



The University of Georgia

Teaching at UGA

The Office of Instructional Support & Development
— A unit of Academic Affairs serving the instructional needs of the faculty

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The International Fellows Program at UGA

The International Fellows Program (IFP) was established at the University of Georgia in 1997 to create opportunities to increase the impact of the University's international efforts. It is sponsored by the Office of International Education and coordinated by the Office of Instructional Support and Development.



The 1999-2000 and the 2000-2001 International Fellows at the September retreat

Goals of the International Fellows Program


- To provide tenure track faculty, with little international experience, professional development opportunities in the international academic arena;
- To provide participants with information concerning international resources at the University of Georgia;
- To offer a support system for sharing ideas with colleagues from other disciplines who may have similar international interests;
- To offer models of international work so that participants might develop an international education project which contributes to the goals of the University of Georgia in the international arena;
- To provide funding for the development of an international project and resources which might contribute to the development of the project;
- To provide recognition and professional documentation for faculty who are successful in developing an international dimension to their university scholarship.

International Fellows Program Activities

- At a September retreat, former International Fellows Program participants give their project reports and discuss strategies for successfully developing an international project.
- IFP participants meet throughout the academic year to discuss the dimensions of international scholarship including faculty exchanges, structured international experiences, student involvement in international research, study abroad programs, global perspectives in teaching and research, international conferences and the mechanics of international agreements.
- Participants identify a mentor for the year who has experience in the international arena.
- Each participant is provided up to \$3,000 to develop an international education project
- Projects are shared with new IFP participants and the university community as models of international scholarship.

1999-2000 International Fellows

Marsha Black, Environmental Health Science

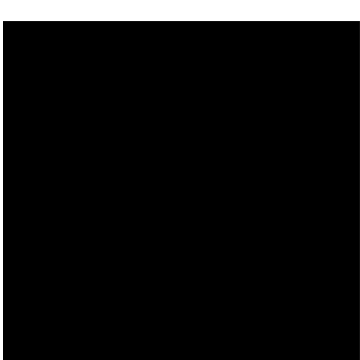


Marsha Black is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Health Science. She received her doctorate in Ecology from the University of Tennessee in 1989 and has been a faculty member at UGA since 1995. Her research focuses on the use of aquatic organisms as pollution biomonitors and the development and use of biomarker assays that detect physiological and biochemical responses of fish and bivalves to pollution stress. Cham Dallas, Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Science served as Marsha's IFP Mentor.

Marsha's International Fellows Project focused on the Tisza River, a large river that flows through central Hungary. In January 2000 the river was contaminated by cyanide and heavy metals accidentally released from a waste lagoon in the Baia Mare mining district of Romania into the Somes River. For several days following the spill, a toxic plume of cyanide and heavy metals was detected in river waters stretching from the spill site in Romania, through the Tisza River in Hungary, to the Danube River in Yugoslavia. Several hundred tons of fish died in the Tisza River, mostly due to exposure to cyanide. This initial spill was followed by two additional heavy metal waste spills in March 2000 from mines in Baia Borsa, which ultimately contaminated the Tisza River via another Romanian tributary.

The primary goals of her project were to collect preliminary data on metal content and toxicity of Tisza River sediments and floodplain soils, to gather case study information on the Tisza River for classroom presentations, and to establish research collaborations with Hungarian researchers for future research on the river. Marsha traveled to Hungary in May 2000 with Deanna Conners, a Ph.D. student in Environmental Toxicology. They met with university researchers from St. Istvan University and environmental officials from government and non-governmental organizations about the status of the Tisza River and related research needs. They also collected soil and sediment samples for toxicity evaluation. These preliminary data verified a significant contamination of the river's sediments and flood plain soils by heavy metals, but with little corresponding toxicity to the test organisms. Future research in collaboration with Hungarian researchers is proposed to measure metal contamination and toxicity at locations closer to the mine sources, to study factors contributing to the lack of toxic response, and to determine the extent of historical contamination from upstream mining activities.

Chris Cieszewski, Forest Resources



Chris Cieszewski is an assistant professor in the Daniel B. Warnell School of Forest Resources. As a forest biometrician in the school's fiber supply assessment program he specializes in inventory projections models and has recently published articles in this area in such journals as Forest Science, the Canadian Journal of Forestry, and the Forestry Chronicle. Presently, his research includes development of new methods for derivation of dynamic equations and for stochastic parameter estimation. Bruce Beck, Forest Resources served as Chris' IFP Mentor.

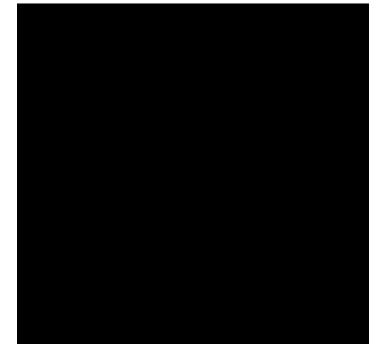
In efforts to encourage the use of such techniques worldwide, Dr. Cieszewski has collaborated with practitioners and developers of these methods in the USA, Canada, UK, Spain, France, Portugal

and Poland. The scientists have been sharing data and trading ideas to best produce models for specific applications. As one of the offshoots of this international collaboration, they hope to begin development of an eucalyptus growth and yield model for Portugal. Grant financing applied for by the faculty members of the University in Lisbon would support this effort.

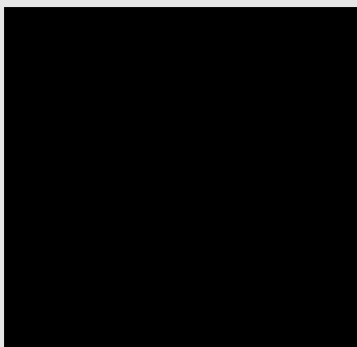
In addition, the collaborators are presently examining the development of an international course, which would teach the various ways in which these methods are applied in different countries. Collaborative efforts have also opened the door for recruitment of postdoctoral fellows to work at the University of Georgia.

1999-2000 International Fellows

Cheryl Dozier, Social Work



Arthur Grider, Department of Foods and Nutrition



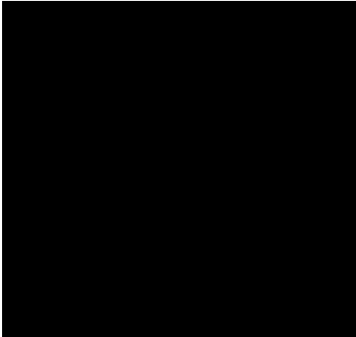
Arthur Grider is an assistant professor in the Department of Foods and Nutrition in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences. He is interested in studying the potential relationship between poor nutritional status and infection in certain populations in Ecuador. Analyses of the diet in certain areas of Ecuador with a high incidence of parasite infection indicate the possibility of low intakes of

zinc and iron. The goals for his International Fellows project were to strengthen his professional relationships with investigators in Ecuador, to obtain a more informed understanding of the available resources for research in Ecuador, and to identify potential difficulties that would limit research capabilities. Sharon Nickols, Family and Consumer Science served as Art's IFP Mentor.

While at the Central University of Ecuador in Quito, Dr. Grider was able to observe ongoing biomedical research in the diagnosis and treatment of cholera and leishmania. He also visited a field research site and medical clinic in Puerto Quito, a town northwest of Quito. There he observed the treatment of patients with various ailments, including salmonellosis and leishmania. Future studies are planned which will analyze blood samples from affected individuals for zinc biomarkers to determine whether they are deficient in this essential nutrient.

1999-2000 International Fellows

Carol Henry, Lamar Dodd School of Art



Carole Henry is an associate professor in the Lamar Dodd School of Art and serves as chair of the Art Education area. She supervises student teachers in K-12 placements and teaches classes in the areas of museum education and the history of art education. Her research involves issues of pedagogy relative to aesthetic and critical response in museum and classroom environments. R. G. Brown, Art served as Carol's IFP mentor.

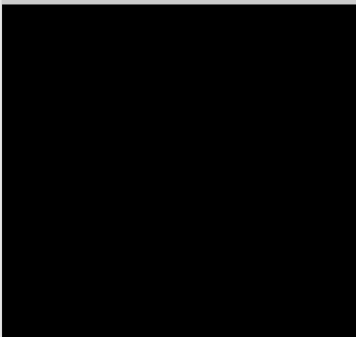
As an International Fellow, Carole explored the possibility of establishing art education as a component of the University of Georgia Studies Abroad Program in Cortona, Italy. Cortona is a small hill town in Tuscany, isolated by location and surrounded by a town wall built by the Etruscans, within travelling distance of Florence, Siena and Rome. Few people speak English in Cortona. However, the UGA Studies Abroad program has been in existence for over twenty years there, and a strong sense of rapport exists between the Cortonese and the University of Georgia.

The International Fellows Project involved Carole travelling to Cortona, meeting school administra-

tors and observing classes in the schools. In preparation for the trip, she audited ITAL 2600, an introductory language intensive course and enrolled in Italian I and Italian II, conversational Italian courses offered through the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. In Cortona, she met with school officials from the Cortona Municipality and the principal of the elementary school in Cortona. Aurelia Ghezzi, from the Cortona program, served as interpreter.

The project led to an increased understanding of the linguistic and cultural issues surrounding art education student involvement in the Italian schools and the establishment of professional relationships with educators in Cortona. Plans are now underway to offer such a course in the next few years. Such an experience would give art education preservice teachers experience teaching in another culture, an experience that would ultimately strengthen their ability to work with students from diverse cultures after graduation.

Cynthia Hynd, Division of Academic Assistance



Cynthia Hynd is a professor in the Division of Academic Assistance and serves on the graduate faculty of the Department of Reading Education in the College of Education. She teaches courses in reading and learning strategies to undergraduate students and is interested in studying students' critical thinking and concept changes as they read and study texts in various subject matters. Her interest in critical thinking was the impetus for becoming involved in an international project called the Reading/Writing for Critical Thinking Project (RWCT) sponsored by George Soros' Open Society and the International Reading Association. This project helps teachers in countries that were part of the former Soviet Union to teach their students, using active learning strategies, how to think critically about the things they read. On trips to the Republic of Georgia, Cynthia and Penny Oldfather, Elementary Education have conducted a series of workshops, observed teachers in their classrooms, and gathered data on the changes teachers and students have made as a result of their involvement in the program.

As an International Fellow, Cynthia invited two of her colleagues in the Republic of Georgia to visit the University of Georgia for a nine-day stay. The purpose of the trip was three fold: (1) to further their collaborative efforts in documenting the changes in teachers and students involved in RWCT and to consolidate efforts to institutionalize RWCT, (2) to provide educators in the Republic of Georgia opportunities to build ties with University of Georgia faculty who may be able to assist them in their continued quest for educational reform, and (3) to help UGA faculty members understand the promises and challenges in education faced by former Soviet countries. The visiting Georgian colleagues met with a number of faculty across the university to discuss higher education reform and held a colloquium at the College of Education. Two publications and several presentations at national and international meetings have resulted from these collaborations. Kent Gustafson, Professional Studies served as Cynthia's IFP Mentor for this phase of her project.

1999-2000 International Fellows

William Kisaalita, Biological and Agricultural Engineering

William Kisaalita is an associate professor in the department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. He received his doctorate in Chemical Engineering from the University of British Columbia (Canada). William is the Director of the Cellular Bioengineering Laboratory and his research interests are in developing cell-based screening systems for pharmacological and toxicological activities, with applications in accelerated drug discovery. He is currently teaching three junior/senior courses: *Engineering Physiology*, *Engineering and Design of Biological Processes II*, and *Monitoring and Control of Biological Processes*. In the past, he has taught *Introduction to Biological Engineering and Engineering Dynamics*. He regularly guest lectures in *Introduction to Africa* on technology and development in sub-Saharan Africa.

In addition to providing the required technical content in his courses, William tries to foster an understanding of the interrelationships between science, technology, people and communities. Because today's undergraduates will occupy workplaces and communities that have been transformed by globalization; they must learn to make connections across disciplinary, national, and cultural borders.

For the International Fellows Project, William used the seed funding to develop study cases that can serve as vehicles for seamlessly adding international dimensions to existing courses. With the aid of several undergraduate students, the development of eight study cases spanning the areas of Agriculture & the Environment, Human Health, and Technology and Society is almost completed. Several proposals to fund the next step have been submitted. If secured, these funds will be used to develop companion open-ended thought problems and multimedia WWW-based resources for each case, that will take the student there through "sight" and "sound" without his/her leaving the classroom. In addition to international exposure, these instructional materials are expected to foster an appreciation for the relationship between theory and solutions to real local and global problems as well as enhancing the students' critical thinking skills. Tom Reeves, Professional Studies served as William's IFP Mentor.

Richard D. Lewis, Foods and Nutrition

Dr. Lewis is an associate professor in the department of Foods and Nutrition. His research focuses on the roles of diet, physical activity and growth factors on bone mineralization, growth and body composition in children. Dr. Lewis also coordinates the Sports Nutrition Graduate Training Program in which selected graduate students work with The University of Georgia athletes as part of a coordinated sports medicine program.

Obesity is an epidemic in developed nations with childhood and adolescent obesity of particular concern. While developing countries throughout the world are familiar with undernutrition, there are signs that obesity and chronic diseases associated with obesity may be increasing. Increased consumption of westernized foods (fast foods) and decreased physical activity may contribute to increases in weight.

Dr. Lewis' international fellowship project focused on examining the extent to which Trinidad is un-

dergoing a nutrition transition in which obesity coexists with malnutrition. The project assessed the nutritional status of adolescents in urban and rural areas of Trinidad to determine the extent of obesity and the roles of contributing factors related to obesity such as diet and physical activity. Early detection of this nutrition problem could lead to intervention programs that may prevent obesity from escalating to epidemic levels. Sharon Nickols, Family and Consumer Sciences served as Dr. Lewis' IFP mentor.

An additional priority of Dr. Lewis' international fellowship was to include students in the implementation of the research project. An undergraduate and graduate student have had the opportunity to visit Trinidad and become familiar with the culture and dietary patterns in the West Indies. Moreover, the graduate student will assist in data collection and the completion of the project.

2000-2001 IFP Proposed Projects

Alex Brewis, Anthropology

Project Title: Integrated Research and Teaching in Mexico and the Caribbean

Project Goals:

- *Language study at University of Veracruz
- *Develop sites with potential for integrated research/teaching activities
- *Research in the role of cultural differences in the expression of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
- *Explore possibilities for graduate and undergraduate students to gain international fieldwork experience

Cynthia Hewitt, Sociology and African American Studies

Project Title: Third World Governance and Immigration Project

Project Goals:

- *Participate in the Center for Global Education Seminar: Haiti and Cuba, Distinct Neighbors
- *Develop case studies on race, ethnicity and political economy for Race and Ethnicity course

William Lewis, MIS Department

Project Title: Impact of Cultural Differences on Business Continuity Planning in Hong Kong vs. the United States

Project Goals:

- *To increase understanding of differing cultural perspectives on business continuity planning
- *Write a case study of cultural differences in business continuity planning for MBA course MIST 6080 (Hong Kong disaster recovery plans for business continuity in case of disruptions of information technology)
- *Establish or enhance professional relationships with IS researchers in Hong Kong

Allen (Bernie) Moore

Adult Education & CRD

Project Title: Adult Folk High Schools in

Scandinavia and USA with implication for community development in Georgia

Project Goals:

- *To develop a formal collaborative arrangement with the faculty at the Adult Folk Schools in Scandinavia
- *To compare the community learning approaches in Scandinavia and locations in North Georgia and Tennessee
- *To propose models and strategies for promoting learning centers or programs in rural areas based on the study of folk learning opportunities in Scandinavia and the U.S.
- *Internationalize curriculum for graduate course

Doug Northrop, History

Project Title: Socio-Cultural Change In Twentieth-Century Central Asia

Project Goals:

- *Explore the Soviet experience on the day-to-day existence of ordinary people in Uzbekistan, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan
- *Determine how traditions and folkways were defused, abandoned and adjusted during Soviet rule

Leara Rhodes, Journalism

Project Title: Journalism Study Abroad Program in Tanzania

Project Goals:

- *Establish and conduct a Maymester study abroad program in Tanzania and create joint academic research
- *Provide opportunities for students to work on directed or independent studies with Africanist faculty

Robert Wicklein, Occupational Studies

Project Title: Technological strategies and approaches in Costa Rica

Project Goals:

- *International research perspective on technology
- *Develop official relationship with the University of Costa Rica
- *Enhance graduate course

The Office of Instructional Support & Development

Teaching at UGA is a biannual publication of the Office of Instructional Support & Development (OISD). OISD is a unit within Academic Affairs devoted to the advancement of instruction at the University of Georgia. The office is advised by the University's Instructional Advisory Committee and reports directly to the Vice President for Instruction.

The central mission of OISD is to provide campus-wide leadership on matters relating to instruction. By coordinating a wide variety of programs and activities, OISD serves faculty, administrators, and graduate assistants in each of the University's thirteen schools and colleges.

Dr. William K. Jackson is the Director of OISD. *Dr. Kathleen Smith*, Coordinator of the International Fellows Program was the editor for this issue of *TUGA*. **Samuel Chung**, Communications Coordinator provided technical assistance. Our sincere thanks to the 1999-2000 IFP faculty members who contributed to this issue.

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