



ALUMNI & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2013

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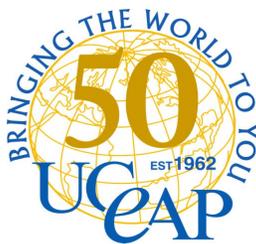
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GET INVOLVED

Make a life-changing experience possible!

See details on page 6...

UCEAP 50th Anniversary Final Celebrations: *Movie draws hundreds of students to learn about study abroad*



On November 15, nearly 400 students, faculty, staff and alumni turned out to celebrate UCEAP's 50th anniversary and watch the award-winning film, *Midnight in Paris*. Nearly 300 of the guests were students new to study abroad! The movie not only transported our students abroad for a brief moment in time, but inspired them to imagine how spending time in a new culture might help them clarify their own goals and what is most important for their future.

"This is the largest event we have ever had that promotes and celebrates study abroad, so we are very pleased with the outcome," said Marcella



View the new study abroad trailer which debuted at the *Midnight in Paris* screening:

<http://tiny.cc/h15mrw>

Khelif, Study Abroad Center Associate Director. Dean of Undergraduate Education, Sharon Salinger, advised students not to miss the opportunity to study abroad and encouraged them to visit the Study Abroad Center as soon as possible after the movie. Faculty Director, Professor Daniel Brunstetter, shared his own study abroad experiences and recommended students to take that step as well.

...story continues on page 2

UCEAP 50th Anniversary Final Celebrations... (continued from page 1)



After the film, during the dessert reception, interested students talked with alumni, international students, faculty and staff about their study abroad options. A good time was had by all, including 25 alumni, faculty and other friends of UCI.

The University of California Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) concluded their 50th anniversary by hosting a [multi-day event in Bordeaux, France](#) in conjunction with UCEAP's first partner, the University of Bordeaux, France. Over 80 alumni, students, faculty, and staff attended, participating in lectures, wine tasting, historical visits, and discussions of the lifelong impact of study abroad. A special highlight included alumni from the first UCEAP class of 1962 who gathered with other Bordeaux alumni, current UCEAP and University of Bordeaux students, faculty, and staff, to share their experiences and describe how studying abroad through UCEAP has had a positive, long-lasting, and often life-changing impact. Many of the alumni, credited their year abroad with allowing them to pursue successful international careers in law, business, medicine, and education.



UCEAP class of 1962 and current UCEAP Bordeaux students reflect on the life-changing events made possible by study abroad.

At the UCEAP 50th reunion in Bordeaux, UCI student Jessie Cruz met UCI alumnus, Dr. Victor Conde, who is currently teaching International Law & Human Rights at the *University of Strasbourg* in France. Jessie shared this special encounter with the Study Abroad Center shortly after the event. He wrote, "I feel very special to have met this anteatier because it shows our ambitions and capabilities. I especially cannot wait until the 100th anniversary for me to share my experience and continue to motivate other anteatiers (to study abroad). Thank you for all the support. I am leaving an anteatier legacy here in Bordeaux France along with Professor Conde, recruiting (French) students to study at our beautiful (Irvine) campus...Zot! Zot! Zot!"



Paying it Forward:

A note from new Study Abroad Faculty Director, Daniel Brunstetter



As I stood in my kitchen in Irvine, CA on December 31 in the early afternoon, preparing the fixings for the midnight festivities, I kept a close eye on the clock so as not to miss the passage to 2013 — in Paris. In a city nine time zones away, friends who I had met while studying abroad were about to ring in the New Year with champagne toasts and kisses on the cheeks (two if you are a Parisian, three or four if you are from the south). We would later exchange quick phone calls filled with anecdotes of a year now passed, and well wishing for the year to come. What followed this flurry of phone calls from various friends, as it does each year, was me sitting down with my calendar to try to find a time to go back to France.

When I was in college, my Spanish professor sat me down and told me his life story. He had studied abroad in France, became fluent in French and grew to admire French culture. This inspired him to travel more, so he went to Mexico, and fell in love with Spanish and Latin American culture, which led him to become a professor of Spanish. His advice to me was this: “Study abroad because you cannot imagine where it will lead you in the future, and once there, you cannot imagine your life without having taken that first step into the unknown.” And then he added, “Who knows, if you go to France, you might fall in love with the French language and culture!”

I followed his advice, but went to Mexico instead. It was an unbelievable experience that forever changed me. My time abroad exposed me to a different culture, challenged me intellectually and emotionally, forced me to obtain a level of independence I did not know I was capable of, and above all, awakened what has become an insatiable curiosity to learn about the diversity about the world. And so, years later when undertaking research for my PhD, I spent time living and studying abroad in France. I learned French, and perhaps inevitably, I fell in love with French culture and forged friendships that transcend time and oceans. With each passing year, I am reminded of that fateful day in my professor’s office and his words of encouragement, as I daydream about the experiences in some foreign land yet to come.

As the newly appointed Director of Study Abroad at UC Irvine, I feel I have a duty to help make possible for others, what my mentor made possible for me.

...story continues on page 4

Paying it Forward... (continued from page 3)

My story is one among thousands, but it began because someone long ago took the time to encourage me to go outside my comfort zone, and showed me how to do so. Whether for 10 days on an alternative spring break, a quarter, or an entire year, I want to encourage all students to take that first step into their global future. And for those who are returning from abroad, share your stories and help inspire your peers to discover the world as well. And may 2013 bring each of you marvel, discovery of the self, and memorable encounters with the unknown.

"Share your stories and help inspire your peers to discover the world..."
- Professor Daniel Brunstetter

UCI Celebrates 'International Education Week' November 13-16, 2012

UCI celebrated annual International Education Week (IEW) with a wide variety of activities.

Photo captions:

(1) Delta Gamma sorority enjoys snacks while learning about study abroad (2) Students in the [Global Leadership Certificate Program](#) Skype with a UCI study abroad student in Spain (3) IEW poster display in Student Center (4) Middle Eastern snacks in the Study Abroad Center (5) Dessert reception following *Midnight in Paris* movie screening (6) Students learn to make sushi (7) Students enjoy a speaker at a TEDxUCI event (8) Staff at the IEW booth encourage students to explore [The World at UCI](#). (9) Welcome sign for the *Midnight in Paris* movie screening (10) Students interact at the Puerta del Sol housing study abroad outreach event (11) Questions on the IEW graffiti board bring attention to International Education (12) International Village's housing information and food table (13) International Center photo display



Study Abroad Today:

More students choose to study abroad during the year

The U.S. Senate declared 2006 'The Year of Study Abroad' as a means to stress the importance of receiving an international education as part of one's undergraduate career. The Study Abroad Center aligning with this notion declared part of its mission to have 50% of UCI students study abroad prior to graduating by 2016-17. By 2008, we were well on our way toward reaching our goal with approximately 17% of a graduating class studying abroad each year. But as 2009 approached the economy had taken a turn for the worst and study abroad participation numbers were barely holding steady.

Fortunately, the year 2012 gives hope that the economy is finally turning around. This past fall more UCI students studied abroad than they had for the last three years!

TOP 5 Study Abroad Locations for 2012

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
1. United Kingdom	34
2. Italy	33
3. France	28
4. Japan	27
5. Spain	27

As the cost of an undergraduate education and time to degree become all-the-more-important, it is great to see that UCI students are electing to study abroad during the academic year, allowing them to take the fullest advantage of **financial aid & scholarships** (*right panel*).

...story continues on page 6

They're still abroad!
Catch up with
**Friends of Study Abroad
Scholarship Recipients**
Fall 2012:



Eliza Collison is currently halfway through her year long study abroad experience in Chile! [Read her blog](#) & join in on her fun as she discovers Chilean culture & settles in to her homestay.



Autumn Monteforte (*on the right*) has accomplished a lot while studying abroad in Ireland this year (like voting absentee in the 2012 election). Follow Autumn's "[Life in the Land of Leprechauns.](#)"

Study Abroad Today (continued from page 5)

Now more than ever an international education is key to success in our global economy. The Study Abroad Center remains committed to [fostering a culture at UCI in which study abroad is expected and achievable for all students.](#)

Scholarships make it possible!



"The UCI Study Abroad Center was extremely helpful in helping fund my spring semester abroad in Sweden. If it weren't for scholarships, this experience would not have been possible! An entire year and a half before departing for Sweden, I contacted past study abroad participants and my study abroad advisor to figure out which scholarships I was eligible for. I applied for and received the Swedish Women's Educational Association Scholarship (SWEA), EAP STEM scholarship, the Benjamin Gilman Scholarship, and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Scholarship through the UCI financial aid external scholarship website. All the advisors I spoke to were very encouraging and eased my worries about the financial aspects of studying abroad.

While abroad in Sweden, I plan to complete upper division requirements for my Public Health Policy major and also take advantage of the opportunity to conduct research in my field. Since Sweden has one of the top healthcare systems in the world, my goal is to learn more about Swedish healthcare and social policy in hopes of discovering how the U.S. might model some of its policies. I also plan to travel immensely, see the Aurora Borealis, try Scandinavian food, go snowshoeing & ice swimming, amongst an endless list of possibilities." - *Christina Phan, Sweden Spring 2013 participant*

Pay it
Forward!

Support us in our mission & make your gift today at:
<http://www.studyabroad.uci.edu/contacts/support.shtml>

Alumni Spotlight on the Web — ***You* could be next!**

This fall we added a new feature to home page of our website, the Alumni Spotlight:
www.studyabroad.uci.edu

Thanks to the nearly 30 alumni who completed the questionnaire and sent us your photos! We are excited to offer these personal stories to students considering studying abroad. Each one shares fears and challenges as well as inspiring personal growth and career successes. We would love to have your story! Fill out the questionnaire at: eee.uci.edu/survey/alumnispotlight

