Dear UCSDers Abroad (belated Greetings above),

Halloween, Thanksgiving and December Holidays & New Years have passed. It's hard to believe that, at this time last year, you either had just finished your interview, were madly scrambling to write your essay and find someone to recommend you, or were spending hours on the internet trying to decide just what kind of a program you wanted. We hope you all had a great Winter break. You are probably anxious for news from home and your PAO family.

Hopefully, all of you are settled in and have adjusted to your new environment. So far this year, the programs seem to be going smoothly. We love hearing from you. When your emails or post cards are not of a confidential nature, we do share them with prospective applicants who really appreciate any kind of helpful hints and info pertaining to study, living conditions, etc. We want to remind those of you who received scholarships for study abroad to write or email us at least once from your host country. Please remember that your letter may be forwarded to the UCSD Guardian or the Friends of the International Center for publication.

**PAO UPDATES:**

- Global Seminars advisor Jenny Garza has departed the PAO to pursue her Ph.D. Tonia Pizer, the former advisor for Asia, will be taking her place. Danelle Boone will also join PAO as a Global Seminar Coordinator beginning on Monday January 3, 2011. Danelle has a wide range of prior experience, including with the Education Abroad Network and Semester at Sea. Eric Tarbell has joined our office as the new advisor for certain Asia programs. Christine Trinidad, our former Office Manager, will be changing roles to serve as an advisor for the UK and help with outreach. Our new Office Manager is Natalie Wolfe, a Muir graduate and comes from the Muir Advising Office.
- EAP/OAP advisor Derek Kolb has departed the PAO as well, heading to the U.S. State Department in Cuba.
- The third successful summer of Global Seminars has ended, and we have lined up a new set of programs for next summer in some very exciting places! For more information, visit http://globalseminar.ucsd.edu.
- We just hired our new student assistants. They are: Gabriel Emmaleh (OAP – Semester at Sea), Rachel Head (EAP – UK, King’s College, London), Emily Lucitt (OAP – Univ College, Cork, Ireland), Juliette Pinzon (EAP – Rome, Italy), Emily Pyle (EAP – Córdoba, Spain), Sumedha Sinha (EAP – Córdoba, Spain), and Kelly Temes (EAP – Univ of Bordeaux, France).
- As usual, we have returnees applying for their "second" EAP or OAP experience. Our office is constantly visited by returnees, still stinging from the "International Bug Bite," who want to "do it again."

Orientations have concluded for those leaving mid-year for programs "Down Under," in the land of the Kiwis, Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. As we send them off, we are planning a "welcome home" for those EAPers and OAPers who just returned and a "welcome" for all the new EAP Reciprocity students.

**UC SAN DIEGO UPDATES:**

- **NEW RETURNEE SEMINAR:** Starting Fall 2010, ERC will be offering a 1-unit course for returnees called “Study Abroad Brought Home.” See the Returnee Events section for more info.
Graduation was very colorful again this year. Study abroad returnees wore beautiful stoles around their necks with the colors and symbols of their countries.

For more UCSD updates, see Student Assistants newsletter, the “Triton Telegraph.”

NEW EAP PROGRAMS & CLOSURES:

• We are pleased to announce the new Scottish Parliament Internship in Edinburgh.

• We now offer new programs in Africa: Botswana and Tanzania, starting Fall 2011 and Spring 2012, respectively.

• It is with great sadness that we announce the closure of the beloved Siena, Italy Language and Culture Program. The Language and Culture Program in Florence, Italy is still open for Fall, Spring, and Summer.

• The Russia program has moved to St. Petersburg State University.

For EAP - PLEASE check and recheck your study lists. You have no idea how many of you return only to discover that you have a grade when you wanted a “P” or found the course with incorrect units, dept. or title, or found a course missing and even sometimes a course listed that you had never heard of, much less taken. In most cases students had signed something without even reading it. Don't forget that the EAP Study Center Staff is there to help you — feel free to go to them if you have a problem, personal or academic.

For OAP, be sure that your program sponsor or host institution abroad sends an official transcript or record of your work to the following address: Admissions Processing, UCSD Admissions 0021-A, 9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla, CA 92093-0021 at the end of your program of study. Be sure you are clear on UCSD’s requirements concerning academic records, and that you convey this information to the people who will be generating the records. If in doubt, please check with the UCSD Admissions Office staff member who signed your planning form or with your OAP Advisor.

Financial Aid: The Department of Education will send an email regarding the FAFSA renewal to all of you who filed your FAFSA online last year. UCSD will also send a reminder email to all of you on financial aid. If you have questions, you can contact Julia Ta at Financial Aid Office, UCSD, 9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla, CA 92093-0013 or email taj@ucsd.edu. You may also try downloading the FAFSA from the World Wide Web at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/. You can fill out the form online.

If you plan to return to UCSD Spring Quarter, please take note of the following information: Web-Reg will begin February 9th. You can view the schedule at http://tritonlink.ucsd.edu/. If you don’t have Internet access we recommend that you ask a friend to Web-Reg on your behalf. The final day to enroll in classes and pay fees without a late fee is March 18th. Classes begin March 28th.

Most of you will probably had a wonderful, exotic break when this arrives...skiing down the snowy slopes of the Alps or heading to the sunny beaches of Greece or the Pacific. Wherever you go, we know it will be another wonderful and exciting adventure and don’t forget to take your journal all your experiences..

Take care, have a great year and Happy New Year.

Your PAO Staff,

Molly Ann McCarren      Tonia Pizer      Maribeth Erlich      Kim Burton
Rachel Rigoli          Kathleen McLaren-Hawking  Christine Trinidad  Eric Tarbell
James Galvin      Jinous Kasravi      Danelle Boone      Natalie Wolfe      Kelly O’Sullivan