. Gary Bayens. Photo: Gerald J. Bayens, Ph.D., Chair*

Justice they were able to use it to compare the US justice system with the Scottish equivalent and examine the similarities and differences between the two. The visit to Scotland also gave the students the chance to sample Scottish life with visits to the Parliament in Edinburgh, the High Court in Glasgow where they were able to watch part of an alleged armed robbery trial, Stirling Gaol, the Strathclyde Police Museum and Barlinnie Prison. Geraldine O'Donnell, Course Leader for the BA Degree in Criminal Justice at Bell, said it was a 'privilege' for Bell to host the visit by its American guests. Geraldine said: "It has been a delight to have them here and we hope that it proved to be a rewarding experience and an interesting insight into the

workings of our justice system here in Scotland. "We are particularly pleased that there has been the opportunity to sample Scottish life and see something of our country. We hope they take back happy memories of Bell College and Hamilton when they return to Kansas." Washburn University is based in Topeka, Kansas and has a superb reputation for teaching and learning and is ranked as one of the top US universities. During their visit to Scotland, the Kansas students lived in the College Halls of Residence in Hamilton and attended lectures just as Bell's own students do. The visit was the product of a year of discussions between Geraldine and Gary. Both devised the content of the course which the students followed during their two weeks at Bell.

Gary who is Chair of Criminal Justice at Washburn said: "This was a very important visit because it gave our students the opportunity to look at the Scottish criminal justice system and compare it to our own. And we were delighted to be visiting Scotland, too."

#### **SOUND BYTES FROM STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD . . .**

"I would encourage other students to study abroad. It's the best thing you can do with your life!" ~ **Lacey Keller**  
*Women's Global Leadership  
Conference, United Arab Emirates,  
2006*

"Study abroad is all about learning things first hand by experiencing and seeing new and different things in another country. It was an incredible experience." ~ **Erin Pierce Mandeville**,  
*Jamaica 2006*



*Members of the Washburn University Model UN Team Jump for Joy in Tiananmen Square pictured, Sheena Smith, Dave Thoman, Effie Cooper and Sheena Smith*

#### **World Model UN Conference by Tina Williams, Study Abroad Coordinator**

The Political Science Department sent a team of Washburn students including Sheila Burchess, Effie Cooper, Samantha Cooper, Lindsey Kellim, Ruskin Kwofie, Sheena Smith and Dave Thoman to participate in Harvard University's World Model UN Conference held in Beijing, China March 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. The conference was a simulation of the real-life United Nations. Students attended the conference as delegates; they represented and debated different international issues. The team competed in areas of diplomacy against 1,400 delegates who came to the conference from 37 different countries. Students were accompanied by Shiao-Li Ding, Associate Professor of Music. The group arrived in China one week before the Model UN Conference began. They visited the cities of Shanghai, Xi'an and Beijing. Sight seeing trips included an acrobatic show and visit to the Museum and People's Square in Shanghai. In Xi'an they met with a tour guide to explore the museum of Terracotta Soldiers, Hua Qing Park and the Stone Forest. They traveled on an overnight train to Beijing where they were led on several excursions including a trip to the Great Wall, the Summer Palace, and Tiananmen Square. They spent the final leg of their journey participating in the Model UN Conference.