

International Times

News from the International Programs Office



Fall 2009
Issue 8

International
Programs
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Boise State Students Receive Study Abroad Scholarships

In early 2009, the International Programs Office received a \$100,000 multi-year grant from the Institution for Study Abroad (IFSA) Foundation to award study abroad scholarships to engineering and nursing students, students participating in Boise State University bilateral exchanges and students studying abroad in non-traditional locations. The deadline for Spring 2010 awards is October 15.

The first recipients of the IFSA scholarships for Fall 2009 and Academic Year 2009-2010 are:

STUDENT	LOCATION
Emily Boswell	Kristiansand, Norway
Daniel Camacho	Chengdu, China
Jessica Fulcher	Aberystwyth, Wales
Jonathan Fulcher	Aberystwyth, Wales
Kate Henry	Lyon, France
Lea Johnson	Aarhus, Denmark
Prasanga Delapalage	Melbourne, Australia
Molly Richelderfer	Saarbrücken, Germany
Mason Shaw	Heredia, Costa Rica
Hailey Walter	Lyon, France

In addition, Boise State students have been very successful in receiving competitive national scholarships for study abroad. The Gilman program received 1,927 applications for 850 possible awards. Boise State's student winners for Academic Year 2009-2010 are:

Daniel Camacho, \$5,000 to study in Chengdu, China. Camacho is a Criminal Justice and Psychology major.

Tawny Lyons, \$5,000 to study in Veracruz, Mexico. Lyons is an Elementary Education major.

Mason Shaw, \$5,000 to study in Heredia, Costa Rica. Shaw is a pre-nursing major.

"Scholarships" continues on next page . . .

The Gilman award is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The award allows students with demonstrated financial need to study abroad. The Gilman scholarship aims to support students who have been traditionally underrepresented in study abroad, including but not limited to, students with high financial need, community college students, students in underrepresented fields such as the sciences and engineering, students with diverse ethnic backgrounds, students with disabilities, and students of nontraditional age. The International Programs Office administers approximately \$80,000 in funding for study abroad scholarships. Students should not let fears of funding hold them back from studying abroad. Please contact the International Programs Office for an application, assistance or more information 426-3652.

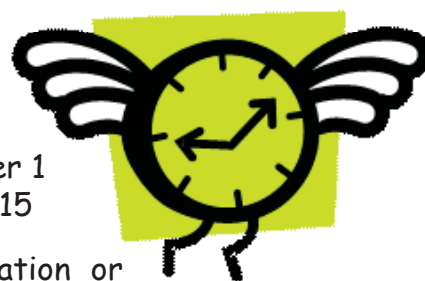
Spring Application deadlines

Ready to study abroad next Spring?

Deadline for direct exchange Spring 2010 - October 1

Deadline for study abroad Spring 2010 - October 15

Contact the International Programs Office for an application or visit our website: studyabroad@boisestate.edu or 426-3652.
<http://international.boisestate.edu/>



Japanese Corporation Partners with BSU



Naoko and a friend

Each semester in International Programs we have the pleasure of welcoming a unique group of Japanese professionals as students in the Intensive English Program. This fall we feel quite fortunate to have as our guests, Naoko Tokuyama and Kazuko Mihara.

Naoko and Kazuko work for Itochu, a Japanese company that started in 1858. The corporation started by trading linens and, one hundred and fifty years later, has grown into an



Kazuko

impressive international success. Though based in Japan, Itochu has a huge international network of offices scattered throughout the globe and earns \$100 billion in consolidated net income each year! Naoko and Kazuko say, "This kind of business does not exist anywhere else in the world." The company is highly diversified and is involved in information technology and domestic and international trading in products such as oil, other energy resources, general merchandise, chemicals and food.

Itochu places a high value on multi-culturalism and multilingualism and has provided Naoko and Kazuko with scholarships to study English at Boise State and observe the local economy. Boise is considered to be a good environment because it is a small, friendly community yet one must learn English to get by. "In New York, for example," Naoko asserts, "there are so many Japanese and I could speak only Japanese if I wanted to."

Because they come from Tokyo, one of the largest cities in the world, Boise made quite a first impression on both women. Kazuko commented, "I was surprised at how different Boise is from

"Corporation" continues on next page.

Tokyo. There is a lot of nature, but no shops near my apartment. It is more rural than I could have imagined, but I got a bike and I like it now.” Naoko, on the other hand said, “I thought Boise was a more rural area. Actually, it is a mid-sized American city.”

Both women also commented on American culture. Kazuko has observed, “The Japanese are quite shy at first, but after a few times together you can go deep. Americans are very friendly at first, but it is more difficult to get to know them. They keep their privacy and try not to disturb others.” Naoko has noticed, “Americans always say ‘hi’ and ask ‘how are you?’ In Japan people just say ‘hello’.”

Kazuko and Naoko also appreciate the diversity they find in their English classes. Kazuko shared, “The discussions we have help us learn the values of other cultures. Muslims, for example, are very different from Buddhists. This goes beyond language. It is a good experience. I can teach the other students about Japan and from them I learn about the world.”

Welcome Naoko and Kazuko! We are happy you are here and we look forward to a great fall term.

Call for Proposals

Boise State University Internationalization Initiative Award 2009

From the Boise State University UPDATE

Boise State’s Internationalization Advisory Board is calling for proposals for the 2009 Internationalization Initiative Award.

All academic departments are invited to apply for the \$10,000 award to implement a comprehensive internationalization initiative - such as developing global learning outcomes in their curricula and for their majors - developing curriculum-integrated education abroad opportunities for their students, developing dual- or joint-degree programs with a partner university abroad or other projects.

The overall goal is to help develop globally competent Boise State graduates, as outlined in the Boise State Internationalization Plan.

The project may be interdisciplinary and should focus on international education, rather than international research, although research may be a component of the project.

Boise State’s inaugural Internationalization Initiative Award went to the Nursing Department for comprehensive internationalization of the curriculum at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, curriculum-integrated education abroad program development, and virtual interaction and cross-cultural communication between international students at partner universities abroad and Boise State nursing students.

The Geosciences Department received last year’s award for a project that focused on humanitarian geophysics and the establishment of a new undergraduate sub-discipline that included a field camp in Thailand for students from throughout Southeast Asia and Boise State. The field camp was coordinated in cooperation with Boise State’s partner university in Thailand, Chiang Mai University, and Geoscientists Without Borders.

The Request for Proposals can be found on the International Programs website.

<http://international.boisestate.edu/content.asp?cat=8&id=69>

The Benefits of Hosting Fulbright Scholars at Boise State University: Enhancing Research and Internationalization

from the BSU Update

The Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) which administers the Fulbright Scholar Program selected Dr. Abdel Salam Hamdy Makhlouf, a former Fulbright Scholar at Boise State University, as part of a report on the long-term impact of Visiting Fulbright Scholar grants on the U.S. host institutions. The report will include case studies of scholars whose grants have led to continuing collaboration between the scholar's home and host institutions:

CASE STUDY VII: Enhancing International Engagement and Promoting Scholar Exchange

SCHOLAR: Abdel Salam Hamdy Makhlouf (Chemistry, Egypt)

HOST INSTITUTION: Boise State University, Idaho

Dr. Makhlouf has collaborated closely with Dr. Darryl Butt of Boise State on several multi-year research projects on corrosion-resistant materials and nano-coatings. They have secured funding from the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Defense. As a result of their ongoing research collaboration, Dr. Makhlouf and Dr. Butt have co-published 8 peer-reviewed articles, 19 international conference papers, and a book chapter.

Their collaboration has also led to some international exchange. Using funding from their two NSF-funded projects, Dr. Makhlouf has brought Dr. Butt to Egypt three times, most recently in March 2009, when Dr. Butt was able to give guest lectures and seminars at Dr. Makhlouf's home institution, the Central Metallurgical Research and Development Institute (CMRDI) in Egypt. Dr. Makhlouf is also sending one of his students to Boise State for a master's degree.

International Connections - Fall Series Is Here!

We have great speakers and diverse subjects planned for the Fall International Connections Brown Bag Seminars. Presentations begin at 12:30pm.

September 17th, Professors Kent Neupert and Jason MacDonald began the series with a presentation on their teaching abroad experiences in Bilbao, Spain and Torino, Italy, respectively.

October 15th, in Jordan Ballroom A, Philip Kelly, a professor from the College of Education, and Nancy Aci, a native of northern Uganda and sophomore BSU student, will share their

insights into the educational system of Uganda as an instrument of democratization.

November 19th, in the Grand Ballroom B, our speaker is Mr. Ron Berning, Program Director for MicroEnterprise Training and Assistance (META). "Unleashing the Entrepreneurial Power of Refugees" is the subject of this seminar. Mr. Berning's presentation will answer the question, "How does self-employment benefit refugees as well as the communities in which they live and work?" He will be accompanied by two refugee microentrepreneurs who will share their respective success stories.

Community action is as valuable a principle on the international level as it has been domestically. -- Barney Frank

IEP Students Bring Diversity to Campus

Boise State's Intensive English Program (IEP) is proud to welcome students from all over the world to its classrooms. In the past several years, the IEP has seen significant enrollment growth with increasing diversity among our students. Typically, the IEP's largest student groups come from Korea, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, and China. In the past several semesters the IEP has broadened the list of countries our students call home, admitting students from Iran, Iraq, Rwanda, Cambodia, Vietnam, Libya, Kosovo and Peru.

Working with the diverse groups represented in the IEP has been a rewarding learning experience for instructors and administrators as well as student participants. Instructor Tracy Day says: "I find teaching international students to be especially rewarding. Students far away from their native home, language, culture and comfort zone are in a unique position. They are looking at the world with fresh eyes while trying to make sense of their surroundings. As a result, they look at their home countries with fresh eyes and try to make sense of them as well. The new perspectives and conclusions they make about 'reality' and what it means to be a citizen of the world are refreshing and profound. I encourage every BSU student who is able to also study a new language and live in another culture. The experience is priceless."

Student Affairs Coordinator Chalimar Swain, who serves as the international student advisor for IEP students says, "Working with students from such diverse backgrounds challenges your intercultural communication skills and forces you to constantly examine your own values, beliefs, and cultural constructs."

Diverse groups of students require consideration during curriculum development as well. Academic Coordinator Kate Udall feels the IEP currently is a microcosm of the world: countries and cultures are represented from all corners. This presents unique challenges in planning the curriculum as student goals and backgrounds--whether they are university study, personal enrichment, or professional achievement, vary greatly. "We have to consider individual objectives and language and cultural experience in every decision we make. But what makes the program work is that the students are always learning from and teaching each other. There are incredible levels of curiosity and respect among our students; they always want to share their life experience with each other and seek to understand other perspectives and histories. Clearly, it's a model that we could use nationally and globally to extend tolerance and multi-cultural understanding," says Udall.

As the IEP enrollment continues to increase, the program staff's collective goal remains twofold: to provide students with a quality ESL program in which they gain the linguistic proficiency needed to transition into Boise State University's degree-seeking status and to provide the opportunity to increase diversity and cross-cultural awareness to the Boise State campus and the greater Boise community.

Are you interested in other cultures?

Want to help a student practice their language skills?

Want to share your culture with an international visitor?

Be a home stay host! The BSU International Programs Office is looking for short-term home stay hosts for a fantastic group of graduate business students from Taiwan this spring. These students are bilingual in English and Mandarin, and will visit Boise for 8 weeks from March 27-May 22. They are excited to learn about American life by living with a home stay family!

For more information, please contact Tracy Day or Chalimar Swain at the International Programs Office 208-426-3652 or tracyday1@boisestate.edu or chalimarswain@boisestate.edu.

****An \$800 stipend is provided for each host family.**

Boise State Graduate Set to Make a Difference in the World

Dr Nilesh Pawar, a physician from India, came to Boise State in Fall 2006 for further study. He graduated in May 2009 with an MS in Exercise Sport Bio-Mechanics. In this article Nilesh tells us about his experience at Boise State, his involvement with the Clinton Global Initiative-University and FACE AIDS-Boise, and his current position at a premier HIV/AIDS research institute in India

Coming to Boise State was an important decision which I based both on a suggestion from my friend, who was studying in Laramie, WY and on the GEM scholarship I was offered.



The first thing I noticed was the friendly nature of people and faculty at Boise State. The first faculty I met was my chair, Dr. Lynda Ransdell who made me feel comfortable and supported. Coming from a very small town in India, I really wasn't good in English, but my faculty, especially Dr. Ransdell and Dr. Terry-Ann Spitzer-Gibson 'groomed' me in learning English. I am also thankful to my department for giving me a GRSP (Graduate Residential Scholar Program) scholarship which gave me abundant opportunities to talk to people from different countries. I made some good friends that year.

Looking back, BSU did give me a M.S. degree, but more than that, it gave me a 'vision' for my future life, which I think is more important than just a degree.

About Nilesh's participation in the Clinton Global Initiative-University' (CGIU) program:

In 2007, the Clinton Foundation established a new initiative called the 'Clinton Global Initiative-University' (CGI-U). This event is held annually with the idea of bringing students, faculty, and presidents of schools/universities worldwide together to give them a chance to collaborate to make this world a better place. There are five different areas in which CF works: 1) Global Climate Change, 2) Poverty Alleviation, 3) Human Rights, 4) Global Health (which is closest to my heart as a physician from India), and 5) Education. Attendees are asked to make 'commitments' to work in any of the areas mentioned above and CF provides opportunities and resources needed to change these commitments into actions.

I was excited about this event, but wasn't sure if I would get 'in' this 'elite' circle. I applied with a sense instilled in me by Dr. Terry-Ann Spitzer Gibson, that there's nothing to lose! My 'commitment' was to work in global health after finishing my masters at BSU. CF accepted my application . . . I was set to attend the conference from February 13-15, 2009, at the University of Texas, Austin along with more than 1200 people from more than 60 different countries and almost every state in USA.

Seeing and listening to President Bill Clinton was an experience beyond words. After his moving speech defining 'a citizen of 21st century', I asked myself, "So what's next? You get a degree, you get a nice job with a good salary and then what? Where do I want to see myself 20 years from now?" I tried to find an answer to this question by interacting with as many people as possible at the conference. I was really surprised to see numerous American students working for issues in other developing countries. I was surprised and at the same time ashamed of myself to see these people working for issues in India and Africa (when I was doing nothing!). Most of them did not have a relevant background but that did not prevent them from working.

"Nilesh" continues on next page . . .

Nilesh's involvement with FACE AIDS-Boise:

At the CGIU I met people of the FACE AIDS organization. FACE AIDS is a nation-wide student organization in USA working for people with HIV/AIDS in Africa through another organization called 'Partners in Health'. Partners in Health was founded by Dr. Paul Farmer, a Harvard trained infectious disease specialist. With the contacts I had made at CGIU, I decided to start a new chapter of FACE AIDS at BSU. We became the first chapter in the whole state of Idaho. I am sure with the support from everyone at BSU 'FACE AIDS- Boise' will definitely be able to help poor people in Africa.

All these events helped me realize that my background in medicine can give me a huge opportunity to work for the benefit of poor people and their health in my own country - India. I decided to finish my MS at BSU and return to India to work for our primary global health concerns, HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. I contacted the National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), the premier research institute working in HIV/AIDS in India, and expressed my willingness to work for them as a research scientist. After my spring graduation at Boise State, I returned to India and joined (NARI) as a project coordinator for the HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS) project. (The project survey includes collecting blood samples from different population groups.) Since coming back, I have visited many different parts of India to check the functioning of HSS. (The survey) work is primarily conducted by non-profit organizations. My job is to supervise their work to confirm smooth functioning.

I watched speech Steve Job gave at the Stanford commencement where he underlined the importance of doing what you enjoy the most rather than chasing money. His final words were 'Stay Hungry, Stay Foolish'. I think we all need to think about what we want to chase!

Cheers,

“GO BRONCOS”

(Dr. Pawar also told us he plans to work toward another Masters Degree and possibly a PhD. He hopes to volunteer for some non-profit groups, as time permits.)

ADJUSTING TO LIFE AS A STUDENT AT BSU



Concepcion Yeng Chi Martinez is an international student, coming to us from Mexico City, Mexico. Here is the story of how she came to be studying at Boise State and the impact it is having on her life.

Among the almost 20 million people living in Mexico City, I feel very fortunate to be studying Graphic Design in Boise State. My experience in this university has been amazing and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to open doors to a different culture and to learn more about people in this world.

My dream (of studying abroad) started being shaped when I decided to learn English. I was in search of improving my academic and personal life, and I knew that by learning a second language I could have better job and life opportunities. I am studying at Boise State thanks to the scholarship I received, the great support of my mom, my family and my host family, Jamison, Jennie and Jack Spencer.

Initially I started in the Intensive English Program at Boise State. I enjoyed those classes a lot. I met people from all over the world: China, Afghanistan, Korea, Colombia, Japan, Germany, and Ecuador. Because of the interaction with international and national students and faculty, I started gaining more interest and knowledge not only of the culture but also of the vast opportunities that were offered to all students on campus.

Yeng Chi's story continues on next page . . .

Boise is one of the safest cities I have been to. People are very friendly. I also enjoy the great things to do outdoors all year long. It is nice to have the four seasons of the year. During the winter the snow brings snowshoeing, snow tubing, skiing, and snowboarding. In the spring and fall there is backpacking, hiking and camping. In the summer anything related with water – swimming, rafting, water skiing, etc... I have tried some of those activities on my own and through the school. I couldn't have lived in a better place to learn English and the American culture.

Culturally speaking, one of the most surprising things I realized was that styles of life here are very different from my country. The way we interact with other people and the time we invest in those family and friend relationships are different. One of the most unforgettable learning experiences I had was with my first friend in Boise. She was the first person I met and had a decent conversation with, using my limited English language speaking skill. I was so excited that at the moment of saying good-bye, as we naturally do in my country, I approached her to give her a kiss on the cheek. Ay ay ay ...as I would say in Spanish- I scared my first friend and I realized it immediately when I saw her freaked-out face and those gigantic steps moving backward to recover her precious personal space. Personal space is also different in the American culture, and more specifically in the Idaho culture. In my country that bubble of personal space is smaller than it is in here, and I miss it somewhat.

I realized that to improve my language and really know more about the culture was by exposing myself to different experiences. So, I started getting involved in different cultural events on campus, then volunteering on Saturdays in the Volunteer Services Program. Then I got involved in student organizations like the Chinese club, the Spanish club, OELA, ISA, LDSSA and more passionately lately as the president of the Multilingual Student Advisory Board, which seeks to support students who are non-native English speakers like refugees and international students.

However, I still found myself struggling with the language and with culture shock at different times. I wanted to get a better understanding of this new culture that little by little was becoming less unfamiliar. So, I got involved through my jobs on campus. Working on campus has helped me in three ways. First, to get a better understanding of why people act and react in a certain way. Second, it has helped me to know the university better and learn about the resources we have at hand. And third, I have gained more work related abilities. My first job experience was in the Modern Languages Center, where I still work as a Spanish Lab and teaching assistant. It is great that BSU students can have native speakers help them learn the language they are studying. Another awesome opportunity I had was as an Orientation Coordinator for the New Student and Family Programs office. I worked as an orientation leader welcoming new students during the summer for two years. Being an OL, I have been able to enhance my leadership, organizational and planning skills while promoting diversity on campus.

In the future I would like to work as a Graphic Designer for a university. I like helping people, and learning more about this country and myself. I like challenging myself, and I know that the skills I have been gaining plus performing well academically and being involved in student organizations and jobs are letting me obtain a greater understanding of my own identity.

It is a personal goal to do my best and graduate, not only for my benefit but also for my family back home. In my country, you will frequently find that three generations live together: grandparents, parents and children, and sometimes a fourth generation. When the children grow up and have children of their own, they may also join the family- yes- in that very same house or right next door. I love my culture. I appreciate that I have been raised in a collective/community type setting where relationships with others are very significant. Mexicans are hardworking people who strive to gain their living day by day. We were born in a beautiful country full of colors, and varieties of food. By the way, I miss my food! I like and appreciate being Mexican, and more so I like that I have had the chance to experience Boise State University life. It is a blessing to be here, and an honor to be a Bronco international student.

International News From Across Campus

A number of faculty and staff have recently participated in teaching and networking with Universities around the world. We've included some highlights . . .

In May, **Warren Barrash**, PhD, Research Professor with CGISS and Geosciences, visited the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. He was there as an external examiner for a PhD candidate in geophysics (Baptiste Dafflon) including providing review of the candidate's dissertation and participating in the candidate's oral examination (dissertation defense).

Also in May, **Barrash** hosted Dr. Imasiku Nyambe from the University of Zambia who was visiting Boise State to explore possibilities for collaborative research in hydrology and geophysics, and for a capacity-building partnership between the University of Zambia and Boise State.

Lonny Ashworth, Chair of the Dept of Respiratory Care, represented the Dept and the College of Health Sciences in Japan in July, presenting several workshops on the ventilator management of the adult critically ill patient. He presented a three-day workshop to physicians at Kameda Medical Center in Kamogawa, Japan, followed by a two-day workshop to physicians at St. Luke's International Hospital in Tokyo and, finally, a two-day seminar to nurses, physical therapists and clinical engineers at Shonan Kamakura Hospital, in Kamakura, Japan. He has been traveling to Japan to present workshops on adult critical care for fifteen years as part of the International Exchange Visit Programme for Respiratory Care Professionals. This program was initiated by Dr. Toshihiko Koga of Kurume, Japan, to enhance the understanding of respiratory care in Japan. This program continues even after Dr. Koga's untimely passing.

Jennifer Forbey, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Dept of Biological Sciences hosted a Visiting Student Scholar from Germany this summer.

Grischa Fuge is a recipient of a DAAD scholarship within the framework of the RISE in North America program. The program allows exceptional German students to conduct research overseas in either the US or Canada. He was here from June 15th to Sept 4th.

Grischa conducted various experiments that screen natural products from plants that are avoided by herbivores as compounds that either directly kill cancer cells or inhibit resistance of cancer to other chemotherapeutics. The work includes training and collaboration with **Drs. Jorcyk, Hampikian, Mitchell** and **Wingett**.

Heather Meyer, (German / Theater Arts double major 2009) will be in Linz, Austria as a Fulbright Teaching Assistant. She will be teaching in a secondary school from Oct, 2009 to May, 2010.

Greg Hampikian, Dept of Biological Sciences, was in London in June working on British DNA cases and giving a professional education workshop for barristers. Hampikian's presentation was sponsored jointly by the UK Innocence Network and the QEB Hollis Whiteman barristers' chambers. More than 100 legal experts and science writers were in attendance. *--from the BSU Update*

Carole Schroeder, Adjunct Faculty member in the Dept of History, attended the 2009 Spring Fellowship in Korean Studies held at the Academy of Korean Studies in South Korea, April 8 - 19. It was fully funded by the Korea Society with financial support provided by the Freeman Foundation and the Academy of Korean Studies. The ten participants spent four days in Seoul with a series of lectures, meetings and visits to historical sites. On April 12, the participants set out on a six-day peninsular tour including visits to places of historical and contemporary significance.

Someone said to Voltaire,

"Life is Hard."

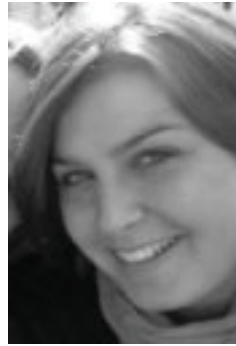
Voltaire replied,

"Compared to what?"

Meet Our New Student Assistants

We are fortunate to have some great students working in the International Programs Office as Program Assistants, Peer Advisors and Office Assistants. We'd like to introduce the newcomers to you, as well as the international students who assist in the work of the IPO. We're proud of them all.

Marlous Struijk is a new IPO assistant this year; she is looking forward to meeting new students from different countries. Marlous is from the Netherlands and has been in the USA for three years. She is a Psychology major, planning to become a clinical counselor.



Nikhil Mohan

is a Finance and Marketing from Mumbai, India who plans to pursue experience in the financial sector before pursuing his MBA in Finance. His long term goal is to become an Investment Banker and open a Financial Consultancy company in India. Nikhil's interests include working out at the gym and playing Cricket. Nikhil is very active in campus in numerous clubs including the International Student Association of which he is President.



Sharon Wakio Kahuha, is an international student from Nairobi, the capital of Kenya in East Africa. She is studying towards two degrees, one in Communications and the other in Psychology, "which I recently realized I love." Her future goal is to work in the Medical field. She plans to get her RN, then do some travel nursing before she decides to settle down.

Kim Brand from Bend, Oregon is new to the IPO this year and works primarily as an Education Abroad assistant. She is studying Mass Communications and plans on graduating in May 2010, after which she wants to pursue a Masters in Counseling to become a high school counselor. Kim tells us, "After studying abroad in Italy for a year, I wanted nothing else but to help other students study abroad and have the same amazing experience I had. Interestingly enough, while Kim has traveled to more than 10 countries abroad, she has only been to four out of the fifty states in America. Her next goal is to take a cross country road trip.



Malwina Zastawna is a new IPO Assistant. Malwina comes to Boise State from Poland. She is a sophomore, with a Nursing major and French minor. Her goal for the future is working as a health professional, helping people on a daily basis and promoting health awareness.

In her leisure time she enjoys watching movies and reading books, especially Dostoevsky or Camus. "I also enjoy dancing (I love my ballroom dance class!), skiing and boating on beautiful lakes of Idaho. I love traveling as well. My favourite places are definitely Paris, Prague and Warsaw."