R. Sargent Shriver, first Peace Corps Director, dies at 95
Adapted from Stanley Meisler’s book, When the World Calls, and posted by John Coyne at http://peacecorpsworldwide.org/babbles/2011/01/20/sargent/

The family joke was that President John F. Kennedy handed his brother-in-law, Sargent Shriver, a lemon and Shriver turned it into lemonade. The lemon was the new Peace Corps, and Shriver, who died on Tuesday [January 18, 2011] just six weeks short of the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps, transformed that lemon in 1961 into the most dynamic, popular and exciting agency of the new administration. The success of the Peace Corps made Shriver a national celebrity.

President Kennedy had not intended the new agency to be so dynamic nor his brother-in-law to be so celebrated. In the hierarchy of the large Kennedy family, brothers-in-law were second class, expected to stifle their own political ambitions until those of the real brothers - Jack, Bobby and Ted - were satisfied. Shriver had mused about running for governor of Illinois in 1960, but the Kennedys quickly squelched this distraction from the main family job of electing Jack president.

The pragmatic Kennedys never quite knew what to make of the idealist Shriver. He

struck them not as a tough politico but a dilettante. In Chicago, where he managed the massive Merchandise Mart office building for the family, he had become involved in civil rights causes and served as president of the school board. Some Kennedys joked he was a communist. Bobby Kennedy liked to call him a Boy Scout. In a family where the patriarch, Joe Kennedy, and several of his sons were notorious womanizers, Shriver, according to biographer Scott Stossel, was still a virgin at age 37 when he married Eunice Kennedy.

President Kennedy’s call for a Peace Corps during the campaign had excited college students throughout the country. Many thousands had rushed letters to Washington offering to join the still unformed corps. But Kennedy was wary of thousands of youngsters rushing around the world interfering with his foreign policies. He envisioned a small Peace Corps - a total of several hundred at most, all strictly supervised by veteran officials of the US Agency for International Development (AID). He handed Shriver and his Peace Corps task force a professor’s proposal along these lines and urged his brother-in-law to follow it.

All Shriver’s public relations and sales instincts

continued on next page

Study Abroad at Harper College
by Colleen Tomanek, Coordinator, Study Abroad

If you’ve traveled internationally, you probably know from first-hand experience how exposure to worlds different from your own can greatly impact your life. After returning from study abroad experiences, many students report that their time spent in far away countries “changed their life.”

When students come back home to the United States, something often seems different about them…they somehow seem more mature, more self-confident, and more ready to take on the challenges that the rest of their academic career will offer. These changes are not always quantifiable through hard data, but can be seen in the way students speak about the world, hold themselves in class and volunteer without prodding to take on the unknown. As children, we are often told it is unsafe to go somewhere that we’ve never been before, to always take a friend with us, and to never talk to strangers. Yet, when students study abroad they do the exact opposite. They explore what seems the impossible—lands in which they may not understand the language, the traditions, the customs, and
R. Sargent Shriver (continued from page 1)

rebelled against this cautious approach. As Harris Wofford, a member of the task force and a future US Senator, put it, President Kennedy’s model was “contrary to every bone in Shriver’s body and every cell in his brain.” Shriver looked elsewhere for ideas.

He found them in a report, “The Towering Task,” written by two young officials of the foreign aid agency that became AID, Warren Wiggins and William Josephson. In many ways, their paper was ridiculous. They proposed sending 50,000 Volunteers to India, 17,000 to the Philippines, 5,000 to 10,000 to Nigeria, and “a few thousand” to Mexico. This kind of massive folly would have choked the Peace Corps senseless at birth.

But Shriver found two vital conclusions in the report: (1) the Peace Corps had to be large enough to make an impact on the developing world, to impress Americans and to accommodate the thousands of young American applicants, and (2) President Kennedy had to move quickly, creating the agency by executive order instead of waiting for congressional legislation. After the task force adopted these recommendations, President Kennedy signed the executive order creating the Peace Corps on March 1, 1961.

But the President still refused to make the Peace Corps independent. Shriver enlisted the help of Vice President Lyndon Johnson. Johnson had once warned Shriver against letting the Peace Corps become part of the foreign policy establishment. “You put the Peace Corps into the Foreign Service and you’ll put striped pants on your people when all you’ll want them to have is a knapsack and a tool kit and a lot of imagination,” Johnson said. He pushed the same argument on Kennedy. Faced with pressure from both his vice president and his brother-in-law, the president gave up and made the Peace Corps independent.

Shriver now had independence and the executive order but nothing else. He had no staff, no programs, no Volunteers, no real Peace Corps. He put everything together in six months in a whirlwind of verve, stamina, risk and enthusiasm. The atmosphere was frenetic, sometimes frantic, and enervating. A staff had to be organized. Governments had to be persuaded to accept Volunteers. Staffers had to devise programs and then travel overseas to make sure there would be jobs for the Volunteers. Applicants had to be selected. Universities had to train Volunteers in language, cultural studies and job skills.

Shriver or “Sarge,” as everyone he hired now called him, hunted for imaginative and unusual people for his staff. He hired two mountain climbers who had conquered K-2 in Pakistan, one to run the program in Nepal, the other in India. When Sarge tried to hire Franklin Williams from the staff of California Attorney General Stanley Mosk, Williams said he could not leave his job that soon. “Yes, you can,” said Shriver. He phoned Mosk right then. “Stanley, we got to have your assistant, Williams,” he said. Mosk gave him up.

Sarge hired Jack Hood Vaughn from AID and then reneged. He had too many people from AID on his staff. But an associate rushed in to Sarge’s office. Did he realize that Vaughn had won the amateur featherweight championship of Michigan, fought professionally in Mexico under the name of Johnny Hood, coached the University of Michigan team, and sparred with Sugar Ray Robinson in Detroit? “My God, how did I miss that?” said Shriver. Vaughn was rehired.

Everyone worked long hours. The Washington Post ran a photo showing lights glowing in the Peace Corps building at night while all other government buildings were dark. Staffers leaving the building at midnight sometimes found Shriver in the same elevator.

Sarge was an inspiring, untiring leader. He was always articulate and in command of facts at news conferences and congressional committee hearings. He ran lively staff meetings where new ideas were continually explored and no one feared to contradict anyone else, not even Sarge. Finally, on August 31, 1961, six months after President Kennedy had signed the executive order, a Pan Am charter flight landed in Accra, Ghana with 50 Peace Corps Volunteers, all teachers. The Volunteers alighted and managed to sing an anthem in Twi, one of the three main indigenous languages of Ghana. Their grasp of Twi was actually woeful, but they did a credible job, after rehearsal on the plane, of impressing their Ghanian welcome. The teachers were the first Volunteers to reach their assigned country. Sarge’s Peace Corps had been launched.
International Students: The Beginning
By Jill Izumikawa, International Student Coordinator

They come to the United States for many different reasons. For some students, their parents have been saving for a lifetime to send their child to a foreign country for a college degree. For other students, it is a chance to become proficient in English. And others may have a relative in this country who offers to host the young student in the U.S. These are the most popular reasons, but there are many stories about how a student decides to study in the United States…and even more diverse stories about how a student chooses Harper College.

Once that decision is made, the student must then complete the international student application packet. At Harper this involves some extra forms, copies and translation of certain documents, proof of sufficient funds for tuition and living expenses, and proof of English language ability for degree candidates. Once all these documents and forms are submitted to the International Student Office, an admission decision is made. If the student is admitted to Harper, a Department of Homeland Security Form I-20 is issued to the student. This document is used to schedule an interview with the U.S. embassy or consulate nearest to the student’s home. On the date of the interview, the student will often travel far to the embassy, wait in a long line, then have less than two minutes to convince the consular officer to give him or her a student visa. Oddly enough, the prospective student is not trying to show academic potential or even financial solvency. Students must convince the visa officer that they will return to their home country upon completion of their studies. Generally, the reason students are denied a visa is the consular officer believes the student intends to immigrate to the U.S.

Once the visa is issued, the student must begin pre-arrival preparations. These include packing huge suitcases, reserving airline tickets, arranging finances, and preparing for culture shock. This is the busiest time for communication with the International Student Office. Students and their parents ask many questions via email and/or telephone. The day finally arrives. The student boards the plane for the U.S. Even though the student has a visa in the passport, entrance to the U.S. is not certain. At the port of entry, usually Chicago, the student must be “inspected” again. The Customs Border Patrol agent makes a final determination if the person may enter the country as a student. Upon arrival, the student must settle into life in Palatine and go through all the same procedures that all Harper students go through: testing, placement, advising, orientation, finding classrooms, purchasing books. The jet lag often adds stress to this confusing and hectic time.

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Countries Represented
Spring 2011

Belarus
Bulgaria
Burma
Canada
China
Germany
Greece
Hong Kong
India
Japan
Kenya
Malaysia
Mexico
Mongolia
Nigeria
Pakistan
Poland
Romania
Russia
South Korea
Taiwan, R.O.C.
Turkmenistan
Zimbabwe
Thoughts from a New Host Family
By Harper Math Instructor Charlotte Schulze-Hewett

Questions about hosting a foreign exchange student?

Eyes Wide Shut
We’ve had our nephews visit us for up to a month at a time over the summer, how much different would it be to have a German exchange student live with us for a year?

Starting to worry
What if we end up with a student with a difficult-to-pronounce name that we mispronounce for an entire year?
What if we end up with a student who does not speak English?

More refined worries
What if she thinks we’re weird?
What if we are weird and she assumes that all Americans are like us?
What if she doesn’t like our cats?
What if they don’t like her?
What if she fails all of her classes?
What if she is unhappy with the distance that we live from campus? From Chicago?

Surely the internet can help
Your first piece of advice is: do not host an exchange student?
And the second is to choose a boy?

Turning into Hovering Helicopter Host Parents
Do you really need to drive to the store, this late at night, all alone?
Your teacher took off how many points for a spelling error?
The class you wanted was cancelled/full? Who do I complain to?
You were not one of the students in your program selected for the six week program in Washington DC? What is wrong with these people?
What if she doesn’t find a job for the spring portion of the program?
What if she finds a job in another part of the country and goes to live with complete strangers?
Are you sure you want to eat potato chips for lunch? And nothing else?
Where is your coat?
When did I turn into my mother?

Answers….

Unexpected Benefits
A third person is useful as a tie-breaker for important questions like which color goblets should I order for a friend’s present.
She has such helpful ideas. Instead of racking our brains to recall the last time the litter boxes were scooped, let’s make a chart and keep track!
She turned my old sweater with a hole in it into a couch pillow and a microwavable heat pack.
She decided that she could wear some of the sweaters in the Goodwill bag in the closet.
Finally somebody is getting some use out of them.
She declined to take some of the sweaters from the Goodwill bag in the closest.
Validation for me that yes, they really are unwearable.

Bonus Germans
Three times this fall we had a (different) pair of German exchange students stay with us during their visit to Chicago.
This spring we are expecting a visit from Cindy’s parents and best friend from Germany.

Food
You would think it would be harder for 2 Americans who are still children when it comes to eating their vegetables and a German who claims to be the only German to not eat meat to find common ground for meals.
Her taco pie is awesome!

Big financial differences that she has mentioned
American college students pay WAY more tuition than their German counterparts.
It is exactly the opposite when it comes to a driver’s license.
Coordinator’s Corner

Welcome to the inaugural edition of Going Global!, the newly revamped International Studies and Programs newsletter. The committee and I are excited about the possibilities this newsletter presents as a clearinghouse for information about our programs and events. We’re always looking for contributors, so if you attend one of our events, we’d love to print your story.

We have a number of exciting programs this spring. The first event has already passed. Develop Your World: International Education Summit was a great success, despite the “Snowpocalypse” of 2011. We had over 60 participants from 19 different institutions. Thanks to those of you who brave the elements and joined us.

We have three events planned to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the United States Peace Corps during the week of February 28th through March 4th. Students can come and hear the stories of Harper faculty and staff who served in the Peace Corps on Monday, February 28th. Everyone is welcome to join us for a reception in honor of the Peace Corps’ 50th anniversary the evening of Thursday, March 3rd. Our first Read Around the World selection this spring is John Deever’s Singing on the Heavy Side of the World. John will join us for our book discussion on Friday, March 4th. On April 15th, we will be hosting a “harambee” on the future of Africa. We will have presentations on education and justice, HIV/AIDS, women as the economic backbone and hope-engines in many parts of Africa, and the elections in South Sudan. See our events panel on this page for times and dates.

In other international news, Harper College is partnering with District 214, which was awarded a Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) grant through the Department of Education to develop a Chinese (Mandarin) language program. Sheila Quirk-Bailey, Dennis Weeks, and Brian Knetl with assistance from Professor Xilao Li of the English Department and Vera Jareckyj of the World Languages Department, are coordinating the grant.

Harper has also renewed its participation in the “Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange” program. Charlotte Schulze-Hewett and her family have housed Cindy Lode. For more on Cindy’s experiences at Harper, see her article on page 7.

Colleen Tomanek, Study Abroad Coordinator, is interested in re-energizing Harper’s own homegrown study abroad programs (see her article on the front page). If you have a destination or a class that you’d like to teach on a two- or three-week trip overseas, visit with Colleen to learn about the possibilities available to you. For information on student study abroad opportunities, please feel free contact Colleen on 847-925-6522. For the more adventurous of you, you might consider hosting a study abroad presentation in your classroom. If so, contact Colleen.

You will soon be receiving information on spending a semester teaching at our study-abroad site in England, at Canterbury Christ Church University College. Please do consider this fabulous opportunity. Also, remember that in March applications for faculty and administrators for the ICISP Two-Week Exchange will be due. We have funds for two applications to be forwarded each year. This is another wonderful opportunity for you to have an international guest and lecturer visit your classes as well as for you to see how your discipline is taught in Holland or England.

If you are interested in filling out an application for a Fulbright program, contact me by email. We have a number of faculty who have participated in the summer Fulbright programs, but there are also a wide variety of other opportunities available through Fulbright.

And finally, we are already busy planning International Education Week 2011 (October 31 through November 4). In order to help us better serve your interests and needs, please fill out our informational survey at the following link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VVWNRDB

Your answers will provide us with valuable guidance and assistance in planning this exciting week of international events.

We rely on your patronage and support. Please consider sending your students to our events. Thanks in advance!

Peace,

Rich
Coordinator, International Studies and Programs
Fulbright Campus Representative

Mark Your Calendar!

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

Monday, February 28 from 12:15 to 1:30 pm in A-243
Panel of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers among Harper faculty and staff

Thursday, March 3 from 6 to 8 pm in the Wojcik Conference Center
Reception and presentation in honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps

Friday, March 4 from 12 to 2 pm in Y-106
Read Around the World: John Deever, Singing on the Heavy Side of the World

Hope for the Future: Harambee for Africa

Friday, April 15 from 8 am to 2 pm in A-238 (Faculty dining room)

Speakers on education and justice, HIV/AIDS, women in rural communities, and the elections in South Sudan, followed by a special Read Around the World focusing on Africa

Keep your eyes peeled for more details about these exciting programs!
For more information, contact Rich Johnson at rjohnson@harpercollege.edu or on 847-925-6429.
Travel Horoscopes

**Aries**—March 21—April 19—your adventurous, outgoing and active nature will serve you well in Zimbabwe. We recommend that you climb the Khami Ruins National Monument to tap into the challenges that you so desire from life. If the Khami Ruins do not peak your interest and you decide to sleep under the stars, you visit the Matobo Hills filled with hidden caves that are sure to serve exciting enough to meet your adventure expectations. For the best companion, choose a Leo or Sagittarius to join you for an enduring travel relationship.

**Taurus**—April 20—May 20—since you choose the predictable over the unpredictable, we recommend that you take a trip to England where you can tour the Windsor Castle, admire Stonehenge, and if you’re lucky, have a cup of tea with the Queen. We’re thinking that the latter is probably not a likely possibility, but it’s worth a try. For the best companion, choose a Libra or Cancer to ensure a trip complete with the safety you so desire, and many happily planned adventures.

**Gemini**—May 21—June 20—With your “gift of gab,” you’re sure to find people to talk to in China or India, which are home to some of the world’s largest populations. But, be careful with money when you are traveling abroad—Geminis are not known for their financial restraint, and therefore, can often be the ones seen carrying home large items from a market or local vendor that they never envisioned purchasing in the first place. In China, we recommend visiting the Great Wall where you are bound to make endless new friends as this is quite the tourist destination as well as the Forbidden City. In India, we’d think it would be best for you to admire the beauty of the Taj Mahal, but be sure not to gab too much as it is a historic monument to be respected. For the best companion, choose from a Leo, Libra, Aquarius or another fellow Gemini.

**Cancer**—June 21—July 22—your guiding intuition and adaptability will serve you well as you travel the unknown in Egypt. Since you’re not known for planning, but are more of a person who trusts feelings and sensations, we recommend that you tour the ancient Pyramids to see if you can sense those who have come there before you. Who knows...perhaps you will connect with ancestors who have already passed onto the spiritual world? When you’re done with the Pyramids, make sure to visit the Alexandria Mosque, snorkel in Sharm el-Sheik and take a hot air balloon over the Nile. For the best companion, choose from a Scorpio, Taurus or Leo.

**Leo**—July 23—August 23—Because you are an extremely generous and loving person, we think that you will be very much appreciated in Bangladesh where you can volunteer your time and participate in meaningful community service by working with people who need your help. In between volunteering and saving the world, we say that you visit the tropical rain forest, one of the countries many tea gardens and observe the Royal Bengal Tiger, an endangered species.

**Virgo**—August 24—September 22—your desire for excellence and ability to organize just about anything will serve you well as you travel Germany. As time is very important for you, we say you make the most of your trip by carefully planning out your itinerary. Punctuality is normally very much appreciated in Germany, which will make you feel at ease in your new environment. We have every confidence that you will follow your schedule exactly as planned as you tour Berlin by bike where you will see remnants of the infamous Berlin Wall in various parts of the city as well as the Neuschwanstein Castle, which is one of the most famous castles in the country as well as walk through the Black Forest to admire the beautiful dark fir and pine trees that exist.

Harper Student Shares Knowledge of Art of Henna During IEW 2010

By Karen Patterson, Harper Art Instructor

Harper College’s annual International Education Week is known for its wide array of lectures, presentations, workshops, and panel discussions on international topics of interest to students and faculty at the college. This week is marked by student leadership as well. One of the highlights of International Education Week 2010 was a lecture and workshop on henna led by one of Harper’s own students, Bridget Punsalang.

Henna is a natural, reddish brown dye derived from the henna plant. It has been used to create temporary designs on the hands, feet, arms, and other body parts in many parts of the world, including India, the Middle East, and North Africa for over 5,000 years. Recently, henna has become fashionable in the United States. Bridget’s henna presentation is a popular feature of International Education Week, having returned after its debut at the 2009 International Education Week.

Bridget began her two-hour session with a historical lecture on henna, detailing its applications around the world as medicine, perfume, and hair and nail dye before being used for temporary tattoos and body art. Bridget explained the differences in the many regional styles of traditional henna design, including how they differ from modern henna “tads.” Bridget concluded her talk with a lesson about how to make your own henna, how to apply it, and safety “dos” and “don’ts” when evaluating a potential henna artist.

The highlight of the event was the henna demonstration. Students were randomly selected to get their hands done in one of the regional styles detailed in the lecture, while the others watched as Bridget worked. The students were impressed with how quickly and adeptly Bridget was able to create her designs while simultaneously teaching and answering questions. Free henna cones were given to raffle winners at the end of the evening. You could see how pleased many of the students were with the newly hennaed hands, and how eager they were to try out their own designs at home.

Bridget runs her own henna business called Auror Mehndi and has been doing henna professionally for over four years. In addition to giving leading public henna demonstrations and workshops, she also does bridal mehndi, parties and private parties, and pregnant bellies. For more information, see her website at auroramehndi.com.

Singing on the Heavy Side of the World Author to Lead Discussion

By Eric Bohman, co-chair of International Programs Committee

In August of 1991, Ukraine became an independent nation amidst the breakup of the Soviet Union. Two years later John Deever found himself in a Ukrainian classroom as one of the first Peace Corps volunteers to this country rising up to the “heaviness” around its birth. Deever’s personal account of this experience is described in his book *Singing on the Heavy Side of the World*, the title of a special March 4th Read Around the World book discussion featuring the author.

In a phone interview with the author, Deever said that he is looking forward to an engaging discussion of the book and its themes. “One area I like to focus on is service in general,” said Deever, “whether that is Peace Corps, Teach for America, Americorps, or other service organizations.” The story of *Singing on the Heavy Side of the World* shows the resilience of the Ukrainian people to adapt to a world of changes as a newly established republic. As Deever described, “what was illegal (during the Soviet era) became the standard” as he helped the teachers develop their English language curriculum. The message of Deever’s book and his experiences in the Ukrainian classroom will strongly resonate with all of us involved in education.

To attend this unique Read Around the World discussion, register online for CRN 50902. This program is .2 CEUs for faculty. Adjunct faculty can receive a $50 stipend. Dessert and refreshments will be provided Harper’s Faculty Development Office. The event is co-sponsored by the ISPC and the Faculty Development Office. If you have questions, please contact Eric Bohman at 847-925-6750.
My Experience at Harper College
By Exchange Student, Cindy Lode

On my very first day at Harper back in August 2010, Jill Izumikawa welcomed me by giving me one of those giant foamy blue hands (you know what I mean, right?!) to cheer on the Hawks at the Twin Bowl in October. With this I indeed felt welcomed and from that moment on, I wanted to learn about football because obviously it’s such an important “American thing”. Now that I have only one semester here left, I feel like I should really do this.

I’m a German participant in the 27th Congress-Bundestag (the German counterpart of the U.S. Congress) Youth Exchange for Young Professionals, which is a 12-month scholarship program that sends 75 Americans and 75 Germans every year to the other country respectively. It includes study, work, volunteering and living with hosts. I’m living with Charlotte Schulze-Hewett, a Harper mathematics instructor, and her family.

As I’m a business travel agent back in Germany, I took Geography 101, Management 111, Management 160 and Management 204 in the fall semester. Even though there are many international students at Harper, I felt so different the first few days of school, and I was nervous knowing that I would have to write papers and give presentations. But it turned out that what I actually had to adjust to most was not knowing my standing amongst the students in the class. While here in the U.S. students only get to know their own grades and generally not even their class averages, in Germany I was used to knowing the distribution of how many students earned a certain grade and the averages resulting from that. I like the multiple choice tests here. Can you imagine I never had one before? I always had to write (short) essays in school. They are nice, but often they also mean that one never learns which questions were answered incorrectly.

I also like when I see students wearing really pajama-like clothing and nobody seems to even notice. It’s funny to me. It always makes me smile.

Given the fact that compared to other countries tuition and textbooks are incredibly expensive here, I was pretty surprised how many students don’t pay attention in class, are running late, or don’t show up for class at all. Speaking of textbooks, I found that courses here are much more based on reading the textbook than they are in Germany.

In a nutshell (I had never learned this phrase before and I like it), I learned a lot throughout the fall semester and I had great instructors that I will probably always remember. Although many things were different for me, everything worked out well: I’m happy with a job at Harper’s library and that I got accepted to the Honors Program after the fall. So for the spring I’m going to attend Literature 220 and Management 280. I will definitely take the giant foamy blue Hawks hand with me when I return to Germany at the end of July.

Travel Horoscopes
Libra—September 23-October 22—With your creativity and ability to grasp ideas quickly, we say you travel South America. You can start off in Colombia and then move onto Peru, Argentina and Venezuela. If time permits, you can even visit Brazil, but just make sure to brush up on your Portuguese, as well as Spanish before going. You can fill up a back pack and travel lightly as there are many beautiful things to see in South America, so you will need to move quickly. Be sure to visit Machu Picchu in Peru and Perito Moreno glacier in Patagonia, Argentina. In Colombia, you will want to be sure to visit the creative commons in Bogota as well as schedule enough time to stay on a coffee farm where some of the world’s best coffee is produced, of course.

Scorpio—October 23-November 21—your passionate and magnetic personality will serve you well in Italy where you can fall in love, eat great pasta and chat with the Pope, if you are so worthy. While in Italy, we say you visit Rome and the Vatican City; Venice to ride a Gondola; as well as Pisa to see the leaning tower. In addition, since you are very much emotionally guided, we say that you cannot miss a visit to Cinque Terre, which is a village in Italy that is known for its beauty. As you are a very persistent and determined person, you will appreciate the fact that Cinque Terre can only be reached by train or boat and as a result, you will have to leave your car behind.

Sagittarius—November 22-December 21—your confidence and enthusiasm will serve you well in New Zealand as you participate in adventurous, risk-taking activities that motivate you. You will be sure to make many friends as people are normally known for liking you instantaneously while you adventure on active volcanos and scuba dive. You will also enjoy fishing in the Bay Islands, climbing the Aoraki/Mt. Cook mountain, which is the highest mountain in the country as well as visit the Waitomo where you can admire labyrinths and caves.

Capricorn—December 22-January 20—you are generally able to achieve whatever you set your mind to in life, and as such, you really are suited for travel to most places. We do say, however, that one’s life is not complete without a trip to Bulgaria to enjoy the Black Sea coast line as well as ski throughout the mountains of the country. You will want to make sure that you don’t miss visiting Plovdiv, which is home to Roman ruins as well as Varna, which is a relaxing beach city located on the Black Sea.

Aquarius—January 21-February 19—with your energy, and ability to live life on your terms, we say you travel the Peruvian jungle known as Iquitos where you can adventure away. We are sure you will enjoy the challenges that the Peruuvian Amazon will provide because, like Cinque Terre in Italy, you cannot arrive by car, but must take a boat or plane in order to arrive, which will capture your inspiration. While in the Peruuvian Amazon, you can journey through some of the most remote, least-visited places in the world, which will leave you feeling like you have lived your destiny to its fullest.

Pisces—February 20-March 20—as you are very much a compassionate and loving person, we believe that you will be well suited for a trip to Spain. You can first visit Barcelona where you will see La Sagrada Familia, a Catholic basilica, which has been under renovation for quite some time now, but is now almost finished with construction. After Barcelona, you will want to make sure to visit Madrid as well as the region of Andalucia where you cannot miss a trip to Sevilla, Cordoba, or Granada. In Granada, you will want to make sure that you tour the Alhambra and while you’re there, you might even consider a trip to nearby Morocco since you will only be about 30 miles away by boat.

Cindy and her host family: Charlotte and Jonathan with Sylvester and Smudge
where strangers seem to be everywhere. With time spent abroad, however, students slowly begin to gain access to information that arguably cannot be cultivated in a classroom. They begin to learn how to roll the letter “r” in Spanish and conjugate the presente, pasado y el futuro just like a native Spanish speaker. They gain the skills necessary to bargain in a Middle Eastern bazaar for clothing and kebob better than those raised in the country. And, they grow to understand how to read a map, even if it is not detailed in English, better than Rand McNally himself. Undoubtedly, study abroad experiences challenge students to grow in ways they never thought possible, to see the world through lenses that they’ve never worn, or could have found in a store in their very own community. Students who’ve gone abroad gain a set of skills that employers find valuable and prestigious universities prefer. It is, as many students will tell you, assuredly one of the best choices a student can make to compliment their higher education experience. At Harper College, students have the opportunity to study abroad in a variety of countries and earn credit that is articulated for transfer to a variety of four-year universities not only in Illinois, but throughout the United States. While many students will tell you that they cannot afford to study abroad, a variety of scholarships and financial assistance packages is available. For more information on study abroad opportunities, please feel free to refer students to meet individually with Colleen Tomanek or Janet Friend Westney, Counselors in the Center for Multicultural Learning, D-142 by calling 847-925-6522. In addition, study abroad presentations can also be conducted in your classroom and can be arranged by contacting Colleen. We’re sure you’ll agree, studying abroad is an invaluable investment worth pursuing.

Eventually, most students adjust and immerse themselves in their studies and this new culture.

In every survey of the Harper international students, the number one goal is successful achievement of their academic goals. The second highest ranking goal is to know people from the United States. Whether it is just a conversation in the cafeteria or sharing Thanksgiving dinner, or a long-term friendship, international students are interested in interacting with the U.S. Americans. If anyone is interested in learning more about the international students or getting to know them as individuals, please contact Jill Izumikawa in the International Student Office, in F340, 847.925.6227.

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**International Students (continued from page 3)**

**International Studies and Programs Committee (ISPC)**

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