

NEWS

Waller speaks to students about studying abroad

By Allison Gray
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Dr. David Waller, from the University College of Northampton (UCN) in England, visited Behrend this week to talk to students about studying abroad. Waller, who is the course leader for the B.A. in American Studies at UCN, has taken over the study abroad program for the coming summer. He and Dr. Dean Baldwin (an English professor at Behrend) spoke with interested students during meetings held in the Reed Union Building on Monday and Tuesday this week. The students not only had the opportunity to speak with Waller and Baldwin (who teaches a course at UCN every summer), but they were also able to speak with students who had participated in the program last summer.

In an interview following the meeting, Waller stated that students studying abroad at UCN are given the opportunity to experience schooling in an "international element." Not only are students studying in another country, they are studying with students from all over Europe and the rest of the world. There is great opportunity to experience other cultures and create lasting friendships through that experience.

Though students can expect to make international friends, they can also expect to make national friends. Utah State University (USU) also participates in the program and sends a group of students every year. Just as our own faculty (Dean Baldwin) teaches at UCN, so does a professor from USU. Behrend students don't have to wonder if they'll be the only Americans at UCN.

Students who sign up for the program will spend five weeks in Europe. The on-campus accommodations are dormitories. Waller explained that usually the dorms are set up so that the student has his or her own room with adjoining bathroom and shares a kitchen with five other students. All dorms are "self-catering" and the local grocery store is a walk away. The campus also has a convenience store with all necessities and across the street is the Sunnyside Pub, for dining out. Students can take one or two classes while abroad. The classes run from Monday to Thursday. On Fridays, students are taken on excursions, which are included in the price of the program, to places such as Oxford, Bath and Stonehenge. During the third week, students are taken with their classes to London, England or Florence, Italy. Waller stated that it is this third week, when students are away from the school, that they are most exposed to

"cultural enrichment." While in London or Florence, students are encouraged to visit museums and monuments. They are given the once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience another country's culture.

There are many opportunities for travel when studying at UCN over the summer. London is only an hour south of Northampton—if you take the train. From London, students can take the train through the Chunnel to Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam or anywhere in between. If students want to travel farther, they can get a cheap flight through one of the many inexpensive airlines in Europe. Friday excursions are optional, so if a student wants to have a longer stay in, for example, Amsterdam, he or she could leave Friday morning and return late Sunday night.

When asked about the possibility of students having travel apprehensions, Waller explained that traveling is usually done in

groups of friends. Students are most often with people they know and are comfortable with. He stressed that traveling in Europe is no more dangerous than traveling in America. Before doing any traveling, however, students are encouraged to visit the international office at UCN, not only to inform the school of the students' plans, but also to receive tips and helpful information. UCN does its best to assure the students' safety and the program's success.

Financial aid is available and students who are interested should contact Dean Baldwin at dxbl1@psu.edu or Ruth Pflueger at rcpl@psu.edu. Students can also go to the Learning Resource Center in the library to pick up a flier.

Editing suites available for students

By Emily Zimmerman
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Video cameras and tri-pods have been available for individual student use for years. Until recently the process of editing those projects were unavailable. However, thanks to Mark Steensland and the Communications department, editing equipment is available for students' use. The main benefit for Penn State with this new availability is that the student projects will look more professional. Steensland said, "The material should be used and available for the classes, but now we have the opportunity to shoot and edit outside of class as well. The real benefit is everyone can get to it."

Digital cameras are available through the Media Center. Those cameras can be utilized to make independent student films for any class or for personal use.

After filming, students can now take their projects to rooms 25 through 30 in the Lilly Library, next to room Library 12. There, the computer equipment necessary for editing is available.

Steensland recognized, however, that not all students know how to use this technologically advanced equipment. Classes such as Commu 383 and Commu 483, taken mostly by Communication majors, teach the editing process. Because of a high interest in Commu 483, this course will be available this summer. However, not all students have or will take either course. Therefore, Robert Frank, a technician and senior here at Penn State Erie spends time in the lab four days a week to assist with any problems other students may encounter. Frank says, "It's fun, I enjoy editing videos all day, which is something that I would like to get into after I graduate."

There are several different types of

editing systems available for use. Frank assists with the Abode Premiere Pro PC system, Apple's Final Cut Pro HD and Applied System's Screenplay. All are non-linear computer based which is perfect for digital camcorders with firewire output. The students have access to all the systems, and two of them are professional entry-level editors. Filming can be done out of order, and then rearranged through these programs. Many of the editing transitions and techniques used in professional and commercial applications can be imitated using the systems available at Behrend.

The days that are available for editing with Frank are as follows: Monday 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., Tuesday 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., Wednesday 6 p.m. until 9 p.m., and on Thursday from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Behrend Briefs

The Association of Black Collegians (ABC) and the Multi-Cultural Council invite the campus to attend their annual Kwanzaa celebration. The featured presenter of the celebration will be Barbara Eady, president of the National Association of Black Storytellers. The Kwanzaa celebration starts on Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 5 p.m. in McGarvey Commons. Reservations are requested by Saturday, Nov. 19.

A special presentation of "Care Giving I: Making the Most of the Time You Have with Your Kids" will be hosted by the Commission for Women at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1 in Reed 114. It is open to all.

Flu shots are available at the Behrend Health and Wellness Center to all students on a walk-in basis every Wednesday. Coordinator Patty Pasky McMahon is urging anyone who desires a shot to not wait as it is unlikely that any more vaccine will be received once the current supply is exhausted. Vaccines are free to Behrend Employees covered under the health plan and \$25 for all others.

Police and Safety

11/11/2005
Found someone had driven across the grass in both Ohio Hall and Apartment south lots

11/11/2005
A parent called to report they could not locate their son in Niagara Hall for the last two days. Student was located off campus

11/12/2005
RA was in Tiffany Hall and heard bottles or glass being broken north of Almy Hall. He observed an individual coming from the area of Almy and followed him to Perry Advised P&S He admitted he broke it by accident citation issued see report.

11/13/2005
RA reported highly intoxicated male on 2nd floor east wing of Niagara Hall.

11/13/2005
Upon leaving the station to answer previous call, detected a strong odor of smoke and appeared to be smoke west of the station. After clearing found fire in the gorge about 250 feet east of the backbone. See fire report of this number.

11/13/2005
Complainant's car was damaged as it sat in K Lot. It was hit by another parked car after that car was hit by an unknown vehicle. The owner of the other car was left a message to call police services ASAP.

11/13/2005
Complainant reported that someone struck her 2001 Ford Escort as it sat in F Lot between 1830 hrs last night and 1100 hrs today.

11/15/2005
Fire on the east side porch of Niagara Hall.

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