

International Ink

Northeast Community College Center for Global Engagement

Volume 3 / Issue 2

December 5, 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Record Number of Travelers**
- **International Student Club Participates in Spooktacular**
- **New Students in January**
- **Fall Graduate**
- **Flags, Flags, Flags!**
- **College 360 Returns in March**

RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS WILL TRAVEL WITH NORTHEAST IN 2020

Northeast students will be taking advantage of educational travel opportunities in record numbers this upcoming semester. A total of 57 students will be traveling to one of three locations in spring 2020: the United Kingdom, Puerto Rico, and Ireland.

"We try to offer a travel experience every year," Pam Saalfeld, Director of the Center for Global Engagement, said. "Every couple of years, however, we manage to offer more than one opportunity, and this year, we hit the travel jackpot."

Nine students and three faculty from Northeast's biology department --- Angie Jackson, Erin Kucera, and Dr. Irina Weitzmann --- will travel to Puerto Rico as part of a biology class that examines environmental issues. While Puerto Rico is a U.S.

territory, the country is very international in many ways and will provide students with an excellent location to study water and air quality.

"While no passport is required, Puerto Rico will introduce our students to differences in environment, language, lifestyles, and the like," Saalfeld said.

Students will enroll in the full-semester BIOS 2020 Introduction to Environmental Issues class, but the travel itself will occur over Northeast's winter break in March. January and February will be time for students to familiarize themselves with the basics of travel, learn to use the equipment, and become acquainted with each other and their faculty leaders. Upon their return, the rest of the term will be used to analyze their data, rethink their hypotheses, and prepare a formal project based on their experiences.



Farm with rocky soil in the United Kingdom



San Juan, Puerto Rico

Fourteen students are excitedly preparing to travel to the United Kingdom – specifically England and Scotland --- to study agricultural techniques in those countries. Faculty leaders Brandon Keller and Sarah Sellin, two of Northeast's agriculture instructors, will lead the students to various locations, such as a black-face sheep farm, a meat processing plant, a falconry training program, a local dairy operation, among other educational and cultural sites.

While open to any Northeast student, the participants are understandably majoring in some area of agriculture. Keller sees this as an opportunity for his students to see the importance of an international market for the agricultural industry.

"The most important thing I think students will take away from this trip is the fact that it doesn't matter where they are in the world, all agricultural producers have the same goals: to be good stewards of the land and help feed the world," he said.

The students are required to enroll in an Agriculture Capstone course during the spring term prior to their May 17, 2020 departure. The travel experience itself is also for credit and can be used in substitution of the student's summer co-op.

Flying nearly side-by-side of the ag students will be 34 students bound for a 10-day excursion to Ireland, the first cooperative travel opportunity organized by the Nebraska Community College Global Leadership, a consortium of five of the six Nebraska community colleges. The 34 students are not just enrolled at Northeast; many are students from Central Community College, Mid-Plains Community College, Southeast Community College, and Western Nebraska Community College. Saalfeld, Northeast's representative on the consortium, is coordinating the efforts of enrolling the students, collecting and making payments, and arranging the travel logistics.

"It's been an interesting challenge," she said.

The process has been a great example of how different offices can come together to make everything SEEM effortless.

"Makala Maple and her staff figured out how to get students from other colleges in our system; Deb Dreher and others in our Business Office keep track of the contracts and payments; Carla Streff and her staff are advising on how to get all these students from all over the state together for monthly 'meetings,'" Saalfeld said. "I couldn't do it without them."

The consortium partnered with the Institute of Study Abroad-Ireland, whose headquarters is located in Bundoran, County Donegal. The consortium members became acquainted with Dr. Niamh Hammill and her staff through various professional organizations. Dr. Hammill will develop and teach the curriculum on site, punctuated with field trips related to the lectures. Five faculty – one from each community college --- will accompany the students and will base additional instruction on the daily lessons taught by Hammill and guest lecturers. Faculty leader from Northeast will be American history and government instructor, Gary Timm.

Students will fly out of Omaha or Denver, depending on their proximity to either airport, on May 18, 2020, arriving in Dublin the following day.



Donegal, Ireland

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CLUB HELPS RAISE SPOOKTACULAR SPIRITS

Members of the Northeast International Student Association got into the Halloween “spirit” during the college’s annual Spooktacular, held October 23, in the Pohlman Agriculture Complex.

Club sponsor Tom Elliott was one of the willing victims, as children were invited to throw whipped cream-covered sponges at him for prizes. The ISA Club raised just over \$200 that will be used to fund future activities for the club members.

Students who participated included Silvia Realpozo Sanchez, club president, Mexico; Annah Chabinga, club vice-president, Malawi; Juanitta Chikaluma, Malawi; Khumbo Chiniko, Malawi; Pauline Chiungwiza, Malawi; and Jimmy Ndipo, Malawi.



International Student Association's booth at Spooktacular

GLOBAL CENTER PREPARES FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Northeast’s Center for Global Engagement staff are preparing to welcome seven new international students for the spring 2020 semester. These students will arrive the week prior to the start of classes to participate in a required orientation specially designed to provide international students with a chance to familiarize themselves with the services available to them on campus and to help them settle gradually into life at Northeast and in Nebraska.

“Spring term is always an interesting time for new international students to come to Nebraska,” Pam Saalfeld, the Center’s director, said. “Most of them will be coming from warmer climates. January’s sub-zero temperatures can be quite a shock.”

Those students arriving in January include sisters Canassia and Hazel Kaliati, Malawi; Lucy Mawindo, Malawi; Hugo Meneguete Dos Santos, Brazil; Likeo Simasiku, Zambia; and Mary Nneka Ezech, Nigeria. One student, Tiago Cunha da Costa, is a returning student who will complete his degree in May 2020.

The students will be in orientation on January 9 and 10. Please feel free to drop by Maclay 100B and say “hello” or welcome them if they are enrolled in your classes.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMPLETES DEGREE

Paula Vanegas, Colombia, will complete her Pre-Professional Medicine degree in December. If you know Paula, please congratulate her on a job well done!



EVER WONDER ABOUT THOSE FLAGS?

Every semester, with students' arrivals and departures, the Global Center staff reviews what flags to leave up, what flags need to come down, and what new flags go up in the College Welcome Center. During the Fall 2019 semester, Northeast had international students from 16 different countries; thus, their countries' flags were displayed in the hall. With the arrival of our students from Zambia and Nigeria, we will be adding two new flags for spring term --- with the always-appreciated assistance of Gregg Reikofski from maintenance. Look for them sometime in January!



Flags from current international students hang in the CWC.

WHOSE FLAG IS THIS?

Be the first one to email the correct answers to
pamela@northeast.edu and win a fabulous prize!



NORTHEAST LOOKS AHEAD TO COLLEGE 360'S ARRIVAL

The Center for Global Engagement, along with several college faculty and numerous college staff, are preparing for the arrival of 25 Danish students and their faculty advisors as Northeast continues its partnership with College 360 from Silkeborg, Denmark. The students, part of College 360's global business studies, will arrive on campus March 19, 2020 for a ten-day cultural experience. During their stay, students reside with our Northeast students in the residence halls, eat in the cafeteria, participate in student activities, and attend classes. In addition, College 360 students will tour area businesses and enjoy a day in Lincoln, where they will tour Memorial Stadium, the State Capitol, and Morrill Hall.

Last year's unprecedented flooding interrupted many of the Global Center's best-laid plans. College 360 students were evacuated with their Northeast counterparts to the First Christian Church, classes were cancelled, and the Lincoln field trip was an impossibility.

"Our Danish friends certainly had a unique, but not the most welcome, experience last March," Pam Saalfeld, said. "But the Northeast College community really rallied together to make everyone safe and as comfortable as possible." Those efforts were certainly appreciated, according to Saalfeld.

"The College 360 students were good-natured about everything. We all learned to how to roll with the punches those days."

While good weather can never be guaranteed, Saalfeld hopes that, with a little later arrival and crossed-fingers, the students will be able to have the full cultural experience, which is the intent of the College 360 visit.

"This year, in addition to the business classes, we have added some variety to the students' schedules," she said, listing such classes as Geography, Intercultural Communications, World History, Introduction to Mass Media, and International Relations to give a more well-rounded instructional experience.

This will be the third year that Northeast has welcomed College 360 students. Northeast and College 360 signed a Memo of Understanding last November, which is a broad-based agreement that not only allows for these types of visits from College 360 students, but also opens the door for a similar visit to College 360 by our Northeast students.



College 360 students are greeted at a Welcome Reception in 2018.

College 360 is not the only Danish college with which Northeast has an MOU. The college continues its relationship with Aarhus Business College in Aarhus, Denmark. Business instructors, Cara Hoehne and Amanda Kampschnieder, once again co-taught both Northeast and Aarhus students in their International Business class. The class uses Zoom technology to bring students from Nebraska and Denmark together under the same global roof, so to speak. The technology allows students to break off to work in groups even though they are separated by over 4,000 miles. In addition to Hoehne and Kampschnieder, Northeast students are taught by Brith Jøker from her classroom in Aarhus, giving them an opportunity for an international educational experience without leaving Nebraska.