Thirty-One Students Receive Education Abroad Scholarships

Thirty-one UK students received more than $29,000 in scholarships from the Office of International Affairs to study abroad in either the winter 2009 or spring 2010 semester. Students from a variety of majors received Education Abroad at UK scholarships in the amount of $750, $1,000 or $1,500 to supplement their financial resources for studying in another country.

Scholarship recipients will study in 14 different countries in diverse academic programs.

Education abroad provides students with life-changing personal and academic experiences, while also increasing their appeal to future employers.

The entire university campus benefits when returning students share their international experiences with others. The Office of International Affairs awards Education Abroad at UK scholarships twice annually. The next scholarship deadline is March 1.

See page 6 for a list of scholarship recipients and Education Abroad photo contest winners.

Big Blue Madness: The World in Blue and White

The theme of Big Blue Madness was “Blue All Around You,” and UK Athletics meant it. A first-ever recap of the event, which is available online, can be played in eight languages. It has already been viewed in 48 different countries.

“Our great basketball tradition is a logical tool to promote the University of Kentucky and its drive to become a Top 20 university,” UK Athletics Director of Marketing and Licensing Jason Schlafer said. “We’re proud that both UK and Kentucky Basketball are becoming even bigger players in the global marketplace.”

New Men’s Basketball Head Coach John Calipari’s message was extended to the Big Blue Nation via an innovative, multi-language, picture-in-picture (PIP) video player. This media platform enables users to stream the on-demand replay in different languages

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The Martin School of Public Policy and Administration has entered into cooperative agreements with the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies in Romania and the Lazarski School of Commerce and Law in Warsaw, Poland. At the same time, exploration of possibilities for dual or joint MPA degrees with overseas universities continues. But the Martin School's most prominent international initiative is the International Public Policy and Management Institute (IPPMI).

The Institute, which opened in February 2009, provides international professionals with various opportunities to advance themselves as global experts.

The Institute links the academic and professional expertise of faculty, researchers and alumni to the needs of international professionals in business, government and public organizations around the world. It offers a one-year Professional Certificate program for international professionals in the field of public policy and government. This program provides an academic, professional and cultural experience in the United States.

While administrators ultimately intend to meet needs of public managers from around the world, the initial focus is on South Korea. The first group of Korean participants began their program in August, and a second group begins in January 2010.

The Martin School is also involved in discussions with public officials in China and Japan about possible training programs for public administrators in those countries.

As it develops, the International Public Policy and Management Institute will not only provide quality education to international professionals, it will also offer international experiences to the people of Kentucky and to UK faculty and students.

More information is available at the Institute's Web site: www.martin.uky.edu/ippmipages/mission.html.

Videoconferencing Connects Hospitals in Kentucky and India

Medical outreach from UK usually involves the University Medical Center physicians travelling to rural, underserved communities throughout the Commonwealth. Patients receive needed care while their travel costs and time away from work are reduced. Plus, UK physicians are able to serve patients who would not normally receive specialty care. However, of the three missions of the UK Medical Center -- patient care, education and research -- traditional medical outreach primarily serves the patient care service area.

To achieve their mission on a larger scale, the UK Departments of Pediatrics and Family and Community Medicine and the Kentucky TeleCare program are utilizing videoconference technology to connect with Manipal Hospital in Bangalore, India, bringing together medical professionals from across the world. Although separated by more than 8,500 miles and 10 time zones, pediatric faculty, residents and medical students from Lexington and Bangalore are able to interact with each other as if they were in the same room.

Since the project began in August 2008, conferences have occurred every 3-4 weeks. The teleconferencing project serves all three mission areas of the UK Medical Center:

- **Patient Care** – Every session includes at least two case conferences. Challenging cases are presented from India or Kentucky. Often, these are active cases, and the presenter is requesting advice from the team regarding patient care.

- **Education** – The inclusion of residents and medical students has created a rich learning environment. Participants learn from the case presentations, Continued on page 8.
Every student can be seen as an agent for change in the world, and that is quite literally the case with many international students. “You may think you are helping one person, but you could be helping generations,” says Mosoka Fallah a graduate student from Liberia, pursuing his Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology.

Years of violence and civil war made it nearly impossible for Fallah to get a university education in his home country. He describes walking 4-5 miles to school, not knowing if the school would be open, and regularly going one or two days without food. His father was arrested, and he watched his niece die of disease and malnutrition.

It took him ten years to complete a bachelor’s of science (B.Sc.) in chemistry and biology, due to the erratic and irregular opening of the university and massive looting as a result of 16 years of war. He then enrolled at what was left of a prestigious Liberian medical school, A.M. Dogliotti College of Medicine, in a program that would have normally taken five years to complete.

When Fallah realized it would take ten or more years to finish under the circumstances, he decided to accept an invitation from his friend Dr. Christopher L. Tokpah to study in the United States. But his heart never left Africa. “If you have a dream, this place will help you,” he says referring to his experience at UK. In addition to pursuing his degree, Fallah has continued to help other students at home.

He uses a portion of his graduate student stipend to fund scholarships for seven Liberian students, including Mohamed Sesay, an orphan he met while working with Doctors Without Borders. After amputating the boy’s leg, Fallah spent time talking with him and encouraging him to set goals for himself. Sesay tracked him down later and expressed a strong desire to get an education. Fallah says he never worries about the commitment of the students he sponsors. They prove their dedication daily by overcoming intense challenges.

“If I spend $5 on lunch each day. That’s $35 in a week. But for $40, I can provide a year’s tuition to a student in my country,” he explains. He regularly sent money to his parents as well, asking them to buy a plot of land. “My mom was thinking it was to build a big house, but it’s for a free clinic,” says Fallah.

Now the land for that project has been purchased. Construction recently started on the clinic, and land was set aside for a preventative medicine and research facility as well. Fallah hopes these resources can someday serve as a model that can be carried to the neighboring countries of Guinea and Sierra Leone. “Our civil war spread to them. Now is the time to spread something good – to spread health and peace,” he says.

That sense of hope has also spread on the UK campus and throughout the Lexington community. In April 2009, Fallah joined with the International Book Project, Jack and Angene Wilson, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, the Frankfort-Lexington Association of Ghanaians and others to pack and ship 8,000 primary, secondary and higher education textbooks to Liberia. Fallah remembers sharing a single book with more than a dozen classmates when he was in school, and he is touched by the outpouring of support – especially from his UK professors and friends who continue to bring medical books to his office for future shipments.

“That is the best goodwill any country can have,” says Fallah. “Helping international students is an investment that will have benefits over time, but it can’t be measured in dollars and cents.”

Read more about Mosoka Fallah in Business Lexington. Anyone who wants more information about Fallah’s projects may contact him at mfall2@uky.edu.
Dr. Janet Roccanova, Director of Education Abroad at UK, is set to begin her next adventure after almost four years in her current role. She will leave UK in January to work with the Ecuadorian non-profit Yanapuma Foundation (www.yanapuma.org).

The mission of Yanapuma Foundation is to facilitate collaborative and sustainable community development in marginalized communities in Ecuador.

As Director of Academic Programs, Roccanova will create an arm of the foundation that will offer service-learning programs for university students. She will work with faculty from around the world to create customized travel programs in Ecuador, and she will develop unique service- and culture-learning programs for mixed groups of students from a variety of institutions.

In addition, she will work with individual students who seek internships or wish to pursue independent research in Ecuador.

These students will be integrated into Yanapuma’s development projects in communities across Ecuador, including those in the Andean Sierra, the Amazon rain forest, and at the Pacific coast.

Since Roccanova became Director of Education Abroad at UK in February 2006, student participation has increased by 41 percent. Much of the unit’s recent success is due to her strategic vision.

Roccanova also developed the Education Abroad Annual Fair, which takes Continued on page 7.

Karen Slaymaker, Assistant Director of International Student & Scholar Services for the Office of International Affairs, was awarded the prestigious Leo R. Dowling Award for Compassion, Integrity and Leadership at the Region VI conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in Cincinnati on Nov. 10.

The award was created in 1987 to honor Leo R. Dowling, one of the founders of NAFSA and a long-time faculty member at Indiana University.

Well-remembered by students and associates for his compassion, leadership and integrity throughout his distinguished career, Dowling was involved in many activities in the field of international education at the national and regional level during his 40-year career and until his death in 1986.

"Having worked with Karen when she was part of the leadership team, I was so happy and honored to be the one to give her the award. She is just a fantastic international educator," said Region VI Chair Jennifer Marinello.

Associate Provost for International Programs Susan Carvalho also praised Slaymaker’s work saying, "Because so many crises are handled with great care and effectiveness by her office, that level of effort can go unrecognized. I am glad this award exists, and was given to such a deserving recipient, to recognize formally what we all see happening every day.”
Michael Goodin, a University of Kentucky Plant Pathologist and a native of Jamaica, has a passion for food: cooking it, eating it and making it safer and more abundant for the world’s population.

His latest project will help manage possibly devastating plant viruses. To prevent potentially global viral epidemics, a team of international researchers, led by Goodin, have developed a proposal to help farmers around the world, and particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, run agricultural operations that are safer, more productive and sustainable.

The researchers plan to use innovative plant biotechnology techniques to address 10 present or emerging viruses, which pose a threat to yields, quality and ultimately, sustainable agriculture production. These viruses affect crops that are primary sources of food for millions of people (including maize, cassava and cowpea) or significant cash crops for developing countries (such as citrus, wine grapes and peppers). Some of the viruses may also have the potential to be engineered to produce vaccines or other biopharmaceuticals.

“While the collaborators will each work on a different virus, we will take common approaches to identify the host factors influencing resistance to each genetically-diverse virus,” said Goodin, an associate professor in the UK College of Agriculture.

Once researchers determine the host factors, they hope to develop crop varieties that are resistant to one or more viruses. They also hope to understand plant and virus interactions more fully, which could help in developing disease-resistant varieties for many other crops worldwide.

The proposal project, which has been submitted to national granting agencies, is in the review process. A response is expected in December or January, but progress will not stall in the interim. Research continues, and about 30 genes have already been identified for engineering resistance. “What has made this research possible is access to state-of-the-art microscopes that allow us to characterize how these proteins function in living cells in real time. It is critical that such instrumentation be maintained on campus and upgraded in a timely fashion. Certainly when it comes to microscopes, we have shown that access to high-end instrumentation leads to increased levels of grant funding,” said Goodin.

He also made a recent trip to Nigeria and Kenya to develop partnerships with colleagues at universities in the area, discover potential opportunities for educational exchanges, and assess the current crop situation and agricultural practices. “This trip allowed me to better understand the farmers’ perspectives for what is really needed,” he said.

Goodin and his colleagues are fully committed to obtaining funding and continuing their research to better the lives of others. “It’s too important not to move forward,” he said.

Michael Goodin met President Barack Obama’s step-grandmother, Mama Sarah Obama, during his latest trip to Kenya.

He was visiting Maseno University to explore similarities between their student/faculty exchange with Bluegrass Community and Technical College and the exchanges he ultimately hopes to establish related to UK’s agricultural development projects.

He made the one-hour drive to Maseno, where Ms. Obama lives and runs the Mama Sarah Obama Children’s Foundation, to speak with her.

“Education is life!”
Mama Sarah Obama
September 16, 2009
Kogelo, Kenya
Education Abroad at UK Scholarship Recipients

These outstanding students will study abroad in Winter 2009 or Spring 2010.

**Australia**
Katherine Lynne Grim (Arts & Sciences)
Mallory May Megee (Arts & Sciences)
Katisha Ann Pickrell (Education)

**Austria**
Elizabeth Jean Schaffer (Gatton)
Martha Wilkinson (Gatton)

**Costa Rica**
Cody Jonathan Greer (Arts & Sciences)

**Egypt**
Lindley Ellen Winchester (Arts & Sciences)

**England**
Rachel Brown (Arts & Sciences)
Russ Matthew Caldwell (Communications & Information Studies)
Corey Leigh Gregory (Fine Arts)

**France**
Shady El-Maraghi (Arts & Sciences)
Abby Grafchik (Arts & Sciences)
Chandler Alexandra Jobson (Arts & Sciences)
Raquelle Koontz (Arts & Sciences)
Jennifer Regan (Communications & Information Studies)

**Germany**
Kirk Norasak (Engineering)

**Ireland**
Taylor Amerman (Gatton)
Jill Kristin Dobler (Gatton)
Kathryn Mara (Arts & Sciences)
Kaitlyn Stephens (Arts & Sciences)

**Italy**
Emilie Ann Fritsch (Fine Arts)
Whitlee Michelle Hampton (Gatton)

**Japan**
Erin J. Green (Arts & Sciences)
Robert Allen Hamilton (Arts & Sciences)

**Jordan**
Danielle Cole (Arts & Sciences)

**South Africa**
Jessica Laswell (Graduate School)
Rebecca Michelle Meyer (Graduate School)

**Spain**
Yuen Ching Chan (Arts & Sciences)
Kelsey Elizabeth Feldkamp (Gatton)
Katelynn E. Thomas (Gatton)

**Swaziland**
Irfan Jindani (Graduate School)

First place was awarded to Mackenzie Huston for photos taken in Spain.

Second place was awarded to Loretta Kwan for photos taken in Japan.

Third place was awarded to Margot Elizabeth Shinn for photos taken in Italy.

2008-2009 Education Abroad Photo Contest Winners
For the sixth consecutive year, the UK Office of International Affairs hosted International Education Day in conjunction with International Education Week.

International Education Week is jointly sponsored by the Department of State and the Department of Education and is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. Created in 2000, it is now celebrated by more than 100 countries.

On Nov. 19, 30 high school students from Woodford and Fayette Counties came to campus for a day of cultural activities planned by the Office of International Affairs, Community Outreach division. The theme of this year’s event was West Africa.

"These types of activities create global citizens who appreciate other cultures."
- UK Student Christson Adedoyin

The day included opportunities for small group discussions on culture with UK International Students; presentations from UK faculty, students, and staff, as well as members of the community who have various travel experiences in Africa (including education abroad, Peace Corps, and Habitat for Humanity participants); a discussion of African art and customs; experiential stations demonstrating how to carry a baby on one’s back or a basket on one’s head; and a Ghanaian drumming session.

Derek Fannin, a student from Woodford County High School, said he enjoyed the event because “it helps people to clear up misconceptions about other cultures so we can have global unity.” Fannin also indicated that he “never thought about Peace Corps before and it seems like a great opportunity.”

UK international students Christson and Ore Adedoyin facilitated an engaging small group discussion comparing and contrasting the cultures of the high school students to Nigerian culture.

“These types of activities create global citizens who appreciate other cultures,” said Christson.

Roccanova

Continued from page 4.

place each October and she oversaw implementation of an online application and database system.

Roccanova especially appreciates the professional relationships she has developed at UK. “My favorite parts of the job are working closely with my talented and dedicated staff and working with faculty on UK-Sponsored programs. I will miss my friends and colleagues at UK greatly, but I am also very excited to explore this new and challenging opportunity,” she said.

Dr. David Bettez will assume the role of Interim Director of Education Abroad beginning Jan. 19.
College of Education Hosts International Symposium

The UK College of Education sponsored an Internationalization Symposium on Sept. 25. Terry Anderson, visiting lecturer in the School of Journalism, delivered the keynote address.

About 60 faculty members from across the campus gathered to hear reports from the College’s faculty about projects aimed to establish or strengthen collaboration initiatives with international partners, which were undertaken during Spring 2009 as part of a grant initiative sponsored by the Dean.

Legacy Tuition Program Welcomes International Applicants

UK international alumni will be pleased to learn that the Legacy Tuition Program, which is coordinated by the UK Office of Academic Scholarships, offers partial tuition awards to eligible non-resident undergraduate children of all UK graduates.

An eligible student is defined as “a child whose mother, father, or step-parent has earned a bachelor, graduate, doctorate, or professional degree from the University of Kentucky, whose parent or step-parent is a member of the UK Alumni Association, and who would normally be subject to non-resident tuition rates,” according to the UK Web site.

Students with appropriate qualifications can receive award amounts up to the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition.

Eligibility requirements, deadlines and other information may be found at www.uky.edu/AcademicScholarships/legacy.htm.

Thanks to the Legacy Tuition program, even more students will be able to pursue their educational goals at the University of Kentucky, a leading university on an exciting path to becoming a Top 20 research institution.

Big Blue Madness

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Unprecedented coverage for Calipari’s first Big Blue Madness allowed more than 400 million Chinese to follow the event via live blogging on Titan Sports, China’s largest sports newspaper.

The momentum continues. UK Public Relations’ “UK at the Half”, hosted by Carl Nathe, recently covered study abroad opportunities for UK students, and Nathe has indicated a desire to explore more global topics on the radio broadcasts this season.

“International outreach, diversity and innovation are certainly cornerstones in UK’s Top 20 strategy,” said UK President Lee Todd. “We are proud to be working hand-in-hand with UK Athletics to deliver UK’s powerful brand to a broader global audience.”

Watch Coach Calipari’s speech, with translations in Afrikaans, American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, German, Kazakh, Russian and Spanish, at www.kentuckywildcats.tv.

Videoconferencing

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as well as the sharing of knowledge by the faculty and trainees. Both organizations are learning about the similarities and differences between the health care systems and the delivery of medical care in the two countries.

Research – This relationship will lead to collaborative research, benefitting both medical centers.

Thus far, the programs have involved very relevant issues. For example, there was a case presentation on a difficult H1N1 (swine flu) case that was treated in Bangalore. Pediatric case presentations have included the following specialties: Surgery, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, Metabolic Disease, Development/Behavior Issues, Dermatology, Radiology and Pulmonology.