

CENTRAL

BULLETIN SPRING '08



Pella. It's in the middle of Iowa, the middle of the Midwest and to some, in the middle of nowhere. So how is Central College able to produce globally aware students?

It's a priority. Central has a nationally recognized study abroad program and has been a pioneer in higher education in study abroad programs. We are one of few colleges able to send students abroad using financial aid packages. Our students are able to study at eight different sites during fall and spring semesters, as well as summer months, gaining valuable life experiences.

In my own life, I have been blessed to experience many of the myriad cultures around our world. As a youngster I studied in 13 different schools on both U.S. coasts, the Gulf of Mexico, in the Dakotas, Midwest and Puerto Rico. While this was all on U.S. soil, I learned the tremendous strength that accrues to our nation from its heritage of being a beacon for people from all parts of the world and from

affording these people and cultures the opportunity to flourish, pursue dreams and participate. As a student at the Air Force Academy, I studied international relations, learned a foreign language, and toured U.S. and allied military installations in Europe with diplomatic and cultural briefings at each step. As a graduate student, I studied in England. And as an officer, I served a short tour in Vietnam and three years in Brussels, Belgium, where one of my responsibilities was briefing our Japanese and Korean allies on NATO policy decisions. These experiences shaped who I am and reinforced my appreciation for my liberal arts grounding. Central's multiple study abroad programs were a deciding factor in Betsy's and my decision to come here.

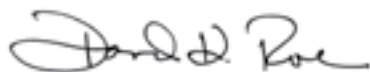
International education should be an essential part of education for all students in the United States. As Americans, we need to deepen our knowledge of the world and its ideals and cultures. I want our students to develop an understanding and appreciation of a liberal arts education, which includes a global perspective. Central provides educational experiences that help students contribute to society's welfare and achieve personal and professional goals. Central students who have studied abroad for a semester or more go on to study, work and live in these locations after graduation, expanding their horizons.

As a nation, we are dependent upon an internationally competent workforce. Sending more young people abroad helps those in the public as well as private sector. Employers are looking for employees with skills to help them get ahead in the global market — language, international experience, a better understanding of the world. Central integrates career preparation with the development of values essential for students to be

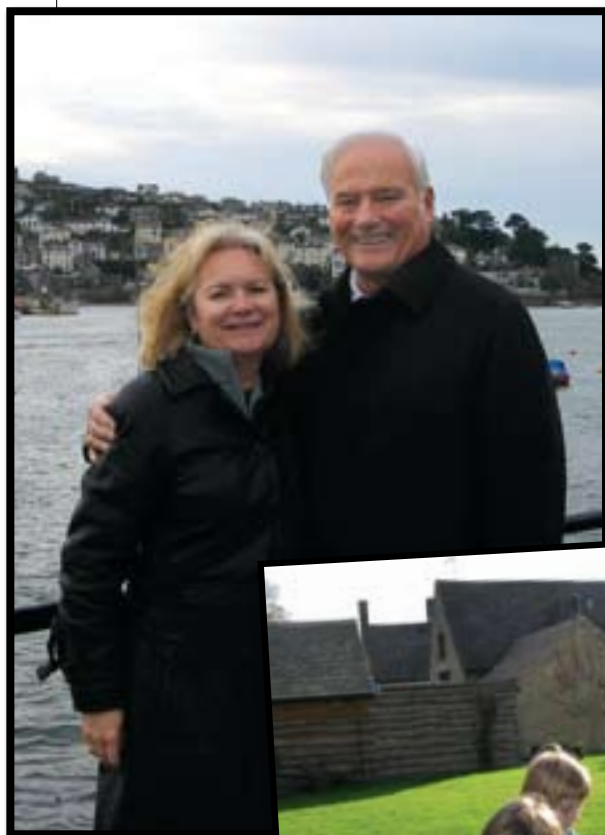
responsible local, national and international citizens.

After a semester of studying, traveling and living in another country, students return to campus and are noticeably and wonderfully different. They've changed for the better. They've grown through the experiences they had abroad, living and learning outside the traditional classroom — out of their comfort zone. Studying abroad helps students learn about other cultures and more importantly, it helps students learn about themselves.

Central's board, our faculty and the administration want the Central community to experience and appreciate the diversity of cultures present in the United States and the world. They want us to relate knowledgeably and sensitively to persons of diverse cultural perspectives and know international education can lead us in this mission.



David H. Roe



▲ Having a worldly experience is important to David and Betsy Roe, and it starts early for their twin daughters as they often take international trips with their parents.



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Photo by Paul Gates

▲ Students choose from eight different abroad sites.

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Map of Bangor, Wales

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▲ Central College Abroad has a rich history.

I N T H I S I S S U E

Campus ministries helps Habitat



Natalie Ruedy (above) and Jordan Tiarks (right) salvage windows from University Apartments. ►

In an effort to reach out to others and care for the environment, the Central College justice team volunteered its time with the deconstruction of University Apartments on campus in order to make room for the education and psychology building, which broke ground this spring. Central's justice team operates with the mission to fight injustice around the world as well as within their own communities.

Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, nearly 35 students removed materials from the apartment building salvaging better quality materials to donate to charity.



Over the course of the two weekends, the team removed doors, exterior light fixtures and 30 windows. The team saved some of the materials for a future mission trip to Reynosa, Mexico, and donated others to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Des Moines, where they will

be resold to fund other Habitat projects. The team also collected almost 500 pounds of copper pipe and aluminum sheeting to be recycled for compensation to fund a mission trip to Malawi, Africa, in May. While in Africa, students will work with children at an AIDS orphanage in the village Ntcheu through Save Orphans Ministries; they also will build a kitchen for the orphanage and assist other village families.

CENTRAL RECEIVES HUMANITIES IOWA GRANT FOR WRITERS READING

Central received a \$5,700 grant from Humanities Iowa, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to support the Geisler Library Writers Reading spring 2008 series. This is the fourth year Humanities Iowa has chosen to support this program.

Highlighting the spring series are Keith Ratzlaff, professor of English at Central and winner of the Anhinga Poetry Prize; Debra Marquart, critically acclaimed creative writer; Sharon Olds, distinguished poet; and James Alan McPherson, Pulitzer Prize winner and creative writer. Also in the spring series are Central College graduating poets from Ratzlaff's advanced poetry writing class.

RECYCLED PAPER ON CAMPUS

In keeping with Central's sustainability efforts, the college recently made the switch to 100-percent recycled paper in

Photo by Paul Gates



▲ Terri Arkema Vander Molen '76 helped implement the use of recycled paper.

all 8.5 by 11-inch printers and copy machines on campus. The paper, produced by Badger Paper and delivered directly to Central from the mill in Peshtigo, Wis., is made from 100-percent post-consumer waste.

Discussion for the project began in March 2007 when Terri Arkema Vander Molen '76, director of campus services and affirmative action officer, and Central's facilities planning and management office looked into using recycled paper for all offices and labs on campus. Vander Molen researched paper companies and found Badger Paper

to be the most cost-efficient, highest quality recycled paper. Paper was ordered in September 2007, and by January 2008 all printers and copiers were stocked with the new paper.

The recycled paper will cost \$6,000 more per year, but the positive effects on the environment make up for the expense.

FOCUS THE NATION

Calvin DeWitt, professor of environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin, was keynote speaker for Central College's Focus the Nation events Jan. 31. He spoke on "The Scientist and the Shepherd" as part of the Mark and Kay De Cook Distinguished Speaker Series. He also gave a sermon, "Care of Creation."

Focus the Nation directly engages millions of students and citizens in dialogue about global warming. The day included events in which faculty members and students presented. Over 1,000 campuses helped focus America on solutions to global warming, making Focus the Nation the largest teach-in throughout U.S. history.

CENTRAL CO-SPONSORED BALD EAGLE DAYS

Central College co-sponsored Bald

Eagle Days March 1 with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Marion County Conservation Board, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Pella Wildlife Company.

Students from area schools and members of the public from central Iowa visited Lake Red Rock dam to view bald eagles and hear educational messages about raptors, environmental stewardship and other topics. Central hosted live raptor programs on campus.

CENTRAL RECEIVES GRANT FROM STARR FOUNDATION

Central received its ninth \$200,000 grant from the Starr Foundation in November to add to its C.V. Starr Endowed Scholarship. The foundation established the scholarship with a \$200,000 gift in the fall of 1999. The C.V. Starr Endowed Scholarship provides scholarship assistance to students on the basis of merit and need.

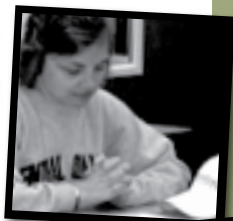
Education traditionally has been one of the largest areas of giving for the foundation. Central College is one of more than 100 colleges and universities and selected secondary schools where the foundation has endowed scholarship funds. ■

FREE *no tuition!* COLLEGE CLASSES!

When you come back for Homecoming/Family Weekend and all the festivities, attend classes — FREE! Central's lifelong learning classes are 50 minutes, designed just for alumni and parents. There are two sessions Saturday, Sept. 20, so you can attend one or two different classes. A sampling of past classes includes:

- Exploring French Films
- Plants that Blow Your Mind
- Why Americans Should Care about Africa
- Socrates: What Did HE Know?
- Living the Second Half of Life with Purpose and Passion
- Community Problem Solving
- Racquetball Basics and Tips
- Investing in Contemporary Art
- Introduction to Japan
- Create an Invitation or Poster using Microsoft Word
- Fit Over 50
- The Pursuit of Happiness

Experience new facilities, new faculty and your favorite professors again. This is another opportunity for Central to add value to your life and a chance for you to continue lifelong learning. No tuition — just show up. You'll be glad you did, and we will, too!



Central Family Trees

Do you have three, four or more generations tied to Central College? Share your family trees with us.

Legacy students, or children of alumni, receive an instant discount from the admission office. The heritage award is given to children of alumni, RCA members and/or students with a sibling attending Central College and ranges from \$1,500-2,100. The alumni office mails gifts to children of alumni at birth and ages 5, 10 and each year of high school.

Do we know about your children and grandchildren? Help us celebrate their birthdays and begin our recruiting trail. E-mail alumni@central.edu or call 800-447-0287 for more information.

SCHOLAR DAYS

Central College alumni and current parents served on question-and-answer panels for prospective parents at scholar days in February. Alumni volunteers were Amy Adams '04, Carissa Sampson Beer '05, Nicole Hirota Cummings '04, Scott Enyart '00, Ryan Fick '02, Eric Forsberg '99, Amy Grieser Quam '06, Brian Kingrey '05, Lindsay Korver Loomans '07, Cy McMahon '99, Morgan Reelitz '07, Meggan Samuelson '06, Travis Sterling '93 and Jen Van Utrecht '03. Parent volunteers were

Brad and Claudia Brammer, Brian '80 and Lori Humphrey Fegley '80, Joel and Shayla From, Dave and Jill Grindberg, Terry and Lori Collister Hilker '80, Steve and Mary Lee Hill, Drew and Bubis Hohenboken, Rich and Chris Maxwell, Jon and Amy Ness, Bob '83 and Lynne Van Vark Schueler '85, Don and Paula Stockton and Mike and Cathy Wignall.

ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL

The alumni advisory council met on campus for its annual meeting March 28-29. The council heard from current students Josh Smith '08 of Pella; Mary Swanson '08 of Jefferson, Iowa; Scott Paja '08 of Stockton, Ill.; Abby Schwenen '09 of Parkersburg and Peter Fegley '11 of Cedar Falls, Iowa. Council members under the direction of chairperson Kris Brandt Vaughn '90 of Flower Mound, Texas, include Burt Voss '49 of Ann Arbor, Mich.; Jan Van Zomeren Beran '53 of Ames, Iowa; Arlys Van Zee Verdoorn '56 of Pella; Kathy Redeker Vande Berg '60 of St. Augustine, Fla.; Gary McClimen '65 of Des Moines; Scott Parfrey '70 of Marana, Ariz.; Tony Wilson '71 of Des Moines; Don Koolmees '77 of Paramount, Calif.; Kathie Flood '86 of Kirkland, Wash.; Jodi Pentico Larson '92 of

Oswego, Ill.; Josh Bailey '96 of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Bill Snyders '95 of Fredericksburg, Va.; Rachel Morris Tesch '01 of Arlington, Va.; and Jen Van Utrecht '03 of Overland Park, Kan. Board of trustee members Judy Gosselink Grooters '60 of Dallas, Texas; Bob Pentico '64 of Mint Hill, N.C.; and Mary Worstell '73 of Washington, D.C., helped develop the council seven years ago.

PARENTS' COUNCIL

Parents' council met April 5. Mike Lubberden, director of facilities planning and management, presented the campus master plan and discussed current renovations taking place on campus. Susan Canfield, on-campus events coordinator/director of grants and special projects, reviewed graduation and Homecoming/Family Weekend information. Phil George, professor of education, held a question and answer session on academic advising. Anne Petrie, professor of music, John Roslien, associate professor of exercise science, and Wendy Weber, associate professor of mathematics, assisted. The council also heard from student panel members Trenton Blythe '08 of Williamsburg, Allison '08 and Peter Fegley '11 of Cedar Falls and Annie Wignall '10. ■

Inaugurations

Many alumni represent Central College at events across the country. Thank you to the following people for attending inaugurations on behalf of Central College and President David and Betsy Roe this past year:

Dr. Wendell '60 and Joanna Roelofs at Houghton College in Houghton, N.Y.

Dr. Don '63 and Marie Dahm at Haverford College in Haverford, Pa.

George Brown '65 at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Dr. Dick '65 and Cathy Whittlesey at St. Ambrose University in Davenport

Bob '69 and Theresa Case at Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y.

Lanny Little '74 at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wis.

Dennis '82 and Jill Blanchard at Roanoke College in Salem, Va.

Dr. Joe '83 and Tracy Schmoker at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vt.

Dr. Andrew '90 and Christina Shahriari at Malone College in Canton, Ohio

Annique Brown Kiel '99 at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas

Erin Leuenberger '01 at Nebraska Wesleyan in Lincoln, Neb.

Larry '06H and Cathy Pacha '06H at The University of Iowa in Iowa City

Meet the pros forum on campus. ►



◄ Alumni track meet.



▲ Feb. 23 in Omaha, Neb.

1999 alumni at ► Washington, D.C.



To check out more alumni snapshots go to:
www.central.edu/alumni/eventphotos

HOMECOMING/FAMILY WEEKEND

Photo by Dan Vander Beek



Photo by F.J. Gaylor



Friday classes open — sit in and find out what students are learning today!

Make plans today to attend the 2008 Homecoming football game

Central vs. Wartburg, Saturday, Sept. 20



Photo by Dan Vander Beek

REUNION

Enjoy good times and old friends.



Dan Hocker '83 Memorial
Golf Tournament



TRADITION
Lemming Race





FUN!

Enjoy the Saturday morning pancake breakfast with family and friends.



**Family
carnival**
10 - 11:30
Saturday
on the lawn
between
Kruidenier
and
Vermeer
Science
Center



FRIDAY, SEPT. 19

- 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Classes open — Sit in, find out what students are learning. Schedule available on the Web and at welcome center.
- 10 a.m. Heritage Day reception, **Chapel courtyard**
- 11 a.m. Homecoming worship service, **Chapel**
- Noon Dan Hocker '83 Memorial Golf Tournament, **Bos Landen**
- Noon Heritage Day luncheon, invite only, **Graham Banquet Room**
- 2:30 p.m. Remember when? **Maytag Grand Central Station**
Hear stories of Central from the past and present, lots of fun and laughter.
- 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Carlson-Kuyper Field Station tours. Tour leaves from **Central Hall parking lot** at 3:30 p.m.
- 6 p.m. Lemming Race, **Peace Mall**
- 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. Alumni and family barbecue — **outside Central Market \$**
- 6:30 p.m. Athletic Hall of Honor banquet, invitation only, **Graham Banquet Room**
- 8 p.m. Pep rally and Homecoming coronation, **Kuyper Gym**

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

- 8 a.m. Dutch 5K Fun Run/Walk, **Central Cross Country Course \$**
- 8 – 10 a.m. Pancake breakfast, **on the lawn between Maytag and Central Market**
- 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Pella tours, **leaving from the Central Hall parking lot**
- 9 – 11 a.m. Campus tours, **leaving on the hour from Central Hall, advancement office**
- 9:30 – 10:20 a.m. Lifelong learning opportunities, various locations
Faculty and staff lead classes on a variety of topics.
Schedule available on the Web and at welcome center.
- 9:30 – 10:20 a.m. Central College Abroad information session, **Graham #1**
- 10-11:30 a.m. Family carnival, **NEW LOCATION on lawn between Kruidenier and Vermeer Science Center**
- 10:30 – 11:20 a.m. Lifelong learning opportunities, various locations
- 11 a.m. Athletic Hall of Honor plaque unveiling ceremony, **Schipper Fitness Center**
- 11 a.m. Tailgate Under the Big Tent, **Weller Center lawn \$**
- 1 p.m. Football — Central vs. Wartburg, **Schipper Stadium \$**
- 3:30 p.m. Post-game reception for athletic Hall of Honor inductees, **lawn north of H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse**
- 5 p.m. Alumni reception, dinner and class reunion pictures, **H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse \$**
Pictures begin at 5 p.m. with class of 1953.
Dinner buffet opens at 5:45 p.m.
- 5 p.m. Pizza, movies and more, **A. N. Kuyper Complex**
Designed for children ages 1-12 as an alternative to the dinner (above). Arrival time is flexible. Event will end when dinner is over. **\$**
- 7:30 p.m. Class reunion gatherings, various locations

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

- 11 a.m. Homecoming/Family Weekend Brunch, **Central Market \$**

\$ Denotes events that will have a fee for all participants.

Register online today at www.central.edu/alumni/homecoming.html.

Most men's basketball wins since 1995

Placing three players on the all-Iowa Conference team for the first time since 1980, the progress continued for the Central men's basketball squad under coach Mike Boschee.

Central climbed above .500, posting a 14-10 record, its best since 1994-95. Senior guard Brett DeHoogh of Clive, a three-time academic all-conference and all-region honoree, led the league in assists and was a first-team all-conference pick. Senior forward Keith Pedersen of Jefferson was the NCAA Division III field goal percentage leader, hitting a school-record 69.7 percent, and was a second-team all-conference pick. Sophomore guard Miguel Ley of San Antonio, Texas, averaged a team-high 15.6 points and also was a second-team choice. And, senior guard Zak Clark of Fort Dodge established a new career 3-pointers record with 175 and finished 14th on the school's all-time scoring charts with 1,093 points.

"Our seniors are good leaders and great workers," Boschee said. "It's going to be tough going to practice next year without them.

"But, we've got some good young guys in the program now, and I think the future is bright."



Photo by Dan Vander Beek

Erin Benson of Omaha, Neb., was one of two graduating seniors for the Dutch women.

NIKKEL TO COACH YOUNG WOMEN'S SQUAD

Veteran high school coach Jerry Nikkel '66 will take over as coach of Central's promising young women's basketball squad.

An assistant the past four years at Central, Nikkel replaces Natalie Nakic, who resigned after three seasons. Nikkel racked up a 439-190 record in 29 years as a high school boys' basketball coach before joining the Central staff. He piloted Pella Christian to three state

championships. He's also a longtime girls' softball coach.

The Dutch suffered through growing pains struggling to a 4-21 mark. The course of the season was dramatically altered in the opening game when team MVP and floor leader Laura Porter of Monroe suffered a season-ending injury.

But freshman center Andrea Clark of Guthrie Center emerged as the team statistical leader with 13.3 points and 7.4 rebounds a game, while sophomore guard Brittney Carlson of Oskaloosa averaged

10.6 points. Clark was a second-team all-conference pick, the first Dutch freshman to receive the distinction since Molly Parrott in 1998-99.

WRESTLERS LOOKING AHEAD TO 2008-09

Seldom has there been as much enthusiasm around a winless squad as surrounds the Central wrestling program.

A small team void of any juniors or seniors soldiered through a 0-15-1 campaign, but first-year coach Eric Van Kley and assistant Jason Zastrow are providing a jolt of energy to Dutch wrestling. Van Kley started the wrestling program at the University of Great Falls (Mont.) and built a roster with 45 wrestlers while piloting the squad to a sixth-place finish at the NAIA national tournament a year ago. Van Kley and Zastrow are using a similar blueprint at Central, hitting the recruiting trail at a furious pace and early returns are encouraging.

Meanwhile, his young Central squad showed progress. Freshman 141-pounder Curtis Hobbs of Grinnell recorded 11 wins before suffering a season-ending injury and freshman 285-pounder Ted Dirx of Alleman was a placewinner at the Iowa Conference tourney.

"It was definitely a challenging season being we were short on numbers and extremely young," Van Kley said. "But, it was successful because every guy on the team was much improved and the team improved every week."



Freshman Ted Dirx of Alleman placed at the conference tourney.

KUCHY NAMED WOMEN'S SOCCER COACH

Colin Kuchy has been named head women's soccer coach. He replaces Rick Burns, who resigned following a 10-5-3 record last fall after four seasons.

Kuchy was in his first year as an assistant coach for the Central's men's soccer squad, helping the Dutch post a 14-4-3 record. Previously, he was head coach at Mount Zion High School (Ill.) for one year and the Mid-State Soccer Club in Decatur, Ill., after earlier stints as coach for clubs in St. Louis, Mo. He also spent a year as the junior varsity coach at St. Ambrose University. For 15 months, Kuchy was event manager for Street Soccer Cup USA in St. Louis.

He earned a bachelor's degree from St. Ambrose University in 2003 and a master's in business management from Webster University (Mo.). He was a four-year starter at St. Ambrose and served as team co-captain his senior season. A native of San Antonio, Texas, Kuchy attended high school in Nashville, Tenn., where he played in three state tournaments and also gained extensive club experience.

FRIENDS BUILD PAUL PETERSEN '88 FITNESS CENTER

Central won a lot of football games in the mid-80s but several Dutch players from that era scored one more victory recently.

Former teammates of Paul Petersen '88, who died in 2004, spearheaded a fund drive that resulted in construction of the Paul Petersen Fitness Center in his hometown of Wyoming, Iowa.

Jeff Staton '88 said some of Petersen's Central friends originally considered creating a scholarship in Petersen's honor. But, when Staton and others visited Midland High School in Wyoming to discuss the possibility, they noticed the high school's tiny weight room was in disrepair. Petersen had been an avid weightlifter while at Central, so the group took on the ambitious task of



Photo by Dan Vander Beek

Colin Kuchy (right) to lead women's soccer.

raising money for the construction of a \$250,000 fitness facility.

"It sounded crazy when we got started," Staton said. "But, the whole community really got behind it."

For the past four years, the group staged a golf tournament as a fundraiser while community members solicited additional donations. After \$175,000 was raised, construction began and the facility was dedicated in November.

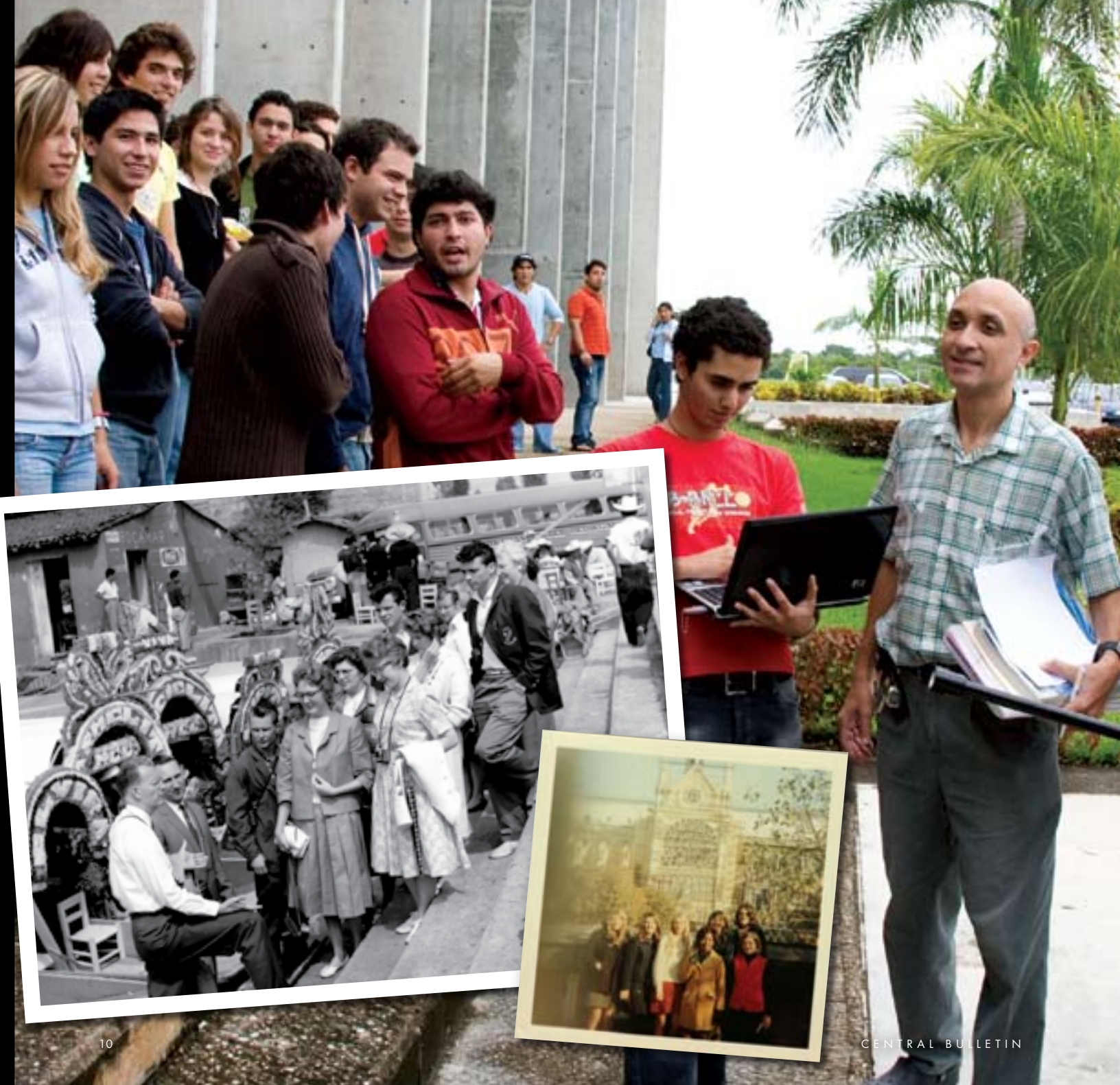
The building features weight equipment, cardio machines, television monitors and a walking track.

"We have witnessed the benefits of a commitment from a small group of people who have rallied around an inspiration from one individual," Midland High School Principal Nathan Marting told the *Midland Times*. "I hope this is proof to others of how hard work and sacrifice can reap unlimited benefits."

Joel Jacobs '87 serves as president of the Paul Petersen Foundation. Board members with Central ties include his wife Samantha, Terry '87 and Deb Funk Daniels '90, Jeff '88 and Karen Westphal, Craig '90 and Kim Hansen Dirks '91, Jeff '88 and Tawnya Lewis Staton '89, Todd '88 and Deb Bohlen, and Dan '89 and Liz Clausen Marburger '89. ■

GO ANYWHERE START HERE

Central's
international
success programs





The

events of Sept. 11, 2001, had an immense impact on international education and world relations. We now are confronted with a world remarkably different than when study abroad first started. The United States is rapidly shifting economically and politically, while national security is a reality as well as a challenge.

The events that September day not only raised student awareness, but also educator awareness in world affairs. We, as Americans, need to better understand the similarities between us and the rest of the world and appreciate the differences. We struggle to learn about other people in far away places. As a nation, we are not globally savvy. We lack general knowledge about the world. While other countries often teach at least two languages to their children, we only teach one.

Language assistant Jean-Baptiste Le Bolay from La Guerche Sur L'Aubois, France, grew up learning French, English, Spanish and German.

At Central, Le Bolay makes language labs simple for students, by requiring they converse with each other, ask and answer questions.

I try not to interfere too much. I want to make it so they can be independent when they study abroad. The key to speaking a different language is going to that country.

"I try not to interfere too much," he said. "I want to make it so they can be independent when they study abroad. The key to speaking a different language is going to that country."

Photo by Paul Gates



JEAN-BAPTISTE LE BOLAY LEADING A LANGUAGE LAB

Le Bolay studied English before coming to Central but knew the best way to learn would be to live here.

"I wanted to study at Central because I was curious about the United States and how it differed from Europe," he said. "I wanted to see how life is different, and it is. There's not much

public transportation; everyone has a car. And, it's easier to spend money because people go out to eat a lot and go shopping on the weekends. There's a lot more mass consumption, and it's much more business-oriented than in Europe."

Students who study abroad develop a lifelong passion for learning about other cultures. Their experiences in other cultures shape them in an unexpected way. They gain an understanding of the importance of relationships.

LIVING HIGH TECH

The world has become more interconnected, largely because of advanced technology. It's easy to travel and communicate across the globe, thus making studying abroad more adaptable for students.

Junior Emily Grant of Adel, Iowa, had no problem staying connected with friends and family back home when she studied in London, England, fall semester.

"It was super easy to talk to friends and family," Grant said. "I e-mailed mostly, or we talked through the computer. I didn't feel any farther away from my family while in London than at Central."

Nowadays, products like Skype, a software program that allows users to make phone calls over the Internet, make it easy for students to talk to parents and friends. Grant's family pre-purchased minutes at a low price to talk internationally. Other students use video conferencing on the Internet to stay connected.

Evaluating the Impact

by Jenny Petersen '08

One of Central College's defining features is its study abroad programs. Senior Lindee Russell of Waverly, Iowa, came to Central specifically to study abroad and fulfilled her goal by spending five months in Granada, Spain.

"My semester in Spain truly changed my life," said Russell. "Not only did I gain a better understanding of Spanish culture, but also I now have a better understanding of my own culture and the world around me. My semester in Spain developed my passion for traveling the world and for understanding and exposing myself to even more cultures."

Central always has known studying abroad has a huge impact on students' lives, but until recently, Central has not had a formal way to evaluate this impact.

Larry Braskamp '63, former senior vice president for academic affairs at Loyola University in Chicago, Ill., and two colleagues recently developed the Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI), which measures students' progress on their paths to becoming global citizens. Braskamp's education at Central piqued his interest in student learning and development.

"I am interested in how students advance through college: how they think, how they discover themselves as unique persons and how they relate to others, especially those who are different from them in race, ethnicity, lifestyle, etc.," said Braskamp.

The GPI is based on the idea that students journey through life in search of meaning. While searching, they reflect on three main questions:

- How do I know?
- Who am I?
- How do I relate to others?

"We, as faculty and administrators, can be more effective if we have a better

understanding of the developmental stages of students and what types of interventions in their lives, both in and out of the classroom, make a difference," Braskamp explained.

Central administered the GPI to all freshmen at the beginning of the year. It also surveyed students studying abroad, both before students began their journeys and after they returned home. The results indicate students returning to the United States after a semester abroad have, in fact, a more global perspective than freshmen and students who have not yet studied abroad.

"This is a fantastic new assessment tool," said Brian Zylstra '92, director of Central College Abroad. "The GPI measures intercultural effectiveness, which is one of Central's student-learning goals. We are pleased the data confirms our student learning and development goals for students. I am eager to continue to see results the GPI will provide for study abroad students and Central College."

It was super easy to talk to friends and family. I e-mailed mostly, or we talked through the computer. I didn't feel any farther away from my family while in London than at Central.

STUDYING ABROAD

So why do students study abroad? Besides being a great educational opportunity, students are eager to gain a different perspective of cross-cultural understanding and some just want to get away and travel. Living overseas becomes a great adventure, proving to others and themselves they can study abroad.

Students also learn about themselves in ways that can't be done in classrooms at home.

Being out of one's comfort zone experiencing new places and ideas is an education no class can duplicate. Students have an increased appreciation for their own cultures and traditions, and they gain a more sympathetic understanding of the views and cultural norms of others. Experiential learning and deep immersion in another country are the fastest

CENTRAL COLLEGE ABROAD STARTED IN 1965 WITH THE PARIS, FRANCE, PROGRAM.



From a farm, to Central, Sanger sees the world

by Abby Gonzales '02

Growing up on a farm in northeast Iowa in McGregor, Angela Sanger '95 never pictured herself living and working in Italy as an adult. But her path to Central College led her on a much bigger journey than she expected.

With her cousin Kevin Sanger '93 playing football at Central, Angela became interested in the small liberal arts college and sent in an application. At scholar days, she fell in love with Central, the people and the programs, including study abroad.

"It's an interesting combination of a small-town Iowa school that's connected internationally," Sanger said.

In the fall of 1993, Sanger, along with other Central College friends, studied for a semester abroad. Sanger always had been interested in London, the big city. Before the semester began, the group backpacked through Europe. While in Europe, she took full advantage of every break, free moment and weekend. She took weekend trips to Ireland or hopped a train to northern England. She visited others on Central's programs in Wales and her college roommate in Leiden.

"We had a hard time getting from the train station to the dorm where she was staying because they speak a different language and it was not easy," she said.

The opportunity to travel excited her and changed the way she saw the world, so much so that she knew she'd be experiencing more of the world later.

After a semester in London, she learned from Mike Spaur '94 about the JET program (the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme).

"He told me, 'Ang, I think you'd be a great candidate for this,'" she said. "So, I decided to go for it. I'd seen Europe, and there were other parts of the world I wanted to experience."

Sanger taught for two years in Japan. For the first time in her life, she didn't have a safety net.

"Being in Japan changed my life in a whole other way," she said. "I was there by myself and very few people spoke English."

She returned to Iowa and learned about an information technology company in Des Moines called Alliance Technologies. Sanger interviewed with Jim Brandl '65 and Steve Sikkink '83 and she was hired on the spot.

"I got really lucky and they taught me everything I needed to know."

A few years later, her life took another turn. She met her future husband Guido Rossi, an Italian who works for an international insurance company, at a communication training course on his first day of work in Capital Square, downtown Des Moines. He swept her off her feet and she moved to Italy to be with him.

Once in Italy, Sanger had a whole new experience figuring out everyday living in yet another country. And, she had to do it in a whole new language.

"One week after I arrived in Italy, Guido began speaking only in Italian to help me learn faster," she explained. "The first few months being far away from my family, not

understanding the language and learning basic things in a new culture were difficult. It sure helped me, though, to get integrated and get a good job quickly. To this day, our rule is 'Italian in Italy, English in the States.'"

Sanger landed a job as an IT project manager for GlaxoSmithKline, an international pharmaceutical company.

"Living in Verona, Italy, sounds wonderful, but it's not always easy. It's still hard to be so far away from my family and the cultures are, of course, different," she said. "In the United States, we work through lunch or eat at our desks. In Italy, you don't do that. You take the time to eat when you're hungry and step away from the computer. I still struggle with that every once in a while."

Rossi told her one of the best things about her is she has Iowa values but a global perspective.

"People who come in contact with many different cultures have different ways of seeing and understanding themselves, others and relationships," she said. "Those who have experiences very different from their own lives simply are educating themselves to understand themselves and the people around them better."



Angela Sanger '95



HOW CENTRAL IS BETTER PREPARING STUDENTS

Central requires its students to participate in a pre-departure course prior to their semester abroad. The class, which meets for four weeks, prepares students for the study abroad experience and gives them the opportunity to ask questions about the process.

This year, the class centered on the theme of identity. Students were asked to look at elements of their own cultural and personal identity before

OVER 4,200 CENTRAL STUDENTS HAVE STUDIED ABROAD.

ways to understand a new culture and to create lasting relationships.

Central College Abroad started in 1965 with the Paris, France, program. More students have studied in England and Spain than any other program over the past 40 years. Recently, one popular site has been Wales, due partly to its outdoor pursuits course as well as its wider selection of course offerings at Bangor University. Also growing in popularity is China, which had five students in the program last semester and tripled its enrollment to 16 this semester. When comparing study abroad programs on a national basis, only a small fraction of college students wind up in a classroom outside the United States, yet over 4,200 Central students have studied abroad since 1965.

The number of U.S. students studying abroad has doubled in less than a decade and tripled over the past 15 years. In 2007, more than 200,000 students studied abroad, according to *International Educator*, the magazine of the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers. More than 90 percent of students nationwide who study abroad go for a semester or less with almost half studying in Britain, Italy, Spain or France. Generally, students study abroad their junior year. But, that trend is changing with more students studying sophomore year.

they studied the cultural elements that contribute to the identity of the people with whom they were going to live the next semester. Students completed assignments listing their hopes and fears for the semester, wrote letters to the program directors introducing themselves and gave final presentations about elements of the countries where they would be studying.

Students were able to talk to program alumni to get a better sense of where they were going and what the semester would be like. Guest speakers from a variety of departments on campus answered questions and served as resources for students. In the future, Central College Abroad hopes to make the course available to its non-Central students as well.

"This course gives Central a real opportunity to help prepare our students better," said Brian Zylstra '92, director of Central College Abroad. "We ask students to reflect on their

We ask students to reflect on their personal goals and on why they are studying abroad in the first place. We also share with them the goals we have for their learning abroad experience.



Pesos, euros, pounds & dollars

Studying abroad is more affordable than many students and parents imagine, especially at Central College. Students are allowed to use their financial aid awards to help fund up to two semesters of their international experiences. But, there are additional costs, usually related to travel and food. So, students turn to scholarships and loans to help make up the difference.

Several scholarships are available, including the Principal International Scholarship. Since 2000, The Principal Financial Group has awarded over \$178,000 in scholarships for upper-level business majors studying in a Spanish language program or in locations where Principal has offices. Endowed scholarships from the Vance and Holthuis families also support students studying abroad.

For information on supporting Central College Abroad students in Austria, China, England, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and Wales, contact the advancement office at 800-447-0287.

personal goals and on why they are studying abroad in the first place. We also share with them the goals we have for their learning abroad experience.”

Other providers of study abroad experiences often gear their curriculum overseas toward language majors. But Central focuses on total curriculum at all study abroad locations. Nearly all majors are able to study abroad easily. Those students who can't get a major course abroad work closely with their academic advisers to figure out a schedule of classes that will meet graduation requirements.

Living in London gave me experiences the X credit is designed to fulfill and receiving the credit was just an added bonus to the opportunities I had abroad.

Emphasizing education abroad programs as part of Central's core curriculum provides students the knowledge, skills and attitudes allowing them to relate to persons from other cultures. Central students can fulfill their experiential or "X" requirement by studying abroad. The X credit requires students interact with a minority, subculture or international group.

"It worked well for me to fulfill the X credit by studying abroad," said Eric Bentzinger '07, who studied in London, England, during spring semester in 2006. "Living in London gave me experiences the X credit is designed to fulfill and receiving the credit was just an added bonus to the opportunities I had abroad."

Central's plan is to expand the pre-departure course with a re-entry class to help students transition back to Central.

"We want students to reflect on their experience abroad and help them adjust to being back in the States," Zylstra said. "The re-entry course will help students use their experience abroad for their future. For example, students will be trained on how to

Wilson's international adventures

by Allison Fegley '08

Growing up in Pella, Drew Wilson '08 wanted to leave familiar surroundings and start fresh at the University of Iowa. Little did he know his plan would change and that a small liberal arts college in his hometown would be the key to take him farther than he ever imagined.

He stepped on campus as a freshman in fall of 2004, not even considering studying abroad until sophomore year when a simple spring break trip to visit college classmates not only changed his college experience, but also continues to direct his path as his college career comes to a close. After that one-week trip to London, England, Wilson was hooked.

"I think that initial experience in London was so great because of the atmosphere Eric Sneddon, former program director [and

current executive director], created in Vandon House," he said.

When he returned to campus, he applied and was accepted to study abroad in London for spring 2007. He hoped to take classes, intern at a company in the city and travel throughout Europe.

For his internship, Wilson was placed as an IT consultant at the City of London School for Girls. He spent every Wednesday working on the school's Web site and helping teachers with any technological problems. He enjoyed the atmosphere at the office and felt the work he did was important to the institution.

But almost too quickly, the semester came to an end, and as much as he hated to leave, Wilson returned to campus for his senior year and started searching for jobs after graduation. While in the Career Center one day, he learned about job opportunities for graduates overseas. It was fate — exactly what Wilson wanted to do.

The Mountbatten Institute, which recently gave Haleigh Meyers '07 the opportunity to intern in London for a year, created a new type of internship program for recent college graduates.

Graduates, who are interested in international business, have the opportunity to live

and work in London for a year, then fly to Thailand to spend the next six months at another work placement. After completing the year and a half experience, participants will earn a master's degree in international business practice.

The course provides work experience and offers opportunities for academic growth through weekend seminars and assignments. Other benefits include housing and a stipend to help with the cost of living.

Following an interview in Chicago, Ill., this spring, Wilson will find out where he will intern and begin to finalize plans. His year in London will start in August and by August of the following year he will be on his way to Thailand.

"I absolutely credit my decision to live and work abroad for the next two years to my study abroad experience at Central College," Wilson said. "And eventually, I would love to live overseas for a longer period of time and work for a multinational corporation, which would allow me to travel frequently. This opportunity is just one step closer to that goal."



Drew Wilson '08



Cheryl Moen '87

Spanish in Beijing, China

by Kristin Clague '08

Since elementary school, Cheryl Moen '87 longed to see the world. At 10, she dreamt of seeing Mexico, and traveling to other countries with lucky friends whose parents taught on Central College's study abroad programs. Little did she know, someday she'd be living abroad full time.

Today she lives in Beijing, China, where she teaches Spanish to students of 40 different nationalities and six grade levels at a small international school.

How did Moen, a native of Pella, Iowa, come to teach the Spanish language at a school in China? Two explanations: Central College Abroad and true love.

"Living in a country that's not your own is an eye-opening experience," Moen said, of the months she spent studying in the Yucatan, Mexico, during the fall of 1985. Her semester abroad fueled a childhood desire; when she finally saw the country, she knew she couldn't stay in America long.

After graduation, it was time.

"A program through the Reformed Church in America was looking for English teachers in Taiwan," she said. "Right after graduation, I spent a year teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).

That year made me realize how much I loved teaching."

Because Moen only took one ESL class in college, she needed more teaching experience. She enrolled in a Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) master's program at the University of Washington at Seattle.

At the University of Washington, Moen met her future husband, originally from China. He finished his program in Seattle and was accepted into a graduate program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Moen followed and completed a master's degree in TESOL. From there, the pair moved to China. Moen only had seen the country once before, on a brief visit while living in Taiwan.

"China was really interesting the first time, back in 1988. It was really different and not as developed," Moen said. "I never imagined I'd be living there in the future."

But true love — and a job — brought her there. For a year, Moen and her husband taught in Shanghai at a Chinese university. She then was placed in Beijing on a United States government grant for ESL teachers. Ten years ago, she started at the international school where she works today. Moen earned a second master's degree in education and a teaching certificate from Plymouth State University in New Hampshire after she began teaching Spanish at the international school in Beijing.

"My school uses the communicative approach to teaching," Moen said. "We don't emphasize literature and grammar as much. We emphasize using the language, the same philosophy Central uses."

Moen credits Central's language assistants and language houses with developing her love of the Spanish language. She spreads these same sentiments for Spanish in the classroom.

"I have photos on slides of my time in the Yucatán, and I show them to my students," she said.

These slides tell the stories one experiences while studying abroad, like the time Moen and friends hopped into old Volkswagen vans for a 12-hour journey to Chiapas, the southernmost state in Mexico. Here she saw Palenque, a famous Mayan ruins site.

The slides preserve some of Moen's most special memories.

"It was my first time ever living abroad," she said. "I remember landing in Mexico, thinking, 'Oh my gosh, I'm in a foreign country!'"

Once past the culture shock, Moen was hooked, forever destined to explore — and she suggests others do the same.

"Our world is getting smaller and smaller with technology," she said. "And, there are so many opportunities for jobs overseas. Studying and living abroad widens your horizons, and I definitely recommend it."

articulate the benefits of their study abroad experience in job interviews or on graduate school applications.”

PREPARING GLOBAL-READY GRADUATES

Companies operating in a global economy look for people with global competencies to remain competitive. Global-ready graduates have a grasp of global systems, issues and the dynamics of how things are interconnected in the world. They have a more sophisticated knowledge of the larger world in which they will be working.

Studying abroad makes students more marketable to employers, giving graduates a career advantage. Employers benefit from candidates with global perspective. According to the office of the United States Trade Representative, the world will demand it of future employees, with one in six U.S. jobs tied to international trade.

On record, Central's alumni office has 127 alumni currently living abroad. To update your record in the alumni office, e-mail alumni@central.edu, call toll free 800-447-0287, or go to the online community at www.central.edu/alumni/community. ■



GLOBAL-READY GRADUATES HAVE A MORE SOPHISTICATED KNOWLEDGE OF THE LARGER WORLD IN WHICH THEY WILL BE WORKING.



Measuring the Study Abroad Experience: Getting Beyond “Awesome”

by Dennis Doyle, professor of communication studies

Students return from study abroad programs every semester saying the experience has changed their lives. At the same time, skeptics . . . question whether study abroad programs are consistent with the scholarly pursuits of higher education.

(Citron and Kline 2001)

Too often those of us left behind on campus never really get a good sense of how students grow and change during their semester(s) studying abroad. By the time students are back into the flow of campus life, memories have dimmed or they already have processed the experience to the point where it is no longer a primary focus. Many times I have asked students to try and put their experiences studying abroad into words only to receive unsatisfying responses like “It was great, life-changing,” or the truly vacuous, “It was awesome.”

Recently I set out to design a research project with the specific goal to collect students’ first-hand study abroad experiences. I began this project by examining our most populated program, tracking Central’s students in London during the spring 2006 semester. I recorded interviews with the students before they departed to learn their hopes, dreams and fears about the study abroad experience. I then spent three weeks living with them in Vandon House, traveling with them to classes, internships and on group excursions.

During that time, I interviewed each student again to learn how they were processing the experience. Even at that point students were aware of how they were changing. One student

said, “I feel for the first time I’m who I should be.” Another touched on an important theme of independence when she said, “I guess I’m surprised how much more independent I’ve gotten since I arrived here. At home I always thought I was independent, but I never realized I wasn’t.”

A final group interview was conducted when the students returned

Photo by Paul Gates



▲ Dennis Doyle (middle) talks with students about their experiences abroad.

Dennis Doyle

Professor of communication studies

- Grew up in Fairfield, Iowa
- Bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa
- Master's from the University of North Texas
- Doctorate from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- High school teacher and taught at Kentucky State University prior to joining Central's faculty in 1989
- Current research project has taken him to Central's study abroad sites in London, England; Leiden, the Netherlands; Vienna, Austria; and Bangor, Wales
- Lives in Pella with wife Christy and daughter Meredith. Son Andrew is a sophomore at Simpson College.

to campus, bringing the experience full circle. What did I learn? Repeatedly, students reported tremendous growth in the areas of independence, global awareness, and appreciation for family and friendships. It seems the London program is especially equipped to assist our students in gaining self-confidence in negotiating international travel. London is the "hub" for travel across Europe, and our students become quite skillful at traveling economically, safely and relatively stress-free.

I came away from that initial study wondering whether students who participate in language-based programs experience the semester abroad differently. With college support, I replicated my London study with Central students studying in Vienna during the fall 2007 semester. In October, I traveled to Vienna where I again interviewed students, visited internship sites, and traveled with them on excursions.

One memorable trip I observed a rehearsal for a community band some Central students joined so they could continue their interest in music. These students brought their instruments with

them and our director found a local group of musicians who were happy to include some Americans who wanted to gather and play just for fun. I enjoyed watching our students interact with Austrians of all ages, speaking German and sharing a love for polkas. I was quite impressed with how easily our students seemed to adapt and how well they were accepted by the local musicians.

At present, I am looking forward to students returning to campus so I can once again bring the research full circle with an on-campus interview. I expect to find with the personal growth in independence and self-confidence also will come some re-entry concerns related to "fitting in" again to their social worlds of Central and home. The students in Vienna embraced the slower pace of life and the chance to step back and reflect on who they are becoming. For some, it could be a bumpy adjustment.

The personal stories collected through these interviews contribute to the current campus-wide discussion related to assessing student growth and development within experiential learning contexts. Identifying reliable assessment tools has become a critical

concern in the study abroad area as critics increasingly are calling for more evidence to support institutional claims regarding the educational value of the study abroad experience.

Central is not resting on its reputation as a national leader in study abroad. Rather, we are implementing a variety of new strategies to gather more reliable data from our students to measure cognitive, intrapersonal and interpersonal growth. My analysis of these recorded interviews will, hopefully, intersect with the more objective data being collected. An initial review of the London interviews does provide some insight into how students are reflecting on their experience. For example, one student commented about what she had learned related to cultural perceptions of the workplace.

"I think their work ethic is a lot different. I stay later than most people who work there, normally, so I just thought that was weird. I just think they are a lot more laid back about it. I think in America we think we have to work all the time."

Another student came to appreciate how the study abroad experience guided him to better understandings of how others live their lives. Here is how he described this realization:

"It just feels like I've grown like that in so many ways . . . just becoming more knowledgeable about what's happening in this part of the world. I mean, it's amazing you think you understand Europe, but there's just so much you don't know or how things work until you are actually there and experience it yourself."

The abroad experience certainly holds the potential to be an awesome, life-changing one for students. Through careful examination of these detailed narratives collected from students who go abroad, I hope the Central story can be told more completely. ■

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Abroad and back

Traveling around the world but calling Central home

by Annique Brown Kiel '99, associate director of Central College Abroad

If someone told me when I was younger someday I would have an international career and still be able to live in Iowa, I never would have believed it.

Growing up in an international family in Iowa (my mother moved here from the Netherlands at 24), we stood out in our rural farming community of Greenfield. I spent summers with my grandparents in The Hague, the third-largest city in the Netherlands, and dreamt of living the rest of my life with the same international panache. I loved coming home to Iowa but was bitten by the travel bug at a young age. I was determined to go beyond Iowa's borders.

I chose to attend Central College partly because I knew my mother would visit me on a regular basis — Dutch letters, and all — but mainly for its study abroad programs. I spent a semester studying in Leiden, the Netherlands, where my mother was born and lived until she was 12. This is where I — excuse the cliché — “found myself,” where I became more fluent in Dutch and where I set my sights on a career in international education. Not feeling quite ready to end my journey abroad, I applied to study the following year in Paris, France.

I left for Paris my junior year with very basic knowledge of French, but by the end, I was comfortable conversing with locals. I became even more obsessed with languages, cultures and meeting people different than me. I was living my dream. Turns out my small college in Iowa gave me the wings I needed to soar to much greater heights. I graduated from

Central with a double major in French and international studies in 1999.

Upon graduation, I knew I wanted to impact the lives of students through study abroad just as my life had been impacted. I was fortunate to have early exposure to this “global world” as a child and realized studying abroad made an extraordinary impression on me. Living among students from other



countries and appreciating their ways of life, discovering what it was like to be an American living on foreign soil, and feeling able to take on any challenge thrown at me, were all things I gained as a student abroad. It became my mission to help others discover such an endeavor was possible and would change them forever.

After some odd jobs, I enrolled in graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I lived abroad again, this time, as an intern at a university in France. I earned a master's in French studies, with an emphasis in higher education. A year later, I saw an opening at Central for assistant director of Central College Abroad. Was it possible



◀ Annique Brown Kiel '99 (middle) as a youngster in the Netherlands.

(Above): Central College Abroad executive director Eric Sneddon and Kiel.

the place that gave me the tools to shape my dream would be the place where I would make it happen for others?

Now, as associate director of Central College Abroad, I meet students about to embark on their journeys abroad. They are scared, hopeful and excited. I reach out to students all over the country and inform them of the journey that awaits. I help shape the programs that shaped me. I take part in studies that actually show the benefits of an international experience. I travel all over the world and work with faculty and staff who have the same goals as I do: to make a difference in the lives of students. All of this and I am in Iowa. I am home. ■

ESPINOSA CELEBRATES 40 YEARS IN MUSIC



Pictured (left to right): Sonny Cutler '09, ► Kellee Van Hemert '08, Chris Weaver '10, Peter Fegley '11, Molly Lehr '08, Megan McCombs '08 and Gabriel Espinosa '79.



Gabriel Espinosa '79, associate professor of music, was honored at a concert in his hometown of Merida, Mexico, Jan. 7, celebrating his 40 years in music. The concert was held at the Teatro Jose Peon Contreras.

Joining Espinosa, who played bass and sang in the international jazz event, were George Robert of Switzerland on saxophone, winner of the Suisa prize for outstanding career and contribution to culture in Switzerland; Edsel Gomez

of Puerto Rico on piano, recognized as one of the world's premier Latin jazz pianists and a GRAMMY nominee; Claudio Roditi of Brazil on trumpet, a former member of Dizzy Gillespie's United Nation Orchestra; and Tim Crumley of Pella on drums, a three-time *DownBeat Magazine* music award winner. Also performing were Espinosa's brothers

Patricio Espinosa on guitar and Victor Espinosa doing vocals. Eight players from the Yucatan symphony contributed to the performance.

Each January, Merida holds an international arts festival. This year, Central's Jazz Combos performed a concert at the Olimpo Jan. 10.



Central
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