GV Annual Chicago Trip

Each year the Global Village takes a trip to see the multi-ethnic sides of Chicago. The following excerpt is taken from Kaylee Dolen’s blog post reflecting on the Chicago trip and her experience at Indiana University.

While staying in the city, we visited a plethora of ethnic neighborhoods, including Vietnamese, Pakistani, Jewish, Swedish, Mexican, Chinese, and more! We sampled foods, took tours, shopped for knick-knacks and dusty books, interacted with some in-the-know folks around town, and even had free time to explore downtown. Did I mention that we had a salsa dance lesson? And a film screening? Oh, and that we went to Second City for a comedy show on Saturday night? Yep. That happened. We also chilled with the dinosaurs at the Field Museum and chatted about the LGBT community with a state rep. And all of this and more was packed into 2.5 days flat.

Spring Break Service in Louisiana

by Jennifer Smith

In the spirit of service, three of the four Global Engagement Corps members at the Global Village (Nathan Grantz, Sidney Fletcher, and Jennifer Smith) organized an alternative spring break trip to engage past and present Global Village students in a week-long service project.

The alternative spring break partnered with Habitat for Humanity of Slidell, Louisiana, painting and sealing porches of houses that were damaged during Hurricane Katrina. Through generous funding from the Global Village Central Council, RPS Academic Initiatives and Services, and the Indiana Campus Compact mini-grant, the group of ten students—three GV alumni and seven current residents—sacrificed other plans for spring break to work for the betterment of the Slidell community.

While in Louisiana, the alternative spring break group met with different organizations such as the Economic Development Foundation and the Slidell City Council to fully understand issues facing community development in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The GV group also connected well with the Habitat supervisors and hopes to continue the relationship between IU and Slidell Habitat for Humanity through future trips to the area.

“Meeting with all these community organizations added a different dimension and insight into the trip because it meant we knew more about what effect we were having. It made the trip more meaningful,” said sophomore trip coordinator Sidney Fletcher.
ROTC Cadets Living in the GV

by Jacques Poirier

Hi, my name is Jacques Poirier and I am a freshman in the Global Village this year and a cadet in the Army ROTC Program. I was attracted to the Global Village because of the diversity of students’ interests. Global Villagers’ majors range from Finance to International Studies, like myself.

As an ROTC cadet and Little 500 Rider, I can tell you that campus can be a crazy environment, making it difficult to study and maintain a good work ethic. However, the Global Village, with its quiet surroundings and friendly atmosphere, make it the ideal place for an ROTC-cadet.

ROTC requires a tough mentality and work hours that can be strenuous for anyone participating in the program. If you’re an incoming freshman that is enrolled in the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Program, I would suggest finding another ROTC cadet to buddy up with in the building and room or work together to get things done. My roommate Matt Petrowski and I are both in the ROTC program. We are constantly helping each other out with both ROTC and regular school-related work. Living together in the GV provided us with a supportive community to make the transition to Indiana University. I strongly recommend to ROTC cadets and others in club teams and intramural sports to consider living in a living-learning center, as there are many benefits. Being in ROTC is somewhat difficult, but it was made easier for me because of the alumni, staff, and returning students in the Global Village that I could go to for support and guidance during my freshman year.

GV Alumni Spotlight

by Hilary Gaiser

Since graduating from the halls of the Global Village Living-Learning Center, I have moved from quiet Bloomington, IN, to bustling Boston, MA, where I am pursuing a degree in Optometry at the New England College of Optometry. Recently, I returned from a medical trip to Belize where I was able to help see in a single week around 500 patients with a wide range of ocular conditions and concerns. This experience not only helped to make me a better clinician but I am also now able to conduct an eye exam in Spanish—a skill that is crucial in working with the diverse immigrant populations in the health centers of Boston. Looking back on my time at the Global Village, I see that I developed a foundation of skills which I am continuing to build on now as an optometry student. These skills include leadership, responsibility, and, above all, a continuing commitment to global affairs. The Global Village did more than help build my skills but also introduced me to lifelong friends that I continue to be in touch with despite our far-flung locations. Fast-forwarding to the future, I am spending my summer working on research related to children’s vision and looking forward to starting my second year of optometry school. After I graduate, I hope to work as an optometrist in a community health center or work in pediatrics, helping families from all backgrounds achieve good ocular health. As Joel Barker said, “Vision without action is a dream. Action without vision is simply passing the time. Action with vision is making a positive difference.”

by Madelyn Kissel

I graduated in May 2011 after four amazing years at Indiana University, and now I am a member of an AmeriCorps team working in Seattle for the YMCA of Greater Seattle. I love it! I am currently a program instructor in the Leadership Development team at the Matt Griffin YMCA, working with teens in after-school programming. My favorite club I get to run is Youth and Government. I work with a group of eleven students every week talking about current issues and our government.

In the beginning, my students had only a very basic idea of how our government functions. Now, they have a much better idea and they have all written a bill of their own and are working on their debate skills. This is all in preparation for May when they will travel to the state capital, Olympia, for four days to meet up with 400 other students at the state capital building to create a youth legislature. They will be tasked with passing their bill through committee and both the Senate and House to be signed by the Youth Governor.

Seattle is an amazing but pricey city. There is always something to do and there are amazing views of the mountains. My term of service is up in July and I am currently applying for many different jobs. I will say that I miss the GV and IU dearly, and look forward to visiting soon!
GV Hosts High-Profile Guests

by Jeff Holdeman

The GV played host to several important groups this spring semester. In January, we welcomed 18 students from South Korean Sungkyunkwan University for an "eat-and-greet" and cross-cultural dialog. The South Korean undergrads came to IU to give papers at an economics conference, as a part of President McRobbie’s new collaboration between IU and SKKU. After the conference, members of the GV’s new Korean Language Cluster escorted our guests to the GV for ice-breaker games and an American/Korean dinner featuring favorites from each culture. Then we gathered to ask about each other’s countries: student life, current events, and pop culture. Both sides really enjoyed this unique opportunity for cultural exchange right in our own home.

In March, the GV was selected as the sole undergraduate focus group by the faculty task force which is designing the new IU international studies school. A group of 15 GVers was joined by the five members of the International Studies student advisory board to answer surveys and questions about program design, degree offerings, courses, and professional development. The faculty team, led by Associate Dean and GV board member Prof. Maria Bucur, praised the GV for the quality and quantity of useful feedback. As the school takes shape, we look forward to seeing the impact made by our participation.

Finally, the GV was approached by the IU European Union Center to organize a reception for the 110 musicians of the European Union Youth Orchestra, which would be on a 6-city spring tour of the US (including IU, Carnegie Hall in New York, Symphony Hall in Boston, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC)—the first tour of its kind in 20 years. The EUYO musicians range in age from 14 to 24 and represent all 27 EU member states. The GV, the EU Center, and Foster International pooled their resources and student helpers to fund and organize a two-hour dinner and mixer, as well as offer fully subsidized tickets for the next day’s concert. Despite falling on Little 500 weekend in April, 40 IU students (over half from the GV) came to interact with the musicians. Judging by Facebook, several new friendships were made that evening.

It is exciting and gratifying to watch as the GV is growing in visibility and is being recognized for its excellence in programming and for the dedication of its students.

An Honest Revival

by Kaylee Dolen

During this school year I learned that our generation has more than just good intentions with bad execution. It’s a slow, honest revival, but I believe that our generation has the potential to be the greatest yet.

In the past year we’ve seen cultural revolutions continue to shake countries whose governments refuse to accommodate free speech or free enterprise. We’ve seen social media reach new heights as a vehicle for the voice of young activists everywhere with KONY 2012. We’ve seen youths pour out in large numbers to rally behind the 2012 presidential campaign, to stand in solidarity with friends halfway across the globe, and to take to the streets to protest the fact that the top 1% of earners in the United States takes in a whopping 21% of the income. We’ve seen students protesting tuition hikes, writing op-eds, and not backing down. We’ve seen millions of eager eyes turn attention to and form opinions on one of the most controversial Supreme Court cases to date surrounding the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act.

An Honest Revival

by Kaylee Dolen

During this school year I learned that our generation has more than just good intentions with bad execution. It’s a slow, honest revival, but I believe that our generation has the potential to be the greatest yet.

In the past year we’ve seen cultural revolutions continue to shake countries whose governments refuse to accommodate free speech or free enterprise. We’ve seen social media reach new heights as a vehicle for the voice of young activists everywhere with KONY 2012. We’ve seen youths pour out in large numbers to rally behind the 2012 presidential campaign, to stand in solidarity with friends halfway across the globe, and to take to the streets to protest the fact that the top 1% of earners in the United States takes in a whopping 21% of the income. We’ve seen students protesting tuition hikes, writing op-eds, and not backing down. We’ve seen millions of eager eyes turn attention to and form opinions on one of the most controversial Supreme Court cases to date surrounding the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act.

An Honest Revival

by Kaylee Dolen

During this school year I learned that our generation has more than just good intentions with bad execution. It’s a slow, honest revival, but I believe that our generation has the potential to be the greatest yet.

In the past year we’ve seen cultural revolutions continue to shake countries whose governments refuse to accommodate free speech or free enterprise. We’ve seen social media reach new heights as a vehicle for the voice of young activists everywhere with KONY 2012. We’ve seen youths pour out in large numbers to rally behind the 2012 presidential campaign, to stand in solidarity with friends halfway across the globe, and to take to the streets to protest the fact that the top 1% of earners in the United States takes in a whopping 21% of the income. We’ve seen students protesting tuition hikes, writing op-eds, and not backing down. We’ve seen millions of eager eyes turn attention to and form opinions on one of the most controversial Supreme Court cases to date surrounding the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act.

We’ve seen volunteers setting out on road trips to help mend communities after the devastating spring storms that rattled the Midwest. We’ve seen how much hope one basketball team can bring to a state, and how committed those young people are to not only their fans, but to each other, and to their education. This summer, the Olympics will allow young athletes from all over the globe to continue to represent their nations, their generation, and the global community alike.

In the short time since school began back in the fall, we’ve seen substantial growth. We’ve seen a glimpse; now we need the full shot. It’s a slow revival, yes, but it’s on its way. We must stop believing that someone else will change the world, stop throwing the responsibilities of positive change onto some other group, nation, or time. We must begin to take it upon ourselves.
Books & Beyond is a cross-cultural literacy exchange for students and teachers from Indiana University's Global Village Living-Learning Center (Bloomington, IN), TEAM Schools (Newark, NJ), and the Kabwende Primary Center (Kinigi, Rwanda). The project focuses on developing critical literacy skills, addressing the Rwandan book famine, and developing models for cross-cultural teaching and learning. Books & Beyond also seeks to foster global citizenship by promoting communication and understanding amongst students from diverse backgrounds in the United States and Rwanda.

Year Four in Review
by Caitlin Ryan

Books & Beyond has grown and expanded rapidly each year, but never before as it did in Year Four. This academic year, the project welcomed a brand new leadership team with nine students, including five AmeriCorps Service-Engagement Corps members, dedicated to recruiting, training, and leading their peers in various project roles throughout the year. These leaders recruited the largest cohort of volunteers for the project, with 72 students committing to serve the project in various capacities.

Additionally, the project welcomed a new team to the table (Public Relations) and two additional leadership positions (Strategic Planner and Student Director). The Public Relations team, in turn, brought a number of new aspects to the project, including the biweekly newsletter Amakuru and a stronger social media presence. Engaging supporters through social media and Amakuru helped the project win the Citgo Fueling Good award, a $5,000 gas card prize for being one of the top five education-based non-profits in the nation and for getting the most votes in an online voting competition. The award was presented to Books & Beyond leaders and supporters in a ceremony at Indiana University on April 10, 2012.

In addition to winning the Fueling Good award, Books & Beyond also raised approximately $15,000 throughout the academic year, thanks to the efforts of the Fund Development Team who gave a number of presentations both on and off campus and applied for several grants to support the project. Fund Development Team members also developed a new online store for the project (http://booksbeyondstore.org) where project supporters may purchase items to benefit the project. Store inventory includes all three volumes of The World is Our Home, Rwandan handicrafts, and Books & Beyond t-shirts.

Year Four was also a year of new partnerships for the project, including a collaboration with the Kelley School of Business that allowed four MBA students to serve as consultants for the project, resulting in the development of a strong fund development strategy for future years and the establishment of new community partners.

In working to expand upon these existing partnerships, Books & Beyond also held its first advisory board meeting in April 2012 including board members from Indiana University and the Bloomington community. Leadership Team members introduced the advisory board to the project and recent developments and board members offered suggestions on how to improve Books & Beyond in the future. The board is set to meet once per semester and will help to guide future leadership teams in their work on expanding the project.

Over the summer, the fourth volume of The World is Our Home will be published, delivered to the Kabwende Primary School by a delegation of Indiana University and TEAM Schools students who will run the inaugural Kabwende Holiday Camp, an opportunity for students and teachers at Kabwende to improve their English, reading, and writing skills. Shortly after returning from this trip, Indiana University Leadership Team members will launch Year Five of the Books & Beyond project, with more opportunities for students to read, learn, teach, and grow together.

Upcoming Trip to Rwanda
by Brie Petty

This summer, a group of eight students from the Global Village will be traveling to Kinigi, Rwanda, with the Books & Beyond project. As one of the students going on this trip, I am excited for this opportunity to learn more about the Rwandan side of the project and grow as a student, leader, and person. EDUC-U495 was a course taken by those traveling to Rwanda to help prepare us for the trip. We had lively discussions and reflection papers that focused on topics such as the ethics of service, Rwandan history, culture, and politics. Jeff Holdeman also gave a presentation about how to effectively use this experience in our future. This course was pivotal in helping us gain an understanding of many things before we arrive in Rwanda.

Our group will be running the first-ever holiday camp at Kabwende Primary School which will be visited by various organizations such as the Peace Corps and the Rwandan Ministry of Education. One hundred thirty students have registered for the camp which will focus on helping Kabwende students learn English through interactive lessons. Each day will be split into reading, writing, and kinesthetic activities led by Global Villagers. When we arrive in Rwanda, we will begin planning these activities and taking Kinyarwanda lessons. We are all anxious to begin this cross-cultural journey.

Follow Us Online
Check out our online resources and share our story with your family and friends:

- Booksbeyond
- Booksbeyond
- Booksbeyond
- Booksbeyond

www.iub.edu/~booksb

www.iub.edu/~amakuru/archive.php
Welcome Week 2012: What to Expect

by Steven Gilbert

We have a lot of fun and exciting events planned for this year’s Welcome Week! The team of ten Welcome Week Leaders are extremely eager to greet all the new incoming Global Villagers and have an amazing Welcome Week. We are adding a few new events this year to familiarize G Vers with Bloomington. Plan on a trip to the Farmer’s Market and to the Bloomington Playwrights Project for a play.

To get everyone feeling at home in the GV, we will have movie and game nights. G Vers will be able to watch their favorite movies and compete in tournaments involving games such as Monopoly, Risk, chess, etc.

The GV and Foster International Mixer will be a Jamaican event with Jamaican jerk chicken, and Jamaican musicians and dancers. To help students feel more comfortable on the IU campus, we will lead groups of G Vers to campus-wide events such as the Freshman Induction Ceremony, the College of Arts and Sciences Major Expo, Culture Fest, Traditions and Spirit of IU, and Taste of the Union. Welcome Week will also consist of our GV favorite events from last year such as the Marshmallow Blowgun Wars, Breakfasts From Around the World, Quidditch, and the Progressive Dinner. These are just some of the events that are planned for the first few weeks of school and we can’t wait to show the incoming freshmen what the GV is all about!

Meet Your Fall 2012 Q-199 Instructors

Q-199 Intro to the Global Village is a peer-led course which focuses on global issues, current events, and becoming a part of the Global Village community.

Kelsey Lechner
I’m a sophomore majoring in Japanese. I am also studying Chinese and plan to study abroad in Japan and Taiwan. I love eating new foods like chocolate crickets.

David Seo
I’m a senior majoring in Public Management with minors in Human Resources and Legal Studies. This is my third year teaching Q199. I enjoy playing basketball.

Dakota Henninger
I’m a junior majoring in English and Spanish Literature, with a minor in Philosophy. I love theater, performing, writing, Spain, and kittens.

Brie Petty
I’m a junior majoring in journalism and International Studies with minors in Spanish and Studio Art. I love being outdoors and traveling.

Kaylee Dolen
I am a sophomore studying Environmental Policy and Spanish. I am a firm supporter of human rights and always love eating dessert.

Kelsey Mize
I’m a senior studying Human Rights and African Studies. I spent last year studying in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and look forward to returning there after I graduate.

Louisa Alter
I am a sophomore studying International Studies and minor in Hebrew. I love traveling, playing softball and soccer, and watching basketball.

Ross Smith
I am a senior majoring Education and Spanish. This my second year teaching Q. Last year I studied abroad in Madrid, Spain.

Molly Zweig
I am a sophomore majoring in International Studies and Spanish. My favorite places I have traveled are Israel and Scotland.
Global Village 2011-2012 in Pictures