



Going Global!

Newsletter of Harper College International Studies and Programs

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Hope for the Future: Harambee for Africa

A review by Ms. Tamala Turner, Harper Student

On Friday, April 15th, I had the pleasure of attending a cultural event sponsored by the International Studies and Programs Committee of Harper College entitled, "Hope for the Future: Harambee for Africa." Before attending this event I do not recall having ever heard the term "harambee," nor had I known of this type communal meeting that is common place in African countries. I learned that "harambee" is a Swahili word which translates in English as "all pull together" and is based on a tradition of African communities that come together to meet and talk about their local issues. Also the "harambee" is meant to build and maintain a sense of involvement for everyone in the community so they can maintain an interest and willingness to work together and solve problems. So, it was in the spirit of the African Harambee that this event was presented.

The first speaker, Mary Dailey Brown, President and Chief Executive

Officer, of SowHope, spoke about "The Burden of Women in Africa." I was very saddened to hear how some African women are living and being treated. Her information touched on four main areas of women's lives, health, education, poverty, and individual rights. The health issues included problems with an increasing number of women getting HIV/AIDS, not having enough birthing centers, women being physically abused and raped, and female circumcision. I was shocked to hear that each year approximately 2 million girls get circumcised, usually with no anesthesia. These women are undereducated, 50-70% are illiterate, and the number of girls leaving school early has increased. As far as poverty is concerned, if they get any work, they are paid the equivalent of US \$2 per day; on that type of salary, they have to feed their families. Also we learned that women have very few rights, if any, and they cannot own land. Only the males in the family or the husbands can own land. These are some of the major problems, and Mary explained how her organization is

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International Students at Harper College

by Jill Izumikawa, International Student Coordinator

We are fortunate to welcome close to 100 international students to Harper every semester. Most of the students come to prepare for transfer to an Illinois university. Some students want to complete an associate degree of applied science. A small number come to learn English. In all cases, these students hope to learn more about U.S. American culture and people. They could complete any of their academic goals in their home country, but something draws these students out of their homelands to seek an international and cross-cultural experience.

Recent graduate, Ms. Neesha Pathak, wanted to share the following with the Harper community

Harper has been an extraordinary experience for me considering that I was a foreign student. Not only did it expose me to a different educational system but I was amazed at the sheer class of this great institute. Harper has helped me launch my career by providing best in class education and an efficient support system. I would love to come back to Harper in future to study more and I highly recommend Harper to anyone who plans to excel in career.

Harambee Review (continued from page 1)

trying to help these woman find solutions. SowHope has helped over 18,000 women in five years. The SowHope strategy is to go out into the community that needs help, find local leaders who just need minimal resources, and help them help themselves. Mary showed pictures of some of the women in the villages that had benefited from the program, and these women managed to have successes out of what seemed to be doomed situations. This was very inspiring to me and made me think about how I might be able to help these types of people one day.

Kenneth Elisapana, Founder and Executive Director of “South Sudan Voices of Hope” spoke about the politics of South Sudan. I learned that this area of Africa has had political problems and unrest for the past 55 years: over 3.5 million have died and there have been over 4 million refugees as a result. After much work, there has finally been a referendum on independence, and because of the referendum the South Sudan is now a new country. The Sudan announced their independence on July 9th 2011, and they will have a huge celebration. Mr. Elisapana said that one of the post-referendum challenges is to find a way to keep peace and unity amongst the ten states that represent 64 tribes. Being from a country that started off with 13 colonies and grew to become the country we know and love today, I’m hoping that this country will also find success with their new union, and I’ll be paying attention now that I know.

Dr. Francis Ntowe, Executive Director of “Cameroon-America AIDS Alliance” gave information about “The Burden of HIV/AIDS on Developing Countries.” A very interesting fact that I didn’t know is that of the 33 million people worldwide that have HIV/AIDS, 22 million are from Africa. Dr. Ntowe’s group found it easier to spread the word of AIDS prevention and information through local churches, and in 2006 he founded the first Presbyterian church in Cameroon. One thing that struck a chord with me from this

presentation is when Dr Ntowe explained why we in the US should even care about the spread of AIDS in Africa; besides just compassion and concern with human suffering, the disease itself is basically a plane ride away from the U.S. Anyone in the United States could become infected with this serious disease at any time. This made me realize that people in the world are closer than we think, and we all should be concerned about promoting and supporting efforts that are for the good when it comes to world health.

The harambee then heard about “Education and Justice” from Roberta Al-Salihi, adjunct professor of ESL at the College of Lake County. Mrs. Al-Salihi is truly an inspirational educator who has spent a great deal of her life, approximately 40 years, teaching people in Africa. She had pictures and other information from over the years of her work. Like Mrs. Al-Salihi, I also want to spend the rest of my life learning and teaching others; she was very motivating.

At the close of the Harambee, we moved our chairs around in a circle so that we could see each other better and actually ask questions of each presenter. It was an informative and interesting cultural event that I am very appreciative to have been able to attend.

Then at noon we were treated to an African culinary delight produced by students from Harper’s Culinary Arts program under the supervision of Harper’s Chef Patrick Beach, and guest Chef Patrick Guat and a group of his student chefs from the Lycée St Joseph L’Amandier in Angoulême, France. It was a very tasty meal that included lamb, eggplant, couscous, and other African style foods.

Harambee Panel



L to R: Roberta Al-Salihi, Rich Johnson, Kenneth Elisapana, Mary Dailey Brown, and Francis Ntowe

Global Perspectives on Campus

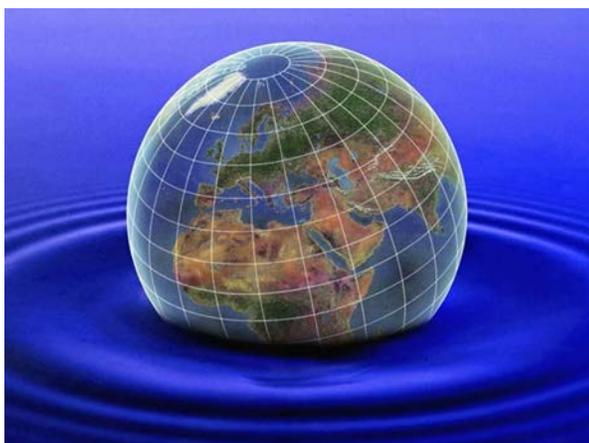
The spring semester was an exceptionally busy one for international programs on our campus! We hosted some half a dozen events, including our first annual International Education Summit, which gathered together over 60 educators from 23 area institutions. In March, we celebrated in grand style the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Peace Corps. Harper College is fortunate to count among its faculty and staff ten Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs); they are listed in the article on our Peace Corps panel. In conjunction with our Peace Corps celebrations, John Deever led a wonderful session of *Read Around the World* which featured his book, *Singing on the Heavy Side of the World*, about his experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ukraine from 1993-95. In addition, we sponsored two workshops for faculty and administrators interested in opportunities through the Fulbright Program. And finally, our African Harambee in April was well-attended and stimulating. The excellent meal provided by Harper College culinary arts students in collaboration with visiting students from the Lycée St Joseph L'Amandier in Angoulême, France was a special treat. Our second *Read Around the World* followed our African Harambee and focused on Wangari Maathai's book, *The Challenge of Africa*. This session was moderated by Mukila Maitha, adjunct professor of Geography and President of United Kenyans of Chicago. All in all, it was a wildly successful semester, and we thank you for your part in promoting and

supporting our programs.

International Studies and Programs is in the process of undergoing a transformation this coming academic year. With an eye toward serving the college and its various constituencies more comprehensively and promoting global education for all of our students, ISP will undergo a thorough program-review-of-sorts this fall. As part of that process, we will seek the advice and recommendations of outside expert consultants involved in the field of global education. We hope their guidance will provide us with a roadmap for the future direction of global education on our campus.

As part of this transformation, we are also revitalizing Harper's Study Abroad program with ventures in Argentina and Costa Rica this coming year, and in partnership with EF College Tours, we are looking to send an Art History program to Florence and Rome. Colleen Tomanek, coordinator for Study Abroad, is in the process of revamping our Study Abroad manual to accommodate new protocols and procedures for Harper-based study abroad programs and our partnership with EF College Tours. Colleen and Rich Johnson will be running a couple of workshops about these new procedures throughout the fall for anyone interested in building a study abroad experience around any Harper class. And finally in study abroad news, John Lea, professor of sociology at Canterbury Christ Church University, will be visiting our campus in

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Watch for Information on our Exciting Fall 2011 Programs!

Infuse This: Curriculum Development Workshops for International Study and Research Overseas

Patricia Hamlen
(Anthropology)

"Land of the future or of the Present? Integrating a Historical Perspective on Brazil in the Classroom" TBA
October, 2011

Read Around the World

Fall 2011 *Read Around the World* books:
September 23: Yasunari Kawabata, *Snow Country* (Penguin Modern Classics, 2011) to be moderated by Professor Andrew Wilson, Department of English
November 4: John Perkins, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man* (Berret-Kowhler Publishers, 2004) to be moderated by Professor David Richmond, Department of History

International Education Week

October 31 through November 4, 2011
"Connecting Globally: Community, Creativity, and Collaboration"



Fulbright Workshops Held at Harper College

On Friday, April 8th, International Studies and Programs hosted two Fulbright Grant Workshops, one each for administrators and faculty. Ms. Jean McPeck of the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) presided over the informational sessions. Attendees learned about the variety of opportunities to enhance one's academic experiences. There are four principal Fulbright programs:

The Fulbright US Scholar Program sends approximately 1,100 American scholars and professionals per year to approximately 125 countries, where they lecture and/or conduct research in a wide variety of academic and professional fields.

The Fulbright Specialist Program, a short-term complement to the core Fulbright Scholar Program, sends U.S. faculty and professionals to serve as expert consultants on curriculum, faculty development, institutional planning and related subjects at overseas academic institutions for a period of 2 to 6 weeks.

The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program provides grants to approximately 850 foreign scholars from over 95 countries to lecture and/or conduct postdoctoral research at U.S. institutions for an academic semester to a full academic year.

The Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence (SIR) Program enables U.S. colleges and universities to host foreign academics to lecture on a wide range of subject fields for a semester or academic year. Preference is given to institutions developing an international agenda and/or serving a minority audience, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges, small liberal arts colleges and community colleges. Approximately 50 grants are awarded annually.

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What if . . . ?

Originally compiled and published in 1992 by the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers group of Madison, Wisconsin, these statistics appeared as part of a curriculum entitled "Unheard Voices: Celebrating Cultures from the Developing World." The document and statistics were then circulated by interested parties through email and ultimately led to the creation and maintenance of the website "100 people: A World Portrait." To read the full history of how this idea grew and spanned the globe, visit http://www.100people.org/onehundred_history.php

If the World were 100 PEOPLE:

Gender	50 would be female 50 would be male	
Age	20 would be 0-14 66 would be 15-64 14 would be 65 and older	
Geography	5 would be from North America 9 would be from Latin America & the Caribbean 12 would be from Europe 61 would be from Asia 13 would be from Africa	
Religion	31 would be Christian 21 would be Muslim 14 would be Hindu 6 would be Buddhist 12 would believe in other religions 16 would not be religious or identify themselves as being aligned with a particular faith	
First Language	17 would speak Chinese 8 would speak Hindustani 8 would speak English 7 would speak Spanish 4 would speak Arabic 4 would speak Russian 3 would speak Bengali 2 would speak Malay-Indonesian 2 would speak French 45 would speak other languages	
Overall Literacy	82 would be able to read and write 18 would not	
Literacy by Gender	87 males would be able to read and write 13 males would not be able to read and write 77 females would be able to read and write 23 females would not be able to read and write	
Education	76 males would have a primary school education 72 females would have a primary school education 66 males would have a secondary school education 63 females would have a secondary school education 1 would have a college education	
Urban/Rural	47 would be urban dwellers 53 would be rural dwellers	
Drinking Water	83 would have access to safe drinking water 17 would use unimproved water	
Food Infectious Disease	17 would be undernourished <1% would have HIV/AIDS <1% would have tuberculosis	
Poverty	53 would live on less than 2USD per day 50 would live in poverty	
Electricity	76 would have electricity 24 would not	
Technology	34 would be cell phone subscribers 17 would be active internet users 1 would own a computer	

Ten Years of *Read Around the World*

By Eric Bohman

In last ten years, the International Studies and Programs Committee has taken Harper College faculty and staff around the world each year with captivating book titles discussed at our Read Around the World series.

This upcoming Read Around the World event will be the 40th such book discussion. In the past 39 book discussion from 2001 to 2011, we have deluged into the works of notable writers such as Yukio Mishima, Carlos Fuentes, A.B. Yehoshua, Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clezio, Orhan Pamuk, and Arundhati Roy to name a few. The titles have been set in 27 different countries with Brazil, China, Germany, India, Japan, Pakistan, and Russia as the setting for at least two or more. In 2005, non-fiction titles were added starting with John Lee Anderson's journalist account of contemporary Afghanistan in the *Lion's Grave*. Since that time we have explored an array of topics such as gender dynamics in Morocco with a Fulbright scholar in residence, deaf culture of India, contemporary slavery worldwide, Gypsies of Europe, and the African Green Belt movement. In recognition of the ten years of Read Around the World, listed on page seven is a look back at the previous selections. Join us as we continue with another year of compelling books and stimulating discussion.

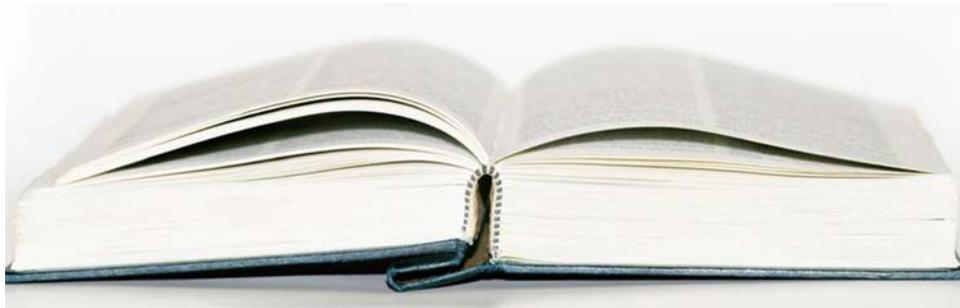
It has been my pleasure to have coordinated the Read Around the World series the last two years. The series has been coordinated over the past ten years by Martha Simonsen, Rich Johnson, Sean Noonan, and Richard Middleton-Kaplan, each of whom has contributed to the solidification of this event. One of the greatest components of organizing these discussions is working with such talented faculty who served as moderators. A special thanks to Kim Jaeger, *World Languages*, Mukila Maitha, *Geography*, Richard Middleton-Kaplan and Xilao Li, *English*, for bringing their insight and engaging us in some outstanding discussions. Harper is fortunate to have such an abundance of knowledgeable faculty versed on a variety of topics. On occasion, we pulled in moderators from the outside to provide another perspective. For instance, literary reviewer William Birdthistle led us in a discussion of his fellow Irishman William Trevor's work and Sadia Ashraf from the Central Asian Institute spoke on the educational situation in her homeland of Pakistan. This past spring, author John Deever presented his book about his Peace Corps service in then recently independent Ukraine as part of the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Peace Corps.

Looking ahead, I am pleased to turn the coordinator's reins over to Pat Hamlen, *Anthropology*, this year. I can't encourage you enough to indulge that reader hiding inside you to pick up the Read Around selection and then join your colleagues for two hours on a Friday for some literary globetrotting.

Fall 2011 *Read Around the World* books:

September 23: Yasunari Kawabata, *Snow Country*, Penguin Modern Classics, 2011
(moderator: Andrew Wilson, English)

November 4: John Perkins, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, Berret-Koehler Publishers, 2004 (moderator: David Richmond, History)



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In addition to these programs, a portion of the Fulbright Program appropriates funding to the US Department of Education to administer the **Fulbright-Hays Program** grants. These grants are awarded to individual K-14 pre-teachers, teachers and administrators, pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral faculty, as well as to US institutions and organizations. Funding supports research and training efforts overseas, which focus on non-Western foreign languages and area studies. There are essentially three types of programs:

Faculty research programs encourage faculty to propose research projects abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies to improve their skill in languages and their knowledge of the culture of the people of these countries.

Group Projects provide grants to support overseas projects in training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies for teachers, students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavor. Projects may include short-term seminars, curriculum development, group research or study, or advanced intensive language programs.

And finally, Special and Bilateral Programs abroad provide short-term study and travel seminars abroad for U.S. educators in the social sciences and humanities for the purpose of improving their understanding and knowledge of the peoples and cultures of other countries.

For more information on these and other Fulbright opportunities, contact Rich Johnson, Fulbright Campus Representative, at rjohnson@harpercollege.edu or on extension 6429.



Week of Festivities in Honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps!

Rich Johnson, Burkina Faso 1984-86

A week of events celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the US Peace Corps culminated in a reception honoring community RPCVs on the evening of Thursday, March 3, 2010.

Approximately 60 RPCVs, Harper faculty and administrators, and community members gathered in the Wojcik Conf Center dining room from 6 to 8 pm.

Brian DiFilippo (Mali 1987-89), president of the Chicago-Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteer organization, was on hand and spoke about the overseas projects they are engaged in. The Peace Corps office in Chicago sent Joshua Becker, recruiter and RPCV (Fiji 2005-07), who set up an informational table and answered questions about the Peace Corps in the 21st century. RPCV and author of *Singing on the Heavy Side of the World*, John Deever (Ukraine 1993-95), was the keynote speaker. His presentation, "When the World Calls: Service as a Path to Success," stressed the value of a life of service to others and suggested that the Peace Corps experience is just the first step from many former volunteers in their own lives of service. The reception was so successful that it garnered two articles in local newspapers, one each in the *Daily Herald* and the *Chicago Tribune*.

Visit the Emerald Isle through Study Abroad!

Testimonial from the mother of a study abroad student

Through Kishwaukee College, students will study Irish culture and take liberal arts classes at Carlow College, 45 minutes from Dublin. Students will live in apartments just 5 minutes from campus. Through Kishwaukee College, students will study Irish culture and take liberal arts classes at Carlow College, 45 minutes from Dublin. Students will live in apartments just 5 minutes from campus.

My daughter, Sarina, chose to go to Ireland through the Study Abroad program of the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs (ICISP), of which Harper College is a charter member. The application process was very simple. Janet-Friend-Westney and Colleen Tomanek of Harper College and Beth Parks of Kishwaukee Community College were very knowledgeable and they were always available to answer any questions that came up. The orientation meeting was extremely beneficial for both the students and parents. My daughter left and within a few weeks she had already made up her mind to apply for a second semester. She loved the school, instructors, and field trips. Everything was very organized, and there were no surprises. She really was able to see a lot of Ireland and learn about the country. She did a lot of traveling to other countries with students that she had met from all over. She traveled to England, France, Spain, Italy and Germany. What a learning experience! Needless to say, she did not want to come home. She is home now and is already talking about going back. One of the girls that she met in Ireland is coming to spend three weeks here with our family. The Ireland program is a very good program and reasonable in cost. I know that my daughter would not have been able to do this through any another program or on her own; it would have been just too expensive. I hope that if anyone is thinking about studying abroad through Harper College that they just do it! It's a wonderful opportunity and great program!

Mary Ann Cimarusti
Sarina's mother



List of RPCVs associated with Harper College:

Emily Healy (Mark Healy's daughter), Mongolia 2010-12
Molly Waite, Botswana 2008-10
Kristie Smith, China 1999-2001
Sarah Mikulski, Poland 1999-2001
Regina Rector, Zimbabwe 1994-96
Richard Johnson, Burkina Faso 1984-86
Mark Healy, Kenya 1979-81
Rob Alexander, Colombia 1965-67
Charles Norris, Peru 1964-66
Jeri Gadberry, Brazil 1964-66
Vern Risty, Bolivia 1962-64

Tales from the Peace Corps Crypt Rich Johnson (Burkina Faso 1984-86)

On Monday, February 28th, nine Harper Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) honored their service for 50th Anniversary of the US Peace Corps in a panel discussion. Each of the participants regaled the audience of students, faculty, and staff with tales of their experiences. Ranging from the bizarre (inoculating chickens in the bush) to the heartwarming (meeting spouses overseas), these tales painted an honest picture of life in the "toughest job you'll ever love," as Peace Corps service is often characterized.

History of Read Around the World Titles

2001-2002		
<i>White Snake and Other Stories</i>	Geling Yan	China
<i>In the Time of Butterflies</i>	Julia Alvarez	Dominican Republic
<i>The Map of Love</i>	Ahdaf Souief	Egypt
<i>The Setting Sun and the Rolling World</i>	Charles Mungoshi	Zimbabwe
2002-2003		
<i>Clear Light of Day</i>	Anita Desai	India
<i>The Woman in the Dunes</i>	Kobo Abe	Japan
<i>Wounding Words</i>	Evelyn Accad	Lebanon/ Tunisia
<i>Dead Souls</i>	Nikolai Gogol	Russia
2003-2004		
<i>King Leopold's Ghost</i>	Adam Hochschild	Belgian Congo
<i>Dom Casmurro</i>	Machado de Assis	Brazil
<i>The God of Small Things</i>	Arundhati Roy	India
<i>Twelve Stories: A Novel of Russia, I Guess</i>	A. J. Perry	Russia
2004-2005		
<i>The Lion's Grave: Dispatches from Afghanistan</i>	John Lee Anderson	Afghanistan
<i>The Violent Land</i>	Jorge Amado	Brazil
<i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i>	Azir Nafisi &	
<i>& Persepolis</i>	Marjane Satrapi	Iran
<i>Fear and Trembling: A Novel</i>	Amelie Nothomb	Japan
2005-2006		
<i>Hitler's Bunker</i>	Joachim Fest	Germany
<i>Hideous Dream: A Soldier's Memoir of the US</i>		
<i>Invasion of Haiti</i>	Stan Goff	Haiti
<i>The Liberated Bride</i>	A.B. Yehoshua	Israel
<i>Novel Without a Name</i>	Duong Thu Huong	Vietnam
2006-2007		
<i>The Eagle's Throne</i>	Carlos Fuentes	Mexico
<i>Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in a</i>		
<i>Modern Muslim Society</i>	Fatema Mernissi	Morocco
<i>Maps for Lost Lovers</i>	Nadeem Aslam	Pakistan
<i>My Name is Red</i>	Orhan Pamuk	Turkey
2007-2008		
<i>Zorro: A Novel</i>	Isabelle Allende	Chile
<i>Deaf in Delhi: A Memoir</i>	Madan Vasishta	India
<i>Confessions of a Mask</i>	Yukio Mishima	Japan
<i>Getting Stoned with Cannibals: A Trip Through</i>		
<i>the Islands of Fiji and Vanuatu</i>	J. Maarten Troost	Polynesia
2008-2009		
<i>Bury Me Standing : The Gypsies and their</i>		
<i>Journey</i>	Isabel Fonseca	Europe
<i>Requiem for the East</i>	Andrei Makine	Russia/ France
<i>The Art of Happiness: a Handbook for Living</i>	Dalai Lama w Patrick	Tibet
<i>A Crime So Monstrous: Face to Face with</i>	French	
<i>Modern Day Slavery</i>	E. Benjamin Skinner	worldwide
2009-2010		
<i>Wall Jumper</i>	Peter Schneider	Germany
<i>The Hill Bachelors</i>	William Trevor	Ireland
<i>Prospector</i>	J.M. Gustave Le	
<i>Three Cups of Tea</i>	Clezio	Mauritius
	Greg Mortensen	Pakistan
2010-2011		
<i>Beijing Coma</i>	Ma Jian	China
<i>The Challenge for Africa</i>	Wangari Maathai	Kenya/Africa
<i>Singing on the Heavy Side of the World</i>	John Deever	Ukraine

Visiting Artists during International Education Week

By Jacque Mott, Professor in Career Programs

Purpura Plastika, a non-for-profit organization helping to build self-esteem through the use of art therapy. They developed and provided workshops to teach painting and other arts and offered them free to the children. And what a success they had – the children took pride in their art creations and developed a sense of well-being that was new and exciting.

Purpura Plastika has grown tremendously over the past few years, so that they provide art workshops to the mentally ill, battered women, addicts and alcoholics, and impoverished children in local villages. Their local successes exemplify how the power and energy of a few young dedicated individuals can make an extreme impact on the society. Their outstanding leadership has played a major role in the lives of many in the Yucatan. I invite you to view their website at www.purpuraplastika.org

Harper College is honored to bring them to our college. The founders, Alberto Varela and Doug Greenwood will be visiting October 31 – November 4th. They are available to make presentations, conduct demonstration workshops, have informal discussions or consult with other youth activists about their activities. Feel free to contact me at x6894 or jmott@harpercollege.edu to get them on your schedule.



Books about the Peace Corps

Meiser, Stanley. *When the World Calls: The Inside Story of the Peace Corps and its First Fifty Years*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2011.

Stossel, Scott. *Sarge: The Life and Times of Sargent Shriver*. Washington: Smithsonian Books, 2004.

Fischer, Fritz. *Making Them Like Us: Peace Corps Volunteers in the 1960s*. Washington and London: Smithsonian Institution, 1998.

Hoffman, Elizabeth Cobbs. *All You Need is Love: The Peace Corps and the Spirit of the 1960s*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 1998.

Kennedy, Geraldine, ed. *From the Center of the Earth: Stories out of the Peace Corps*. Santa Monica, CA: Clover Park Press, 1991.

Thomsen, Moritz. *Living Poor: A Peace Corps Chronicle*. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 1969.

Study Abroad Opportunities with Harper College

By Colleen Tomanek

"The whole object of travel is not to set foot on foreign land; it is at last to set foot on one's own country as a foreign land." Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874-1936)

As you know, Harper College offers a variety of programs to help students meet both their personal and educational goals, including study abroad opportunities. Studying abroad provides many benefits and has often been said to be a defining moment in a college student's educational career. Not only does studying abroad inevitably impact a student's life positively while in college, but it also provides a myriad of favorable outcomes beyond. Many students fondly remember their study abroad experiences throughout their lifetimes, often returning to their country of study during adulthood, and bringing their family on their travels so that they become familiar with international cultures as well.

Furthermore, studying abroad often becomes the impetus for future travels. Many students, especially at the community college level who have experienced financial hardships throughout their lives, find that studying abroad provides them with their first opportunity to leave the United States. Once students have a taste of what it is like to travel, they have a hunger for more. As a result of study abroad experiences, students have often been known to change their majors to areas of study with more of an international focus, or to major in foreign languages. In addition, it is not uncommon for students to have a desire to enter the Peace Corps or other international organizations as a result of their study abroad experiences.

In addition, in tough economic times, studying abroad becomes a way for students to differentiate themselves amongst the competition when applying for jobs. Many employers consider the skills that students gain while abroad—thorough understanding of global competencies; proficiency in foreign languages; ability to navigate the unknown—to be preferable upon hiring. As international borders seem to continually diminish, it is increasingly important for students to gain exposure to cultures other than their own through study abroad experiences. While we can teach students in the classroom about political and economic systems, as well as how to be respectful of other cultures, there is, arguably, nothing like experiencing first-hand the life of a country that is not your own. Considering the importance of studying abroad, it makes sense to encourage Harper College students to capitalize on international opportunities.

There are many ways for students to study abroad at Harper College. Please feel free to refer students to meet with Colleen Tomanek in the Center for Multicultural Learning to learn more about study abroad opportunities by calling 847-925-6522, or visiting D-142. In addition, classroom presentations can be conducted by contacting Colleen, or Dr. Richard Johnson at 847-925-6429 at any point during the semester. Your help in promoting study abroad programs at Harper College will inevitably help students to discover some of the best experiences of their lives.

**HARPER
COLLEGE
RPCVS**



Develop Your World

First Annual International Education Summit at Harper

Jill Izumikawa, International Student Coordinator in the Academic Enrichment and Engagement division, reached out to Rich Johnson, the International Studies and Programs Coordinator to collaborate on an idea to bring together experts in the field of international education. In this unique partnership, Johnson and Izumikawa brought a keynote speaker and facilitators for four breakout sessions to Harper to showcase internationalization of higher education and to jumpstart the discussion on campus.

Dr. Geoffrey Bradshaw from Madison Area Technical College gave the keynote address in which he outlined a vision for comprehensive and holistic internationalization in higher education. The key to his presentation is a vision which encompasses education abroad, international partnerships, international students and faculty exchange, and curriculum infusion. After his address, the summit offered four breakout sessions in each of these areas. Dr. Zinat Konrad, retired director of international education at College of Dupage facilitated the faculty development session. Dr. Bradshaw pulled double-duty and presented the study abroad session. Ms. Diana Schack from Oakland Community College in Auburn Hills, Michigan prepared the presentation on international students. However, the infamous snowstorm of February 2011 kept her from getting down to Palatine and Izumikawa stepped in to facilitate her program. Dr. Louis Berends of SIT Study Abroad managed the session on community engagement and partnerships. The summit ended with an international buffet of small bites from around the world prepared so well by Harper's dining and catering staff.

Despite the fact that we were all still recovering from the snowpocalypse, more than 60 participants attended the summit from 19 different institutions in the area. The feedback from the event asked for Harper to continue the summit annually and to broaden the event to have more sessions on this important topic. The team is working on next year's program and we welcome any input or suggestions for future international education summits.



Provost Judy Marwick opens the First Annual International Education Summit at Harper College.

Course on American Culture Draws Students from Across the Globe

By Eric Bohman

While Harper offers several courses to help students understand the world outside the United States, one Continuing Education program is helping students coming to this country understand the U.S.

The two-weekend program entitled "Understanding American Culture" started three years ago to help those new to the county understand the complexities of life in the United States. Students learn an array of topics including the dynamics of American families, U.S. political structures, civil rights, customs, etiquette, culture shock, and cyber safety to name a few. Norma Nerstrom, the program's manager, describes the program as "very interactive with students taking part in role plays, group activities, projects and campus visits."

According to Nerstrom, "the program is designed for anyone who recently moved here or is spending an extended stay in the United States." Many of the students in the program are au pairs, young men and women from abroad assisting families with childcare needs. The "Understanding American Culture" program meets the U.S. Department of State education requirement for the au pairs during their stay in the country. Students have the option of completing one or both weekends with different topics covered on the two weekends and receive a certificate in American Culture upon completion of the program. The sessions beginning Friday afternoon and finishing Sunday afternoon include two dinners for the students.

Harper retirees Jane Harris and Kathi Holper from the ESL/International Student Office helped develop the curriculum and have been teaching in the program. For Harris, "it's been a great opportunity. The students have been fantastic." Harris and Holper have incorporated events occurring on campus into the curriculum and arranged for class visits. Students visit Harper sites such as the childcare center, the career center, the library, and health services. Nerstrom commented that many of students particularly looked forward to the massage they received from the massage therapy students. In addition to campus visits, guest lecturers from Harper and the community present on their areas of expertise. As Harris explained, "Having someone come in to speak gives the students some different perspectives which are so helpful in developing cultural understanding." Nerstrom noted that Harper's Daniel Moore has presented on nutrition, Jim Edstrom on the history of Chicago, and Phyllis Kepler has shared her insights about traveling the globe. Nerstrom is always on the lookout for more guest lecturers and would welcome any faculty or staff member interested in speaking on some aspect of American culture to contact her. For Harris, her experience as an instructor in the Understanding American Culture has been most rewarding. She stated, "As instructors, we come out of the experience with something in the end just as much as the students."

Anyone interested in enrolling this program can contact Continuing Education at 847-925-6616. Registration has begun for the next program, which will be the weekends of October 14th and November 4th. To discuss becoming a guest lecturer in this program, contact Norma Nerstrom at nnerstro@hapercollege.edu.

Special Visitors at Harper College



On Monday, April 11th, Jill Izumikawa of the International Student Office and Richard Johnson, Coordinator of International Studies and Programs, met with a group of young Russian leaders who were visiting Harper College through the International Cultural Educational Association (ICEA). The Russian delegation was comprised of six faculty from a variety of Russian educational institutions, Ms. Larisa Koval, President of ICEA, and Ms. Alevtina Filippova, Russian-English facilitator. The Russian faculty were taking part in the congressionally sponsored Open World Program, which brings young political and civic leaders from Ukraine, Russia, Georgia and other post-Soviet states to the United States for short-term professional trips. The theme of the delegation's visit to Harper College was "United States' higher education system as a model for preparing young people for their future." On their visit to Harper, the delegation also met with Diana Sharp, Assistant Provost, and Sarah Stark, Director of the Center for Innovative Instruction.

Global Perspectives (continued from page 3)

September. We will be sending out appeals asking you to let us visit your classrooms for brief presentations on the Canterbury program. Also, in the fall, we are launching a new program, "Infuse This: Curriculum Development Workshops for International Study and Research Overseas." We hope to offer one faculty/staff-led workshop per semester. The aim of this series of workshops is to bring the experiences and knowledge of our faculty and other professionals who have studied, conducted research, and/or traveled abroad to our faculty and staff in order to promote greater infusion of global education in the Harper College curricula. Our first workshop, "Land of the Future or of the Present? Integrating a Historical Perspective on Brazil in the Classroom," will feature Pat Hamlen, Anthropology, who will talk about how she intends to use her summer experience in Brazil as a Fulbright-Hays scholar in her classes. The workshop will likely be in October, so keep your eyes peeled for more specific details.

International Education Week will take place this fall from October 21 through November 4. Our theme for the week will be "Connecting Globally: Community, Creativity, and Collaboration." We encourage you to attend these events, bring your classes, or consider assigning the sessions as extra credit. Additionally, should you have an expertise or interest in any international topic and would like to share in this year's program, please contact the co-chairs of the International Studies and Programs committee, Eric Bohman and Karen Patterson. We welcome and encourage your participation.

And finally, any member of the Harper community interested in becoming involved in the International Studies and Programs Committee can attend our regular committee meetings on the second Monday of the month from 3:30 – 4:30 pm in room A243.



International Studies and Programs

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About Harper's International Studies and Programs Committee (ISPC)

The ISPC is committed to educating students for leadership in an increasingly complex global society. The programs and services provided enrich faculty, staff, and the Harper College community. The committee serves as a resource to the College and surrounding communities to celebrate the many contributions of the world's cultures and traditions, and will foster the continuing global education of its citizenry. The ISPC is a Programmatic Committee of the Harper College Shared Governance structure.