

# THE WINDOW SEAT

March 2020

International Programs Office Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3



## NEW JANUARY PROGRAMS AT THE IPO



From top left to bottom right: St. Paul's students at Skate City, Norwegian, Mathilde ice skating at Campus Park, Guangxi students rock climbing in Sioux City, Guangxi and St. Paul's students at City Hall with Mayor TenHaken, and Guangxi students visiting The Falls

While some AU students were looking forward to studying away for their J-term in warm places like New Zealand, India, and Spain, 23 students from China and Norway were preparing to spend their J-term in Sioux Falls, SD. For the first time, the IPO acted as the host institution to interim study abroad students, one group of 12 high school seniors from Bergen, Norway, and another group of 11 college students from Guangxi University in Liuzhou, China.

The Norwegian students arrived on January 3 and spent their first three days in Minneapolis/St. Paul to tour the Twin Cities. After arriving on campus late Sunday night, they moved into their dorm rooms, some with amazing American roommates, and started their American Studies course on Monday morning taught by Provost Irvine. Students examined some famous American myths such as, Rags to Riches, The American Melting Pot, and Red State/Blue State. They spent after-

noons visiting local leaders, such as the mayor, and organizations like Lutheran Social Services, St. Francis House, and Zeal Center for Entrepreneurship to make their own conclusions about the myths.

On January 10, eleven data science college students from China arrived on campus, eager to learn how Augustana students study their field. Faculty members Marcia Entwistle, Dan Steinwand, Carrie Olson-Manning and Sharon Gray taught mini-courses for the ten days the students were here. They also visited Sanford Imaginetics, EROS Data Center, and POET Biofuels to see how data science is used in various industries. Both groups did a ton of other things outside of studying like rock climbing, ice skating, shopping, going to sporting events, and participating in campus events.

After a whirlwind tour of Augustana and Sioux Falls, students left with memories that are sure to last, and some with hopes to return.

"We're saying to these schools in China and India and elsewhere it doesn't have to be four years, it doesn't have to be a year, it doesn't even have to be a semester — we want to create these on-ramps that make it easy and approachable for students to take us for a test drive, to come try a liberal arts kind of education, to come experience Sioux Falls and Augustana."

Dr. Colin Irvine  
Provost &  
Executive Vice President

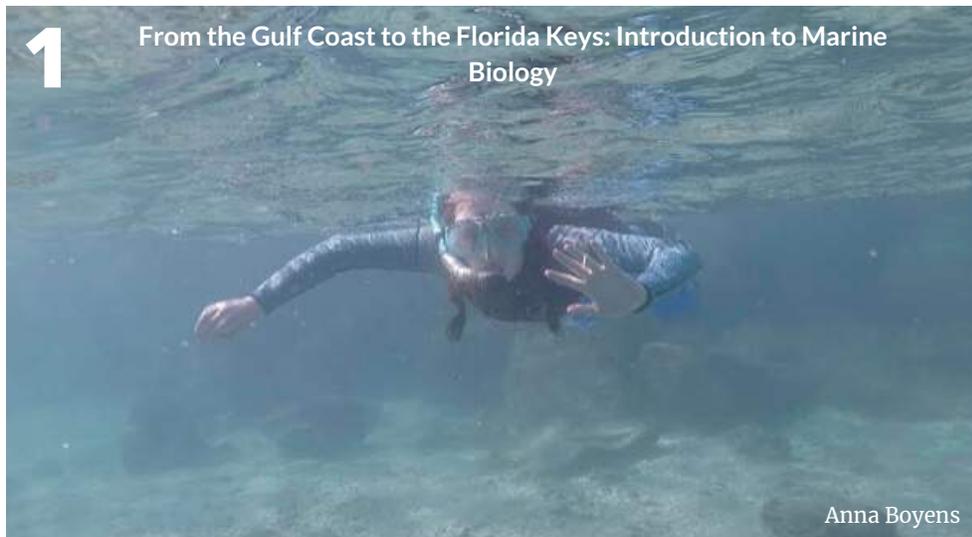
# J-TERM RECAP Where did they go?



"I really enjoyed learning about the different coral restoration projects in the Florida Keys. We visited a coral restoration lab and were able to tour their lab and hear about all of their projects, successes and setbacks."

1

From the Gulf Coast to the Florida Keys: Introduction to Marine Biology



Anna Boyens

"My study abroad experience helped me realize my interest in international business and world politics! I could definitely see myself working for a business with international offices in the future!"



Brexit: The Great Divorce and Life After the European Union

Anna Rose

3

Leadership in Professional Nursing in Ecuador



Hannah Hankinson

4

AIFS: Stellenbosch, South Africa



Kalysa Banks

"Each day, we traveled to a new rural community whether it be by truck or water taxi, and we held clinics for the residents of the community who otherwise had little access to healthcare. It was so impactful to interact with people from all different backgrounds, and we all learned a lot about ourselves and providing culturally competent care as we go into our profession as nurses."

"My favorite thing I learned was how to use my camera. I have always been interested in photography but I never knew anything about the settings on the camera. It was cool to learn from a professional photographer, who was very experienced and knowledgeable. My love for photography grew on this trip, for sure!"

**5** "I would say that my favorite memory with Dr. Ogdie, and one that I will remember for a very long time, is him trying to belly dance with a traditional belly dancer at our farewell dinner in Morocco."

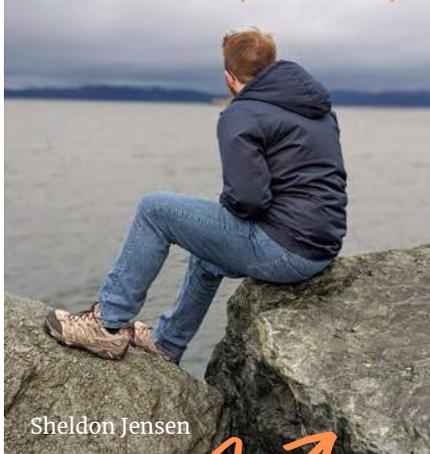


McKenna Matthews  
Arab and Jewish Influence in Spain and Morocco

## Faculty study abroad leader highlight: Sam Ogdie

Sam Ogdie, professor of Spanish, has taught 15 UMAIE study abroad courses. In his past, Ogdie spent two summers in Santiago, Chile, one summer in the Dominican Republic, and one summer at the University of Valencia in Spain studying Hispanic culture and language. He has organized and led nine summer study trips to Spain, received three National Endowment Study Grants, and a teacher's scholarship from the Embassy of Spain to study Spanish culture and language at the University of Salamanca. In 2002, he received a U.S. Presidential Scholars Teachers Recognition Award in Washington D.C. from the U.S. Department of Education.

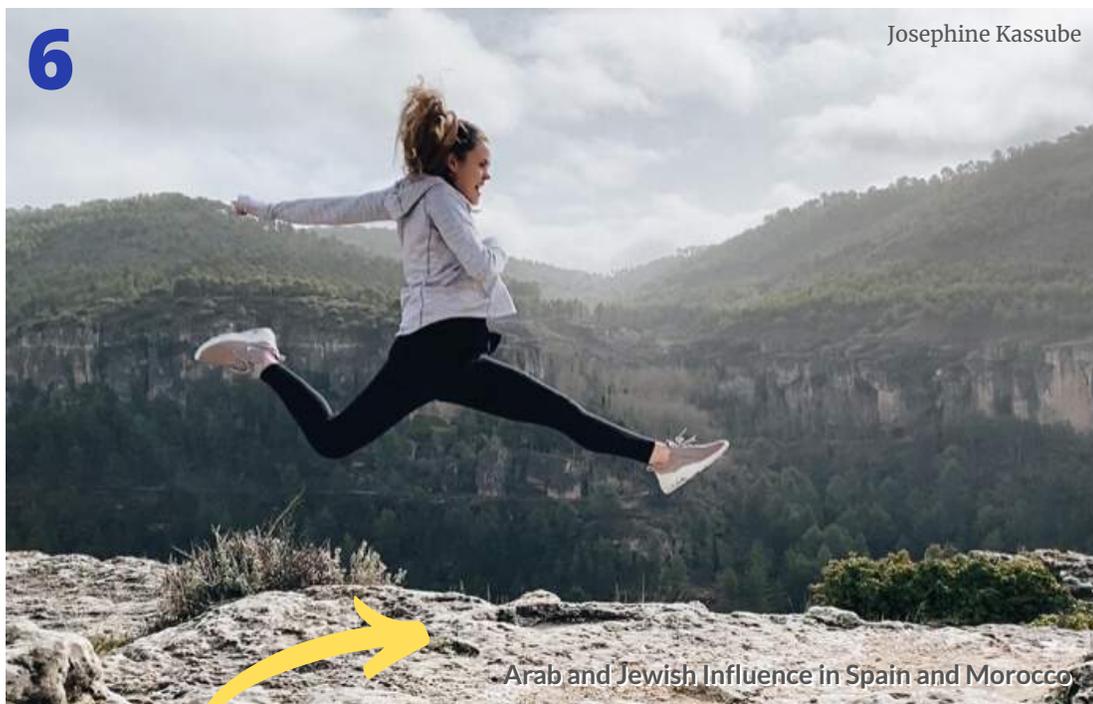
**7** Religious Communication: 500+ Years of Reformation in Germany and Norway



Sheldon Jensen

"My favorite part of the trip was being able to explore all the different places that you only read about in history books; whether that was Wartburg Castle, Dachau, or the door that Luther nailed his theses to in Wittenberg, all of the sites were able to come alive for me and the entire group."

**6**



Josephine Kassube

Arab and Jewish Influence in Spain and Morocco

"Don't hesitate! Thirteen breath-taking cities are waiting to be discovered by you. No literary works or websites do the culture of Andalusia justice; you must experience it for yourself. No worries if don't speak Spanish, your classmates are excited to practice theirs! You will all learn a bit of Arabic as well! استمتع (Enjoy!)"

## Follow the IPO on Social

Learn about upcoming study abroad information sessions, interactive games, virtual Rendezvous presentations and more!



[INSTAGRAM.COM/AUGIEIPO/](https://www.instagram.com/augieipo/)



[FACEBOOK.COM/AUGOESINTL](https://www.facebook.com/augoesintl)

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## Dharma: Religion, Art, and Sound in India



Lauren Ostlie

"The experience was life-changing. From white-water rafting on the Ganges to visiting the place where the Buddha got enlightened, there was never a time where I was not intrigued by India. I particularly enjoyed riding an elephant and a camel, bartering at shops, and eating flavorful food. We experienced different modes of transportation, such as Rickshaw and the public train, but mainly travelled in a tour bus. The people there were kind and welcoming, open to exchanging stories and helping us."

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## Bicultural Identity in New Zealand



Justin Radermacher

"Make sure to set aside plenty of time without your camera/phone to absorb the exquisite nature in front of you."



## SINGAPORE



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILE

Interviewed by Kolby Vander Woude

## LIFE AT AU

My first few days here were really hectic I would say, because everything was new, and my flight came in late so I didn't really get to go and introduce myself to everyone like everyone else got to do on the first day.

Because I've already been here for a semester, I already feel like I've settled down in the campus clubs I'm in right now. I feel like dance is my hobby, and like my second version of me. So I'm on the hip hop dance team for sure, and another dance company that is on and off campus called the Artesian Project. Besides dancing, I'm also a part of S.A.L.T. Another club I'm involved in is the Asian Student Organization, where they approach students, mainly Asian students, and many of our international students come from Asia, so this club helps international students come together and make us feel more like we're at home. They definitely help us bring those home aspects back into our lives, so we don't feel totally lost in this foreign experience where we are studying.

BRITNEY  
THONG

Britney is a Chemistry and Business Admin major from Singapore.

## SUPPORT FROM THE IPO

The IPO really helped a lot in the sense that they are always the first ones to approach you and they actually give you the relevant information that you need to ease into your school life here. Schedule wise, Jessica helped me with everything that I needed with like my major, especially since I have a double major and it's not easy to fit two different subjects, because Chemistry and Business are not related to each other. As well as Wade, he helped me get settled in and gave me free time to unpack my things and he really helped me ease into the community.

## ONLINE STUDENT AMBASSADOR

UniBuddy is a platform where [current] international students can speak to [prospective] international students on the Augie website. They want to hear first-hand experiences of students that go here so they will ask us questions about school life or academics. We answer them to the best of our abilities, and give them an honest opinion that I'm pretty sure they appreciate.

## Q&amp;A with staff

## GET TO KNOW THE IPO



Heather Reed

**What's your position?**

Assistant Director of Operations & Customized Programs

**How did you get involved at the IPO?**

I met Billy Streufert through our sons being friends in the same kindergarten class. I told her about my time living in Japan through the JET program and that I have a British husband and she said, "I have the perfect job for you!" The rest is history! I am so grateful for Billie connecting me with the IPO!

**How long have you worked for the IPO?**

2 years

**Where have you studied abroad?**

I studied away in London, U.K. and Washington, D.C. and worked abroad as a teacher in Japan.

**What's your favorite place that you've visited?**

New Zealand or Denmark (Too hard to choose!)

**What is your favorite thing about your job?**

Helping students feel valued, heard and welcome at Augustana.

**Why is international education important?**

Helping the next generation have empathy for and understanding of people different from themselves creates the best chance for a more peaceful, loving world.

**Do you know any other languages?**

I studied French in high school and college and Japanese while I lived in Japan. (It's been over a decade since I studied either so I'm definitely rusty at best!)

**What's your favorite international dish?**

Japanese Zaru Soba

**Is a hotdog a sandwich?**

No - and eat veggie dogs!!

Kolby  
Vander Woude**What's your position?**

Work study student

**What's your major(s)?**

History with a Government Minor

**Post-grad plans?**

Grad school for a degree in International Education or International Administration.

**How did you get involved at the IPO?**

I just emailed Erin and asked her if there were any spots open for the upcoming year, she helped me get the job and I've been with the IPO ever since. It's the best job I've ever had.

**How long have you worked for the IPO?**

Almost 2 years now

**Where have you studied abroad?**

India, and Germany/ Norway this J-term

**What's your favorite place that you've visited?**

Rishikesh, India. Doing yoga at the base of the Himalayan Mountains was fantastic, and the city was unlike any other that I have been to before.

**What is your favorite thing about your job?**

The people. Both the staff in the IPO and the students that come to talk with us; everyone is just so friendly and fun to talk to.

**Why is international education important?**

International Education is important because it broadens our understanding of the world around us far more than other fields. All professions are important but International Education helps bridge the communication gaps between people now that our world is becoming more and more connected with one another. Plus it's just more fun to hang out with international students.

**Do you know any other languages?**

I know a little ASL, and some Spanish

**What's your favorite international dish?**

I got really hooked on Schnitzel while I was in Germany. My all time favorite though would have to be Paneer, a cheese like dish from India.

**Is a hotdog a sandwich?**

No, a sandwich requires two separate pieces of bread.

# Dominican Republic: Development, Ethics, and Baseball



The Augustana baseball team spent a week in the Dominican Republic at the end of January. Once every four years, baseball coach, Tim Huber, takes the team abroad to give the athletes the chance to study in another country since studying abroad can be difficult for team members with training and game schedules.

Additionally, Coach Huber mentioned that South Dakota weather in January does not permit them to practice. He added, "We wanted to show our guys how life is different in another culture from what they are used to."

Three weeks prior to departure, the class met on campus to study the history of the country and contemporary connections between the U.S. and the DR through trade, tourism, baseball, and environmental issues. Professor of Philosophy, Stephen Minister, accompanied the class. "As an ethicist, I'm very interested in the ways our decisions affect people in other countries, often without us realizing it," Minister said.



Minister continued, "For students, the most eye-opening experience was spending time in a poor town that was home to people who worked in the sugarcane fields. We did a service project in a neighborhood where the houses were cobbled together from wood and corrugated tin, and had one room and dirt floors."

The team also held a baseball clinic for the local children in which over 100 kids attended. Many of the kids did not have any sports equipment, but that did not deter their enthusiasm.



Upper left: A team member assists at the baseball clinic for local kids in the Dominican Republic.

Upper right: The Augustana baseball team goes on a tour of the Colonial Zone.

Bottom right: The baseball team engages in a service project.

Read more about their journey [here](https://studyabroad.augie.edu/) (on GoAugie.com)