



# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS *e-Newsletter*

FALL 2011

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*UNB Science Student Natalie Ouelette enjoyed her academic exchange at Anglia Ruskin University in England, 2010-2011*

This newsletter intends to highlight how UNB is connected around the world and share with our students, faculty members, and staff how they too can gain global experience.

If you would like to subscribe to this e-newsletter, or submit an article for the next issue, please email [iro@unb.ca](mailto:iro@unb.ca).



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## In This Newsletter...

Significant attention has been given to internationalization in UNB's Strategic Plan. Internationalization has many aspects: exposing students to different cultures, bringing foreign student into the UNB classroom, delivering our curriculum abroad, placing our interns internationally, to name just a few. In this newsletter we provide a few snapshots of activities that took place over the summer months. We hope that this will encourage you to seek international opportunities. Please feel free to visit the International Relations Office in C.C. Jones Student Services Centre.

Here is a glimpse of what you'll find in this newsletter. Some foreign students do not have the necessary English skills when they arrive on campus. The English Language Programme helps them to be fully prepared in academic English. The Faculty of Education is involved in Professional Development in Saint Lucia. International cooperation is always a two way street; benefits flow in both directions. Internships are integral for Renaissance College students. In this newsletter you will learn how they prepare for successful placements. The Faculty of Nursing has been successful in placing students in an international setting. The Faculty of Computer Science has built a strong partnership with a German University. This partnership involves undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty members. The International Recruitment Centre is making ambitious efforts under the University's new Strategic Plan. International placements can be costly for students. It is encouraging that the Centre for Property Studies was able to secure funding for 16 UNB students and recent graduates from across Canada to experience Malawi with all expenses paid. MITACS enabled students from India to spend the summer in UNB labs. The newsletter ends with an update on new online tools that help UNB students prepare for pre-departure and re-entry from time abroad.

We hope that this newsletter will inspire you to seek international opportunities. If you have a story to share, we would like to hear it.

*Gerhard Dueck, Director*

## Students from more than 70 countries on campus for ELP

UNB has a long tradition of welcoming the world to the campus and its commitment to growing as an internationalized university is stronger than ever. The English Language Programme is happy to play a role in this effort. This year ELP welcomed students from more than 70 countries, bringing their global perspective to the campus.

Enter the world of the English Language Programme (ELP) and you will meet the world. ELP operates year-round delivering a multitude of programs including immersion and academic preparation which attracts participants from around the globe. In the 2011 Intersession and Summer Session season, ELP delivered language instruction to 600+ participants with representation from 52 countries.

*Submitted by Colleen Meagher-Alkan,  
English Language Programme*





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## Professional development in Saint Lucia

The UNB Faculty of Education is providing Professional Development to over 600 Principals, Teachers and Ministry staff in Saint Lucia over the next 3 years. This PD is focusing on enhancing the leadership capacity of principals, working with primary school teachers on literacy and numeracy instruction, along with strengthening differentiated instruction and assessment, and developing teaching in multi-grade classes. In July 2011 the project started with faculty members from the Faculty of Education traveling to Castries, St. Lucia and working with over 300 Principals and Teachers.

Saint Lucia has achieved Universal Primary Education for almost a decade and recently implemented Universal Secondary Education. The Ministry of Education and Culture in Saint Lucia is committed to enhancing the quality of education, and we are excited to be part of this initiative!

*"The Teachers were all quick and eager to work together- especially in performances. They shared many of their local fruits and foods with us each day in class. It was a highly rewarding 2 weeks, during the last few days teachers were exchanging emails among one another and wanting to stay connected. I am looking forward to returning next year!"*

Sherry Rose, Associate Professor, UNB Early Childhood Centre



Course Instructor, David DeCoste with St. Lucian Teachers

Submitted by Catherine Foster, Partnership Development Officer, Faculty of Education

## New Online Tools to Enhance an Exceptional & Transformative Student Experience

The Student Abroad Program plays an important role in our internationalization strategy by providing our students with access to transformative educational and experiential opportunities all over the world. Whether participating in an international academic exchange, an international co-op placement or internship, or joining a UNB Travel/Study program, students gain the skills, knowledge and understanding required to live and work in an increasingly globalized society and marketplace.

Interest in international student experiences has been increasing on campus in recent years and we have noted a considerable increase in the number of perspective students enquiring about international opportunities with UNB as they decide upon their choice of university. In order to accommodate the rising number of participants, the IRO, in collaboration with the Centre for Enhanced Teaching & Learning has developed online curriculum and tools that students will need to complete as part of the pre-departure and re-entry requirements. These resources will contribute to UNB's comprehensive international risk management and ensure students are getting the most out of their experience. Since students are increasingly engaged in international activities at various times of the year, having access to online tools will decrease the amount of face-to-face meetings prior to their overseas departure. While an in-person pre-departure and re-entry session will still be encouraged in conjunction with completing the online courses, the online tools and resources will be very helpful for those students who decide to pursue an international experience on short-notice or who cannot participate in the in-person sessions for other reasons. The standardized online resources will also promote institutional cross-fertilization and information-sharing at the Faculty level. For more information about the tools, please contact Silke Klenk at [sklenk@unb.ca](mailto:sklenk@unb.ca)





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## Leadership Learning through Cultural Exchange

UNB's Renaissance College (RC) offers Canada's premier undergraduate degree in Interdisciplinary Leadership. One of the hallmarks of the program is the international internships students take.

In their second year, students immerse themselves in an unfamiliar culture volunteering with one of RC's partner organizations and living with and among the residents in the country of their choice. This past summer 21 students traveled to seven countries – including: Bhutan, Ecuador, Malawi, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, and Vietnam. The diverse placements combined international experience with opportunities for both academic learning and personal growth.

Through country-specific language and travel logistics workshops, and courses like *Practicing Leadership in Cross Cultural Contexts*, students are well-prepared for their international placement.

On September 30 students will share their experience and learning with presentations in MacLaggan Hall, room 105, from 2:45 until 7:00 pm. Feel free to drop in to watch one or two, or attend the whole session. The UNB Community is invited to attend. Feel free to drop in to one or two, or attend the whole session.



*Natalie Jones, student, at Sherubtse College, Bhutan*

For more information on the Renaissance College faculty's international placements, visit: [www.unb.ca/fredericton/renaissance/leader/travellearn.html](http://www.unb.ca/fredericton/renaissance/leader/travellearn.html)

*Submitted by Russell Pollard, Student*

## UNB's Computer Science partnership with German university

This summer seven students from the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences (BRSU), Germany, spent seven weeks in Fredericton. They enrolled in two Computer Science courses. Similarly two UNB students took a course at BRSU. Apart from being in a different cultural and language environment, student experience diverse teaching and evaluation methods. German students like the emphasis on term work (assignments, labs, and midterms) — compared to often 100% final exams. UNB students find it refreshing that at BRSU more scheduled time is spent in the lab.

Participating in a summer course allows students to experience a different university environment with low risks. It is expected that some students will participate in a full term exchange. Furthermore, some students may opt for a Dual Master degree. BRSU students can transfer to UNB after completing the first year. This program has received a lot of attention: two students have graduated, three are near completion, and three have just arrived on campus.

Exchanges with BRSU have been generously funded by HRSDC (Canada), the European Union Program for Cooperation in Higher Education, and the German Academic Exchange Services (DAAD).

*Submitted by Gerhard Dueck, UNB Professor and Director of International Relations Office*





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## International Nursing Exchanges/Placements

In May 2011 three of our Nursing students did clinical placements abroad: Kelli Skinner (Moncton campus), Jessica Currie and Tawni Trofanenko (Fredericton campus) went to Umea, Sweden to complete 108 clinical hours for Nursing 2063 Concentrated Clinical Practicum. Tawni and Jessica completed their clinical in Mental Health and Kelli completed her clinical in Chronic Illness. Jessica and Kelli traveled in Europe for several weeks prior to their clinical rotation.

Our student exchanges with Umea, Sweden have existed since 1996 and we have all agreed that we have a very good partnership for students and we want to continue with it. We aim to send 4 students in May-June of 2012.

This summer, I visited Bergen University College in Norway from June 4th to June 9th. On our first day the faculty organized a 12-hour trip for 3 faculty and 4 students on the 'Norway in a nutshell' boat/train tour through the beautiful Norwegian fjords. It was an incredible experience. It also gave us time to get to know the two Norwegian students (Malene Paulsen and Carina Vegneas) that are coming to UNB Nursing in the fall for 3 months. During my time in Bergen I also visited the simulation training room and discussed their research project on interdisciplinary simulations, the labs and medical unit, elder care units, and met some of the faculty that are teaching the Global Health Cultural Awareness Course and some of the students enrolled in the course. I did a presentation to that class on our curriculum and on our international exchanges. Philip McGee from the Bathurst campus completed this 3 credit hour course on Global Health and Cultural Awareness.



*Gisele, in Norway, with colleagues Liv, Solvor, Philip and Sissel*

The Global Health Cultural Awareness Course in Bergen is a huge opportunity for our students to engage with students in the Scandinavian countries on global issues. The faculty that teach the course come from all over Europe. Our partnership with Bergen University College is developing and it has great potential. My goal is to have 5-6 students attend the course in June of 2012 and we will be hosting two of their students for 3 months from August 20th to November 20th.

Go to the following web link for more information on international nursing exchanges:  
<http://www.unb.ca/fredericton/nursing/undergraduate/internationalnursingplacements.html>

Submitted by Gisele Gallibois Coordinator of International Studies, Faculty of Nursing





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## International Recruitment Centre and UNB's Strategic Plan

UNB's International Recruitment Centre has been helping bring international students to the Fredericton and Saint John campuses for several years. In 2011/2012, however, the IRC will take its first, ambitious steps under UNB's new strategic plan.

To begin, we have an action-packed schedule that will cover most of the globe. This year, our three international recruiters will be active in: Africa, Brunei, the Caribbean, China and Hong Kong, England, Europe, Indonesia, Japan, Latin America, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Toronto and Vancouver, Vietnam, the U.A.E., and the Eastern United States. To see where our recruiters will be at any given time, drop by our new website at: [www.unb.ca/international/prospective](http://www.unb.ca/international/prospective).



*Recruiting in Malaysia*

New processes are also now in place to manage UNB's relationships with foreign recruitment agencies. Many of these agencies help recruit students from hard-to-reach places, and the IRC is excited to build more effective, transparent relationships with these parties. Questions or concerns regarding agent processes should be directed to: [awsimpso@unb.ca](mailto:awsimpso@unb.ca).

It's a busy time at the IRC, but we'd love to introduce you to our team. The next time you find yourself near historic Beaverbrook House in uptown Saint John, drop by for some great company and a little geography trivia. Meanwhile, we wish you safe travels!

## UNB Students spend the summer in Malawi with the CPS

On May 28, 2011, fifteen interns representing the Centre for Property Studies and UNB stepped off an Air Malawi flight and onto Malawi soil to begin the experience of a lifetime. What are you doing next summer? Malawi is a land-locked country with a population of approximately 13 million and ranked 166th of 177 countries on the human development index. The people of Malawi are warm and welcoming, despite the devastating impact of AIDS and HIV, extreme poverty, malnutrition and environmental degradation.

The interns were selected through a competitive process under the Students for Development Program which is administered by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (returning UNB students) and the CIDA International Youth Internship Program (Canadian young professionals who have recently graduated from university). Their travel and living expenses were provided by the Canadian International Development Agency.

Six AUCC interns representing the Faculties of Nursing, Kinesiology, Arts (International Development Studies) and Engineering worked to build capacity of rural communities on the outskirts of Lilongwe and Mzuzu. Focus areas include health, youth development and good governance. The 3-month internships enabled the students to experience the spectacular sites and culture of the "Warm Heart of Africa".

The nine CIDA IYIP interns will spend nine months in Malawi. Four interns are placed at Mzuzu University to build local capacity in the areas of Land (GIS /GPS / Survey Engineering), Natural Resource Management, and Urban & Rural Planning. Two interns joined Mzuzu University to build local capacity at Masasa School. These



interns will focus on curriculum development and health / youth education. Another two interns joined the Gender Unit of the Department of Public Service, Government of Malawi to address gender equality and capacity development within the Civil Service. The final intern is working as a Health Educator focused on child and infant health issues with Kauma Village NGOs.

The Centre for Property Studies (CPS) has been sending interns to Malawi since 2007. For more information, contact Veronica McGinn, Project Coordinator at the Centre for Property Studies by email: [veronica@unb.ca](mailto:veronica@unb.ca) or by telephone at 447-3344.



*Submitted by Samantha Hodder, Centre for Property Studies*

*Shirley Avery, AUCC Intern in Malawi*

## **UNB hosts top international undergraduates through Mitacs Globalink**

As Canada makes the transition to an idea-based economy, innovation and collaboration will be needed to fire up the economy for years to come. In making that shift, it's vital that the province attracts foreign students. Mitacs Globalink is a step in the right direction. To learn more, visit [www.mitacs.ca/globalink](http://www.mitacs.ca/globalink).

For most people, summer is a time to relax and take it easy. But for some, the experience ends up being much more. Hailing from India, five undergraduate students - considered some of the sharpest minds in the world - came to New Brunswick to apply their skills to complex research projects and interact with industry on our home turf. The elite students were hosted by the University of New Brunswick.

“The project I worked on at University of New Brunswick with Q1 Labs was interesting and stimulating. I learned a lot through my discussions with Dr. Ali Ghorbani and the rest of the UNB students. I also got good exposure to entrepreneurial opportunities in New Brunswick through Mitacs Industrial Days,” said Santosh Ananthkrishnan, from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. “Fredericton could not possibly have been more different than Mumbai, and yet I always felt at home. We had great fun exploring the city and the rest of the province, and there was something to do nearly every weekend – kayaking, taking the Haunted Hike, visiting Hopewell Rocks or the Park on Fundy, or simply trying out the plethora of places to eat - and excellent food it was, too!”

Now in its 2nd year at UNB, the Mitacs Globalink program was launched to attract international undergraduate students to the province and promote the benefits of a Canadian education to those pursuing graduate degrees. The three-month internship provides an opportunity to experience not just university life and research facilities, but also recreational activities, all the while building friendships with Canadian students.

*Submitted by Sumona Raha, Mitacs Globalink*

