



# Longitudes & Latitudes

Lynchburg College International Programs Newsletter

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## LC launches first international service learning program in school history

*Students to lend a hand in St. Lucia this summer*

Christian F. Wilwohl, Off-Campus Studies Coordinator

The largest group of students to participate in a Lynchburg College study abroad program will head to St. Lucia this May to engage in the most unique program ever offered by the College—international service learning. A contingent of more than fifty students, faculty, and staff from LC and Randolph College (formerly Randolph-Macon Woman's College) will take part in service projects related to their majors on the Caribbean island that has been sending students to LC for the past five years.

LC faculty Glenn Buck, Sabita Manian, and Jennifer Hutchinson, along with Brad Bullock of Randolph College, will lead education, international relations, and nursing students as they perform service learning projects in St. Lucia. Education and nursing students will provide school-entry screenings for young children, while international relations students will work with underprivileged youth at schools and community centers on the Caribbean island.

This is the first time that LC is offering a study abroad program for students in nursing and education. Education major Lauren Harper '08

commented, "I am interested in the St. Lucia study abroad program because it is the first program I have seen that specifically relates to my major."

Student interest in the program was so overwhelming that students were eventually placed on a waiting list when the program filled up. Community engagement coordinator Beverly Pfluger '06 said, "The culture of service learning has become contagious around campus." Pfluger will travel to St. Lucia with the group and work with Dr.

Buck and the education students. Student perspectives reflect Pfluger's opinion. "Being able to provide for less fortunate people has always appealed to me," said nursing student Peter Wilcox '09 when asked about service

learning. Lauren Harper agrees. "I have learned a lot of skills and had a lot of privileges, so I think it is only fair that I give something back. I'll get to use my experience and gain knowledge in a hands-on way by working with children in St. Lucia," she stated.



Professor Jennifer Hutchinson (third from right) and LC nursing students look forward to service learning in St. Lucia.

The projects will benefit the people of St. Lucia as nursing faculty member Jennifer Hutchinson affirmed that the projects "meet an identified need of St. Lucia's school children for school-entry screenings." Performing these screenings "corresponds well with LC's students' training and background," she added. Meanwhile, Dr. Manian believes that the St. Lucia community will "immediately reap the benefits of the project."

Service learning will enhance the overall experience as students will interact with the local culture more than they would on a traditional study and travel program. Dr. Buck said, "This service learning experience will introduce our students to a part of the world that is often seen only through the lens of U.S. tourists. We'll see the real St. Lucia—the richness of a unique culture that has been shaped by time and fascinating historical events."

With the weak dollar and high cost of travel to Europe at the moment,

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## **International Programs Office is on the move . . .**

Dr. Edward G. DeClair, Assistant Dean for International Programs

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Longitudes & Latitudes*, a new publication produced by the Office International Programs. In future issues we hope to feature “all the news that’s fit to print” about Lynchburg College’s globalization efforts. Each year, we offer more programs to more destinations so that even more students can have the opportunity to study abroad. With a full slate of January term, spring break, and summer offerings, the Office of International Programs has been extremely busy.

The spring break program continues to be very popular. Twenty-nine students traveled to France as they studied contemporary French history and politics. Already, nearly thirty students have signed up for the 2009 spring break offering to Spain.

We are especially proud of the progress we have made in joint-programming with our sister-schools in Korea and Austria. This June six students will study for three weeks at Hannam University, and sixteen students are taking an international management course at Fachhochschule Vorarlberg in Dornbirn, Austria. Lynchburg College also recently signed an agreement with Laval University in Quebec, Canada. Dr. Bruce Mayer and Dr. Kim McCabe will be leading the first group of LC students to study at our new Canadian sister-school.

## **Who keeps asking me to study abroad? and why?**

*Christian F. Wilwohl, off-campus studies coordinator, answers  
these questions.*

In January a new face appeared on campus asking students to study abroad. Many students were probably asking themselves, “Who is this guy and why wasn’t anyone asking me to study abroad (on multiple occasions) before?” I recently joined the LC community as the new off-campus studies coordinator. My position entails recruiting and advising students for study abroad.

So, here’s a little information about me to explain why I’m so interested in getting LC students to study abroad. As an undergraduate, I spent a semester in Geneva, Switzerland, through a program sponsored by the School for International Training. An international studies and French double major, I chose Geneva as an ideal location for my semester abroad.

After graduation, I returned to Europe adding another two countries to my international repertoire. To further improve my French, I secured an English language teaching assistantship in Marseille, France. My academic interests then took me to London where I completed my M.A. at the University of London’s School of Oriental and African Studies.

While in London, I made friends with students from Japan and others who taught English there, sparking my curiosity for a country and culture about which I knew very little. So, when the path diverged in the road, I took the less familiar one to Japan where I taught English and trained teachers for nearly five years. Living and working in Japan was an amazing, eye-opening experience, and I was fortunate to teach wonderful students and work with great people. So, if you want to know more about study abroad, come and visit the Office of International Programs in Hall Campus Center, 240. I look forward to helping you plan your international adventures!



Here I am visiting the Daibutsu in Kamakura with my Japanese friends.



## Rome has 'impact' on LC students

*Winter break offers opportunity for discovery in the "eternal city"*

Barbara Rothermel, Director, Daura Gallery and Museum Studies Program

When planning a study abroad program, it is always anticipated that the experience will have an *impact* on the student participants. It is often, however, a single event, sight, or moment in time that is the seminal experience.

For political science and sociology double major Jenna Jewell '09, it was stepping out of a dimly lit metro station on her first day in Rome and seeing the Coliseum illuminated against the night sky. "I have always been interested in Greek and Roman history, so I knew I would love getting to experience Rome firsthand," said Jewell.

Jewell and thirteen other LC students took part in winter break's study abroad program—The Eternal City: Rome as Art and Museum led by Dr. Delane Karalow, assistant professor of art history and visual arts program coordinator, and Barbara Rothermel, director of the Daura Gallery and Museum Studies Program.

The experience was a dream come true for communication studies student Tricia Williams '08. "Apart from being the most memorable trip I've ever taken (and the first out of the country)," Tricia said, "Rome was educational, exciting, and so much fun. The sights, the smells, the people – they were wonderful."

Psychology major Jessica Brown '08 agrees that the trip was an eye-opening experience. "I decided to go on a study abroad program over the winter break because, as a senior, it was my last chance. The history of Rome has always been of interest to me, particularly the Coliseum."

Likewise, this was senior Danni Schreffler's last chance to study abroad and not follow the footsteps of her older sister who regrets not studying abroad in college. A business administration major and museum studies minor, Schreffler commented, "Thankfully, the opportunity to visit Rome seemed to me a chance to put aside my fears of travel to foreign places." She continued, "My favorite artist whose work we saw is Bernini. Near the end of the trip, we visited the Borghese Gallery, where several of his sculptures were on exhibit."

Study abroad programs differ from traditional on-campus academic classes in that they are a collaborative process that emphasizes the interconnectedness of ideas, issues, people, and places. These programs are also an indispensable component of a liberal arts education. "I especially liked, surprisingly, that it was a class. It made the learning experience richer and more compelling," Schreffler said. "I also feel I



LC students enjoying the sites of Rome over Winter Break

now have unique and lifetime friendships with my classmates through our shared experiences in Rome."

Both Dr. Karalow and Professor Rothermel plan to lead students to Rome again next winter term. **Contact:** [Karalow@lynchburg.edu](mailto:Karalow@lynchburg.edu) and [Rothermel@lynchburg.edu](mailto:Rothermel@lynchburg.edu)

## Service learning in St. Lucia

*(Continued from page 1)*

the cost of the St. Lucia program has also served to attract student interest. "Not only is this (one of the more economical) trips, this also seems like an exciting opportunity to get another perspective on the situations abroad," said Bonner Leader and sociology major Tyler Curtis '09. A grant from the duPont Corporation for the purpose of promoting international service learning has played a part in reducing the already comparatively low cost of the program. Through the grant, students receive a \$750 reduction to their tuition.

LC has been working collaboratively with Peacework, an organization that sponsors international service learning programs, and the St. Lucia Ministry of Education to develop the program. LC graduate students Wendy Bailey '08 and Karian Antoine '08, both from St. Lucia, have been instrumental in making local contacts and conducting site visits. Bailey said the program "will be offering a service which is really needed in St. Lucia" and is a great opportunity for cultural exchange.

This summer's program in St. Lucia stems from LC's relationship with the country's Ministry of Education, now in its

sixth year. What began as a workshop for St. Lucia's special education teachers in July 2003 has grown exponentially into a collaborative program among several entities in which students from St. Lucia come to study at LC to complete their bachelor's or master's degrees. In January 2008 LC awarded twenty-five master's degrees of educational guidance and counseling to students from the island.



# The 'How to' study abroad guide

Derrick VanLeer '09

LC semester abroad students all agree that studying overseas has been one of the best experiences of their lives, and they encourage others to seek out their own international experiences. But how does one begin this process? Here's what they have to share:

## Step 1: Talk to people

Amanda Koslow '08 has just returned from a semester as an exchange student at the Fachhochschule Vorarlberg in Dornbirn, Austria. She found out about this opportunity by talking with the dean of the School of Business and Economics and some of her professors, many of whom have actually taught at the school. Amanda is also quick to point out Christian Wilwohl, the new off-campus studies coordinator, as another resource for finding out about study abroad options.

## Step 2: Research your options

Chelsea Parker '09, who spent fall 2007 at Corvinus University in Budapest, Hungary, started her search for the right program on LC's study abroad website ([www.lynchburg.edu/studyabroad](http://www.lynchburg.edu/studyabroad)). She first looked at locations available through different study abroad providers and then at what these providers included in their programs, such as housing, airfare, courses, and enrollment fees. "Make sure the courses you take at a foreign university are transferable to LC," she advises.

## Step 3: Begin the application process

After deciding where you want to go and what provider you want to use, it's time to meet with Christian Wilwohl and begin the process of making your dream a reality. Christian will give you all the information you need to get approval for off-campus study and can help you with the application materials for the study abroad provider you've chosen. "For any people going through the process now," Amanda says, "I would absolutely make Christian your best friend. Not only is he the study abroad coordinator with essentially all the information, he also has studied abroad as a student and realizes the difficulties and tasks that go into ensuring a smooth transition there and back."

It is also at this point you will want to start looking at financial aid possibilities. To start with, the LC study abroad webpage has links for scholarships. You can also find scholarships through the provider you've chosen. Chelsea Parker recommends contacting international companies that provide money through scholarship competitions.

## Step 4: Make preparations

Students interviewed point out the importance of doing research on your destination so that you have a general understanding of the culture. For Hannah Sizemore '10, who participated in the Semester at Sea program, this was quite a task. "Since we were going to ten different countries, I certainly had my work cut out for me," Hannah explains.

## Step 5: Enjoy your experience and respect your host culture!

While abroad, take advantage of every opportunity to learn new things and enjoy new experiences. Jim Schuhl '10 says it's important "to be very open-minded of how other people live." Jim spent Spring 2008 in Costa Rica. "Respect the culture of the country or countries you visit and always remember that you are a guest," says Hannah Sizemore.

# More students to spend semester abroad

Charlotte Arbogast '10

Italy, Austria, Spain, India, Costa Rica, Mexico, and the Czech Republic. All of these places sound exotic, right? For many students, these countries are much more than destinations for a dream vacation. Fourteen LC students will study abroad in fall 2008 for a variety of reasons.

Students on semester programs hope to gain experience and perspective. Graphic design student Jessica Lee '09 said, "There is no better time to travel than in college. I hope to gain more experience and knowledge through visiting other countries and seeing what the real world is like for different people." Jessica will undertake a global voyage through the Semester at Sea program.

Going abroad for a semester will also allow students to perfect their language skills. Spanish and art double major Derrick VanLeer '09 will spend next fall in Madrid, Spain. "I feel that an extended stay in a Spanish-speaking country is necessary for the successful completion of my Spanish major," Derrick explained.

Meanwhile, other LC students want to concentrate on their majors while abroad. Studio art major Cara Leepson '09 hopes that spending next fall in Florence, Italy, will allow her "to gain more understanding of the culture where art began to flourish." Jon Jerrild '10 has similar reasons for going abroad. "I want to gain alternative perspectives on business issues," he said. A financial economics major, Jon will study international business at LC's partner school in Dornbirn, Austria.

For Amber Santoyo '10, going abroad will allow her to engage in community service. An international relations major, Amber will undertake volunteer work with poverty-stricken women and children while studying next fall in Chennai, India. "I think it's important to help others, especially those abroad, because they don't have the means to improve their lives as do people in the U.S.," Amber said.



# Postcards from abroad

*LC students explore their world.*



Chelsea Parker '09 visits a fortress in Eger, Hungary.



Hannah Sizemore '10 (right) at the Sphinx in Egypt

# Study abroad spotlight

*Amanda Koslow '08 spent fall 2007 in Austria.*

## What study abroad program did you do?

I spent the semester at LC's partnership school Fachhochschule Vorarlberg in Dornbirn, Austria. The program concentrates on international business. My semester abroad truly defined me as a business student.



Amanda (right) takes on the Austrian Alps.

## How was your experience?

Going abroad was the best decision I have made up to this point in my life. It allowed me to be submerged into a completely different culture, make lifelong friends around the world, and gain basic business concepts on an international level.

## What can you say about the Austrian people and culture?

The people were nice, enthusiastic to meet students, especially Americans abroad. The culture itself is a world of its own. After jumping over a few cultural hurdles at first, I fell in love with Austria.

## How did your experience change your perspective of the world and the U.S.?

I learned in Austria just how multi-faceted the world is. With the program's being completely exchange (for students and faculty), you saw clashing cultures from literally every continent of the world. I've gained a greater respect for cultural diversity as a whole and find new cultures to be fascinating. I also gained a greater sense of "home" and realize just how fortunate I am to come from my own personal background.

## Were you satisfied with your program?

The international staff at Fachhochschule Vorarlberg were extremely patient and helpful. They made sure we stayed on track with our work, were blending into the culture easily, and that our overall experience abroad was positive. They are an enthusiastic group of people who love international students. I thought they did a great job of integrating our international group into the local culture.

## What advice do you have for LC students?

JUST GO! If it's really something you want to do, go for it full force! While studying abroad can be expensive, don't over analyze the financial aspect of going abroad. In my opinion, the cost is absolutely worth the experience. How often will you get to live in a foreign country for four months? You will use your experience as a comparison for the rest of your life. Prospective employers have also acknowledged my semester abroad as a valuable asset.

## Are you interested in going abroad again?

Definitely! I'm going to visit my friends throughout Europe this summer. I'm also looking into attending graduate school overseas to complete my master's in international business or management. I hope to do this in Ireland or the UK.



## Language study essential to success . . .

*From Salisbury, North Carolina, to Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Edward G. DeClair, Assistant Dean for International Programs

As an undergraduate, Drew Miller '00 took advantage of what Lynchburg College had to offer. He played varsity soccer, served as a writing center tutor, joined a fraternity, participated in the National Model United Nations and the European Union Simulation, and also found time to study abroad in Spain. He rounded out his academics with a summer internship in Belize, as well as a second, post-graduation internship at the European Commission Delegation in Washington, D.C. In May 2000 he graduated from Lynchburg College with a major in international relations and a minor in Spanish. He was also named the Sommerville Scholar during his senior year. He recently was recognized by the Lynchburg College Alumni Board with the M. Carey Brewer Alumni Award, given to young alumni who have made significant service contributions to the College or in their professional, civic, or religious lives.

Today Drew lives in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he has created a new international corporation, ECOSUR Group, LLC, "that strives to promote economic development in Argentina through the active participation of the backbone of the local economy, small, and medium sized businesses." Drew's company exports wine and other products to the United States. In addition, ECOSUR is involved in the tourism business as it arranges tours to Argentina through its sister corporation ECOTUR. He was originally attracted to Argentina because two of his LC Spanish professors, Dr. Gustavo Fares and the late Professor Eliana Hermann, were originally from there. His interest in Argentina piqued when he was awarded an International Rotary Ambassadorial Fellowship to study for one year at the University of Buenos Aires. And, now, he calls Argentina home.

Drew remains committed to the mission of LC. He currently serves on the LC Alumni Association Board, and he has been instrumental in creating a new endowed Scholarship Fund, the M. Wesley Shoemaker Scholarship, to support students who wish to study abroad. Drew worked with Dr. M. Wesley Shoemaker, professor emeritus of history, to create the scholarship fund. Drew also solicited support from the alumni who studied with Dr. Shoemaker during his tenure at Lynchburg College. While on staff at LC, Dr. Shoemaker created the international relations major and was a staunch advocate of language study and study abroad. Like his mentor Dr. Shoemaker, Drew believes "that the ability to speak Spanish, or

most second languages for that matter, gives you an advantage, especially in an increasingly competitive job market."

He adds that "I am convinced that my ability to switch from English to Spanish during the interview was pivotal to my selection as a Rotary Fellow."

According to Drew, the international relations major was a natural pathway to his current professional life. He said, "The multi-disciplinary nature of the IR major sparked my interest from the

start and was a natural fit for my Spanish minor." As he followed the curriculum path in the major, he also participated in both the National Model United Nations and the European Union Simulation. Drew added, "My participation in academic simulations of the UN and EU allowed us to apply the knowledge that we had learned in the classroom in simulated 'real-life' situations."

Drew is impressed with the new international opportunities offered to LC students. He notes that "the international programming now available to students has grown exponentially. I envy the fantastic opportunities that are now available to LC students." Drew firmly believes that all students should make every effort to study abroad. He goes on to say, "I cannot underscore enough the importance of an international experience. It is a life-changing event! Think of it as an investment in your future."

Drew Miller is an excellent example of how language study can lead to professional success. As Drew made his way from Salisbury, North Carolina, to Buenos Aires, Argentina, his interest in and love for the Spanish language were key in creating exciting personal and professional opportunities for him.



Drew Miller at the Buenos Aires Port Facility as he inspects a wine shipment.



# LC community samples the flavors of the world at the International Food Festival

Sandy Taliaferro, Administrative Assistant, Multicultural, Access, and Commuter Services

This year's International Food Festival was the biggest and tastiest yet! Students, faculty, and staff enjoyed peanut soup from Ghana, fish cake, bates, and salt fish from St. Lucia, shahi pulav (rice) and chana masala (chick peas) from India, jerk and curry chicken and bun and cheese from Jamaica, falafel and hummus from Palestine, egg rolls from Laos, "Dduckbokki" (rice cake pasta) from Korea, and an entire ten course meal from Germany! No other place in Lynchburg serves up such a diverse and delicious menu!

All those involved—faculty, staff, and student chefs—did a remarkable job! Multicultural, Access, and Commuter Services (MACS) provides funding for the ingredients and furnishes the tableware for the annual event. The "chefs" cook up dishes. Some participants even wore native



Dr. Schwarzmann serves German cuisine to some delighted students.

dress to add flair to the occasion. Lynchburg College continues to attract a wide array of international students who bring so much to our campus. The MACS Office is grateful to all the volunteers who spent time preparing and serving their native dishes.

**Lynchburg College's  
International  
Society**  
is open to all students.

You don't have to be from  
a foreign country to join!  
For more information,  
contact the MACS Office  
(Campus ext. 8330).

**The world  
awaits you!**

## International student spotlight

*Abraham Garang comes to LC from Sudan.*

### How is your experience at LC so far?

Lynchburg is small and very friendly, where everyone can interact with their teachers and classmates. I think my experience is going beyond my expectations. I'm not a very outgoing person, but making friends has been easy. The people in my dorm are friendly. The international students are great; I feel like I've known them for years.

### How does it feel to serve the community and work with students as a member of the Bonner Leaders Program?

It's great to get involved in the community. I coach a junior soccer team at the local YMCA through the program. It's great to help people in need, because I was once in need myself.

### What do you think of LC students' interest in what's happening in Darfur and the Genocide Week Events?

It's awesome; it's great to see students involved in global issues and working to help my country. I appreciate what students are doing and that they're getting the word out to the community outside campus.

### What do you hope to do after you graduate?

I hope to go to graduate school and get a good job. A big thing would be to continue my involvement in community work and do things to help the people of Sudan even though I'm in the States. I love my country, and I hope someday people will be able to lead happy lives without the bloodshed and problems we have today.



Abraham Garang has been in the U.S. for six years. Before coming to LC, he was living and studying in North Carolina.



## Political science and international relations students experience the ‘real world’ at Model EU Simulation

Christian F. Wilwohl, Off-Campus Studies Coordinator

LC students discovered last semester that they don’t have to go abroad to have an international experience woven into their studies. Led by associate professor of political science Dr. Marek Payerhin, thirteen students traveled to Washington, D.C., to take part in the Mid-Atlantic European Union Simulation and politick over a very hot *and* global issue— climate change. In doing so, LC students represented the United Kingdom and got a taste of the EU and how the real world works.

Political science major Niki Ozment ’08 explained, “The EU experience combined a number of ‘lessons’ that I have learned at LC, both in political science as well as some general studies courses such as *Argument and Reasoning*. It really brought together my classroom experience and the ‘real world.’”

At the simulation, students drafted and debated policy proposals and resolutions, formed coalitions, and participated in sub-committees and commissions just like members of the European Parliament. LC students found out how difficult it is to reach consensus on hot issues with resolutions failing to gain enough support. After three days of negotiations and heated debates, the simulation’s European Parliament rejected the resolution on climate change. “Not getting the resolution passed is real—it happens,” commented international relations major Crystal Carter ’10.

During the simulation, students also assumed the role of key players in the EU and adopted their positions as “alter-egos.” When asked about taking on a European Parliamentarian’s position and negotiating with other Parliamentarians of different stances from other countries, Carter said, “The EU (Simulation) shows the

interrelations of different cultures and countries. It was a challenge to get people of different cultures and countries to agree.” Likewise, Ozment commented, “One of the strongest lessons (I learned at the EU Simulation) was that it’s hard to negotiate with someone who is on the complete opposite end of the spectrum.”

What students experienced at the simulation demonstrates Dr. Payerhin’s thoughts on experiential learning. “At the Model EU,” he explained, “students have to negotiate agreements and forge coalitions.”

He went on to say that the students, in essence, learn skills at the simulation they don’t necessarily learn in the classroom and that the simulation gives “an emotional connection” to subjects they study in class.

In addition to attending the simulation, students also paid a visit to the UK Embassy and met with members of the British foreign service. Students found this visit very informative. International

Relations major Rachel Safren ’09 elaborated, “It really helps to meet with a representative of the UK before the simulation really gets under way. They provide insight about how the UK government is trying to solve a particular issue and how it feels the EU might be handling the same issue.”

Students definitely gained an international perspective by taking part in the simulation and are now hoping to undertake other international experiences even further afield. Sophomores David Caldwell and Crystal Carter are exploring study abroad opportunities for spring semester 2009 — Caldwell in the Netherlands and Carter in Latin America. In addition, Rachel Safren will study this summer at LC’s sister school, Hannam University, in South Korea.

**The EU experience combined a number of “lessons” that I have learned at LC...It really brought together my classroom experience and the “real world.”**

**~Niki Ozment ’08**

### Students receive recognition at Model EU Simulation

- **Rachel Safren ’09**—Outstanding EU Commissioner
- **Spencer Porr ’09**—Outstanding EU Parliamentarian
- **Ryan Butler ’10**—Socialist Party Chair
- **David Caldwell ’10**—Conservative Party Vice-chair



*What made me stand out at the EU Simulation was my proposal. I proposed that the entire EU end its use of nuclear power. This was the most debated issue because France, for example, gets most of its power from nuclear energy. European Union representatives would be insane if they even thought of proposing the end of all nuclear power usage!*

**~Rachel Safren ’09**



## LC community unites to focus on genocide

Christian F. Wilwohl, Off-Campus Studies Coordinator

The LC community took a 'stand' this spring against genocide with campus groups uniting their efforts to raise awareness for a heartbreaking issue that is often distant from American minds.

The week-long event entitled "Through the Eyes of a Child: Putting a Face on Genocide" captured LC's attention with students from Dr. Todd Olsen's *Dimensions of Health and Wellness* class organizing many of the activities as part of a service learning course. "The whole point is to raise awareness by providing a variety of events throughout the week," said Dr. Olsen. Other campus groups involved in Genocide Awareness Week included the Bonner Leaders Program, Amnesty International, and Students Taking Action Now for Darfur (STAND).

The week kicked off with the "Gifts for Gulu Soccer Extravaganza" featuring soccer matches on Schellenbeger Field at which LC and its community partner, the Sports Outreach Institute, collected sports equipment and clothing for children in the war-ravaged Gulu region of Uganda.

Throughout the week, guest speakers visited campus to highlight the horrors and reality of genocide and civil strife. One such speaker, Grace Akallo from Uganda, shared with the LC community her experience as child soldier, having been taken from her family and forced to fight against civilians. "It's not a Hollywood movie; it's a naked truth. Every time I tried to kill myself, someone would come behind me and take my gun," Akallo said of her life in the midst of warfare.

Dr. Olsen's class and student groups also converted the campus Dell into an "internal displaced people camp" with tents displaying information related to war and genocide, such as rape and malnutrition. Other events to raise awareness included the "Invisible Children Displace Me Night," in



Dr. Todd Olsen (left) and LC students gather for a photo with Grace Akallo (third from left) after she shared her experience as a child soldier in Uganda. LC faculty, staff, students, and members of the Lynchburg community filled Hopwood Auditorium to hear Ms. Akallo's story.

which students slept outside in the Dell with cardboard boxes as their only shelter, and a 5-km run starting and finishing on campus.

Although the Genocide Week events brought much visibility to such groups as Amnesty and STAND, these organizations' members are constantly making a difference behind the scenes. Amnesty president Tanha Patel '08 said, "Our members are proud of their successful small campaigns such as letter writings and petition signings for issues such as child soldiers, prisoners of war, human trafficking, etc." Likewise, STAND vice president Carolyn Walsh '10 commented that the organization meets weekly to plan events and ways to heighten student awareness.

Before spring break, Amnesty, STAND, and Bonner students organized a concert featuring local bands at which students sold t-shirts and collected donations and petition signatures. Their efforts raised \$300 for the Invisible Children organization.

Want to make  
a difference and  
focus on  
international issues?  
Join the like-  
minded students of  
Amnesty  
International  
and  
STAND.

Contact: Annmarie Roozen (Amnesty International) and Anne Stokes (STAND)



**LYNCHBURG**  
COLLEGE EST. 1903



Twenty-nine Lynchburg College students traveled to Europe at spring break as part of their semester-long course on contemporary French history and politics with Dr. Edward DeClair and Professor Barbara Rothermel. The group visited Geneva, Switzerland, the chateau country of France, as well as the region of Normandy and the French capital city of Paris.

## Learn the world at Lynchburg College

*The study abroad program is an integral and indispensable component of the College's mission to:*

- *prepare our students for intelligent and whole-hearted participation in a **global society**;*
- *create a learning environment that respects and supports **broad diversity**; and*
- *create a learning environment that respects and supports **global understanding**.*

**The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.**

**~St. Augustine**

## What's happening next year?

LC faculty and staff are busy planning the following academic and cultural opportunities:

### Winter Break 2009

— Rome — Vietnam — The Bahamas

### Spring Break 2009

— Spain

### Summer 2009

— St. Lucia — Mexico — Ireland

— South Korea — Canada — China

— Turkey & Greece — Austria

For more details visit: [www.lynchburg.edu/studyabroad](http://www.lynchburg.edu/studyabroad)



Dr. David Lipani (top left) and LC students don festive Vietnamese garb during winter break 2006. LC's resident globe-trotter, Dr. Lipani led students on the College's first study abroad program to Vietnam and will lead students again to the southeast Asian country at winter break 2009.