

# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Margaret Anderson & Dulce Monterrubio, Editors

Spring 2008

## Upcoming Travel Seminar:

**Mexico:** Globalizing Women's Studies: Pedagogy and Praxis. A Professional Development Seminar for Faculty, Staff and Graduate Students. July 12-20, 2008

For information on these & other travel opportunities, visit our website at: [www.centerforglobaleducation.org](http://www.centerforglobaleducation.org)

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In our next issue:  
Renovations to  
Casa CEMAL!

## CGE Alum Presents at Council on International Educational Exchange Conference

By Hannah Glusenkamp

Even though a CGE semester or seminar undoubtedly changes anyone who embarks on the journey, it isn't every day that CGE alums have the opportunity to talk about our life-altering experiences. Here is the scenario that has happened in my own life and which I have seen happen with many of my peers: you go on the semester; everything you know and believe is challenged, shook up, and reshaped; you return from the semester unsure of how to reenter into your old life with your new beliefs and world-view, and at first all you can think or talk about is your time abroad. But, gradually you become re-accustomed to daily life, and get busy with school, work, family, friends, and extra-curricular activities. However, you never forget about the incredible semester that you spent abroad, and almost every single day you think about something special that you experienced, heard, or saw while on your CGE trip. The experiences that transformed you gradually become memories, and then one day you wake up and can't believe that over a year has already passed since you returned from your trip. This is the reality of my own life and although I know that it wouldn't be productive or beneficial to stay stuck in the past, I also find myself feeling frustrated that I am not doing more to spread awareness and share the knowledge that I was blessed to have had shared with me on my semester in Central America. So, what can we do as CGE alums to keep our experiences alive, active, and integral parts of our daily lives? Many of us do this with the lifestyle changes we have made since our return, or by the change in our focus of academic study, or with the volunteer work in which we are now engaged. But we shouldn't forget that we can also do this by getting out and telling others about our experiences, because there is power in the sharing of our stories.

I recently had the opportunity to travel to Toronto for the 2007 CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange) International Education Conference entitled, "Challenging Assumptions: Evaluating Study Abroad's Past, Fashioning Its Future," where I participated in a student panel and presented a poster exhibit entitled, "Sustainability, Solidarity, and Self-Discovery: Lessons on Becoming a World Citizen." The conference was beneficial for a number of reasons. First, it gave me the chance to meet, and engage in dialogue with students around the country who also have had life-changing study abroad experiences. For example, I met a student who had studied water dams and hydroelectricity in China, a student who focused on study abroad opportunities and safety for LGBTQIA students abroad, and a student who faced the challenge of studying abroad with a physical handicap. I learned from each of my peers and the innovative ways in which they were keeping their study abroad experiences alive.

Second, the conference presented the opportunity to establish connections with study abroad programs and staff from around the world. I was shown the numerous options that are available to continue my interest and passion for international education and cross-cultural experiences.

Third, and perhaps most important, presenting at the conference forced me to reexamine my semester abroad, gather together the numerous experiences and anecdotes, and present all of this in a coherent and efficient manner that could easily be shared with others. This forced me to critically explore the impact that my semester abroad has had on my life, the lives of those in my group, and on the host communities from which we learned.

Finally, the conference reminded me that people want to hear about our experiences. This can be difficult to remember since many of us have probably worn out our families and friends with all of our study abroad memories. However, there are many different audiences out there who would love to hear about the time we spent abroad, and it is our duty to share our experiences.

I am sure that many of you alums remember the CGE education circle that describes the educational process as SEE-JUDGE-ACT-CELEBRATE. I urge all of us, myself included, to once again incorporate the ACT component back into our lives. I remember one of the Central America staff members telling us “This experience was for nothing if you don’t go back and tell people about it-act on it-make change in the world.” So, CGE alums, I encourage you to find a group that you haven’t already shared your travels with, and ask to make a presentation about something from your trip that really impacted you or that you believe is vital for others to hear and learn. The opportunities are out there and it is up to us to seize them. Remember that we are multi-dimensional people and there are lots of arenas in our lives-school, church, work, neighborhood, clubs, organizations, co-ops, the library, and the list goes on. Pick one or two of these places and share your story. It will help you process and remember your time abroad and at the same time you will empower others with your experiences of transformation and liberation.

## **Central America Alum Attends SOA Protest**

By Emily Jensen

Last spring semester I studied abroad in Central America on the *Sustainable Development and Social Change* program. While abroad, I learned a lot about the implications of the United States foreign policy in Latin America. In Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua we learned about the huge influence the United States has had in the past and still has today. In learning about these atrocities made by people the United States had trained and funded, I knew I needed to do something when I returned back to the United States.

The protest for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, previously known as the School of the Americas was a great place to show my opinion on the United States foreign policy towards Latin America. As a citizen of the United States, it is my right to show the United States government that I do not want my tax dollars going towards funding the SOA. So a couple of my friends and I organized a group on my campus to go down to Georgia.

We received a lot of support from our college, Augsburg College. We left on Thursday night, and after only getting lost twice we made it to Georgia late Friday night. We took two vans down there and stayed in a camp site. Saturday we went to the Convention center to the opening ceremony and then we went to the military school. The day was filled with speakers, music, and dancing. There were organizations from all over the United States tabling and talking about their organization. Towards the end of the afternoon there was a puppet show followed by music and dancing.

Sunday we went to the funeral procession at the military base. This was the most powerful event of the weekend for me. It was a procession in the remembrance of those who have been killed by those trained at the SOA in Georgia. Many people brought white crosses with names of victims written on it. Throughout the procession, someone on stage sang the names of a victim and their age and everyone rose their crosses and said "*presente*." Towards the end of the procession people put their crosses and flowers on the fence by the entrance to the military base.

The entire weekend was a beautiful remembrance and celebration of those who have died because of the United States foreign policy towards Latin America. The vigil this year took time to give tribute to Rufina Amaya, the only survivor of the El Mozote massacre. Over 900 people died in this massacre, and 19 of the 26 people found responsible for the massacre were trained at the School of the Americas. It was empowering and exciting to see so many people coming together for the same cause. If you are interested in taking action against the School of the Americas, I invite you to the vigil next year or doing something locally to raise awareness. We can change the United States foreign policy towards Latin America, but it will take our voices!

### CGE launches Heritage Scholarships

Since 1994 the Center for Global Education has been offering scholarships for students from historically disadvantaged groups, which have totaled up to \$18,000 a semester. In Spring 2007 the Center initiated its Heritage Scholarship program. These scholarships include the following:

1. For "***Nation Building, Globalization and Decolonizing the Mind***," Namibia, fall and spring term: Two scholarships are available each semester for students of Pan African descent who are committed to understanding the effect of racism/apartheid and resistance movements in the U.S. and in Southern Africa. Selection will be based on the applicants' plan to actively share their experience within their educational institution and community upon return to the U.S., financial need, and demonstrated participation in Pan African organizations in their community. The scholarships cover tuition, room and board charges not funded by the Pell grant. The recipients must cover travel expenses to/from Africa, books, and personal expenses.
2. For "***International Business and Global Citizenship***," Mexico, Fall term: two scholarships are available each semester for students of Hispanic/Latino descent. Selection will be based on the applicants' plan to actively share their experience within their educational institution and community upon return to the U.S., financial need, and demonstrated participation in Latino or indigenous organizations in their community. The scholarships cover tuition, room and board charges not funded by the Pell grant. The recipients must cover travel expenses to/from Mexico, books, and personal expenses.
3. For "***Migration and Globalization: Engaging our Communities***" (formerly known as ***Social Justice, Gender and the Environment***), Mexico, Spring term: Two scholarships are available each semester for students of Hispanic/Latino descent. Selection will be based on the applicants' plan to actively share their experience within their educational institution and community upon return to the U.S., financial need, and demonstrated participation in Latino or indigenous organizations in their community. The scholarships cover tuition, room and board charges not funded by the Pell grant. The recipients must cover travel expenses to/from Mexico, books, and personal expenses.

More information and applications can be found at <http://www.augsburg.edu/global/spa/spa-scholarship.html>. Please pass along the word to any friends or family who might qualify for these scholarships and would be interested in participating in a CGE semester abroad program.

## Alumni Awards

### SDSC Alum Named Peace Prize Scholars

In cooperation with the Norwegian Nobel Institute, five Midwestern colleges of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America sponsor the annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum. This prestigious event is the Norwegian Nobel Institute's only such program or academic affiliation outside Norway.

The colleges, all founded by Norwegian immigrants, sponsor the forum to give recognition to Norway's international peace efforts and to offer opportunities for Nobel Peace Prize laureates, diplomats, scholars, and the general public to share in dialogue on the dynamics of peacemaking and the underlying causes of conflict and war.

Congratulations to Augsburg College juniors and SDSC alums Hannah Glusenkamp and Willie Pinckney, who were among the first Peace Scholars to be named in conjunction with the Nobel Peace Prize Forum.

This new PPF program selects two students from each of the five sponsoring colleges-Augsburg, Augustana (Sioux Falls), Concordia, Luther, and St. Olaf-who will travel together on a summer seminar, lead peace activities on their campuses, and present at the next spring's Peace Prize Forum. The goal of the program is to develop student leaders inspired to careers or lifelong interests in world peace issues.



Willie and Hannah with 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus and Augsburg College President Paul Pribbenow

**Lisa Luinenburg** (Augsburg College, SWSP 2007)  
**Social Work Student of the Year**

Lisa Luinenburg, Augsburg College graduate in social work (summa cum laude), was been named "Social Work Student of the Year - 2007" by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). At the chapter's annual conference on June 7, Profs. Nancy Rodenborg and Tony Bibus presented this award on behalf of NASW in recognition of Lisa's outstanding scholarship and service to the community.

Lisa is currently serving as International Resident Advisor & Teaching Assistant at CGE's Cuernavaca study center.

### **New Program in Mexico: International Business & Global Citizenship**

Here at the Center for Global Education we are very excited about our upcoming semester abroad program, "*International Business and Global Citizenship*," scheduled to commence in Cuernavaca, Mexico, Fall 2008.

When the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was implemented on January 1, 1994, most barriers to trade and investment among the United States, Mexico, and Canada were removed, and today, Mexico is the United State's number two trading partner. It is also front and center in debates about globalization and U.S. immigration policy. This new program was developed in response to the legacy of NAFTA and to better prepare students to conduct business responsibly in an increasingly globalized economy.

The program includes:

- "Global Business Issues and Developing Countries: Mexico and Beyond," an international business course that examines global economic conditions and exposes students to diverse segments of society, business, international trade partners, and a range of perspectives on global business.
- The opportunity to complete two Intensive Spanish language courses, including "Topics in Business Spanish"
- An optional Internship or Independent Study: 100 hours of experience in a Mexican business, government agency, educational institution or non-profit agency
- A week-long seminar in International Business in Mexico City
- A three-day excursion to an area of interest for ecotourism such as Acapulco

Two full scholarships are available for students of Hispanic/Latino descent.

### **What's in a Name?**

As of Spring 2009, the spring program in Mexico will be known as "*Migration and Globalization: Engaging our Communities*." The program has undergone several name changes over the past few years as we have tried to better reflect what the program is really about, build on our strengths in the communities of Colonia San Anton and Cuernavaca at large, and connect these communities to those of the students from across the U.S. who participate in the program.

The curriculum will remain much the same, offering intensive Spanish language classes, an internship or independent research opportunity, and core courses exploring the historical context of gender, class-based and racial/ethnic oppression in Mexico, environmental issues and the causes of migration/emigration and social unrest in Mexico. The travel seminar to Guatemala, however, will be replaced with trips to Ixtlilco El Grande and Costa Chica, Guerrero. We think these changes will bring a timely focus to the issues that are so much in the news and being debated with such passion across the U.S, and prepare students to better connect them to their own lives and communities.

## Staff News

There have been a number of staff changes since the last edition of Global Connections was published (notably a number of CGE alumni):

### *MEXICO*

**Lisa Luinenberg** (Augsburg College, Social Work program, Spring 2006) is also starting this month as the intern for the social work semester program in Mexico. Lisa earned two bachelor's degrees in social work and international relations from Augsburg College in 2007. During her college career, Lisa studied with the *Social Work in a Latin American Context* program with CGE in Cuernavaca, and completed internships working with environmental and health issues, basic needs, school truancy issues, and developing and leading educational groups in Spanish for Latino adults at high risk for HIV/AIDS. Lisa wrote her senior international relations thesis on NAFTA's effects on the rural agricultural sector and undocumented migration patterns in Mexico, and in 2007 received the Social Work Student of the Year award from NASW in Minnesota.

**Julie Rogers** (Denison Univ., CB 2005) began her duties as International Resident Assistant and Teaching Assistant in Cuernavaca in May 2007. She recently completed her B.A. from Denison University with a major in Theatre and minors in Sociology/Anthropology and Music Performance. While completing her undergraduate career, Julie participated in programs to Belize, Costa Rica, and El Salvador. She has also created and presented workshops on Latin American Liberation Theologies to communities in New Jersey (her home state) and Ohio (her school state). A passionate advocate for human rights, Julie served as Vice President of Amnesty International at her university.

### *NAMIBIA*

**Evan Wilson** (Clark U, Namibia Spring 2005) was hired as the travel seminar and internship coordinator in Namibia. He recently completed a master of arts in community development and planning from Clark University. He also has a bachelor of arts in international development and social change from Clark. He is an alumni of the Center's Namibia semester program. He has worked with a number of youth leadership/mentorship programs and has done community research.

**Linda Raven** joined the Namibia staff as program coordinator in July 2007. Linda grew up in South Bend, IN where she also earned her B.S degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Notre Dame. After a few years working as an engineer in California, she left that profession to become a Peace Corps Volunteer. She was originally assigned to teach in the far North of Namibia but was moved after a few weeks due to instability in neighboring Angola. She then spent two years teaching mathematics to grades 6-10 in the East (Omaheke Region) of Namibia. Not ready to leave Namibia, she then elected to extend her service by one year in order to work with the Windhoek Regional Office of the Ministry of Basic Education coordinating the HIV/AIDS education in the region.

Upon her return to the United States, Linda got involved in the renewable energy industry, but still longed to return to international work. In 2007, she completed her M.A. in International Development and Social Change at Clark University and began work at CGE as a Program Coordinator immediately thereafter. When not debating politics or development theory, Linda loves practicing yoga. She is a certified Laughter Yoga Leader and Sivananda Yoga Instructor.

**Freddy Kustaa** left his position as director for the Center's program in Namibia on December 31. Urbanus Dax will serve as Interim Director of the Center through a hiring process for a new director

## CENTRAL AMERICA

**Joe Connelly** (Siena College, SDSC 2004) returned to the Central America as the Study Abroad Facilitator in Spring 2008, after having previously served as the program intern as well. He is a graduate of Siena College where he was a Religious Studies major who focused on the role of religion in Central American social movements. During the fall of his junior year, Joe participated in the CGE semester program in Central America. That following summer he returned to Nicaragua to work as a volunteer for the Kairos Association, an ecumenical organization that works building connections between communities in the U.S. and Nicaragua. In fall of his senior year, he spent four months studying and working as a teacher in Quito, Ecuador.

**Sarah Pressman** (Edgewood College, CB 2004) joined the Central America staff in summer 2007. In 2006, Sarah was the first in Edgewood College history to graduate with a B.A. in Women's & Gender Studies (WGS), additionally earning a degree in Spanish. During the fall of her junior year, she participated in numerous study abroad programs, including CGE's semester program in Mexico (Crossing Borders: Gender and Social Change in Mesoamerica), as well as Argentina and El Salvador. She was very active in college, acting as a Healthy Relationship Peer Educator, WGS Program Assistant, YWCA "Third Street Program" Intern and ESL Tutor. Before working with CGE, Sarah worked as a Bilingual Customer Service Representative and took graduate classes in literary & cultural translation and interpreting.

## Alumni Update

Phoebe Haupt [Univ. of VA, SDSC Spring 1998]: I am now designing and leading service-learning trips to Nicaragua as an independent contractor . UVa has been my main client and I am currently working on turning this into my full-time career, i.e. expanding my network and getting more contracts. I am also currently working with a friend from Germany who has also lived in Nicaragua for many years. We are about to launch our website to promote the service-learning trips that I run for universities, as well as the small tours that we will be running here to Nicaragua. [www.wonder-full-tours.com](http://www.wonder-full-tours.com) (12/07) (Phoebe is hoping to hear from other members of her group at [phoebe-haupt@yahoo.com](mailto:phoebe-haupt@yahoo.com))

### We want to hear from you!

This newsletter is about *you*. Is there any news or announcements you'd like to share with your fellow alum? Do you have poetry, prose, artwork, photography, or any other creative/reflective expression related to your CGE experience that you'd like to share? Please send it to us and we will include it in the next *Global Connections* newsletter. E-mail us at [gloaled@augsborg.edu](mailto:gloaled@augsborg.edu).



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### What's new with you?

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This is a change of address.       Please publish my e-mail address with my update in the next newsletter.

School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

CGE Program(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

News for Global Connections newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to ensure that other students will be able to participate in CGE semester programs:       \$20     \$35     \$50     \$100     Other (any amount helps!) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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