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Study Abroad – Shepherd's Gateway to the World

Shepherd University sends approximately 90 students abroad each year, almost exclusively on short-term faculty-led study tours arranged through third-party providers for two to four weeks. However, the number of students studying abroad on long-term semester and summer programs has increased. This is primarily due to a Study Abroad First-Year Experience class and presentations targeted at first-year students.

Shepherd Signs Agreements to Collaborate with Universities Abroad

Shepherd University has identified and nurtured new relationships with carefully selected foreign universities. The universities will serve as partners, exchange sites, and gateways into neighboring geographic regions. These institutions are located in Cuba, Mexico, Scotland, Cyprus, Taiwan, Turkey, Japan, and the Federated States of Micronesia. Programs with partner institutions are preferred,

especially for the target student populations, since they offer less difficulty in credit transfer, more flexibility in tailoring study outcomes, greater knowledge and support for itinerary construction, and less overall cost.

Shepherd University signed agreements with Anáhuac University in Mexico, Osaka University of Commerce in Japan, Nanhua University in Taiwan, and University of the West of Scotland, formalizing intentions to develop student exchange and to foster collaboration for research and teaching. These add to those already in place with the University of Nicosia in Cyprus and the Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University in Turkey. Building on these agreements, Shepherd recently sent a student to study at Osaka University of Commerce (OUC) for the spring semester in 2019 and was honored to host a student from OUC for the school year in 2016. An Appalachian Studies

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Phi Beta Delta



Mark Your Calendar

34th Annual Phi Beta Delta Conference
May 14-15, 2020
11 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT

Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars (PBD) will host a fully online conference-focused on the theme "International Education in Our Changing World." Research paper and poster presentations will be shared online with video conferencing and screen sharing technology. PBD welcomes proposals on best practices in global teaching and learning from a diverse array of academic disciplines, presenters, and global perspectives. For details, visit the society's website www.phibetadelta.org. ■

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graduate certificate student from Shepherd spent the spring semester in 2018 at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) in Paisley and Ayr. A Shepherd student will study at UWS in the spring of 2020. A Shepherd University history professor is currently teaching at Nanhua University for the fall semester. In the summer of 2018, a psychology professor taught a class at Anáhuac University. Student exchanges from Nanhua and Osaka University of Commerce are currently in the works.

Collaboration on a State Level

Shepherd University is a member of Global West Virginia, an international education consortium for public colleges and universities established by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission in 2006. Global West Virginia has arranged state-level agreements with Puebla, Mexico, and Shanxi Province, China. Shepherd University will build upon the state-level agreement and state support to establish an institutional partnership with Anáhuac University in Mexico and send its first students there.

Shepherd also maintains institutional membership in the West Virginia Consortium for Faculty and Course Development in International Studies (FACDIS). The organization is based out of WVU but is comprised of more than 300 faculty members from across the state. FACDIS is currently looking to expand its membership in the hopes of furthering its mission to support global education in West Virginia.

Recent Successes of the Study Abroad Program

- Yin Star, director of Study Abroad, received professional certification from the Forum on Education Abroad in 2018, which has allowed her to implement and lay the groundwork to establish a full-time best practices Study Abroad Office.
- Study abroad participation has increased by 30 percent.
- The program has been marketed through a variety of media interviews.
- Yin Star spoke at a Bloggers Summit in New York City and participated in multiple interviews regarding the Capacity Building Grant and the success of Shepherd University study abroad program.
- Increased the number of faculty-led study tours to nontraditional countries by 75 percent.
- Yin Star served as a reader and selection reviewer for the Critical Language and Benjamin Gilman Scholarships.
- Study abroad connected and sent students to partner institutions: Osaka University of Commerce and University of the West of Scotland (UWS) for a semester-long program.
- The program recruited students from underrepresented majors in the STEM field to study abroad. Recent study abroad visits have included nontraditional countries such as Tanzania, Korea, Peru, China, and Namibia.
- Yin Star has made study abroad presentations to more than 250 students each year to FYEX classes (First-Year Experience), Honors freshmen, and other classes, connecting students to university resources to facilitate study abroad such as financial aid. The goal of these presentations is to promote interest in studying abroad early in a student's undergraduate education in order to allow them to explore all options available to them.
- Yin Star teaches a study abroad FYEX class where she requires students to conduct research on three study abroad country options and develop a presentation. From this class, several students have taken the opportunity to study abroad.
- Yin Star established, advises, and mentors a study abroad student organization that includes in its mission the student advocacy and marketing of study abroad opportunities, pre-departure, peer mentoring, and re-entry support.
- Promoted and organized a faculty-led program to Cuba which culminated in an open event "Havana Night" that highlighted the trip, students' research and presentations, food, and salsa dancing.
- Future events include plans for a Chinese New Year event in January 2020 showcasing the history professor who is currently teaching a semester at Nanhua University in Taiwan and featuring a Lion Dance and cultural fare. ■

Shepherd Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs

Global Engineering and Innovation in Science and Business, China

with Reza Mirdamadi
May 17-25, 2020

Biodiversity, Conservation, and Sustainability, Peru

with Dr. Cecilia Melton
May 16-26, 2020

The Art of Europe

with Dr. Chris Coltrin
June 3-29, 2020

Evolution of European Government and Society

with Dr. Sally Brasher
May 19-June 9, 2020

Spanish Immersion, Mérida, Yucatán

with Dr. Denis Berenschot
May 10-26, 2020

Shepherd Hosts International Visitor Leadership Program

In March Shepherd University hosted 16 international clinicians and law enforcement professionals from numerous countries for a program titled: Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. The Martinsburg Initiative and Shepherd Nursing Department played central roles. The International Visitor Leadership Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. ■



Agreement Signed with The Gambia



Shepherd University and the Embassy of the Republic of The Gambia now have a memorandum of understanding that will facilitate the admissions process for Gambian students and make them eligible for merit scholarships. Dr. Virginia Hicks, assistant provost for academic community outreach, and H.E. Dawda Fadera, The Gambia ambassador to the U.S., signed the agreement this past summer. ■

Model U.N. Students: A Model for Success

The Shepherd University Model United Nations Organization competed in the New York University Model United Nations Conference in Manhattan, New York, spring 2019. This was a new experience for the members (Maheen Chisty, Raphael Corletta, Miranda Jones, Rebecca Kamp, Sophya Khurana, Ethan Legge, Jacob Miller, Dalton Nary, Emily Oliver, Natalie Pullen, Madison Ronevich, Zachary Runion, Isaac Seffers, Devin Spinks, and Kelly Stout) because it was a fantasy and computer-based conference. The committees they were assigned to dealt with situations which were not based in reality, but they still had to apply their negotiation skills. This conference brought together universities and colleges including some nationally top-ranked universities such as Harvard University, Princeton University, and Florida International University. Shepherd's Model U.N. held its own and had successes in the committees.

In the fall, the Model United Nations Organization participated in the National Model United Nations Conference in Washington, D.C. The team, consisting of 11 delegates, represented South Africa in the General Assembly First (Sophya Khurana and Erin Lehman) and Fourth (Ethan Legge and Jacob Miller) Committees, the Security Council (Emily Oliver and Zachary Runion), the Food and Agricultural Organization (Ali Jaan and Raphael Corletta), the United Nations Environmental Assembly (Camden Connell and Kelly Stout), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Natalie Pullen). The Shepherd team competed against about 70 universities and colleges from around the United States as well as Italy, Japan, the Peoples Republic of China, and Nigeria. South Africa sponsored resolutions that were adopted in each of the committees and the South African delegation led the African delegations to unity in the committees. As a result of the delegates' hard work, Shepherd University Model United Nations Organization won an Honorable Delegation Award. ■

Geography Awareness Week Celebrated

International Geography Awareness week, observed each November, recognizes and promotes geographic awareness and education at all levels. Several guest speakers and student research highlighted the Week at Shepherd. Hydrologist Walt Eifert spoke about the challenges of working in water and sanitation projects in lesser developed countries, with special focus on Haiti. Dr. Richard Anson spoke about his long career with the World Bank as well as his current work in Mozambique, sharing insights on the



Global Studies Program Rich with Opportunities

The Global Studies Program at Shepherd University has concluded its third year and as such has submitted its first evaluation to the HEPC. In its third year the program made some important steps which included the introduction of a minor in Global Studies and a Global Studies concentration for the R.B.A. program. The number

of majors surpassed the prognoses laid out in the original program proposal and reached 25 students. Several students have gone abroad for their international experience, including travels to Europe, Cuba, South Korea, and Vietnam. Five students completed the capstone on a variety of projects. Rebecca Kamp presented her capstone research on "Violence against Women in South Asia" at a university-wide academic research conference. Savannah Maguire completed her capstone on "The Popularity of President Duterte in the Philippines despite his Authoritarian Tendencies." Olivia McGlodrick's capstone project was titled "Economic-Based Immigration Policies in Different Countries." Sarah Muskett's capstone project was research on the Cuban Cultural Revolution, an outcome of her international experience in Cuba. Emily Oliver undertook an impressive project titled "Shift in Export of Korean Pop Culture from the PR China to Europe and the United States." ■

Study Abroad Photo Contest Winners



A Day in the Life

by Christina Knight

Local fruit market in Monteverde, Costa Rica

Category: Cultural Engagement

"The best part of traveling is living like the locals, and visiting tiny intimate markets is a great way to see how other cultures live daily!"



Yoshikien

by Hunter Pearson

Yoshikien Garden in Nara, Japan

Category: Wild and Wonderful

"Nara was once the capital of Japan and is now home to many beautiful temples and shrines, as well as the famous shika deer which freely roam the city. Yoshikien is a garden located on the edge of Nara Park and it's full of lush and vibrant greenery."



The Most Beautiful Temple in Korea

by Emily Oliver

Busan, South Korea

Category: The Places You Go

"The Haedongyonggusa Temple is unique to other temples in Korea because of its location. While most temples are located in the mountains, this temple is located on the coast, which gives it a different atmosphere to mountain temples."



Explorer of the Valley

by Andrea Monsma

Viñales Valley, Cuba

Category: Rams In Action

"On a weekend trip to the countryside of Viñales we rode an hour on horseback to get to this verdant valley. We were all sore for days, but it was well worth the trip to be surrounded by green after spending so much time in the city."

Shepherd to Host 2020 West Virginia GeoBee

Shepherd University will again host the annual West Virginia GeoBee elimination and final competitions. The 2020 event is set for Friday, March 27. The competition is sponsored annually by the National Geographic Society and is designed to promote geographic education and to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. The society provides curated study materials to schools registered for the competition as well as prize money for the Bee winners. State winners from around the U.S. will compete at

the national event in Washington, D.C., in May. The academic competition is open to students in grades four through eight, in public schools, private schools, and home-schools in the United States and its territories, as well as the Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS). For detailed information on the Bee, visit the National Geographic Society website www.nationalgeographic.org. The 2019 West Virginia competition hosted about 50 students and a capacity crowd in Reynolds Hall. Josh Potet of

Shenandoah Junction won the state competition for the second consecutive year.

This year's final competition, scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. in Reynolds Hall, is free and open to the public. In connection with the Bee, the Giant Map of West Virginia will be displayed throughout the day in the Erma Ora Byrd atrium. Katherine Hinson is the state GeoBee coordinator, and Dr. Ann Marie Legreid is the campus coordinator for the event. ■

Faculty Participate in FACDIS Workshop

Drs. Liz Perego (HIST), Max Guirguis (PSCI), and Ann Marie Legreid (GEOG) attended the 39th Annual Conference & Workshops of the Faculty and Course Development in International Studies (FACDIS) held in October at Lakeview Resort near Morgantown. The theme was Challenges Facing Democracy, with sessions and reading materials focused on Latin America and Eastern Europe. David Ost, professor at Hobart

and William Smith Colleges, led the session on Eastern Europe, and Jonathan Hartlyn, professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, conducted the session on Latin America. FACDIS is supported by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and its member institutions. The working title for the 40th anniversary FACDIS workshop is Global Health: Science, Economics, and Public Policy (Fall 2020). ■

Student to Intern in Canadian Parliament

Erin Lehman, a student in political science, will participate in the 2020 Canadian Internship Program. This is a five-week summer program made possible by the generosity of Dr. Mark Curley. Students assist in the day-to-day work of the political body, such as the drafting of speeches, handling correspondence, and traveling to the districts of their member of Parliament (MP). ■

Report from Theta Epsilon Chapter, Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars

From our inception we have strived to generate a membership with international experience and with diverse backgrounds. Last April, we were proud to induct four students, two faculty, two staff persons, two administrators, and one alumna for a total of 11 inductees and an active membership of 32 persons. The guest speaker for this occasion was Abdoul Salam Bello who is the advisor to the executive director of the World Bank Group.



Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars, Theta Epsilon Chapter, April 2019

Our 2020 induction ceremony will be held in the Cumberland Room on Tuesday, March 31,

beginning at 3:30 p.m. Students, staff, faculty, and community members who have demonstrated excellence or extraordinary service in international education may be nominated; the deadline for nominations is December 18.

Our chapter is actively involved in campus activities through co-sponsorships such as the World Affairs Seminars for area high school students held in October 2018 (immigration issues) and 2019 (climate challenges); the film showing of "I Am Jane Doe," on human trafficking; and visits by two ambassadors from Benin and The Gambia, respectively.

May 31-June 1, the local chapter hosted the 33rd annual PBD National Conference at Shepherd University. Several of our members presented their research at the conference which was heralded a great success. At the conference, Dr. Ann Marie Legreid, our campus coordinator and main conference organizer, was named president of the National Board of Phi Beta Delta.

Shepherd's Theta Epsilon Chapter PBD Executive Board members are: Dr. Denis Berenschot,

president; Dr. Lois Jarman, president-elect; Siriki Diabate, vice president; Dr. Keith Alexander, secretary; Dr. Ben Bankhurst, treasurer; and Dr. Ann Marie Legreid, campus coordinator and national board member. ■

— **President Denis Berenschot, Reporter**



Pictured above is Henry Navarette Mendez (r.), who received the David Merchant International Student Award for Achievement at the 2019 National Phi Beta Delta Conference held at Shepherd University, May 31-June 1.

Office of International Affairs: Making Things Happen

This fall, approximately 70 international students were welcomed to the Shepherd campus, representing more than 30 different countries. More than 30 of those students are in the United States on student visas. This is the largest number of students with visas in Shepherd's history. Thirteen students are currently enrolled in the Intensive English Language Program.

Shepherd is hosting two study abroad students. One student from Pakistan is here through IREX (International Research and Exchanges Board), and another is from Japan through our partnership with Osaka University of Commerce. Shepherd also had one domestic student apply for a Fulbright program.

In September, the International Student Leadership Team (ISLT) partnered with Shepherd's Multicultural Leadership Team for a week of events for Hispanic Heritage Week, and in October, students participated in Shep-or-Treat, with a focus on the Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) celebrations held in Latin America.

The Office of International Affairs partnered with the School of Nursing to bring to campus Medstar Georgetown surgeon, Dr. Gabriel Del Corral. Dr. Del Corral specializes in gender affirmation surgeries. Drs. Huffer, Burkey, and Fetty from Shepherd's nursing program also presented on transgender issues in the field of nursing. Shepherd students, faculty, and members of the

community attended this event filled with very important information.

Also in October, five Nepali students presented a celebration of Diwali, the festival of lights. The students shared their cultural traditions and some wonderful food. These students came to Shepherd through a partnership with Northern Virginia Community College, and we look forward to more students coming to Shepherd to complete a four-year degree via this network.

Our recruiting has yielded 62 more international student applicants for the spring semester. We are working to gather their necessary documents and hope to bring many of them to Shepherd. ■

Breaking Resistance Launched

On October 9, the Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice launched a multicampus digital-learning, teaching, and research initiative called the Breaking Resistance Social Justice Documentary project. The project involved faculty at Shepherd University, Georgia College, the Instituto Brasiliense de Direito Publico in Brasília-Brazil, and the University Center Christus in Fortaleza, CE-Brazil. Six faculty partnered to show Katie Couric's award-winning film, *Gender Revolution* on four university campuses: Dr. Howard-Bostic, associate professor of sociology, and Dr. Julia Sandy, associate professor of history at Shepherd, Dr. Paulette Cross, assistant professor of teacher education and director of Africana Studies at Georgia College, and Dr. Monica Sapucaia Machado and Dr.

Denise de Almeida, professors of law in Brazil. At Shepherd's event, Howard-Bostic facilitated a theory-focused dialogue, and event participants completed a survey about gender identities. Shepherd students in SOCI 321: Social Stratification and GWST 200: Intro Gender & Women's Studies also completed a course assessment. Drs. Howard-Bostic, Sapucaia Machado, and de Almeida presented the project findings on December 6, 2019 at the Social Changes, Humanities, and Education International Conference in Washington, D.C.

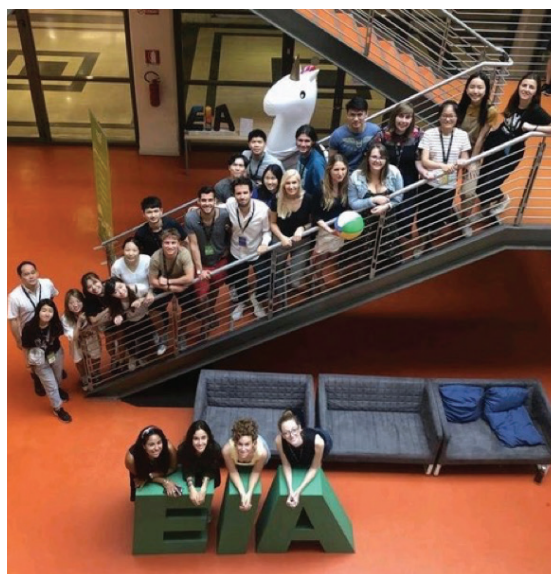
Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) Partnership

Shepherd also signed a multicampus Collab-

orative Online International Learning (COIL) agreement and partnership with professors of law, Dr. Monica Sapucaia Machado of the Instituto Brasiliense de Direito Publico in Brasília-Brazil, and Dr. Denise de Almeida of University Center Christus in Fortaleza, CE-Brazil. Students enrolled in Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic's course, SOCI 321: Social Stratification, participated in the project this fall. Students enrolled at the three institutions participated in three constructive workshops with in-depth video conversations about gender identities and the roles of science, society, and culture. ■



The Department of Psychology sponsored a study tour to England and France in the spring of 2019.



EIA Meeting

Students from the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics were funded to travel to Italy for the EIA meeting. They won the Quinones Spark \$15,000 Nixon Peabody IP Spark Award Scholarship

Shepherd University's Global Appalachia Program Negotiates Program Exchanges with the University of the West of Scotland

This spring the new M.A. in Appalachian Studies program will graduate the first of its Global Appalachia students, Sean Murtagh, one of many Shepherd students who will benefit from the variety of student and program exchanges and agreements between Shepherd University and the University of the West of Scotland (UWS).

This new dual degree partnership starts with the graduate student's applying the first module of the Shepherd Appalachian Studies M.A. (the APST Graduate Certificate component) to the UWS M.A. in creative media practice, and studying abroad for a semester in the spring at either the UWS Ayr or Paisley campuses near Glasgow. Returning in the fall to finish the Shepherd M.A. and using the study abroad experience in lieu of the required Shepherd electives, the student, in relatively the same period of time, finishes both master's degrees: M.A. in Appalachian Studies (Shepherd) and M.A. in creative media (UWS).

After Sean Murtagh finished his Appalachian Studies Graduate Certificate in 2018, the first module of the new Shepherd M.A. in Appalachian Studies, he studied at UWS for a semester in Ayr, Scotland, the home of Robert Burns. Murtagh came back to Shepherd with the coursework completed for the UWS M.A., which likewise counted toward his Shepherd M.A. which he will officially finish at the end of fall

semester 2019.

When asked what the cost of the study abroad semester was, including tuition, board at the Scottish university, and other expenses, Sean replied, "The whole experience cost us around \$10,000, but I had the opportunity to explore my family's Scottish roots and have this amazing learning experience." Sean told Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, director of the Appalachian Studies programs, that he came away with "two degrees" in half the time and money which the task might have taken without the UWS/Shepherd partnership.

Shurbutt noted that this global studies partnership has opened doors for other student exchanges and curricular partnerships. Among the ideas now under discussion are UWS undergraduate theater majors studying at Shepherd in June and July and receiving UWS credit through the Contemporary American Theater Festival Internship program, as well a similar fast-track for Scottish graduate students studying for a semester at Shepherd and receiving Shepherd's M.A. in Appalachian Studies.

Shurbutt said, "These kinds of cross-institutional partnerships and cooperative endeavors yield benefits for both Scottish and Appalachian Studies students. We have as many enriching learning experiences to offer UWS students as



Pictured is Sean Murtagh, the first graduate of the Appalachian Studies certificate program.

they ours, but the real benefit for both Scottish and Appalachian students is the global experience that opens minds and broadens horizons."

Community members interested in the Global Appalachia program or learning more about the dual degree partnership between the two universities should contact Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt at sshurbut@shepherd.edu. ■

World Affairs Seminar Engages High School Students

On October 17, the World Affairs Seminar provided 120 students from six area high schools the opportunity to study aspects of global climate change. Several keynote speakers shared scientific evidence, summarized the debates and challenges, and outlined strategies for addressing climate change at the local to global scales: Dr. Brenda Ekwurzel, director of climate science/Union of Concerned Scientists; Dr. Tim Thomas, Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institution; Dr. Pablo Vieira, director of the Nationally Determined Contributions Partnership, World Resources Institute, and Dr. Sam Greene, assistant professor of political science at Shepherd. Members of the university's Debate and Forensics Team and Environmental Studies students assisted with the day's hands-on activities. The seminar was co-sponsored by the Shepherdstown and Martinsburg Rotary clubs, Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars, the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, and the six area high schools in Jefferson and Berkeley counties. The Seminar Planning Committee consisted of Dr. Richard

Anson (seminar moderator), Dr. Aart Holtslag, Dr. Sam Greene, Dr. Jeff Groff, and Dr. Ann Marie Legreid (chair). Chazz Prince served as coordinator for the Berkeley County schools. ■

New to the Curriculum

New courses and programs with international themes are becoming available to Shepherd students, including the global studies major, minor, and R.B.A. emphasis; geography minor; anthropology minor; and crime and society minor. A certificate in Middle East and African studies is undergoing review by the campus Curriculum and Instruction Committee. ■

Phi Beta Delta Gavel Passes to Shepherd

At the 2019 national conference, Dr. Ann Marie Legreid took the gavel as the new international president of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars. She is leading the Executive Board in strategic planning as well as conference planning for 2020 (online), 2021 (Louisiana), and 2022 (D.C.). ■

Mark Your Calendar

Focus On Student Learning: Supporting Shepherd's International Students

With Shepherd's international student population rapidly increasing, this workshop will address issues that sometimes arise for our non-domestic students. Learn more about why students are choosing Shepherd and how we, as a campus, can provide an excellent learning experience for them.

Monday, March 23, 2020 12:10-1 p.m.

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 12:35-1:25 p.m.

Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room.

Lunch will be provided.

Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning. ■