



# CIE NEWS

Issue 1  
Fall 2011

A Newsletter for the Center of International Education at Rider University

## Director's Welcome Message

Sara Young-Singh



Kirsten and Jessica, mentee and mentor

Welcome, new students, to Rider University! We are proud to introduce our first CIE Newsletter to better communicate our global mission to our community. This fall, Rider celebrates the 28 students who are studying abroad and enriching their education around the world. Additionally, we celebrate the 48 international students who chose to pursue their stud-

ies at Rider. Thank you to our mentors who have assisted our new international students during orientation.

Over the next few months, we will be hosting a variety of events in the International Learning Community which we encourage our greater community to join as a way to promote mutual understanding on global issues. Our first Community Kick Off event will be held this September 9, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Gee Hall. And please join us at the Study Abroad Fair on September 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., where we will have 107.7 The Bronc broadcasting live. Be sure to spin the World Trivia Wheel to test your global knowledge and win a prize!

## International Student Feature

Reflections from Vilma Sierra

I moved to the United States from Honduras in order to become a journalist; Rider University was one of my first choices due to its competitive background. During my first semester, the adaptation period was short because my professors were willing to help me answer my questions and tend to my concerns during the entire semester. Rider University also gave me a warm welcoming through their International Students Orientation, which covered everything I needed and wanted to know about my status as an international student. The orientation informed me of crucial information about my legal immigration status as a student, internship opportunities for international students, and the cultural shock that international students experience at the beginning of their first

semester. The orientation gave me the opportunity to meet other international students from different countries, which allowed me to share my experiences as an international student in America with the others, and at the same time, permitted me to learn about their cultures. Overall, it was not hard to adapt to Rider; the university embraces every international student with a friendly atmosphere needed in order to become accustomed to the American college student lifestyle.



Vilma Sierra, December '11

## Community Corner

News From Gee Hall



Stephanie DeTrempe, residence director

The International Learning Community promotes respect and friendship among individuals of all nations and backgrounds. This year, Stephanie DeTrempe will serve as both the resident director of the Community and as the co-adviser for the Rider International Student Association. In addition, we're introducing a new team of Resident Advisors:

- Christina Eugene: Second semester RA, CLAES
- Jeremy Glover: First year RA, CBA
- Brandi Lulas: Third year RA, CLAES
- Kevin Tallaksen: First year RA, CBA

## International Calendar

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sep 16	International Community Kick Off	3 to 5 p.m.	Gee Hall
Sep 14	Rider International Student Association (RISA) Kick-Off Meeting	9:45 p.m.	Gee Hall Lounge
Sep 20	CPT Workshop (Internships for international students)	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	BLC Room 14
Sep 22	CPT/OPT Workshop (Westminster College Campus)	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	TBD
Sep 30	OPT Workshop with Alumni (Off-campus work authorization)	3 to 5 p.m.	Sweigart Room 115



RIDER UNIVERSITY

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## Comings and Goings

### Reflections on a Semester in Spain



Tanique Adams in Spain

**Tanique Adams:** This experience was really great for me. I learned so much about the culture, improved my Spanish skills and met a lot of new friends. I was able to see so much of Spain, as well as Rome, Paris and Germany. My favorite thing was the architecture. The buildings were beautiful. The worst part was the steep hills and all the walking I had to do.

Nebrija University was a nice university and the teachers were very helpful. I thought I would have a hard time understanding them and the classes, but they made sure that

we understood them. This was an experience I will never forget and definitely one that everyone should get to have.

### Perspectives from Down Under

**Christina LoBrutto:** My journey to Australia was a very hectic one from the start, so I was ecstatic to finally get here. I was fortunate enough to see kangaroos on my first day here. It's great because USC is next to a nature preserve, so there's plenty of wildlife around. The campus is beautiful, and the accommodation is impressive. I've been greeted with warm hospitality everywhere I go, and everyone I've met at the Uni is so helpful. The social life is exciting as well, as there is plenty to do.

**Megan Pendagast:** Getting off the plane halfway across the world is certainly a surreal experience. When we were loaded into the shuttle, driving on the left-hand side of the road and whizzing past billboards for Australia Zoo it still didn't feel quite real. Even now it's almost a dream. I feel as though I'm living in a postcard. Apart from the day of my arrival, the weather has been phenomenal. Australia has the bluest skies and the brightest stars I've ever had the privilege of seeing and every day is an opportunity to get better acquainted with this beautiful country.



Christina, Megan and new friends at the University of the Sunshine Coast

## Success Stories

Congratulations to Matthew Brook and Wendy Granados. Both study abroad students received competitive scholarships to study abroad from their program providers.

Congratulations to study abroad alumni Aubrey Maks and Jennifer Sorensen on their selection as 2011-12 Undergraduate Research Scholars Award recipients. Aubrey and Jennifer received scholarships to conduct research during the upcoming academic year. URSA recipients from the 2010-2011 academic year included study abroad alumni Victoria Capozzola, Heather Chojnacki and Di Zhao. Bravo to our distinguished alumni scholars!

## Up-Coming Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sep 8	Study Abroad Ambassador Training	11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Multicultural Conference Room
Sep 14	Re-entry Dinner for Study Abroad Returnees	4:30 p.m.	Daly Dining Hall Princeton Room
Sep 15	Study Abroad Fair	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Daly Dining Hall Mercer Room
Sep 16	Study Abroad Scholarship Workshop	3 to 4 p.m.	CIE Office
Sep 21	You Can Afford to Study Abroad Workshop	4:30 -5:30 p.m.	Daly Dining Hall Princeton Room
Oct 1	Deadline to Apply for Spring Study Abroad	—	<a href="#">Online</a>

## Study Abroad Announcements

The CIE is proud to announce our new partner Edge Hill University located in Lancashire, England. Edge Hill offers a variety of programs that are similar to Rider's degree offerings and we encourage students to study abroad to get the real feel of England!

IES Abroad in Vienna is a new program dedicated for those students at Westminster Choir College seeking to gain a cultural and musical experience in Austria.

INTERSTUDY's programs in South Africa and Botswana are sure to please those seeking a unique study abroad experience in Africa.