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**Cover: The Power of Perception – The Hobo-Dyer Equal Area Projection**

THE HOBO-DYER Projection Map, used on the cover and elsewhere in the document, belongs to the family of Cylindrical Equal Area projections in which the latitude and longitude lines form a rectangular grid. In order to preserve the equal area property the shapes of the landmasses become progressively flattened towards the poles, but shapes between 45° north and south are well preserved.

The Hobo-Dyer is often used with the South Pole at the top of the map and Australia shown in the middle. Such a simple thing as reversing the poles and changing the “centering” can alter our impression of what is important.
Mission Statement

THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS at James Madison University is committed to the principle that international experiences and perspectives are essential to any undergraduate and graduate education. The mission of the OIP is to promote and encourage a critical awareness of world issues; a knowledge of and appreciation for other cultures, languages and belief systems; a sense of global community; and a commitment to engagement at the international level, that we may educate active and responsible global citizens. To this end, the OIP is committed to providing, supporting and facilitating international experiences for students, faculty and staff at JMU and abroad.
Message from the Executive Director

Dr. Lee Sternberger
Executive Director

FIVE YEARS AGO this summer I was appointed executive director of the Office of International Programs at James Madison University. Through this role, I have had the privilege of working with many remarkable students, faculty and staff toward the ambitious and compelling goal of internationalizing the JMU community. With the support of so many – including demonstrable support of the senior administration – we have shared a challenging, exciting and ultimately imperative journey to integrate international experiences and perspectives into all facets of the university at home in Harrisonburg and in literally hundreds of places around the world.

And what a journey it has been. In these short five years, the number of students studying, working or serving abroad has soared from 703 to 1,012. Programs continue to flourish. This year alone, new programs include the International Beliefs and Values Institute in India, Cultural History of the Netherlands, International Communications in Europe and the Middle East, British Children's Literature in England, Intensive Spanish in Alcalá and Art and Culture in Madrid. This year’s new destinations include Guam, Morocco and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands. We have established two new graduate programs offered wholly abroad: in Florence, Italy, an M.A. in political science, concentrating on European Union Policy Studies; and in Valletta, Malta, an M.S. in integrated science and technology, focusing on Sustainable Environmental Resources Management. The opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to study abroad are multifaceted and nearly boundless.

International student enrollment has improved after a nadir in 2005 from 182 to 207 this year. Moreover, the number of international faculty has grown by 81% during the last five years. International students and scholars serve as rich resources to the community, bringing a different perspective “to the front of the classroom.” We are fortunate to have them as members of our community.

Today, international programs live at the center of the university community rather than at its margins. Yet what distinguishes our efforts? First, JMU programs are characterized by academic rigor, innovation and a passionate commitment by faculty to the endeavor of internationalization. Most significantly, our international programs provide crucial experiences for our students and faculty that enable them to explore ideas, experiences and customs outside of themselves. Through international opportunities, the interconnected, interdependent and fragile nature of our world – and our place within it – becomes manifest.

Moreover, OIP programs seek to address pressing social concerns including sustainable environmental practices and economic development, poverty and its reduction, ethical practice in business and other professions, HIV/AIDS education, as well as the steadfast human yearnings expressed through art, religion, music and other cultural practices. Through these experiences we see ourselves from a vantage point that is beyond our everyday beliefs and expectations. These experiences push our boundaries, challenge our stereotypes and sometimes even frighten us. But through them, we can become more compassionate, more tolerant and more self-reflective of our own behavior. And in becoming so, we become instruments of peace, justice and equity for all creatures who call this planet home.

The Office of International Programs is dedicated to supporting the James Madison University community throughout the world. Join us in the challenge that is international education.

Be the change – and change the world.

Lee Sternberger
Executive Director, Office of International Programs
The OIP – A Sense of Who We Are

THE OFFICE of International Programs serves as the central university office regarding international education, with an organizing and integrative function in addition to leadership responsibilities in identifying and facilitating global education initiatives. Consequently, the OIP has oversight of all James Madison University and non-JMU study abroad programs; visa and reporting processes for international students and scholars; and the development of curricula, faculty experiences and programs that address international issues. The executive director serves as the university’s chief international officer and, working with faculty, staff and students, serves to advise the provost and the OIP and guide campus international activities. She also represents the university on the executive committee of the International Network of Universities.

With regard to study abroad, the OIP offers semester abroad programs in Antwerp, Florence, London and Salamanca throughout the academic year (fall, spring and summer). The Chinese Business Studies Minor in Beijing was added in the summer 2006 semester, and a new master’s degree program in political science, European Union Policy Studies, began in the fall of 2007. In addition, the OIP has offered – in conjunction with other individuals and academic units on campus – summer programs in Argentina, Ghana, Ireland, Malta, Egypt, Costa Rica, Scotland, South Africa and other locations over the years. The OIP staff assists individual faculty who wish to develop specific global education experiences (e.g., summer programs or student exchanges) for various groups of students.

Moreover, the OIP coordinates international internships, service-learning programs and participation in non-JMU study abroad programs. The OIP executive director also supervises the director of International Student and Scholar Services to facilitate the experiences of international members of the campus community. Finally, the OIP also participates in a number of externally funded projects that enhance the range and number of international experiences for students and faculty at JMU’s home campus. For more information on the many activities of this office, consult the OIP Web site at www.jmu.edu/international.
Opening celebrations for International Week
2007–08 – Our Year in Review

The 2007–2008 year has been a highly productive and exhilarating year for the Office of International Programs. The OIP Study Abroad and International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) teams have developed new programs and refined existing ones to provide more effective opportunities for international learning on and off campus. The OIP supported a wide range of faculty initiatives, student and faculty travel, university events, student organizations and curriculum development opportunities. With an overseas budget of $6,252,995 the Study Abroad team sent 1,012 students to locations all around the globe, passing the “1,000 mark” for the first time in university history (a 44% increase over five years). The OIP was able to support study abroad through a number of scholarships, this year awarding $136,426 to students studying abroad. We are pleased to note that the university received two gifts totaling $75,000 to create endowed scholarships for the Semester in London and Semester in Florence programs.

As a result of our working closely with the Office of Admissions, our international student numbers have improved over the last two years. In addition to providing a range of services to these international students, the OIP supports 154 faculty members from other countries, either on visas or as green card holders, through orientations, social activities and tax and employment advice, among other initiatives. The OIP worked hard to provide financial support and guidance to a number of student organizations; this year, as we continued to support Phi Beta Delta, we were able to provide $4,300 in funding to student groups for international programming on campus. Moreover, OIP staff members advised seven student organizations, including the International Student Association, Golden Key and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority for Asian women. We will continue next year to reach out to students to support their internationalization efforts that bring a global perspective to our community.

This year’s International Week festivities focused on the European Union, celebrating JMU’s opening of Palazzo Capponi and the European Union Policy Studies program in Florence, Italy.

In keeping with President Rose’s Commission on Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability, the OIP developed a “greening” plan that will lead to more efficient office use of energy and supplies at home and abroad (and save money as well).

The OIP faculty and graduate student International Development Grant program is now in its fourth year and continued to grow (having distributed a total of $18,818 over its lifetime). This year, grants totaling $31,925 supported 24 faculty, students and staff members in conducting research, presenting papers, attending conferences and meetings, offering performances and developing curricula in Canada, China, Croatia, Ecuador, France, Greece, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria and other destinations. Similarly, the Study Abroad General Education (SAGE) program remained a popular vehicle for faculty to develop general education courses offered abroad.

Finally, the OIP administered more than $104,000 in external funds for research activities, scholarships, travel and programming and has additional funding of $84,000 in place for use next year. Currently we have two grants under review and five proposals in development. We are also undertaking an extensive review of non-governmental funding sources for various projects. In the last five years, the OIP has received more than $417,000 in external funding and maintains a 54% grant “hit rate.” We remain committed to securing external funding to expand programs and opportunities for JMU students, faculty and professional staff.

As the central office for international education, the OIP is determined to support and foster the campus internationalization process and looks forward to working with the campus community to provide support and develop new and innovative international experiences for all community members at JMU and abroad. Overall, the 2007–2008 year proved to be challenging and fulfilling, and the OIP anticipates another dynamic year in 2008–2009.

What you’ve done becomes the judge of what you’re going to do – especially in other people’s minds. When you’re traveling, you are what you are right there and then. People don’t have your past to hold against you. No yesterdays on the road.

– William Least Heat Moon
The office is off to a good and hopeful start and will continue to tread more lightly in and on the world.

Associate Executive Director Jennifer Coffman is leading the office with specific ideas on how we can make a difference every day. Her suggestions include many simple but ultimately planet-changing habits: turning off lights, shutting down computers, printing on the "other" side of paper (or not printing at all), eating lunch with real plates and silverware instead of tossing disposables, setting up battery recycling and a compost container in the kitchen, buying responsibly (we have even developed innovative carbon offset methods that support local food production) and bringing in more plants (literally greening).

The OIP is seeking external funding for a three-university campus sustainability project through the International Association of Universities, a UNESCO organization. Detailed information and important links are being added to the OIP Web site for use by others.

The main thing is to avoid waste, to recognize that waste is actually sinful, and it is a gross damage to the world’s environment from all kinds of points of view.

— David Attenborough

Sustainability matters to us at James Madison University. Our recycled ratios for this publication are as follows: our cover stock is 10% recycled paper, and our text stock is 100% recycled paper.
Ciccone Is Honored

AT THE 36TH Annual Employee Service Awards in April, Jackie Ciccone, the OIP’s director of program operations, received the 2008 Madison Award for Career Achievement. This noteworthy recognition of her 22 years of service to international education and to the university cites her as someone who “has a record of consistent achievement that has significantly improved the efficiency and effectiveness of university operations, has demonstrated personal achievement and is frequently called upon for advice because of her expertise and experience.” Ciccone’s OIP colleagues and others across the university supported her nomination and applaud her success.

Rover enjoys a trip to the bazaar.

The OIP Duke Dog - Rover, Of Course

AS PART of JMU’s year-long Centennial Celebration in 2007-2008, the OIP joined the “Put Up Your Dukes” project and sponsored the design and decoration of a Duke Dog statue. Our dog, appropriately named Rover, has wandered here and there about the campus and now resides at the OIP, patiently awaiting his passport so that he can embark on international travel.

A close examination of Rover will reveal the themes that artist Dietrich Maune portrayed as he adorned our dog:

- Head - Passport in his mouth
- Crown - Map of the world
- Left Jowl - Aboriginal lizard
- Right Jowl - Middle East carpet pattern
- Left Front Leg - African/Maasai traditional pattern weave; Egyptian hieroglyphic (spells OIP); African basket pattern bracelet
- Right Front Leg - Chinese dragon and pattern on green
- Back - JMU cape with OIP logo
- Rump - JMU Duke Dog boxers
- Left Back Leg - Incan red and blue weaving; Mayan/Aztec pottery-patterned bracelet
- Right Back Leg - Native North American pattern, Pacific Northwest
PARTICIPATION IN study, intern and service programs abroad reflected evolving student interests. During the 2007-2008 year, with an overseas budget of $6,252,995 the Study Abroad team sent 1,012 students to locations all around the globe, passing the “1,000 mark” for the first time in university history (in fact, the number of students studying abroad has risen by 44% in five years). New programs operated in Guam, Morocco and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, while a number of new courses were offered abroad ranging from studies of Beliefs and Values in India and Sri Lanka, the Cultural History of the Netherlands, International Communication in Europe and the Middle East, British Children’s Literature and the Art and Culture of Madrid. Indeed, the number of short-term programs has increased from 29 to 35 this year alone. Team members have been pleased to work with faculty directors in the development of new programs and the smooth operation of existing ones.

The four major semester-long programs, in London, Salamanca, Florence and Antwerp, are thriving as well. Semester in Antwerp completed a move to new facilities in summer 2007 and has hired a new resident manager this May. Both the Semester in Florence and Semester in London programs are undergoing complete revisions. Each program will offer a core set of courses that examine the arts and humanities, but each gains a “specialty” track that contributes toward a minor concentration. London’s minor will focus on media and communication, while the Florence minor will explore modern Europe; both are scheduled for implementation in spring 2009. In addition, internship opportunities have been added to the Semester in London program. To date, 15 students have participated in internships that included placements at international relations firms, charities, the court system, theaters and research centers. JMU’s Honors Abroad program is also flourishing; last year 10 students attended the University of Oxford and the University of St. Andrews, and 15 are scheduled to head to Britain next year.

Over a four-year period, the OIP sends from 22-25% of the undergraduate student body abroad. We were cited again this year in Open Doors, the Institute for International Education’s publication reporting study abroad numbers. JMU was ranked sixth in the country among master’s institutions regarding the number of students studying on short-term programs and third in the nation for semester-long programs. Given that the number of students studying abroad for a complete semester has fallen nationally, we are particularly pleased that 42% of all students studying abroad still opt for longer experiences. As a part of our effort to send students abroad, the OIP administered or provided 78 scholarships for a total of $156,426 in awards. We are delighted that this year, Professor Thomas Arthur to honor the retirement of his wife, Dr. Kathleen Arthur, gave $25,000 to endow a scholarship for an art history student to participate in Semester in Florence. Likewise, Mr. Kevin Dunbar of Dunbar Armored Vehicles donated $50,000 to endow a scholarship for participation in the Semester in London program. We welcome this generous support of study abroad and will put that scholarship money to good use.
Students studying energy issues in Costa Rica check lab results.

The office saw negotiations in Florence come to fruition as JMU and the city of Florence celebrated the opening of the newly-renovated Palazzo Capponi, home of the ground-breaking collaborative master’s degree program in political science, with a specialization in European Union Policy Studies. The Department of Political Science, the College of Graduate and Outreach Programs and the OIP cooperated in publicity and recruiting and welcomed a full complement of 17 students into the inaugural class this year. Those students graduated in July as we prepared to welcome a new class for the 2008-09 academic year. Moreover, the OIP was instrumental in the development of a second international graduate program, a dual master’s degree in Integrated Science and Technology with an emphasis in Sustainable Environmental Resources Management to be housed with our partner, the University of Malta, in Valletta. That program is slated for implementation in fall 2009, with intensive recruitment to begin in September 2008.

If you reject the food, ignore the customs, fear the religion and avoid the people, you might better stay home.  
~James Michener
Study, Intern and Volunteer Abroad

Destinations

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Study Abroad Participant Growth 2003-2008

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A Moveable Course
-Art History in Harrisonburg, Charlottesville and London

DURING SPRING SEMESTER, Lee Sternberger, the OIP executive director, once again taught a course in Neoclassicism in England and America, focusing on architectural history and ranging from ancient Greece and Rome to the Renaissance to English and American Neoclassical developments. A study trip to Jefferson’s Monticello was just warm-up for the spring break component of the class—a week in London with visits to Greenwich, Bath, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Syon House and other sites, museums and galleries of architectural and historical significance. The students returned to JMU with a heightened awareness of what their readings and classroom slides had prepared them to appreciate.

Study Abroad General Education (SAGE) Grant 2008

THE GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM and the Office of International Programs continued to support the Study Abroad General Education Grant Program, which promotes the expansion of general education offerings in international settings. The program encourages JMU faculty to develop or to rework existing general education courses to be taught abroad during short-term study abroad programs. Over the four years this program has been in operation, seven proposals have been funded, including GGEOG 200 “The Global Experience in Costa Rica” in 2007 and GHUM 250 “Modern Perspectives in the Netherlands” in 2008. Professor Morgan Benton, integrated science and technology, received a SAGE Grant in 2008. His course, GHUM 252 “Cross-Cultural Perspectives,” will tentatively be offered for the first time in summer 2009 and focuses on the spiritual, philosophical and artistic traditions that shape modern Japan (including participation in a sumo wrestling match, but as spectators only).

Scholarships 2007-08

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<td>Total</td>
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<td>78</td>
<td>$136,426</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Dr. Louise Loe (in blue), 2007 SAGE Grant recipient, with her students in the Netherlands in 2008

Fortified by a pub lunch, Dr. Lee Sternberger and her art history/honors students meet their guide on their first day in London.

Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello near Charlottesville
Study, Intern and Volunteer Abroad

Business As Unusual in Antwerp

THE SEMESTER IN ANTWERP completed a move to new housing facilities during the summer of 2007 and has hired a new resident manager this May. The real story, though, lies in the lives and experiences of the students.

On January 22, 2008, 32 JMU students, most of whom had never traveled outside the United States, arrived in Antwerp, Belgium, to study international business from University of Antwerp faculty members. Three months later, they returned home worldlier and wiser, having experienced many of the sights, sounds, tastes and smells that Europe has to offer.

In their short time in Europe, they made chocolates in a Belgian candy shop; rode “the Eye” and attended two West End productions in London; visited key European Union buildings in Brussels, Luxembourg City and Strasbourg; traveled the 100-mile “Wine Road” in France; and stood under the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. They also visited Bruges and Ghent, the business capitals of Europe in the Middle Ages.

Departing Antwerp for home on April 22, the students were exhausted from their studies and travels but confident in the fact that they had learned much more than their transcripts could ever show.
Top Semester in Antwerp students admiring their chocolate-making handiwork  
Bottom left At Parc du Cinquantenaire in Brussels  
Middle in front of Strasbourg Cathedral  
Right Frites, one of Belgium’s culinary temptations
Study, Intern and Volunteer Abroad

Semester in Florence students with program director Alessandro Gentili at Rome's Colosseum
The Old Is New Again in Florence

SEMESTER IN FLORENCE, established in 1984, continued to flourish. This year, as the new graduate program opened in Florence at Palazzo Capponi, Semester in Florence moved its administrative offices and classroom space to that grand building. Undergraduates still live with families and still take Italian language classes at the British Institute, but they now can take advantage of the thoroughly modern facilities in our 16th-century palazzo. Other changes are on the horizon, with new course offerings beginning in the fall of 2008 and with the reintroduction of the Faculty Member in Residence.

A new course set to start in the fall and certain to attract interest is “Wine and Culture in Italy.” Also in the works is a new minor, Modern European Studies, which will provide an interdisciplinary understanding of social dynamics in modern Europe.

Now that Palazzo Capponi is open and boasts a well-appointed faculty suite, the position of Faculty Member in Residence will once again be part of Semester in Florence. Dr. Robert Hoskins from the Department of English will assume that role for fall 2008 and will teach “British and American Writers in Florence.”

Situated as it is in the cradle of the Renaissance, this semester program is following centuries of scholarly tradition as it renews and revitalizes itself.
London – Looking Back, Going Forward

DR. ROBERT KOLVOORD, Faculty Member in Residence during spring 2008, is enthusiastic about what the program offers JMU students:

“What better classroom than London herself? Where better to learn about theatre than at the Old Vic or about politics than by attending a session of Parliament? Does art history become any more powerful than when you are seeing original works at the National Gallery or the Tate Modern? How about experiencing Shakespeare at the Globe or in Stratford-upon-Avon? Semester in London brings you to all these places and more as British history, culture and the arts come together in a huge and ever-changing mosaic.”

Our semester program of longest standing, established in 1979, continued to respond to the changing needs of JMU students. This year saw the inclusion of an internship option for Semester in London students, and a number of them took advantage of this unique opportunity to work in business, theater, government and social welfare.

Starting next year, the program will include two curricular tracks: humanities and communication and media. This innovative interdisciplinary program, part of JMU’s new College of Communication, Information and Media, will allow communication and media students to satisfy major requirements while studying in London.

“London was the place where my life began.”
— Semester in London student, spring 1980
Semester in London students in front of an increasingly rare London icon
In the Fall of 2007, Semester in Salamanca celebrated its 20th anniversary. The University of Salamanca has provided students a prestigious learning environment and a taste of Spanish culture in a city that retains its enchanting medieval character. At the 13th-century institution, students focus on Spanish literature and civilization. With their host families and local Spaniards, they get a chance to improve their communication skills. In addition, they travel to Barcelona, Madrid, and Seville. With a solid curriculum, Spanish majors and minors can spend a semester or summer and fulfill most of their requirements abroad.

The time is best described by Amrou Kotb, Diversity Initiative Scholarship recipient, fall 2007, who wrote:

“The experience in Salamanca has left an eternal impact on my life. The program was structured as an ongoing learning experience in and outside the classroom. ... I can honestly say that not a single day goes by when I don't reflect upon my time in Salamanca. It has provided me with a unique experience, an open mind and, most importantly, an appreciation for life.”

Dr. William Van Norman, Faculty Member in Residence in spring 2008, adds: “The most significant thing that students should know about the program - it will change their lives and will likely be their most meaningful semester in college.”
Top Dr. Jesús Jiménez introduces students to the whimsy of Gaudí’s Park Güell. Bottom left Semester in Salamanca students on a visit to Barcelona’s Park Güell. Bottom right The palace of Prince Felipa V.
Study, Intern and Volunteer Abroad

JMU’s Honors Abroad students feel completely at home dining in centuries-old Hertford College, Oxford.
JMU Honors Visits Honors Abroad

IN MAY Dr. John J. Butt, director of Honors Abroad, and Dr. Barry Falk, the new director of JMU’s Honors Program, traveled to Scotland and England to meet with the JMU students at St. Andrews and Oxford. At the University of St. Andrews, ranked the fourth best university in the United Kingdom and the best liked, they met with the five JMU students, who spoke of how hard they were working and how participation in extracurricular activities helped make them feel a part of the local scene.

Butt and Falk then moved to Oxford and experienced the stark contrast between the quiet town of St. Andrews and the bustling commercial city of Oxford. Butt and Falk joined the director of the Oxford Programme for Undergraduate Studies, Deepak Mukhi, and the five JMU students there. At a formal afternoon tea at Hertford College, the students educated Falk on the tutorial system. Even though they explained that they worked twice as hard on their two tutorials as they would on an entire semester of courses at home, each of the students was also involved in outside activities.

Butt and Falk returned to JMU better informed about the Honors Abroad students and thoroughly impressed with their seriousness and the amount of work they were devoting to their studies abroad.

The Journey is difficult, immense. We will travel as far as we can, but we cannot in one lifetime see all that we would like to see or to learn all that we hunger to know.  
—Loren Eiseley
HEALTH SCIENCE PROFESSOR Debra Sutton and elementary education professor Teresa Harris have enabled their students to face some of the most daunting challenges South Africa has to offer, though their approaches have led them down different roads.

Sutton, who had previously led short-term study abroad trips to Trinidad and Tobago to focus on HIV/AIDS prevention, journeyed with her students to South Africa in 2007 after establishing connections with AIDS-related organizations there and a chance encounter with one of their principal U.S. supporters, Amy Porter Zacaroli, a 1988 JMU graduate. The ten students in Sutton’s Health 490 class, “HIV/AIDS Prevention in South Africa,” were able to witness the devastating effects of AIDS on communities. As Sutton says in the Spring 2008 edition of Madison, “In the United States, it would take you a long time to find one person that personally knows someone who died of AIDS. In South Africa, everybody knows someone who died of AIDS, and for some people, their whole family has died of the disease.” Visits to the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre and the Centre for the Study of AIDS at the University of Pretoria showed the students what South Africa is doing to try to halt the epidemic. They saw that AIDS in South Africa is not simply an overwhelming medical problem but that it also has far-reaching implications in the country’s family-oriented culture, where adults may be reluctant to seek treatment and where being an orphan carries a stigma. Sutton introduced her students to the miracles medical treatment can bring and showed them that change is possible.

To underscore that belief, Sutton took her students to Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was a prisoner for nearly 27 years. Today, residents — former guards and prisoners — offer living proof that society after apartheid has changed. “They have decided to make it work,” says Sutton, “that if the terrible hostility against each other continues, then nothing has changed. They want to show not only their fellow South Africans, but also the world, that something good came out of something bad.”

Charting a different course, elementary education professor Teresa Harris took 11 students to see how schools in South Africa were faring after apartheid. In this instance, too, a JMU alumna, Katy Prouty (Class of 2006), then in the Peace Corps in rural Mpumalanga, was an integral part of the endeavor. The students worked there with about 100 children ranging in age from three to 13 in a winter camp. Harris writes in the College of Education Spring 2008 Imprint, “Whether we were teaching games or learning new games from the children, applying temporary tattoos and face paint or making friendship bracelets and puppets, we felt that we
were on the receiving end of an unforgettable education.” Another week of the four-week journey took them to Child Academy, a model early childhood center in Tembisa township outside Johannesburg. The JMU students developed units of study, purchased and prepared materials and taught children in kindergarten through sixth grade, while Harris led the teachers in professional development.

In seeking to understand the changes South Africa has undergone, the students saw life in the large and wealthy cities of Johannesburg and Pretoria in contrast to the poverty and limited opportunities in townships like Soweto. They also glimpsed the pervasiveness of AIDS as researcher Themba Masuku shared his studies of the spread of AIDS within the police force. Their travels ranged from vineyards to the prison on Robben Island to the Centre for Reconciliation, and at every point, says Harris, “it was our conversations with the people with whom we lived and worked that made all of our tours come alive.” For Harris and her students, the future of education in South Africa is one of tremendous challenges and, at the same time, great opportunities.

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Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living. — Miriam Beard

Top JMU student Rachel Burke (second from left) at Umtha Welanga Health Care Center in Hamburg, Eastern Cape  Bottom A village dance
When the first class in the master’s degree program in political science – European Union Policy Studies – arrived in Florence to begin orientation in early September of 2007, the newly-refurbished 16th-century Palazzo Capponi was ready to receive them. Originally the home of the noble Capponi family, the palazzo changed hands and purposes over the centuries – from family residence to headquarters of a charitable institution to a crafts school for the young and needy. Months of hard work on the part of JMU’s staff, both here and in Italy, as well as the talent and artistry of Italian builders and craftsmen contributed to creating a comfortable home and an encouraging center for learning. The changes are remarkable, turning a derelict building into an elegant study center.

In October, JMU’s Florence Center celebrated its official opening, with delegations from JMU and representatives from the city of Florence and the international political science world. Following the academic launch of the program, with an inaugural address by renowned political scientist Philippe Schmitter, JMU President and Mrs. Linwood Rose hosted a dinner for the dignitaries. The next evening featured tours of the palazzo and a reception next door in the cloister of the Church of Santo Spirito.
Top left: At the press conference, JMU President Linwood Rose (center) is flanked by Francesco Pinto from the board of the Pio Istituto de’ Bardi (left) and Alessandro Gentili, director of JMU Programs in Florence. Top right: Marchese Ferdinando Frescobaldi, chairman of the board of the Pio Istituto de’ Bardi (center), with JMU Board of Visitors member Jim Hartman and his wife Carolyn (on the left) and JMU Board of Visitors Rector Joe Damico and his wife Pamela (on the right). Bottom: The dramatic results of the palazzo’s transformation: an elegant and well-equipped meeting room, library, student lounge and classroom.
A FINE BEGINNING – EUROPEAN UNION POLICY STUDIES MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAM IN FLORENCE

THE FIRST GROUP of graduate students arrived in Florence this fall for a two-week orientation. With a brief break to celebrate the palazzo’s opening, they were immersed in their rigorous course of study with doctoral-level professors from the University of Bologna, the European University Institute and the University of Siena. The program also made several journeys outside Florence:

• Brussels, the administrative center of the European Union, gave the students a firsthand look at the inner workings of the institutions they were studying, and a second visit during spring term focused on the methods and effectiveness of lobbying efforts to influence EU decisions.
• Rome helped the students understand how the European Union affects individual member states.
• Bologna was the site of an EU Council simulation, the result of a successful roundtable conference in November with JMU hosting the University of Bologna.

At the end of fall semester, Senatore Graziano Cioni, Deputy Mayor of Florence, came to JMU to receive an honorary degree in recognition of his generous leadership and wisdom in the establishment of the graduate program and the use of Palazzo Capponi.

On a different note, JMU hosted “A Night of Violin and Voice” featuring Gil Morgenstern with Luca Baldoni performing Dante’s Inferno.

During the summer term, many students undertook fascinating internships, all related to EU policies. In addition, the program sponsored a graduate symposium with the Max Weber Programme at the European University Institute.

Graduation for the present graduate students took place on July 19 in the Salone dei Duecento in Palazzo Vecchio. Thanks to Senatore Cioni, JMU was the first U.S. university to hold such a ceremony in this historic building.
Innovative Graduate Program in Malta—Dual Master’s Degree at JMU’s College of Integrated Science and Technology and the University of Malta’s International Masters Programmes

JMU and the University of Malta will offer a dual master’s degree program in Sustainable Environmental Resources Management (SERM). The University of Malta will award the degree, and concurrently JMU will award an M.S. in integrated science and technology.

This 13-month program is offered on the island of Malta, situated in the Mediterranean Sea between Europe and North Africa. Because of its strategic location and excellent harbors, Malta has always attracted the world’s maritime powers and has thus been in continuous contact with diverse cultures, greatly enriching its historical, archeological and cultural heritage.

SERM — Sustainable Environmental Resources Management presents a fresh and innovative course of study that emphasizes the interrelationships between the various technology areas that pertain to sustainability. It weaves the application of analytical tools and policy/legal structures with a case study approach to address the key issues that define the future welfare of our global environment and the manner by which resources are utilized.

ISAT professors Jonathan Miles and Robert Kolvoord, honored this year with the Provost Award for Excellence in International Education, were instrumental in designing and creating this new program.
ISSS – Meeting the Challenges

ISSS CONTINUED to provide outstanding service to both international students and faculty/staff. As an example of their innovative programming, after the release of the movie *Borat*, ISSS sponsored a program planned and presented by JMU students from Kazakhstan highlighting key historical events and providing an overview of the cultures of their country. Similarly, another student-run presentation focused on Azerbaijan.

Next year, we plan to utilize the talents and expertise of other international students to make our campus community more aware of the international student body. The 8th Annual International Student Leadership Conference, anchored by the theme “Impossible Is Nothing,” was a great success, welcoming more than 225 participants from 20 countries attending 62 universities in the United States. International students had the opportunity to examine critically their own leadership skills, communication styles, problem solving and the practicalities of running an efficient meeting.

The OIP continued to support the recruitment of international students and faculty and welcomed them to our community through orientations, social activities, tax/employment advice and visa/green card support. JMU supports 64 international faculty on visas and an additional 90 on green cards. The OIP pays immigration fees to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service in order to help academic units hire international faculty and staff and assists those seeking green cards or citizenship. Indeed, the number of international faculty has grown by 81% over the last five years. Likewise, the number of international students continued to improve. This year, the admissions office is in the process of hiring a new international recruiter, and we will work closely with him/her to improve international student numbers as well. Toward that effort, we are pleased to be working with alumni of the men’s club rugby team, who have generously provided $35,000 to endow a scholarship for international student athletes.

In the long course of history, having people who understand your thought is much greater security than another submarine.

— J. William Fulbright

Hager Amer and Nada El Etrabi, exchange students from Egypt, on JMU’s quad
Impossible Is Nothing - ISLC 2008

MORE THAN 225 participants from schools as far away as Texas and California attended this year’s International Student Leadership Conference. Because of space constraints at JMU, Eastern Mennonite University hosted Friday evening’s events, where the participants were randomly assigned to small groups and given clues to complete an outdoor scavenger hunt, followed by skits that each group wrote and performed. A generous donation by the McCandlish Holton Immigration Practice Group of Richmond allowed Saturday’s events to be held at Blue Ridge Community College’s Plecker Center.

The keynote speaker for the conference, Deng Lual, is a native of Sudan and a recent graduate of Central Washington University. Deng, a “Lost Boy of Sudan,” told his personal story of perseverance and strength and encouraged the audience to believe truly that “Impossible Is Nothing” and to learn to tell their own stories of leadership and strength.

JMU faculty and staff led twelve of the 23 breakout sessions, focusing on subjects such as communication, leadership styles, problem solving and running effective student meetings.

The theme for this year’s conference, “Impossible Is Nothing,” looked back to the life of the four-year-old Deng Lual. Imagine how impossible it must have seemed for that child to envision a life of relative ease, with plenty of food, clothing and loving support surrounding him. Imagine how impossible it must have seemed to a 10-year-old boy in a refugee camp to dream about a future that would one day include a college education. Imagine the strength it took for that young boy to overcome all obstacles and face the massive challenges of day-to-day life. Surely his life is testimony to the fact that the strength of the success is in the challenge. Our challenge is to find the strength within and grow as leaders no matter the obstacles in our path. Our challenge is to believe that “Impossible Is Nothing.”

Conference evaluations were extremely positive, describing the event as “inspiring, motivational” and “maybe the best experience I ever had since I am in college in the US!” For the participants, high points included “sharing of cultures,” “feeling I am part of a bigger dialogue” and “the confidence to be a great leader.”

What we need is more people who specialize in the impossible.
— Theodore Roethke
Top Students team up for the scavenger hunt. Bottom left A small group defines leadership in its own creative way. Bottom middle two Contestants in the ISLC talent show
Bottom right Keynote speaker Deng Lual (foreground) with ISLC students
Regional Representation by Percentage

2007-08 International Student Population at JMU

207 International Students (students on non-immigrant or temporary visas) from 67 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top seven countries represented</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>11 students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>16 students</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>15 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>15 students</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>9 students</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>8 students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Other Interesting Facts:**

JMU CURRENTLY has formal agreements with institutions in the following countries: Japan, Malta, Australia, Romania, China, South Korea, the United Kingdom, Spain, Sweden, Germany and Egypt.

JMU’s first international student recruiter was hired in the undergraduate admissions office beginning in the fall of 2006. Recruitment efforts will focus on Southeast Asia and South America.

JMU continues to work closely with the governments of Kazakhstan and Saudi Arabia to accept students through their government programs – each government is funding thousands of full scholarships for its citizens to study in the United States. JMU has seen the growth of both of these populations this year and expects that trend to continue in the coming years.

The information provided here deals only with “true” international students at JMU. In addition, JMU is home to more than 250 foreign-born students who are now permanent residents (green card holders) of the United States.

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**JMU Partner Universities**

JMU currently is partnered with the following universities:

- Flinders University, Australia
- La Trobe University, Australia
- American University in Cairo, Egypt
- Misr International University, Egypt
- Hiroshima University, Japan
- Nanzan University, Japan
- Ritsumeikan University, Japan
- University of Malta
- Al Akhawayn University of Ifrane, Morocco
- Romanian-American University, Romania
- Universidad de Salamanca, Spain
- Yonsei University, South Korea
- Malmö University, Sweden
- American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- University of Leicester, United Kingdom

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*It is important that students bring a certain ragamuffin, barefoot, irreverence to their studies; they are not here to worship what is known, but to question it.*

— J. Bronowski
International Faculty and Staff
- Helping Smooth the Way

JungDuk Ohn, South Korea
Assistant Professor, Department of Education

JUNGDUK OHN came to the United States in May of 2002 as a doctoral student and finished her work in July of 2007 in elementary education. She worked at the University of Iowa as a graduate assistant and completed an internship, working as a teacher associate at a local elementary school.

In August 2007, Ohn was hired for a tenure-track position at JMU specializing in early, elementary and reading education. She brings unique perspectives and experiences that help JMU students acquire a solid understanding of the issues of social studies and other course contents.

Ohn feels the importance of working hard to break barriers and stereotypes by showing her competence and capability through successful academic work and social interactions. She wants people to view her as a human being who can contribute to the development of a more inclusive culture in the United States, rather than simply as a person who came from a foreign country.

Ohn came to JMU as an F-1 student visa holder on Optional Practical Training. OPT is the opportunity offered to all international students upon completion of their U.S. degree, giving them one year to gain experience in their field prior to either returning to their home country or obtaining a more permanent visa in the United States. Her husband, Hun Kwon, has been living in Austin, Texas, for the duration of Ohn’s stay in Harrisonburg, as he is currently on his own student visa with limitations on his mobility. (Many international married couples face this type of hardship due to visa restrictions, as both the student visas and work visas require the person to live or study only with the sponsoring school/company.) JMU has assisted Ohn and her husband in filing for their green cards. The applications are currently pending with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service.

Thomas Lavenir, France
Assistant Director
International Student and Scholar Services

THOMAS LAVENIR first came to the United States for a brief stint as an exchange student in Detroit. Then, in his early teens, he and his parents were invited to a friend’s son’s bar mitzvah. Lavenir knew no English when he came, but he and the son became fast friends and spent two summers together at the same camp. Lavenir completed his high school education at a prep school in Connecticut and then earned his bachelor’s degree from Hamilton College in New York State.

At Hamilton, Lavenir was heavily involved with the international student association and worked in many college departments, so working in higher education seemed ideal. He completed a master’s program in international education at the School for International Training in Vermont, which included a one-year internship at Duke University International House. When that turned into a full-time job, Lavenir worked with H-1B visa status for several years and then realized he would need to find another job through a national search in order to obtain a green card. He was hired at JMU’s Center for Multicultural/International Student Services. Then began the paperwork to apply for the green card, which Lavenir received earlier this year, nearly four years after the process began.

Lavenir believes that his personal experiences have enabled him to relate more closely to international students’ needs and concerns and to implement appropriate programs to meet those needs. One very good example is the Life after College Program, which helps students deal with job searches, travel and other issues following graduation, all greatly affected by immigration status. Lavenir believes that every U.S. citizen should spend a day working with an international student or an individual applying for a green card to learn to appreciate the privileges that U.S. citizenship bestows.
Immigration Processing at JMU – The Nuts and Bolts

JMU BELIEVES in the value of having a diverse faculty and staff, and, to that end, International Student and Scholar Services assists international employees in obtaining appropriate visas for employment. In school year 2007–08, JMU welcomed more than 25 new international faculty and staff, raising the total number of faculty and staff on temporary visas to 70. In addition, JMU employs many additional foreign-born individuals who are permanent residents or citizens of the United States. ISSS assists employees in obtaining the following visas or work authorizations from the U.S. government:

J-1 Visas:
- Visas used by temporary exchange visitors
- Most common visa for adjunct or one-year visiting professors
- Can be extended to a total of five years, assuming the position continues as a temporary position

H-1B Visas:
- The most common work visa for professionals
- Must be for a job which requires a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in a particular field
- Can be processed for three years at a time, for a total of six years
- Can be extended beyond six years if a green card application has been pending for at least one year
- Employee may work only for the employer that sponsored the H-1B

Green Cards (Permanent Residency):
- Must be for a job which requires a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in a particular field
- Employee must not replace better qualified U.S. workers
- Application for a “labor certification” must be obtained from the Department of Labor; then a petition is submitted to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS, formerly INS)
- Entire process can take anywhere from six months to six years, depending upon the job and when the initial petition was filed
- Five years after obtaining a green card, the employee may request U.S. citizenship

It is never too late to be what you might have been. — George Eliot

Top Thomas Lavenir and his exchange family in Detroit Middle In the Kent School yearbook Left And with a friend at Hamilton College’s graduation
**International Week**

**European Union: United in Diversity**
**Sept. 24 – Sept. 28, 2007**

JMU’s INTERNATIONAL WEEK festivities focused on the European Union, celebrating JMU’s opening of Palazzo Capponi and the master’s degree program in political science in Florence, Italy – European Union Policy Studies. The week also coincided with the 50th anniversary of the European Union. Opening ceremonies included a flamenco performance on the Commons by Furia Flamenca from Washington, DC, in an elegant and energetic combination of flamenco’s gypsy heritage and modern flamenco choreography. The evening’s highlight was a performance in Wilson Hall, “Reflecting Ireland: A Musical Performance,” featuring JMU musicians and well-known Irish artists, Cleek Schrey on Irish fiddle and Sean McComiskey on accordion. New songs by Jason Haney and jazz compositions by Chuck Dotas and Dave Pope, all commissioned for this year’s Staunton Music Festival, were part of the concert. The program also featured The Madison Singers in a selection of Irish songs.

Tuesday’s keynote speaker was Dr. Angelos Pangratis, Deputy Head at the Delegation of the European Commission to the United States, in Washington, DC. He began the day, though, with a roundtable discussion with senior political science and international affairs majors and in the afternoon met with business and community leaders. His talk that evening centered on “The Future for EU/US Economic and Political Relations.”

The week continued with an international bazaar; a study abroad fair, which hosted about 450 students eager to find just the right international opportunity; language classes in French, German, Spanish and Italian; a student panel discussion, “The European Union Through Our Eyes,” featuring JMU students sharing their firsthand perspectives about life in the European Union; and a midnight breakfast, offering such delights as tortilla española and build-your-own crêpes, and ending with an international karaoke contest.

This marked our second year of producing a news page in the *Breeze* highlighting our I-Week theme and encouraging participation in the week’s events. In addition to great support from JMU faculty, staff and students, many Harrisonburg community members, also rich in a variety of languages and cultures, joined us for a total of more than 3,000 as we commemorated cultural diversity at JMU and at Harrisonburg’s International Festival, held the following weekend.
So many choices – students investigate a world of opportunities at the Study Abroad Fair.
Phi Beta Delta

Phi Beta Delta – Honoring International Education

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP of Annick Conis and Sarah Jones, JMU’s Zeta Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the first honor society dedicated to recognizing scholarly achievement in international education, continued to thrive. In this, its second year, 40 faculty and student members participated in a number of endeavors. In addition to attending regular meetings, they took part in the opening ceremonies and Study Abroad Fair during JMU’s International Week; vigorously recruited new members; helped sponsor international peace activist Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne’s guest lecture, “We Can Build a Better World,” through the International Beliefs and Values Institute; and hosted an induction ceremony at Taste of Thai, February 12th, 2008, with guest speaker Dr. David Owusu-Ansah from the Department of History.

Future activities in the planning stage include a research paper competition, fundraisers and representation at the annual conference. The chapter hopes to continue to recruit members who will be dedicated to moving Phi Beta Delta in the right direction.
IN MARCH 2008 a group of seven JMU students, Assistant Director of ISSS Gina Kudrav and ISAT professor Mary Tacy traveled to La Gonave, an island off the coast of Haiti, to host a women’s conference and to check on numerous projects that were already underway. As a result of a visit and survey of women on the island a year earlier, Tacy had planned the conference to address women’s health, child care, job creation and community development. Interviews also provided material for a book Tacy is co-writing with Sarah O’Connor from writing and rhetoric studies.

More than 50 women attended the conference, which included invited guest speakers, workshops and discussions about establishing a women’s organization. The topics were wide-ranging: a goat project, micro-lending, nutrition, coral reef and mangrove forest preservation, overfishing and needlepoint and jewelry making. Dr. Barbara Jean-Louis, the island’s resident Haitian doctor, answered questions about women’s health. The conference was a great success, leaving Tacy, Kudrav and the students to consider future women’s conferences and perhaps one for men, who said they felt left out.

In addition to inspecting ongoing initiatives – two cistern projects, the solar house, the solar pump and the clinic – Tacy and her group addressed one of the biggest challenges that the International Partnership for La Gonave faces: communication. Rather than continuing to impose on Dr. Barbara and Fr. Roosevelt Leriche, the IPLG has found office space and a part-time staff member. The next hurdle is furnishing, setting up an Internet connection and – as always – funding.

Other efforts now underway include establishing a library with the “Book and a Buck” program, as La Gonave currently has no books and thus no habit of reading; distributing bed nets to protect infants from malaria-bearing mosquitoes; repairing the “House of the Poor” in Pointe-a-Raquette; expanding the geographic information system; and creating a student-led sustainable agriculture project.

The service we render to others is really the rent we pay for our room on this earth. It is obvious that man is himself a traveler; that the purpose of this world is not ‘to have and to hold’ but ‘to give and serve.’ There can be no other meaning.

— Sir Wilfred T. Grenfell
The IDEA (Innovative Diversity Efforts Awards) Grant

THE WORD DIVERSITY seems to be everywhere, and yet its usage and meaning are not always clear. In an effort to explore the term and its applications, the OIP worked in collaboration with the International Beliefs and Values Institute, as well as the Orientation Office, the Madison Art Collection and the Office of the Special Assistant for Diversity. We asked residents of Harrisonburg, Rockingham County and JMU faculty, staff and students to express their reactions to the concept and practice of diversity.

In March 2008, as part of this initiative, many individuals and teams submitted their work in any of four categories: essays, photo essays, short films and other art (paintings, posters, drawings, sculptures and even an original song).

Twenty people volunteered to judge these categories, and twelve entrants received prizes for their work. All entries will be on display in the Madison Art Collection’s Prism Gallery from mid-August to mid-September, and this exhibit will coincide with another OIP exhibit celebrating International Week. Participants in the contest, as well as a wide variety of other individuals, will be featured in a Defining Diversity film, begun in March and set to air during orientation in fall 2008.

For more information on the Defining Diversity Initiative, visit www.jmu.edu/ibavi.

Perhaps travel cannot prevent bigotry, but by demonstrating that all peoples cry, laugh, eat, worry, and die, it can introduce the idea that if we try and understand each other, we may even become friends.

— Maya Angelou

A poster entry by Linda Barbosa (Justice Studies staff)
Prize-winning “Face of Diversity” painting
- by Christina Blough (Harrisonburg High School Student)

Poem around the painting:
It doesn't matter the race, the color of skin.
The history, or country of origin.
The culture, the language, the shape.
The size, your vocal accent, or the colors of your eyes.
It's the movement that's here.
We learn from it, grow from it.
It's not something to fear.
Our civilization has been redone.
We are all different, but different together,
and together we are one.

Blough writes: “This piece was inspired by all the international students I have been fortunate enough to come into contact with in my years of growing up. I have been around international students and culture my entire life due to my mother's job, and I couldn't have been luckier. Ever since I was young I never saw any of the international students as different. They were all just like me. They were my family, no matter the color, the gender, the race, the culture. The different sections of the face represent different races and cultures. The elongated ear lobes represent the traditions in parts of New Guinea. The blue tribal marks represent tribes from Africa. The artwork around the eye, as well as the pronounced beauty mark on the cheek, represent the body art and henna tattooing of cultures in India. The lighter sections represent Caucasian, as well as Asian races. Having all the sections come together as one is what Diversity means to me.”

Diversity is learning that you can't assume anything about anyone; and without it, the past few years of my life would not have been half as enriching and exciting as they were.

— Cathleen Chen
JMU student, Diversity Initiative Award essay winner
LEE STERNBERGER, the OIP’s executive director, maintained an active role as the vice president of the International Network of Universities. This year saw the continuation of the INU’s shadowing program, with strong JMU support through hosting three participants and sending one; the success of the undergraduate symposium in Hiroshima focusing on environmental sustainability with participation by two students and two faculty members; the continued meeting of the library and technology, research managers, and teaching and learning special interest groups (SIGs); and the launch of the INU’s new Web site (www.inunis.net) and e-newsletter. In addition, a new INU project officer has been hired and visited the campus in June. The OIP also hosted the INU annual executive meeting in May at JMU’s palazzo in Florence. The attendees were appropriately dazzled by the beautiful facilities as well as the competence and charm of our Italian staff. Further, we set new standards for INU greening, as we reworked the INU environmental policy statement, presented on JMU and OIP efforts at greening, and challenged all INU participants to implement greening practices and seek further innovations. Overall, the meeting was a great success. We look forward to greater INU involvement in the next year.
IN AUGUST 2007 the International Network of Universities held its second annual student seminar on Global Citizenship, once again in Hiroshima to coincide with the Peace Memorial Ceremony on August 6. Among the 59 students and 16 facilitators from 16 countries around the world, Dr. Steven Frysinger and Dr. Johnathan Walker, both professors of integrated science and technology, and students Ashley Alexander and Brian Lantz represented JMU (the INU’s only U.S. member). This year’s theme was “Climate Change – A Global Issue,” and Al Gore’s film, An Inconvenient Truth, provided a starting point. The event featured lectures, workshops, a Japanese tea ceremony and an extensive cultural program centered on Hiroshima’s unique history as the first city to have suffered an A-bomb attack. The students visited the Peace Museum and heard from a hibakusha, an A-bomb survivor.

Seminar questions included:
• What are the dimensions of the climate change problem?
• Whom does it affect and what are the causes?
• What is the Kyoto Protocol and the politics surrounding it?
• What is the “ecological footprint” of the global community?
• How does the West compare with the East in terms of the use of global resources?

In addition to tackling these daunting issues and taking part in a model United Nations exercise, attendees this year had much greater interaction with Japanese students at Hiroshima University. The local students participated with the visitors in a series of games and activities, including origami lessons to make paper cranes for the Peace Ceremony.

Buoyed by the enthusiastic response of the students and fortified with suggestions for next year, the INU organizers look forward to an even more successful and meaningful seminar in 2008.

War doesn’t determine who is right, but who is left. — Bertrand Russell
Achieving Our Potential, Fulfilling Our Promise

The Strategic Plan
of the Office of International Programs

- Enhance and refine JMU’s internationalization strategy
- Promote greater involvement of all students in significant international education experiences
- Create and maintain a stimulating and supportive academic and cultural environment for international students and scholars
- Increase the international activity of faculty and professional staff
- Internationalize the curriculum
- Assure that research and scholarship pertaining to international matters permeate disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields
- Ensure that international awareness is an integral part of appropriate outreach, extension and fundraising activities

The traveler must, of course, always be cautious of the overly broad generalization. But I am an American, and a paucity of data does not stop me from making sweeping, vague, conceptual statements and, if necessary, following these statements up with troops.

— George Saunders
Lee Sternberger
Executive Director

As associate provost in Academic Affairs and executive director of the Office of International Programs (OIP), Sternberger currently leads a campus-wide effort to internationalize university curricula, services and programs, and coordinates global and international activities across JMU’s seven colleges. Sternberger is responsible for administering OIP programs, including study and service abroad, international student and scholar support and immigration services, and also works to develop opportunities for students, faculty and staff to learn about and pursue global education, funding, service and research activities. Finally, she also directs JMU’s activities within its international consortium – the International Network of Universities – and serves on its executive committee.

Sternberger earned her B.A. in economics from the University of Missouri, her M.S. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Washington State University, and an M.A. in architectural history from the University of Virginia; she has also completed postgraduate work at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. An experienced and devoted advocate of international education, Sternberger has taught, conducted research, led students, presented papers and served as an administrator and counselor in a diverse range of countries and cultures, including South Korea, England, Turkey, Germany, Canada, Hungary, Poland, Japan and Portugal.

Chantal Kennedy
Assistant to the Executive Director

Kennedy, a French native, was exposed to multicultural influences early in life as her parents entertained artists from across Europe. After living in England, she returned to France and pursued her professional administrative studies. Once she had received her diploma, she worked in Germany for the U.S. Air Force Headquarters in Europe.

Marriage brought her to San Antonio, where she and her husband shared in the Amigo Program, entertaining many foreign military officers in their home. In Staunton, they hosted Japanese students attending Mary Baldwin College. When her children left for college, she returned to work and assumed the daily office responsibilities of the Beverley Street Studio School, a visual arts school in Staunton.

Among many things Kennedy has been a tour guide in a fortress, a teacher, a translator and a library worker. She enjoys history, reading and traveling.

Jennifer Coffman
Associate Executive Director

For the OIP, Coffman chiefly focuses on internationalization and environmental efforts. She also teaches anthropology, Africana studies, environmental studies, and IDLS courses; established and directs JMU’s Field School in Kenya; and is engaged in a variety of environmental sustainability initiatives at JMU and abroad.

Coffman earned her B.A. in cultural anthropology and political science at Duke University and her M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has worked in Kajiado District, Kenya, since 1995. Her primary research examines the politics of land ownership and other resources. Her ethnographic case studies, derived from Maasai communities, illustrate how ideals of sustainable development and wildlife conservation play out in the daily lives and goals of people most directly affected by them. She has published and presented on this research, as well as on international educational exchanges between the United States and Africa, gender-based political asylum in the United States and representations of Maasai indigeneity. She directs JMU’s Farm Internship Program and the Art around the World Project, both co-sponsored by the International Beliefs and Values Institute and the Office of International Programs. In 2006, Coffman led a Fulbright-Hays-funded five-week Seminar in Kenya for Virginia School Teachers.

Judy Cohen
Director of Communications and External Relations

After ten years as a private tour guide and travel agent, Cohen began her international work at JMU in 1989, directing JMU’s International Internship Program and managing bookings for Madison House, JMU’s student residence hall in London. Currently, Cohen promotes the new master’s degree program in Florence, oversees various OIP publications, works with University Advancement in reaching study abroad alums and advises students on non-JMU internship opportunities. Her professional travels have taken her to Western and Eastern Europe and Australia.

Cohen graduated from Wellesley College with a B.A. in French and worked for Duke University before coming to Harrisonburg in 1973. When her husband, Ralph Cohen, began establishing JMU’s
study abroad program, she provided secretarial support, helping to set up the semesters in London and in Paris. As part of the faculty family in residence, she accompanied her husband to London for five semesters and to Florence for two, providing administrative assistance. An avid supporter of the arts, Cohen has contributed to the growth and success of the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton and serves on the board of the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival through Eastern Mennonite University.

**Eleanor (Lorie) Merrow**  
*Project Specialist*

Merrow has worked in the Office of International Programs for six years. As project specialist, she is responsible for writing grant proposals and developing externally funded projects that extend JMU resources to internationalize the campus and community. Often working in conjunction with faculty and other departments, Merrow has coordinated or directed projects, budgeted at a total of more than $500,000, for cross-cultural understanding both in the local community and overseas. She also serves as a Designated School Official and Alternate Responsible Officer for international students. She has traveled to Egypt, India, Kenya, UAE and Morocco, as well as throughout Western Europe.

Merrow earned her B.S. in education, M.A. and “A.B.D.” in history from the University of North Dakota, with French language minors throughout. Born and raised in Connecticut, she has lived in North Dakota, Oregon, Iowa and the United Kingdom, as well as Virginia. Merrow has worked in various sectors, including as college instructor, public school teacher, restaurateur and stay-at-home mom. These reflect her overarching and long-term interest in the large questions of life, particularly what we human beings are doing here on earth, and why/how we pass on our cultures, especially through educational systems. She is married, with two grown children, and in her spare time enjoys walking, reading, movies, puzzles and cooking.

**Program Operations Team**

**Jackie Ciccone**  
*Director of Operations*

Ciccone began work in the OIP in 1986 when a “one-person” office handled JMU’s first three semester programs — in Florence, London and Paris. Currently she directs the base operations of the OIP, manages the financial planning and administration of JMU’s international programs and serves as adviser to JMU faculty program directors. Ciccone supervises the planning phase, monitors budgets, maintains compliance with university, state and federal policies that may affect student security and directs the office’s budget and personnel functions. She works closely with semester and short-term program directors and the OIP Study Abroad team to ensure an efficient and quality experience for JMU students. She has made site visits to JMU programs in London, Paris and Salamanca. She is a member of the Faculty Member in Residence Selection Committee and oversees the Universal Scholarship Program. Ciccone has been actively involved in university committee and service activities, including as co-chair in 2000–01, the Disability Resources Committee, the Employee Service Awards Task Force, the Employee Recognition Focus Group and the Inaugural Committee for President Rose. In April she received the 2008 Madison Award for Career Achievement. She is also a member of the Virginia Government Employees’ Association.

**Shannon Patty**  
*Secretary/Receptionist*

Patty joined JMU and the OIP in June of 2008 as secretary/receptionist. She has had 15 years of experience in the administrative field, including working for the U.S. Army as well as Northern Virginia Community College in Woodbridge.

Born in Odessa, Texas, Patty moved to the Northern Virginia area in 1990. She has volunteered at the ACTS Women’s Shelter for battered women, as well as the Meals on Wheels Program in Northern Virginia.

**Donna Walker**  
*Transaction Assistant*

Walker has been employed with JMU since 2000. Her background includes working as the fixed asset accountant in the Office of Accounting Services, where she was responsible for the accounting and recording of university fixed assets, equipment trust fund reconciliation and financial statement preparation for university equipment purchases. Prior to her position in accounting services, Walker worked in the Office of Telecommunications, where she was responsible for administrative billing and accounts payable.

Walker joined the Office of International Programs in May 2006. Her responsibilities include performing various fiscal transactions, budget and credit card reconciliations and other financial reporting.
Felix Wang
Director

Wang joined JMU in the fall of 2001 as assistant director of the Center for Multicultural/International Student Services. A native of Taiwan, he spent most of his life in the Dominican Republic. He earned his B.B.A. and M.B.A from Campbell University in North Carolina. Prior to his arrival at JMU, he served as assistant director of international admissions at Campbell University. His duties included recruitment, student programs, immigration, study abroad and advising.

During his role as the assistant director at CMISS, he worked with international students to ensure their adjustment and support their needs during their studies at JMU. In addition, he was responsible for promoting cultural awareness and diversity initiatives for the university. As the director of study abroad, Felix plans, coordinates and promotes study abroad programs and international opportunities for JMU students.

Felix presents numerous workshops on diversity and international topics and advises several student organizations on campus. Currently, he is pursuing a master’s degree (his second) in the field of college student personnel administration. A member of NAFSA: Association of International Educators, NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) and NShMBA (National Society of Hispanic MBAs), he is fluent in English, Spanish and Mandarin and has traveled extensively throughout Western Europe and several countries in Latin America and Asia.

Agnes Choi
Enrollment Assistant

Choi joined the OIP in August 2007. She earned her B.S. in computer science and statistics from Chonnam National University in the city of light, Gwangju, South Korea. After graduation, she worked for two companies in Seoul for five years as a batch/online computer programmer.

She came to the United States in August 1988 and earned the Certificate of Business Communication Technology and Medical Office Assistant. Since January 2003, she has been pursuing individualized study in computerized health service administration at JMU. She is interested in public and personal health services around the world.

Her diverse international experience, knowledge and desire to work led her to join the OIP. Choi assists in international study program application processing, data entry, form collection, course registration and file maintenance. She wants to become a reliable gatekeeper in study abroad program application processing. Choi likes the proverb, “Where there is a will, there is a way.”

Kelly Poppen
Study Abroad Adviser

Poppen joined JMU in the summer of 2006 as a study abroad adviser. A native Oregonian, Poppen earned her B.A. in Spanish from Oregon State University and twice studied abroad in Santander, Spain. After graduating, she interned for a study abroad organization in Spain, advising U.S. students on academic and cultural issues during their own foreign studies. Most recently, Poppen worked for two years in Study Abroad and Exchange Programs at Central Washington University, where she served as an adviser to students studying in South America and Oceania. Her own international experiences include travels to Honduras, Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Australia and throughout Western Europe.

Donna Sharpes
Enrollment Coordinator

Sharpes began her employment at JMU in 1999, working two years part time in the Office of International Programs and then at the Center for Multicultural/International Student Services for three. During this period, she gained experience and knowledge in visa regulations for international students, JMU study abroad programs, diversity issues, the need for international awareness and tolerance and college student support on campus. Sharpes has now returned to the OIP as the enrollment coordinator. In this position, she is the primary contact for study abroad applications, manages the student files and databases, communicates with program directors regarding enrollment, verifies eligibility and admissions data and aids enrolled students in meeting program requirements.

Her own experiences abroad include participating in a JMU alternative spring break trip to the Dominican Republic, site visits to the JMU semester programs in Salamanca and Antwerp and personal trips to England and Italy.
Peggy Zeh
Study Abroad Adviser

Zeh has been part of the OIP staff since 1993. In her role as a study abroad adviser, Zeh publicizes international events, advises students about international opportunities and assists with conducting pre-departure orientation meetings. She helps students and faculty with academic matters and maintains academic data. Zeh manages the on-campus administration of the Semester in Florence program and assists the program resident director by serving as campus liaison. To familiarize herself with semester programs, Zeh has traveled to Antwerp, Florence, London and Salamanca. She has also made site visits to some of the institutions that are members of the International Network of Universities, a consortium of which JMU is a member.

International Student and Scholar Services

Delores (Delo) Blough
Director

Blough earned her B.S. in social work from Eastern Mennonite University and her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. Prior to joining JMU in 2004, she served as the director of international student services and coordinator of diversity initiatives at Eastern Mennonite University for seven years. While an attorney in private practice from 1988 to 1995, Blough specialized in immigration law. In addition, Blough has significant experience in the field of conflict management, mediation training and family law.

Blough continues to educate others about issues related to international education, including immigration regulations, international student policies and international faculty/staff employment. She has conducted workshops, participated in training programs and provided assistance to department heads and search committees. In the spring of 2007, Blough was elected president of the Western Virginia International Educators, an organization established to promote cooperation in international education among educational institutions and organizations in western Virginia. Blough’s goal is to provide a welcoming environment for JMU’s international guests.

Gina Kudrav
Assistant Director for Visa Services

Kudrav has been with JMU for almost 13 years, first with the Office of Admissions. Wanting more student contact, she moved to the OIP’s International Student and Scholar Services in 1998. Kudrav has had more than 10 years’ experience with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and the inception and implementation of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, or SEVIS.

At the OIP, Kudrav’s work centers on issuing the SEVIS I-20 and DS-2019 forms and other duties that help students maintain F or J international status. She authorizes curricular practical training, extensions and underloads, recommends optional practical training to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, maintains and updates the health insurance roster and explains the basic concepts of the American insurance system.

Kudrav graduated from Edinboro State University in Pennsylvania with a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

Kudrav serves on the committees for International Week, the Transitions program and the International Student Leadership Conference.

Thomas Lavenir
Assistant Director for Programming

Lavenir, a native of France, joined JMU in 2004 as assistant director of the Center for Multicultural/International Student Services. He worked with international and multicultural students to provide them a safe place, advocate on their behalf and organize events and programs to celebrate their cultures and heritages while educating the larger campus and community about diversity issues.

As the assistant director, Lavenir makes ISSS a “home away from home” for international students, ensuring their smooth transition and adjustment. He is also responsible for enlightening the JMU campus and nearby community about the importance of looking beyond one’s country to understand the world and appreciate the richness that lies within all people.

Lavenir’s interests lie in the intersection of domestic and international issues of diversity. In May 2006 he received the Diversity Enhancement Award “for significant contributions and demonstrated commitment to the enhancement of diversity in the JMU Community.” He has conducted and continues to offer diversity and intercultural communication workshops. Furthermore, he serves as the JMU Safe Zone coordinator and in March 2008 received the JMU LGBT and Ally Education Award.
The Madison Way

The JMU International Community Is

**Scholarly**  Intellectual pursuit is our primary focus ...

**Studious**  We are committed to the rigors of academic excellence and growth ...

**Honest**  Academic and personal integrity are fundamental components in any and all of our interactions ...

**Accountable**  Individuals and groups accept responsibility for behaviors and abide by all laws and community standards ...

**Respectful**  We appreciate and learn from the human and ideological differences that make our community stronger ...

**Resilient**  We possess the courage and commitment to face personal challenges and obstacles ...

**Compassionate**  We thoughtfully contribute to the local, regional, national and international community ...

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Erudite  La poursuite intellectuelle est notre objectif primordial ...

Estudioso  Nosotros estamos comprometidos a los rigores de excelencia y crecimiento académico ...

诚实  在我们的任何和所有的互动交流中 学术诚信和人格诚实 正直 是最基本的组成部分...

Rispettosi  Proviamo apprezzamento e impariamo dalle differenze culturali e ideologiche che rendono più solida la nostra comunità ...

Ukakamavu  Tumejazwa na ushujaa na moyo wa kupambana na changa moto za kibinafsi na pingamizi ...

Learned institutions ought to be favorite objects with every free people.  — James Madison
And on to Next Year

Some Major OIP Plans and Projects for 2008-09:

• JMU Interfaith Youth Core Project
• “Faith and Community: A Dialogue with Guinea, Senegal and the United States,” pending Department of State funding
• The 2008 International Week, September 22 – 26, 2008 with the theme, China: Beyond the Great Wall
• Establishment of two new minors: Modern European Studies in Florence and British Communication and Media in London
• Implementation of a Risk Management Training Program for Study Abroad Program Directors
• Improved Training Methods on Immigration Issues
• Increased Support for Spring-Semester Incoming First Year International Students

Dux femina facti. — Virgil