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Welcome to India: Garlands of Flowers, Tea, Gifts and Ceremonial Blessings

- Libby Davis, Associate Director, International Education Center

From the moment we landed in Mumbai, it became clear why there is so much interest in India from U.S. universities and corporations. At 2 a.m. the city's traffic had not stopped, and work on a new metro system continued around the clock. The ubiquitous construction cranes and billboards advertising new developments were a constant reminder of India's economy, currently growing annually at eight percent. Streets were bustling with people and activity. Some estimates put the size of India's growing middle class at a mindboggling 300 million, approximately the same number as the entire U.S. population.



The Georgia College delegation at the Kohinoor Business School Center for Management Research in Khandala, India

As seen from President Obama's recent visit to Asia, India shares common interests with the United States, and there are many mutually beneficial educational and economic opportunities to strengthen ties between the two countries.

To explore the possibilities of collaborative partnerships, a team from Georgia College ventured to India in early October for an intensive eight-day journey. The delegation included Dr. Sandra Jordan, provost; Dr. Michael Digby, interim associate vice president; Ani Agnihotri, founder and managing partner of the US INDIA Business and Research Center (USIBRC); and myself, representing the International Education Center. Mr. Agnihotri served as consultant and organized the logistics of the trip.



The Georgia College delegation with alumni in Mumbai. From left to right in the back row, Dr. Mike Digby, interim associate provost; Dr. Sandra Jordan, provost; Dhiraj Ganeriwal; Ajay Agrawal; Ani Agnihotri, USIBRC consultant; Libby Davis, associate director, International Education Center; front row, Anshul Singhal.

The primary objective of the venture was to identify two or three institutions with which Georgia College could form strong and sustainable

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In October President Dorothy Leland (second from the right) and the Georgia College Foundation Board of Trustees hosted its annual reception for the 2010 members of the President's Society, which this year adopted an international theme and focused on the university's international programs.

Among the guests attending were officers of the International Club, which each year contributes the proceeds of its annual International Dinner to the Global Scholars Fund, an endowed scholarship for academically outstanding and financially needy international and study abroad students. This year's 25th annual International Dinner enabled the International Club to give \$2,853 to the fund. Left to right with President Leland are International Club Vice President Willibroad Maimo from Cameroon, Treasurer Jessica Ramirez from Colombia, President Rachel Ortman from Chad and Monique Cummings from Jamaica.

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GEORGIA COLLEGE

Dorothy Leland
President

Sandra Jordan
Provost

Mark Pelton
Associate Vice President

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER STAFF:

Dwight Call
*Assistant Vice President for
International Education*

Libby Davis
*Associate Director and
International Student Adviser*

Leah Barber
Study Abroad Adviser

Liz Havey
Study Abroad Adviser

Jason Wynn
*International Admissions
Counselor*

Mary Anderson
Secretary

Adela Valcea, Chris Venable
Interns

Brittany Haoui, Rochelle Smalls
Student Workers

Location: 223 Lanier Hall

Phone: (478) 445-4789

Fax: (478) 445-2623

Campus Box 49



Georgia College, the state's designated Public Liberal Arts University, combines the educational experience expected at esteemed private liberal arts colleges with the affordability of public higher education. Its four colleges - arts and sciences, business, education and health sciences - provide 6,600 undergraduate and graduate students with an exceptional learning environment that extends beyond the classroom, with hands-on involvement in faculty research, community service, residential learning communities, study abroad and myriad internships.

From Mutoko to Milledgeville, a Journey on the U.S. Student Achievers Program

More than 8,000 miles from home, Rujeko Chinomona was one of the 1,199 entering freshmen at Georgia College this fall. Hailing from Mutoko, Zimbabwe, Rujeko journeyed the farthest of any of the students in the freshmen class. It took her over 20 hours to reach Georgia, just in time for orientation, and even after lack of sleep and a missed connecting flight in Washington, D.C., Rujeko was alert and active in orientation, fully ready to begin her academic career at her new university.

Rujeko is one of the distinguished participants in the U.S. Student Achievers Program (USAP), a program founded by Rebecca Zeigler Mano, an educational advisor at the U.S. Embassy Public Affairs Section in Zimbabwe. The goal of the program is to assist highly talented, economically disadvantaged international students to access higher education at selective U.S. colleges and universities. USAP participants are chosen based on academic excellence, demonstrated leadership potential, ethos of giving back to community and economic disadvantage. The aim is to help grow the future leaders of countries where USAP operates.

Rujeko was one of only 33 students selected for the 2010 USAP class; out of 972 applications received from all ten provinces in Zimbabwe. While most of her USAP peers are studying at schools in the Northeast, Rujeko was the only one that ended up in the Southeast. Adviser Rebecca Zeigler Mano had visited Georgia College back in the late '90s, and recognized it as a good fit for Rujeko. Together with funding from Georgia College and the Grace Scholarship Program, Rujeko was able to obtain the needed finances to pursue her education in the U.S.

Rujeko chose to study in the United States because of the breadth of education offered. "Back home, students only concentrate on one subject while at university, but at U.S. institutions, students have options to study different disciplines," Rujeko said. "I also wanted to have an opportunity to live in a different place, meet new people and explore different points of view. There are so many opinions here." Rujeko's uncle, who had studied at the University of New Haven in Connecticut, also inspired and encouraged her to study abroad.

Only a couple of months in her new home, Rujeko has quickly adapted and already become very involved on campus. She was invited to join the Honors program and is an active member of the International Club. She volunteers every Friday with the recycling program, and has a part-time job with Phonathon, helping with university fundraising campaigns. Rujeko represented Georgia College as a participant in the South East Model African Union (SEMAU) confer-



Rujeko Chinomona, new first year student, standing with the Zimbabwe display in the Magnolia Ballroom on International Day

ence at Augusta State University and is already scheduling other conferences. She also takes time to share her native culture with the local community. Rujeko held a Zimbabwe information table at the annual International Day and has given several presentations on her country at a local middle school.

One reason Rujeko has felt comfortable in Milledgeville is that she finds the people open and friendly. While she mentions that not all understand her experiences, most are willing to learn. She also thinks communication is very convenient and likes the fact that Americans are always on time.

As for the classroom experience, Rujeko is impressed with the way professors teach at Georgia College. "The student-professor relationship is different; it's more friendly. Teachers seek your understanding and help you to develop your own opinions. They also give assignments and the syllabus in advance, so you can plan ahead and achieve your goals."

At times Rujeko finds it a challenge to keep up with classroom dialogue and to express her opinions fully. She is not as familiar with some of the American cultural references, and is sometimes slowed down by translating her thoughts from Shona, her native tongue. However, Rujeko is performing well in her classes, and communication is easier day by day.

As for her future career, Rujeko has not yet decided. She is currently a mathematics major and enjoys the subject. However, her passion for learning and intellectual curiosity could lead her in a variety of directions. As a freshman, she has plenty of time to explore her interests. The liberal arts experience at Georgia College will help her define her future goals and build leadership skills for whichever profession she chooses.

Global Citizenship Symposium: Putting a Face on Poverty

The Symposium Planning Committee is finalizing details for its fourth annual Global Citizenship Symposium, this year's theme being "Putting a Face on Poverty." A collaboration of the International Education Center, the American Democracy Project, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, the Student Government Association, Institutional Equity and Diversity and local community organizations, the three intensive days of February 7-9, 2011 will feature speakers, panel discussions and artistic performances. The first day will focus on manifestations of poverty, moving on the second to root causes of poverty – using panels and breakout sessions – and finishing on the third with poverty solutions and action – featuring local organizations that work with those living in poverty. Many Georgia College academic departments and student organizations across campus are sponsoring poverty-related programs throughout the academic year and faculty are incorporating poverty as an emphasis in their teaching this year.

Poverty is often described in statistics, but in reality it is a complex and relative concept when considered from a global perspective. It is the lack of resources to provide basic human needs, such as clean water, nutrition, health care, education, clothing and shelter. This is often referred

to as absolute poverty. Relative poverty is the condition of having fewer resources or less income than others within a society or country, or compared to worldwide averages. Those who are poor are often described by their insufficient income. While money is a measure, there are other ways to describe what contributes to inequality. Environmental conditions, lack of justice, increased population, war and conflict, national debt, and a person's

(See "Global Citizenship" on page 5)



Anand Giridharadas, columnist for the New York Times and its global edition the International Herald Tribune, will be keynote speaker on the opening day of the 4th annual Global Citizenship Symposium: Putting a Face on Poverty, looking at manifestations of poverty worldwide.

Welcome to India *continued from page 1*

partnerships. Dr. Jordan stated, "Georgia College has a long and proud history of international programming to support the campus, including the creation of affordable and educationally meaningful study abroad opportunities for our students, recruitment of international students and faculty to enrich the diversity of cultures on the GC campus, and development of curricula that produce graduates who can think about issues from global perspectives. The partnerships we are developing in India continue that tradition. As the largest democracy in the world, India is emerging as an economic, political, and cultural powerhouse. We believe that our students need to gain more awareness of India, including India's diverse cultures, social trends, history, religions, and the geo-political role India occupies in the twenty-first century. Thus, we are working with a select number of institutions to build robust partnerships that will be sustained over time and lead to student and faculty exchanges, class-to-class team projects, joint research endeavors, and greater mutual understanding. This initiative will benefit both our institution and our Indian partners, and helps to support Georgia College's mission of providing an exceptional education."

The fast-paced tour included visits to 12 institutions in three cities. We began in Mumbai, a metropolis of 16 million people that serves as India's financial hub, and then traveled on to Pune, a bustling city near Mumbai, often referred to as "the Oxford of the East" for the number of institutions of higher education concentrated in the city. The final destination was Delhi, the nation's capital, which was hosting the Commonwealth Games and visitors from more than 70 nations during our stay. At every stop along the way, we experienced India's abundant hospitality and were greeted by our hosts with garlands of flowers, tea, gifts and even ceremonial blessings.

All of the Indian schools were welcoming and expressed great interest. Fruitful discussions centered on the many possibilities for collaboration, including joint faculty and student research, bilateral student and faculty exchanges and exploratory visits, and joint lectures shared via video conferencing.

The GC delegation also had the opportunity to reconnect to alumni in Mumbai and dined with three former students, all successful business-

men who credit their education from Georgia College with helping them excel in their careers. After returning to India, Ajay Agrawal (2001, MBA, MMIS) founded his own company, Pride Forever, which offers licensed academic merchandise via retail chains at schools throughout the country. Anshul Singhal (2004, Economics) formed JSW Severfield Structures Ltd (JSSL), a joint venture structural steelwork fabrication business, and Dhiraj Ganeriwala (2005, Marketing) is a partner in Shree Navin Orient Mailspeed Transport Service.

In addition to our alumni network, many Georgia College faculty members are also actively developing ties with India, and connections made on the

"Our students need to gain more awareness of India, including India's diverse cultures. This initiative will benefit both our institution and our Indian partners, and helps to support Georgia College's mission of providing an exceptional education."

– Dr. Sandra Jordan

October trip will further enhance the opportunities for both our faculty and students. Dr. Bryan Marshall (Information Technology and Marketing) will lead a study abroad program examining the Indian information technology industry to Ahmadabad in May 2011. Dr. Charlie Martin (Education) continues his involvement with the Tibetan Children's Villages Schools (TCV) in Dharamsala working with TCV teachers to improve teaching techniques and to develop international service learning opportunities for the GC community. Drs. Sunita Manian (Interdisciplinary Studies) and Jim Winchester (Philosophy) will meet with Indian colleagues at the Cultural Diversity and Democracy seminar at the Indian Institute of Technology in Chennai in December.

Discussions with Indian institutions are ongoing, and we anticipate that memoranda of understanding will be finalized in the next several months. Next, we hope to return the hospitality and welcome our new India partners to the Georgia College campus and let our collaborative initiatives begin.

The Women of Havel and Kafka

Not many students can say they have had roles written for them. However, eight Georgia College students can now say they have for this past June's Theatre European Regions, central Europe's largest international festival. The students and Dr. Karen Berman, chair and artistic director of Theatre Programs, spent 16 days in the Czech Republic, during which the students performed a new play *The Women of Havel and Kafka* at an international theatre festival in Hradec Králové. The students were the only theatre company from the United States at the open air festival of the Theatre European Regions International Theatre Festival that included theatre performances from the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Japan, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland and the U.K. The students received three curtain calls from the audience for their performance in a beautiful 18th century courtyard in the heart of Hradec Králové.

The Georgia College students – Destiny Andrews, Lee Brown, Gabrielle Byndloss, Kat Lea, Nic Marrone, Theresa Sagan, Lizzie Spratt, and Erin Williams – also performed the play at the Comoedien Haus in Kuks, Czech Republic near the Poland border and at the Malé Vinohradské Divadlo, a professional theatre in Prague. The production was directed by Dr. Karen



Poster advertising *The Women of Havel and Kafka*, performed by Georgia College Theatre students during the Festival Theatre European Regions in Hradec Králové, Czech

Berman and was part of the Georgia College Study Abroad program. She wrote and researched the play with a faculty research grant. "It was an exciting opportunity for the students to perform in an international theatre festival, meet and watch performances by actors from all over the world, and see the lovely rural area of Kuks, the university town of Hradec Králové, and Prague, the crown jewel of central Europe."

"I wrote the play around each student who wanted to participate," Berman said. One of the students has already been invited back to intern in a professional Czech theatre company. Berman wrote and directed the account of two famous Czech writers from different eras – former Czech Republic president and playwright Vaclav Havel and Jewish novelist and philosopher Franz Kafka – and the women in each one of their lives. According to Karen, "The play shows how the women inspired Havel's and Kafka's work and in part underscores the oppressive history of the Czech people. It was important for the students to learn about the culture through the play, so choosing famous Czech writers as the subject was a great tie-in."

Dr. Stanislav "Standa" Bohadlo, professor of musicology at Georgia College's partner University of Hradec Králové, made all arrangements for the group in the Czech Republic and facilitated their learning about the country and its people. Standa has been organizing arrangements for Georgia College groups for the past ten years, including faculty development seminars and tours for the Jazz Band. In Prague, he arranged for a tour of the Franz Kafka Museum and the Theatre on the Balustrade (Divadlo Na Zábradlí), where former Czech Republic President and playwright Václav Havel presented all of his famous plays in Prague. These opportunities enriched the performances the students gave.

Because Assistant Vice President for International Education Dr. Dwight Call was in Europe to visit several USG European Council programs, he was able to attend the final performance in Prague by the Georgia College

(See "Women of Havel and Kafka" on Page 7)

China – Music, Gongs and Opera

This past August, I had the pleasure of attending the 29th International Society of Music Education World Conference in Beijing, China as a representative of the United States and of Georgia College. The theme of the conference was "Harmony and the World Future." The conference itself was phenomenal and hosted by the Chinese with all of the efficiency and spectacle that we observed during the Olympics. In fact, the venue was the conference center and hotel next to the Olympic Village. The Bird's Nest stadium and the Watercube were visible from conference center and hotel. The conference was a spectacular event in a fabulous setting attended by more than 3,000 people; 2,000 of them Chinese.

Because I had always wanted to visit China, I took the opportunity to go a week early and visit some other places. Fortunately, a friend of mine also wanted to go and so we planned our trip. Since I am a professional percussionist, I have played wonderful Wuhan gongs my entire career. They are the choice of all percussionists. Therefore, I decided to go and see where these wonderful gongs are made. A trip to Wuhan, the capital of Hubei Province in central China, seemed manageable and the flight from Shanghai to Wuhan was easy. Chinese airlines don't overbook like American airlines and we were told to wait until we got to Shanghai to buy the ticket – something that made me a little nervous but worked well and we got a great rate. My traveling companion works with several Chinese-Americans who were able to call the gong factory that we found online and make sure we would be able to go.

- Dr. Patti Tolbert, Professor of Music Education, Department of Music



Dr. Patti Tolbert, professor of Music Education, with Georgia College's Green Towel in front of Beijing's Forbidden City – or the Palace Museum, as it's known in China – which was the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming Dynasty to the end of the Qing Dynasty.

Wuhan is a huge city and the center of industry, agriculture, finance and transportation for central China, but not a big tourist stop. In fact, we were the only non-Chinese on the airplane, in the hotel and

(See "China" on Page 8)

choices relative to education, substance abuse, relationships, among other personal issues, are also key factors.



Jeremy Enriquez, international development consultant from Belize, will give the keynote address exploring the root causes of poverty on the second day of the 4th annual Global Citizenship Symposium: Putting a Face on Poverty.

Giridharadas is a columnist for the *New York Times* and its global edition the *International Herald Tribune*. His "Currents" column explores

How do we put a face on poverty? How can we move beyond statistics and reports, understand the consequences of poverty in people's lives, and get involved in creating a more equitable world internationally, nationally and locally? The 2011 Global Citizenship Symposium will endeavor to focus on citizens who struggle to live in a world of serious inequities and organizations that are trying to reduce poverty on a global scale.

fresh ideas, global culture and the social meaning of technology. In 2009, he completed a four-and-a-half-year tour as a foreign correspondent in India for the *Times* and *Tribune*, as their first Mumbai presence in the modern era. His first book, a work of narrative nonfiction about his return to the India that his parents left, is forthcoming from Times Books in early 2011. The *Times* is underwriting Anand's speaking engagement. Georgia College students, faculty, and staff benefit from the Times Readership Program, now in its seventh year.

Jeremy Enriquez grew up in Punta Gorda, Belize, where he served for many years as Academic Director in Belize for the School for International Training. For the past 15 years he has served as an independent consultant for various Belizean and international organizations

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The February symposium will feature keynote speakers. Anand

in socio-economic assessment, strategic planning, project evaluation and policy planning. Much of his work has been in the south of Belize, which falls far below the country's national average in all socio-economic indicators including highest levels of unemployment, poverty, under nutrition, illiteracy, academic underachievement and health problems,



Derreck Kayongo, Advocacy Field Coordinator for CARE International and a former refugee himself, will give the keynote address to inspire students to take action during the third day of the 4th annual Global Citizenship Symposium: Putting a Face on Poverty.

but also has Belize's greatest wealth of natural resources and the lowest crime rate in the country.

A leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty, CARE International is headquartered in Atlanta, where Derreck Kayongo works as advocacy field coordinator for the southeastern U.S. A former refugee in Kenya from Uganda fleeing political despotism, Derreck has drawn on his life experiences in Africa where he saw the impacts of civil war and the HIV/AIDS epidemic to attack the issues he once witnessed, and he has worked tirelessly on

HIV/AIDS relief, the debt crisis in Africa, African policy, landmines, human rights, and child soldiers. Derreck believes that each of us is called to do something great; if we stay the course and take deliberate actions, we can make a meaningful impact on our world.

The keynote speakers will be joined by professors, community organizers, and advocates engaged in a variety of anti-poverty initiatives. The Theatre, Art and Music Departments will provide opportunities for reflections on poverty, both during the symposium itself and throughout the year. Please consult the symposium schedule for a detailed listing of symposium events: www.gcsu.edu/adp/citizenship.htm.

The university focus for 2011-2012 will be Personal and Global Health: My Role, Our Challenges. Recognizing that the most urgent issues are global in scope and that university students need to explore those issues so they will be prepared to take responsibility as citizens of the world, the first-year convocation reading experience will introduce the theme, and the Global Citizenship Symposium will bring everyone back to the topic in February. Along the way, the Art, Music and Theatre Departments, the American Democracy Project, the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (currently, American Humanics), the Coverdell Endowed Chair of Policy Studies, the Honors Program, the International Education Center, Interdisciplinary Studies, various student organizations and others will be sponsoring health-focused programs throughout the year.

Allez, Saint-Etienne!

- Christopher Venable, senior English literature major and current International Education Center intern who studied in France 2009-2010

I saw my first soccer game in France, but they call it football in Europe, so by rights it was my first football game. I spent the 2009-2010 academic year in France studying at the Université Jean Monnet in Saint-Etienne, which is a town just outside of Lyon in the southwestern region of France. And Saint-Etienne, it was explained to me, may not have the best football team, but it does have the best fans. That February, my friends from class asked me if I would like to see Les Verts play, and I said I would.

We showed up to the stadium in what had hours before been a snowstorm, which was a shock for a person born and raised in Georgia. More than once that night I felt the little pricklings of panic, and I wondered how cold it needed to be before you could freeze to death; I thought I must have been pretty close. Two degrees below zero is enough, right? I say, yes. Fortunately for me, a large part of cheering on our team consisted of singing and dancing in unison, and that kept me nice and warm.

We sat right behind our goal in the cheering section, which was a wall of solid green with all Les Verts fans in their ceremonial regalia. I was obliged to throw my arms around the strangers on either side of me and dance and sing like the game depended on it, which apparently it did. It was a Horton Hears a Who-style situation; they needed every voice to win, lacking just one and they would lose. I was shy and thought I might just sing to myself, but some guy to my right insisted I hold him across the shoulders, and he would periodically check to make certain I was singing right along with him. We had an official emcee as well, who stood 30 feet up on the top of the fence facing us and leading our songs. He even thought to bring his own microphone.

The best bit was when our side scored. The first time it happened, I yelled and cheered and thought that was the end of it, but I felt someone pushing me from behind. I pushed back so I wouldn't fall over, but they just pushed harder until I had to leap into the seats below me. I found out quickly that the tradition for Les Verts fans is to rush the field after a goal and jump up on the fence that separates the fans from the players. So every fan from all



Christopher Venable cheering for his team in Saint-Etienne, France

around me swept me up in a human tide that dashed itself into the barricades. There was some echo of another such movement from two hundred years before, I thought, with the same Frenchmen rushing barricades again, but in July.

I was really concerned for my friends who were three smaller girls in a riot crowd of half-drunk football hooligans. I think they had the advantage, though, because I was the only one who stumbled to the bottom of the stands. I was ready by the second goal, and I swept right along with them and jumped as high as I could onto the fence. It was exhilarating; like a victory parade condensed into 15 seconds worth of a barbaric yawp and a rush like stampede. And of course we won that night; I sang and danced, didn't I? In English I think they call it, "a shutout." You're welcome, Saint-Etienne.

An Internship in South Africa

- Melissa Couch, senior liberal studies major

When I departed for South Africa for my five-month adventure in January 2010, I had no idea what to expect. I was going 10,000 miles away to have the experience of a lifetime. While in Cape Town, I worked as an intern at the Simelela rape crisis and women's health center in one of the largest townships.

In the township of Khayelitsha, with its abject poverty, beautiful and kind people welcomed me with open arms and an open heart. The Xhosa people in this township have been living in a constant state of turmoil and survival since apartheid. Despite their conditions, they are among the kindest and most open people. The value system of the Xhosa culture emphasizes family and community above all else. The South African philosophy of Ubuntu says: "People are people through people." This philosophy is present in every aspect of the Xhosa life from sharing food, to watching one another's children, or other simple tasks of daily life.

Working with the people in this township – even with such serious subjects as sexual assault and violence against women – was extremely intrinsically fulfilling. Together with the center, we held community activism events, educating children and adolescents on violence against women, gender equality, sexual health and HIV/AIDS. We organized conferences with local law enforcement in an attempt to help bring justice for survivors.

As I worked closely with community members, they helped me learn a little of their language, fed me extremely too well, and made me feel as if I



Melissa Couch coloring with some children at a community event in Khayelitsha township of Cape Town, South Africa, promoting healthy living.

was family to say the least. I've never had anyone treat me so equally and be as interested and fascinated in my life as I was in theirs.

Overall it was an invaluable experience that helped teach me compassion and understanding. By taking myself completely out of my comfort zone and pushing myself, I was able to learn life lessons that I have been able to bring back here and apply to my life here and my passions.

Marketing Students Compare Strategies with Students at Universidad de Valladolid

In October, Ed Boyd, interim chief information officer, and his staff facilitated an exciting exchange of ideas between Georgia College marketing students and their counterparts in Valladolid, Spain, by arranging Georgia College's first video conference using newly acquired technology. College of Business Dean Dr. Matthew Liao-Troth, as well as Associate Dean Dr. Dale Young, and Chair of Information Technology and Marketing Dr. Gerald Adkins, and several other faculty members were on hand for this noteworthy event. They hope to see others of their faculty as well as faculty from the other colleges making use of this technology.

The University of Valladolid has been a partner of Georgia College since 1991. Over the years many Valladolid students have studied on exchange in Milledgeville and Georgia College students have studied in Spain. While two or three students from Valladolid study at Georgia College each year, however, and a couple of Georgia College students do likewise at the University of Valladolid, an October video conference was able to bring together approximately 40 Georgia and 15 Valladolid students for this unique cultural exchange opportunity. The videoconference was a good opportunity for students who have not studied abroad to begin to develop a degree of cultural awareness. In fact, this cultural experience was a once in a lifetime event for some of the students who are about to graduate.

Dr. Doreen Sams, associate professor of Marketing at Georgia College, and Dr. Javier Rodriguez Pinto, professor of Marketing at Valladolid, worked with their technology colleagues to arrange this landmark cultural event, a virtual International Marketing Strategy class that brought together students from the two universities. Small groups from each class took turns making presentations on integrated marketing communication for the students of the other university. One of the requirements for the Georgia groups was to prepare short statements in Spanish at the beginning of their presentations. Following the presentations, there was time for students from the other class to ask questions.

Overall, Georgia College students enjoyed the video conference and felt they learned a lot about Spanish students, culture and advertising. After the video conference each Georgia College group submitted an evaluation, which demonstrated the value of the session. The following are excerpted from those evaluations:

"Comparing and contrasting media and advertisements in the U.S. and Spain proved to be interesting, as it illustrated the cultural differences and similari-

ties. Some of the areas where advertisements differed were in nudity levels and attitudes to certain types of humor, as well as having certain time slots that are protected and established for certain viewers (for example, children) and types of advertisement."

"The Spanish class went into detail about how their culture included informal behavior and held very close family and friend relationships. They also shared facts about their country as well as their city and used visuals, which helped us understand exactly what they were talking about. As a group, we feel that this project was a good experience for this class and would be a good project to be used in future semesters."

"This was a great way to get the classes to really see cultural differences first hand without actually going abroad. Our team would definitely suggest doing this again as a way for students to get better acquainted with other cultures."

"As prospective international marketing agents, it is important that we keep in mind the significance of cultural differences. We learned that at the outset of the video conference when we decided to sing a lyrical version of the Spanish national anthem. Given the proper research, we would more than likely have discovered the Spanish cultural aversion to inclusion of lyrics in their national anthem. This was a minor error, but it could have resulted in a major marketing blunder for any firm that we represented. This mistake represents today's greatest lesson and serves as an example to reinforce the importance of cultural sensitivity in building international cooperation."

The Georgia College International Education Center anticipates working with Information Technology staff to arrange for similar video conferences between Georgia College classes in various disciplines and their counterparts at partner universities abroad.

Dr. Javier Rodriguez Pinto from Valladolid has written that "We all agree it's been a nice experience, which certainly motivated the students." He indicates that he and his colleague in Marketing, Dr. Carmen Camarero Izquierdo, are interested in sharing additional video conference discussions, but can also help faculty in other disciplines to find the right contacts at the University of Valladolid. Dr. Jesús M^a Gómez, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Valladolid, who also manages the faculty's international exchanges, helped arrange the first video conference and is also ready to help arrange future programs.

WOMEN OF HAVEL AND KAFKA *continued from page 4*



Theatre students in Prague, Czech: left to right, Dr. Dwight Call, assistant VP for International Education; Dr. Standa Bohadlo, professor of Music at the University of Hradec Králové; Dr. Karen Berman, chair of the Theatre Department; and students Lee Brown, Lizzie Spratt, Nicholas Marrone, Destiny Andrews, Gabrielle Byndloss, Erin Williams, Kat Lea, Theresa Sagan.

thesians. Dwight and Standa have known each other for nearly 30 years, visiting and assisting each other with programming in the U.S. and Czech. Their most memorable moment together was standing on St. Wenceslas Square in Prague during the 1989 Velvet Revolution, which brought the overthrow of the authoritarian government and the collapse of Communism in Czechoslovakia.

First time study abroad student and theatre major Destiny Andrews jumped at the opportunity to play the part of Hansi, the cafe server. "When I found out there was a trip to the Czech Republic, I had to go," the senior said. "The experience taught me more about myself. Patience is so important in a different culture, especially when there's a language barrier."

Thanks to Georgia College's International Education Center and the Washington Women in Theatre, students received scholarships to participate in the festival.

"This was such a career builder for the students," Berman said. "The chance to perform in front of an international audience at their age was certainly rewarding for them. We hope to show off *The Women of Havel and Kafka* later in the year."

Opportunities Abroad Fair

The annual Opportunities Abroad Fair at Georgia College always provides a wealth of information about international experiences to students, faculty and staff, but this year's fair was greatly enhanced and enriched by the presence of several special guests who participated in the event. Lili Batchelder (School for Field Studies), Christine Miller (International Studies Abroad), Mory Pagel (School for International Training), Tim Johnson (Australian Catholic University), Kyle Jessop (Peace Corps), Opal Leeman Bartzis (Institute for Study Abroad), Jessica Cork (Japan Exchange and Teaching program), Maggie Miller (Columbus State University), Terry Williamson (State Department), Walter O'Leary and Michael Howett (both from Waterford Institute of Technology) all presented information about their programs abroad as part of the fair.

There were more than 30 different tables on Front Campus showcasing various opportunities for Maymester and summer study abroad programs, semester and year-long study abroad and exchange programs, as well as work, intern and teaching abroad programs. Lili Batchelder, Christine Miller, Mory Pagel and Opal Leeman Bartzis also met with faculty members and departments on campus to discuss study abroad options available to students in particular disciplines.

Many returned study abroad students also participated in the Opportunities Abroad Fair by sharing information about their experiences abroad and international students currently studying on



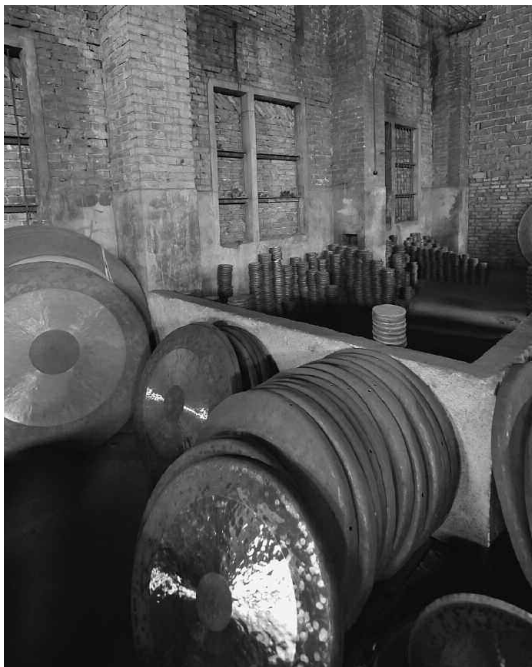
Annual Opportunities Abroad Fair on the sidewalk in front of Atkinson and Parks Halls

exchange at Georgia College provided insights about their home institutions.

Georgia College students and faculty have many options available to have an international experience on campus and abroad and the Opportunities Abroad Fair is just one resource for researching these options.

(See "Opportunities Abroad Fair" on back cover)

CHINA *continued from page 4*



Inside the gong factory in Wuhan, China

everywhere else we went. But the Chinese couldn't have been nicer or more helpful. The concierge at our hotel found us a translator – no one at the gong factory spoke English – and a taxi that would make the more than an hour and fifteen-minute drive to the gong factory.

My idea of a "factory" is entirely different from the Chinese, and even with the directions that the owner of the gong factory gave our transla-

tor, he and the taxi driver could not find it. Finally, after stopping and asking at least five times, we started down the correct road and located the factory behind a big metal gate with the street number written on the outside with something like magic marker. It was very hot in China the last week of July and in fact the gong workers were "on vacation" because it was too hot to work. The kind and generous family that runs the gong factory has been making gongs and cymbals for four generations. After drinking the traditional welcoming drink of hot tea (in 95 degree weather), we took a tour of the gong factory. There it finally was – where these lovely and powerful gongs were made. I appreciated even more the hardships that the workers had to endure to make them and the wonderful sounds they make when I play them. That will never be the same to me.

While in China the week before the conference, I was also able to visit some of the other great attractions of that wonderful country. Shanghai's famous waterfront, The Bund, was beautiful at night and should be included with old Shanghai as something to see. Xi'an and the Terra Cotta warriors are not to be missed. The Great Wall and the Forbidden City (the Chinese call it the Palace Museum) are breathtaking and no words can describe them. I got to see a performance of the famous *Peking Opera*, but passed on tasting the famous Peking duck. Olympic Park in Beijing is a must-see. But the very best thing in all of China, and something that I will remember always (besides the gongs), is the kind and sweet people of China. This was worth the trip even without all of the wonders that I saw and heard.

Read more about the trip at: <http://pattileannechina.blogspot.com>.

International Day

Georgia College's 14th United Nations International Day celebration was a huge success, despite the overcast skies. The weather forced the popular event to move indoors this year, but that in no way dampened the spirits of those participating. This annual event sponsored by the International Club is a highlight of Georgia College's International Week.

More than 300 visitors from the community attended, in addition to many GC faculty and students. Enjoying the sights, sounds and tastes of the array of cultures represented, visitors sampled international snacks such as Green Bean Soup from Taiwan, listened to traditional folk songs as well as contemporary world music, and were entertained with dance and music performances spanning the globe.

International Club members shared information about their countries by actively engaging visiting middle and high school students. With "passports" in hand, local students had the opportunity to "travel" to 40 countries in only a few hours, learning the capital of Bulgaria, the official languages of Chad, the location of the 2016 summer Olympics, and many interesting country facts. Students were able to get a henna tattoo, have their name written in Chinese calligraphy and learn how to speak "Australian." More importantly, visiting students learned the world is an exciting and diverse place and the many opportunities for travel and exploration.

Not just passive observers, visiting high schoolers from Putnam County joined the program and performed musical numbers in French and Spanish. Other International Day performances included a traditional folk song from Taiwan, traditional Nepalese and Japanese dances, contemporary songs in Urdu, and salsa dancing.

Check out the event on Georgia College's YouTube Channel: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_YrizQqBdOw.



Accompanied by Rashida Jones Root, Ting Ting Chang and Yen-Ju Lee from Taiwan sing an indigenous song from their country.



Jessica Ramirez (left) and Andres Ibarra Mendoza (right), international students from Colombia, talk to a student about their country during International Day in the Magnolia Ballroom.



Middle school students explore display tables during International Day as they complete their assignments.



International Day in the Magnolia Ballroom just before the performances begin.

Many International and Study Abroad Students Join the Georgia Education Mentorship Program and Become Tomorrow's Leaders

In a creative partnership with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Georgia College has developed a program that helps students to better understand the professional world and the principles and practices of effective leadership, bringing classroom experiences into the real world. The Georgia Education Mentorship (GEM) is a yearlong apprenticeship for students to hone their leadership and professional skills through being paired with selected leaders in business, politics, education, law, health-care, and industry, many of whom are Georgia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors members.

"GEM is a great example of how Georgia College provides opportunities for our students to integrate and apply what they are learning in the classroom with an experience that takes them beyond the classroom," said John Bowen, Academic Engagement's coordinator of Leadership Programs. "It also demonstrates Georgia College's interest in student leadership development. This important facet of education is something we highly value as a liberal arts university."

"Mentors are all kind, generous, forward-looking people," Bowen said. "Each understands a strong Georgia will need capable leaders, and they are committed to making sure our students are prepared for future challenges." Since 2002, the program has benefited nearly 300 Georgia College students.

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– John Bowen, Academic Engagement's
coordinator of Leadership Programs

Economics major **Elena Andreyeva** – an international student from Syktyvkar, Russia, who graduated in May, 2010 – joined the GEM program during the 2009 fall semester. Little did Elena know, her mentor would be the driving force behind her own alma mater – President Dorothy Leland. "Dr. Leland has a good personality and makes you comfortable when communicating with her," Andreyeva said. "She has taught me the importance of time management when spearheading a university." Elena is now enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Georgia State, focusing on health economics.

As a business management major, **Elliott Holmes** – who spent his junior year on exchange abroad at Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg – wanted to discover what personality traits it takes to supervise a large company when he became part of the GEM program in 2009-2010. To do that, he became the pupil of Alex Gregory, Georgia College alumnus and president and CEO of the textile industry's YKK Corp. of America.

"The experience taught me that hard work and dedication keeps a company going," according to Elliott, who graduated in 2010. Thus far, Mr. Gregory has mentored 12 Georgia College students, including **Meredith Carpenter**, a Spanish major and his current mentee, who studied in Salamanca, Spain in spring 2009. "Mentoring is a special resource to students," said Mr. Gregory, who had been mentoring at Georgia Tech and the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Board for several years. "I was pleased to learn about the GEM program and immediately volunteered. I'm eager for

students to see what the business world is all about, and, in my case, to give them the benefit of learning from all the mistakes I made when I walked in their shoes. Furthermore, I urge mentees to remember Georgia College throughout their careers and invest in the university through active participation and donations to the Georgia College Foundation and Alumni Association."

Nervous at first, **Jing Zhao's** three-hour trips to Dr. Beheruz Sethna's office, president of the University of West Georgia, were well worth the drive. "I don't know many people in Georgia's professional field, so GEM helped me build my professional network," said Jing, an international student from Zheng Zhou, China, who graduated in May, 2010, in accounting and is now enrolled in a Ph.D. program in accounting at Emory University. After one-on-one conversations and attending a few of President Sethna's presentations, Jing also learned the magnitude of public speaking. "One time, he invited me to a country club luncheon and gave an impressive speech about higher education to community residents, but he put the material in both statistical terms and ordinary language," said Zhao. "It was informative and personal."

"The point is to offer some insight into the life of a leader – the challenges, pressures and opportunities," President Sethna said. "Most, if not all, of my protégés are at a stage in their lives in which some important decisions have to be made for career advancement. It is an honor helping students like Jing think through issues, provide resources and assist with refining their applications." This year President Sethna is mentor to **Liana Eden**, a liberal studies major who studied in Madrid, Spain, in summer 2008.

Other international education students enrolled in the 2010-2011 GEM program include:

Maggie Abell, a Biology major who studied in the Galapagos in summer 2010, is being mentored by Herbert J. Short Jr., a partner in Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, LLP. Psychology major **Dupe Babalola**, from Ogun, Nigeria, whose mentor is A. Donald Faulk Jr., president and CEO of Central Georgia Health System. **Tim Bosch**, an economics major who studied in China in summer 2010, is being mentored by Dent L. Temples Jr., president of The Temples Company.

Monique Cummings, a Biology major from Kingston, Jamaica, who studied in the Bahamas in summers 2009 and 2010, is being mentored by Willie Paulk, president of the Dublin-Laurens Chamber of Commerce. **Chichi Ifionu**, a mass communication major from Lagos, Nigeria, who studied in Madrid, Spain, in summer 2010, is being mentored by W. Melvin Haas III, a partner in Constangy Brooks & Smith LLP. Accounting major **Danielle Noel**, who studied in Greece in summer 2010, is being mentored by Jeff Esola, senior VP of Operations for the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. Criminal justice and sociology major **Elizabeth Norris**, who studied in Italy in summer 2010, is being mentored by Catherine Thompson, a partner in Schiff Hardin LLP.

Nigel Sanyangore, a mathematics major from Masvingo, Zimbabwe, is being mentored by Claud L. McIver III, a partner in Fisher & Phillips LLP. English major **Erin Schubach**, who studied on the intensive language program in Valencia, Spain in summer 2010, is being mentored by Margaret R. DeFrancisco, president & CEO of the Georgia Lottery Corporation. Biology major **Melanie Wooten**, who studied in the Galapagos in summer 2009, is being mentored by James C. Lewis, CEO of HomeTown Health, LLC. **Sydney McRee**, a political science major scheduled to study in the intensive language program in Valencia, Spain, in summer 2011, is being mentored by Joel C. Williams Jr., a partner in Bryan Cave LLP.

CAMPUS Notes

*Just a few of the growing number of
Georgia College international connections*

Sixteen international athletes from ten countries outside the U.S. currently play on Georgia College's basketball, cross country, golf, soccer and tennis teams, with 10 of the athletes playing on either the men's or women's tennis teams. According to Athletic Director Wendell Staton, "The international athletes have had a tremendous influence on our campus." Tennis coach Steve Barsby says "We've lived and died on international players. ... the last 8-12 years, the foreign kids have been what's kept us in the national picture on a yearly basis." Many of Georgia College's international athletes have gained All-American status and helped lead their teams to strong finishes.

The Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) recently released its PING Division II All-America teams for 2010, with three members of the No. 6 Georgia College squad earning Honorable Mention distinction. With this year's award, **Niclas Johansson** became the first male four-time All-American in Georgia College athletic history. Seniors **Francisco Bide** and Niclas took the nation's top honors in Division II golf. This marks Bide's first All-America award after a stellar season, taking the Peach Belt Conference (PBC) Golfer of the Year trophy. Bide finished with a 73.0 stroke average, and eight top-20 finishes in 12 events. He also had four top-10 slots, including a pair of top-fives. With Niclas' Honorable Mention, he joins Georgia College Athletics Hall of Famer **Julia Roudkovskaya** as the only four-time All-Americans in school history.

The Outstanding Student for the College of Business was named during Atkinson Honors in April. **Elena Andreyeva**, a native of Russia, was presented the University Medallion by Interim Dean Dale Young. An economics major, she was selected from the Outstanding Department Majors in the College of Business after interviews and faculty recommendations. While a student here, she was active in the International Club, the Georgia College dance program, and she participated in the Georgia Education Mentoring project. This fall Elena has entered a doctoral program at Georgia State University.

Drs. Eustace Palmer, Funke Fontenot and Charles Ubah led a group of 20 students to the annual Southeast Model African Union (SEMAU) Conference held the first week of November at Augusta State University. This year's Georgia College delegation represented Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Kenya. This annual simulation provides an outstanding learning opportunity for our students to deepen their knowledge of the African continent and international affairs.

A Georgia College junior education major, **Elizabeth Keilhauer**, is one of 12 students nationwide who has received a scholarship from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund. The scholarships were created with money donated by President Barack Obama from part of his Nobel Peace Prize for students majoring in science, technology, engineering, mathematics. Elizabeth is majoring in mathematics and plans to be a Math teacher. She will use part of the scholarship to fund her study abroad in Montepulciano, Italy in summer 2011.

Dr. Dwight Call, assistant vice president for International Education, spent several days in Casablanca, Morocco, in July during the 22nd Annual Festival International de Theatre Universitaire hosted by Hassan II University, which in June, 2011, will collaborate with Georgia College on a summer study program focusing on Arabic Language and Culture. Though faculty were busy with the festival, they made time to meet with Call to confirm details of next summer's program, which will be coordinated by Dr. Karim Bejjit, who teaches in the Faculty of Letters.



College of Business Outstanding Department Majors for 2010 included: (front row, left to right) Laura Dorick (Economics); Elena Andreyeva (Economics) from Russia, who was also the Outstanding Student for the College of Business; Jingran Zhao (Accounting) from China; Anna Kate Mahany (Management); (second row, left to right) Daniel Yarborough (Computer Science); Trey Cherry (Management), who studied abroad in Tanzania; Bryan Canady (General Business); and Japi Hamakowa (International Business) from Zambia.



Hassan II University professors meet with Dr. Dwight Call: (left to right) Professors Abdelmajid Bouziane and Taoufik Jaafari, Dean Abdelmajid Kaddouri, Dr. Call and Professor Karim Bejjit.

NEWS *from our alumni around the world*

We look forward to hearing from former international and study abroad students and always welcome E-mails letting us know what you're doing. We value and need your assistance in recruiting good students from around the world to study at Georgia College.

Despite being separated by vast distances and time, alumni from all corners of the globe stay connected by the strong bonds they formed at Georgia College. You can catch up with what others are doing by reading below and by joining our group on Facebook. Find out what your Georgia College international friends are doing by joining **GC International Education Alumni**. All former international and study abroad students and members of the International Club and their friends are welcome!

Yacoubou Alou is back home in Niger teaching high school English. **Wayne (Richard/Wei) Bao** is working for Kardex, one of the world's leading manufacturers and integrators of automated storage and retrieval systems for manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, retail, government, institutions and offices. **Fernando Bellod Valle** has fallen in love with the city of Dublin, Ireland, where he's living and working, in spite of the bad weather, the constant showers, and the cold. After working in Moscow for two and a half years, **Luiza Biktyakova** moved back to Uzbekistan last year to work and spend some time with family.



Mariano and Angelina Cebrian were married earlier this year.

Hillary Bowers and **Liz Bridges** are working this year as Cultural Ambassadors through the Spanish Ministry of Education. Cultural Ambassadors receive a nine-month government grant to work as teacher's assistants in elementary and high school classes taught in English. Hillary is living in Fregenal de la Sierra, which is about an hour and a half north of Sevilla and not far from Portugal, and Liz in the small town of Caravaca de la Cruz, just outside Murcia. Married earlier this year, **Mariano and Angelina Cebrian** are now living in Chattanooga, Tenn. When **Sara Costello** was doing an internship with Projects Abroad in Cuzco, Peru during fall semester 2009, she started the organization Soles for Soles, which has since provided shoes and other clothing for impoverished and often abused autistic children. This past summer she led a team to Peru to provide training on how to work with autistic children.



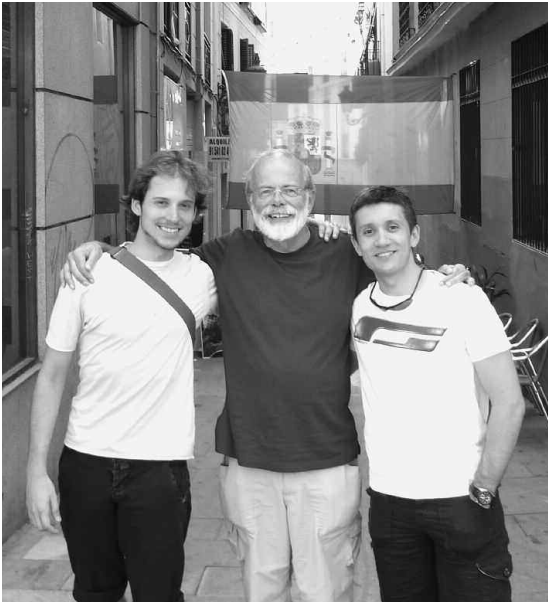
Our Holiday Hope for greater intercultural understanding and peace in this world in 2011 from the staff of the International Education Center at Georgia College: (left to right) Leah Barber, Liz Havey, Chris Venable, Libby Davis, Dwight Call, Mary Anderson, Jason Wynn, Brittany Haoui, and Rochelle Smalls.

Hirokazu Fukui is continuing his research in biomedical science at Stanford University. When he visited his brother in Tokyo this past spring, he got together with **Yamato Nieda** and **Rinko Hada**. **Rachel Hotchkiss** was recently



Yamato Nieda, Hirokazu Fukui, Hirokazu's younger brother and Rinko Hada in Tokyo

engaged. **Enrique Fulquet Garcia** has moved to Madrid, where he has been hired as an internal auditor for Grupo Cobra that builds and maintains power plants and renewable energy. In addition, he's been accepted into an official master's in Sustainable Growth Energies, an online pro-

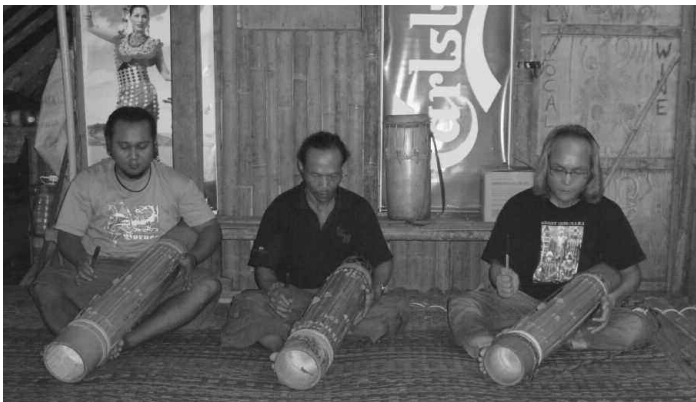


Enrique Fulquet-Garcia, Dr. Dwight Call and Simon Valderrabano in Madrid on the day Spain won the World Cup

gram. On July 11, 2010, when Spain beat Netherlands to win the World Cup in Johannesburg, South Africa, **Dr. Dwight Call** had lunch in Madrid with **Enrique** and **Simon Valderrabano**, both former exchange students from Universidad de Valladolid.



Maik Henneberg (second from left), Dorit Kruse (middle) and Dr. Dwight Call (right) spent several days at Annah Rais, the traditional longhouse of the Bidayuh people in Sarawak, northern Borneo, Malaysia. Also in the photo are Sebastian (guide) and Edward (host).



Traditional drums of the Bidayuh people: lead drummer Arthur Borman on the right, a former petroleum engineer who currently teaches the traditional music of his Bidayuh people.

Maik Henneberg, Dorit Kruse and Dr. Dwight Call explored Malaysia for two weeks in September, enjoying the great natural and cultural diversity of the country. In the rainforest they saw orangutans and in the state of Sarawak in the north of Borneo they stayed several stays at Annah Rais, the traditional longhouse of the Bidayuh people, where they hiked and learned much about the traditional music, dance and culture. Interestingly, **Raul Garcia Hernandez**, a former exchange student from Spain, is now studying for an MBA in leadership and management at Linnaeus University in Kalmar, Sweden, which is another of Georgia College's partner universities. In July **Abby Goodrich** and **Megan Shorey** joined the Invisible Children national San Diego office staff as interns. This past summer **Amethyst Jamieson** and **Daniel Shey** were married.



Sagar Jani (right) and Sandra Rose at Mt. Rushmore

Sagar Jani writes that he and **Sandra Rose** "recently got bitten by the travel bug. We got tired of the 9-to-5 routine corporate style and decided to leave it all for a very long trip during which we hope to find what we really want to do. So call it simply a big trip or a journey of self-realization or blowing our savings, we have hit the road from the beginning of June, 2010, with our first (moving) home purchase: our camper van. We quit our jobs in Toronto, sold everything, and began the great adventure. The rough plan's to travel across the U.S. as well as western Canada plus Alaska before flying to Germany and Kenya to spend quality time with friends and family. While traveling, our main aim is to do as much backcountry hiking, canoeing and mountaineering as possible. But the best thing about this trip is that we don't have to have a plan since time's the only luxury we have and if we like a place, we'll stay longer, if not, we'll hit the road again." Follow them at their blog: www.eldriftwood.com. They couldn't get to

Georgia this time, but hope to do so the next time around. Listen to their story at <http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid34875839001?bctid=91089908001>.



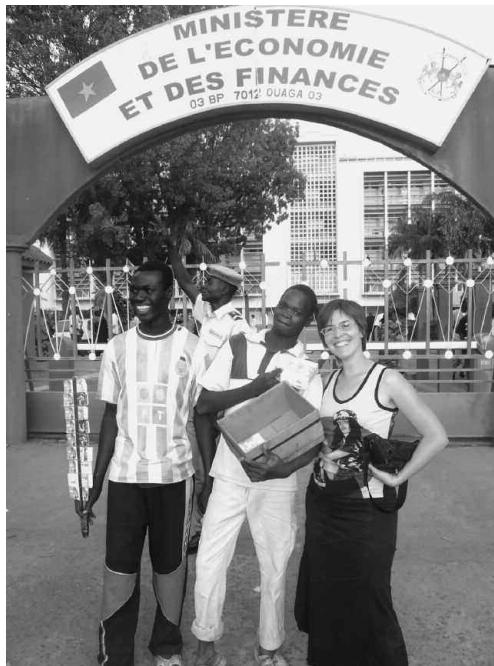
Madeleine Kimbakala Diambra and her daughter

Madeleine Kimbakala Diambra and her eight-month old daughter are living in Tampa, Fla., where Madeleine works for Citigroup as a financial analyst. **Asya Krasteva** and **Kaloyan Atanasov** are working in Varna (their home city), Kaloyan, in a large company and Asya at the International University College. **Kadmiel Kumar** continues to live in Duluth, Ga. with his wife Isoleth and two children. **Amy Lewis** and **William Matthew (Matt/Liam) White**, who are currently teaching English in Korea, have gotten engaged. Amy writes that many of her classes are focused on memorization with little attention given to how much English the students actually understand and can produce. She says that “Now I see many of my classes like a game - how much of my teaching style can I implement without going too far away from the established structure?”



Kadmiel Kumar and his children

Maria Martin writes that she’s recently moved to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates to work as an export assistant for a Spanish company. **Dolors “Lola” Mora** has spent six months in Burkina Faso with the government through the United Nations University United Nations Volunteers.



Lola Mora (right) in Burkina Faso

Elisabeth Osborne got married shortly after her exchange semester at the University of Valladolid. She and her Spanish husband are living in Madrid and expecting their first child.

Rishwa Patel has been taking a few post-baccalaureate classes at Georgia Perimeter College, preparing to begin a master’s in public health with a concentration in epidemiology, while continuing to volunteer at the North Fulton Hospital in Atlanta. **Christy Preston** writes that “A career in nursing allows for many amazing opportunities, such as giving me the chance to spend three months in Brazil working on a medical and dental boat. This boat and others like it travel up and down the Amazon River and its tributaries providing medical and dental care to the people that live along it. I love that I can be a nurse in Durham, N.C. as well as on the Rio Negro in Brazil. Don’t pass up the opportunity to step out of your comfort zone and use your nursing skills in other places!”

For the third year in a row **President Dorothy Leland** invited the annual international picnic for new international students to her home on the lake, and a handful of Georgia College faculty and staff had planned to bring their boats to give students rides. Unfortunately, the weather interfered, and the picnic was moved to the Kilpatrick Atrium, where new students still had an opportunity to network with returning international and International Club students.

Among the university staff and faculty attending the picnic were **Johanna Ramirez** and **Wilden Sanchez Diaz**, who brought their young daughter, Aris. In September, **Dr. Bruce Harshbarger**, vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Students, hosted the students for boat rides at his home on the lake.



Johanna Ramirez and Wilden Sanchez Diaz with daughter Aris



Michael Rifenburg and son Maddux

Michael and **Amy Bergman Rifenburg** and their one-year-old son Maddux continue to live in Okla., where Michael has finished his first year in a Ph.D. program at the University of Oklahoma. During his first year, Michael taught English composition and took a handful of composition, rhetoric and liter-

acy classes, his area of focus. He continues his research interest in student-athletes and writing and is now in charge of the writing and English student-athlete tutors in the athletic academic center.



Dr. Florin Salajan, Assistant Professor at North Dakota State University

Chihiro Sakamoto is teaching English at high school in Japan. **Florin Salajan** has moved to Fargo, N.D., where he is now assistant professor in the School of Education at North Dakota State University. His areas of expertise are interactive learning technologies, educational technology effectiveness for teaching and learning, generational attitudes toward learning technologies, comparative e-learning, European

higher education policies and international education. This past summer **Kara Teresi** interned with Little Feet, an organization that distributes soccer balls to underprivileged children around the world. **Nichjira (Nichi) Witayanonaketavee** has become a certified public accountant in Redondo Beach, Calif.

More Photos from International Day



Saeko Miyamoto (left) and Mayu Onda, both from Japan, dressed in traditional Japanese kimono.



A couple of students show off some of what they learned at the country displays on international day.



At the Opportunities Abroad Fair Professor Tony Alcarria tells Samantha Mandernacht, senior creative writing major, about the intensive Spanish program he will lead in Valencia, Spain, in summer 2011.



Timothy Johnson, who manages student recruitment in North America for Australian Catholic University – one of Georgia College's exchange partners down under, and Phoebe Livingston, exchange student in Kinesiology from ACU, staff a table during the annual Opportunities Abroad Fair.

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