

Pierce Global Citizens On the Move!

The Newsletter of the Global Citizenship Certificate Program at
Franklin Pierce University

Global environmental issues to keep track of!

- US Department of Energy predicts a 37% increase in world energy consumption in the next 20 years.
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development states that Cairo, Egypt has the most air pollution in the world.
- Energy Information Administration states that while India has about 1 billion people, it only consumes .2 million barrels of oil each day. The US has about 300 million people and consumes 8.9 million of barrels a day!
- The UN predicts that by 2020 the top three largest urban areas in the world will be Tokyo, Japan; Mumbai, India; and Delhi, India.

In the World Today

Africa—Check out www.africanews.com/ for sharing news about Africa.

Asia—President Obama meets with Dalai Lama despite China's protest.

Check out Australian slang at - www.koalanel.com.au/australian-

European Court demands UK allow 83,000 prisoners to vote in general election.

Brazil celebrates winning its bid for the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

Moscow refuses to back harsh sanctions against Iran, says Al Jazeera.

Canada—Life expectancy nears 81 years

Trade NH Snows for Tropical Jungles AND Earn Four Credits!

By Annamarie Saenger

Consider trading NH snows for the tropical rainforests of Costa Rica for college credit! It really doesn't get much sweeter than this.

If you have taken BI102 Biology II, consider signing up for ES/BI217 Tropical Forest Ecology. The majority of the course takes place over a two-week period in Costa Rica during winter break. The trip takes students from the classic tropical rainforests of La Selva to the epiphyte-covered cloud forest of Monteverde, and on to the dry forest of Santa Rosa.

Expect to spend most of each day outside, learning to recognize the unique features of each forest and

being totally overwhelmed by the diversity and beauty of the life around you.

On my trip I saw howler monkeys, parrots, iguanas, mot-mots, trogons, peccaries, coatimundis, spiny-tailed iguanas, silver-throated magpie jays, blue morpho butterflies.....the list goes on and on.

The plant life is equally fascinating. I saw trees that reached 200 feet in height. They had massively buttressed roots and woody vines. At Santa Rosa, many of the plants had impressive thorns, some that were home to specially-adapted ants. Monteverde is the land of the strangler fig (in Spanish "matapolo" – 'tree killer') and the prehistoric-looking tree fern.



Blue-crowned mot-mot in Costa Rica

While there, expect to eat lots of rice and beans and sample juices from fruits you've never heard of. It is Central America after all! Think about it. You should definitely go!

Internationalization Collaborative Meeting in Washington D.C.

By Debra Picchi

While two feet of snow blanketed Washington D.C. in early February, faculty members and administrators from universities around the US gathered to discuss the importance of global citizenship

and study abroad to the future of the United States.

There was agreement that it is vital for more Americans to learn foreign languages, to travel extensively, and to commit themselves to improving the Global Village.

Our fragile, crowded planet is precariously positioned in the face of the international wars and climate change.

Members of the *Collaborative* brainstormed about how to ensure our safe future. There were no easy answers

America, The Home of the Free? Or the Dependent?



Gardens outside homes in rural Jordan provide food for nearby homes and for sale in local markets. Note also the livestock.

By Hassan Hamzy

As Americans, we live the illusion that we are independent; however, in reality, we are dependent on so many things. We need food from grocery stores, medicine from drug stores, and clothes from department stores.

All too often foods available to the typical American are not nutritious. They contain too much sugar, corn syrup, and processed flour. The meats are from animals that are treated with antibiotics. And the foods are costly.

The irony is that all that we need can be obtained from the earth with

the right knowledge.

Throughout my travels in the Middle East, 98 percent of the places I visited had gardens. These gardens provided a significant amount of the household needs. Plus the gardens reduced the cost of living.

In addition, the knowledge that accompanies the upkeep of a garden strengthens one's dependency on the earth, which transcends to a deeper understanding of nature.

Have we Americans turned our backs on providing food for ourselves, thus losing our connection with nature? If so, we might want to seriously consider changing course.

FPU Leads the Way in the State with its *Global Citizens* Program

By Debra Picchi

Of the 23 colleges and universities in New Hampshire, how many do you think have a *Global Citizens* program that compares with Franklin Pierce's?

The surprising answer is -- none.

Only a couple of universities in New Hampshire even have interdisciplinary majors that deal with international subject matter. For example, Rivier and St. Anselm's colleges have international affairs majors that are somewhat traditional. They stress international politics and history as well as a foreign language. Neither requires study abroad although they encourage their students to consider such an experience.

Dartmouth College just added an interdisciplinary international studies minor for which freshmen may apply. It consists of six courses, and students are "strongly urged to pair their study with at least one international experience."

Our sister college down the road, Keene State, has a "Global Education Office" that supports students who want to have a "study-away experience" or who are international students studying in this country.

The University of New Hampshire has developed probably the most ambitious international studies program. Franklin Pierce should consider it as it nurtures and expands its own *Global Citizens* program.

It is a dual interdisciplinary major that requires its students to take three core courses – one in International Perspectives (on Science, Business, and Politics), a second in Global Issues, and a third final seminar. Students fill in electives around this core.

Most important, they are required to spend a minimum of eight weeks in a non-English speaking country and to pass a foreign language competency exam.

None of the four programs described above have the citizenship dimension that Pierce's *Global Citizenship* certificate program has. And only Dartmouth's recent addition of a minor allows students majoring in another program to add easily an international component to their education.

Franklin Pierce has always enjoyed a reputation for shaking things up, for doing things differently. It seems that has not changed.

"Of the 23 colleges and universities in NH, how many do you think have a Global Citizens program that compares with Franklin Pierce's?"

Dr. Minhua Li, Economist and Member of *Global Citizens' Program*

By Debra Picchi

Dr. Minhua Li is a valuable member of the *Global Citizens Steering Committee*. She brings an international perspective to the table when the Committee discusses plans for the certificate program. For her, global citizenship is something she lives every day, and not just the title of an academic experience.

Dr. Li is originally from China. She studied at the Nankai University in Tianjin, China. Tianjin is one of the four large municipalities in

China. It is located southeast of Beijing, the capital of China.

Dr. Li and her sister now live here in the United States. They came here to study about ten years ago. She earned her masters' degree and doctorate in Economics from the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. Li, her husband, and her son presently live in Nashua.



Dr. Minhua Li, Economist

GLOBAL FILM REVIEW: *Goodbye Lenin* by Wolfgang Becker

Editor's Note: Nicole Croteau viewed this film while studying abroad in Vienna.

By Nicole Croteau

Learning about history by viewing a film is not something people do very often, but it is an enjoyable way to learn about historical events. The movie *Goodbye Lenin* deals with the everyday-life of East Germans as the Berlin Wall falls, and Communist East Germany and capitalist West Germany reunite.

This movie starts out with flashbacks of the main character, Alex Kerner's, life. His father left their family, and his mother became depressed. Becoming active in Communist East German politics helped her get better.

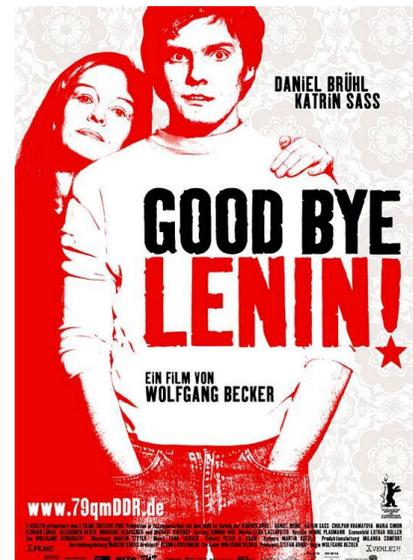
The film cuts to October 7, 1989 when Alex's mother sees him by chance attending a rally in support of knocking down the Berlin Wall, which is a symbol of the Communists' domination of East Germany. She is so horrified that she has a heart attack and ends up in a coma.

When she wakes up, the two Germanys have been reunited. Alex and his sister are so afraid that their mother will have another heart attack that they go out of their way to shield her from the fact that East Germany no longer exists.

Thus begins a hilarious sequence of events whereby Alex and his sister attempt to prevent their mother from learning the truth. For example, with the fall of the Berlin Wall, different foods appear. Alex searches for old jars and containers to put the new food into so that his mother won't realize what is happening. He even starts filming his own news broadcasts to explain why capitalist items are suddenly available.

Goodbye Lenin is funny, touching, and inspiring. Against the backdrop of a major historic event in our lifetime -- the reunification of East and West Germany, the film shows how much a person can care about their parents, and the lengths they will go to keep their loved ones healthy and happy.

Although its subtitles may put some off, the movie is both entertaining and memorable. I highly recommend it. *Goodbye Lenin* can be found in the school library.



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Be a Global Citizen!”**

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Look for Certificate Programs.

***Mission of the Global Citizenship
Certificate Program:***

Global citizenship involves understanding the forces that affect cross-cultural connections and being committed to a global community based on human interdependence, equality, and justice. The Global Citizenship program at Franklin Pierce provides students with real information about the people of the world in which they live. It also provides opportunities for students to practice citizenship and leadership skills in a variety of settings. Vital to practicing being a Global Citizen is either studying abroad for a semester or completing an internship with an international dimension in one's major.

Global Citizenship Certificate Program Steering Committee

Debra Picchi, Professor of Anthropology and
Coordinator of the *Global Citizenship Certificate*
Program

Gerald Burns, Professor of English

Minghua Li, Assistant Professor of Economics

Susan Oehlschlaeger, Director of International
Student Services

Stella Walling, Director of International Studies
Program



The wild, remote Caribbean coast of Costa Rica.