From the
UC Santa Barbara
Faculty Director
Professor Juan E. Campo

Now in the midst of our year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of EAP, which started right here at UCSB, it is time to take stock not only of what has been accomplished, but to look to the future. Since 1962 thousands of Gauchos have been inspired to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity to broaden their horizons, develop valuable skills, and deepen their understanding of the world and their place in it. While only two percent of students in higher education nationally participate in study abroad, at UCSB about 17 percent of our undergraduates now participate in EAP. In addition, UCSB is a leader among other UC campuses in EAP participation. Of course, our EAP team of advisors and student interns is not complacent about our success and we are working hard to increase our participation rate, despite the challenges that lie before us. Support for EAP runs strong and deep at UCSB and we are constantly motivated by the enthusiasm shown by our students, as reflected in testimonials such as those in our newsletters and website.

In addition to meeting requirements for their degrees, today’s EAP students are taking advantage of EAP to volunteer, engage in in-service learning, and do internships in the private and public sectors. Indeed, from a long-term perspective, study abroad programs should offer an integrative education that extends beyond the accumulation of credits or grades. From the experience of educating in poverty

What’s Love Got to Do with It?
The experience of educating in poverty
By Laura Philpott (Chile, ’10-11)

“¿Por qué Chile?” That was always the question, “Why Chile?” There are a million different practical reasons why Chile was the best fit for me—the language, the location, the duration of the program, etc. But really, I went to an informational meeting, heard people talk about their experiences there, and just knew that was where I wanted to be. It seems silly to jump on a plane and travel thousands of miles on what seemed like a whim, but there was something drawing me there, something that told me “this is the place you’re meant to be.” During my first six months in Chile, that “something” became a little bit clearer, and it came in the form of my internship.

I interned with the Health Forum in Santiago, a non-profit organization that deals with women’s health and sexual and reproductive rights in neighborhoods of low socio-economic status. Along with four other students, we put together a series of workshops for the Casa de Mujer-Huamachuco, a women’s center that provided resources for youth, children, and mothers. The workshops were designed to cover topics of sexuality for the youth leaders of the women’s center and included a number of different topics including: sexual and reproductive rights, gender stereotypes, birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, abortion, pleasure, the biology of sex, and sexual violence. There was a great deal of freedom with this project—it was up to us to decide what topics we considered relevant and appropriate for the participants, who ranged from ages 14 to 24. Even with considerable preparation, I still had no idea what I was getting myself into until the workshops actually began.

Language barrier aside, it was difficult to manage a group of teenagers and young adults who were considered “at risk” for crime, delinquency and sexual misconduct. Although it was apparent that...
they had a desire to listen and learn, there was still a sense of unrest when it came to tackling the controversial topic of sex. It is rare in Chile for kids to receive comprehensive sexual education in school, and even rarer to have an open and direct conversation with their parents about it. Many of the kids had been taught (both implicitly and explicitly) to feel guilt and shame when it came to sexual matters. With this cultural shroud looming over a crucial topic of adolescence, it was clear that we would face certain challenges throughout the workshops and might need creative methods in order get the kids comfortable enough to talk.

Using games, PowerPoint presentations, surveys and discussions, we encouraged the kids to use the workshops as a safe space—something that many of them had never had before. We didn’t want them to feel the pressures of school or the judgment of home. This was to be a special place where they could feel free to ask any question, be it as simple as, “What is the difference between gender and sex?” Starting out even just saying sexual words out loud was difficult for some, which made it all the more inspiring to see how far they progressed by the end. We began to see that the place where kids feel the most comfortable talking about sex is among their peers.

My internship was by far my favorite experience while studying abroad and it completely changed my attitude toward non-profit work with at-risk populations. It helped me to better understand the position that many organizations are faced with—the frustrating combination of facing a lack of resources while trying to serve such important needs. Despite the fact that I come from a different race, economic and educational background, and even a different country and native language, I have come to realize that not only CAN I make a significant difference in the world through this type of work, I MUST continue to work for positive change.

Laura, looking out over Santiago, Chile, where she discovered a passion for aiding the health and well-being of local underprivileged youth.

**Why I Give to EAP**

*By Marie Williams (Germany, ’87)*

I vividly recall many of my experiences from that memorable year, from the initial discovery that you had to pay to use public toilets, to the realization that I would be sharing one phone with all nine students on my dorm floor (a little embarrassing when your family gets mixed up on the time difference and calls at 3 am).

My year wouldn’t have been complete without many Eurail trips throughout Europe staying at inexpensive hostels. Of course, since Göttingen was only 13 km from the East German border, all we had to do was ride our bikes to see the East German sentries in their towers. Even more memorable trips took me to Russia and others to southern Germany to participate as a “local” in several Fasnacht (Mardi Gras) festivities.

My year was made even richer by dorm-mates who embraced me (and forced me to speak German!) and a host family who gave me a second home.

My time abroad made me want to go overseas again. So when I went to graduate school, I chose a dual degree program at Wharton/Lauder that gave me two more summers in Germany and a master’s degree in international studies. I then sought out large, multi-national companies to work for— including Ford Motor Company and Hilton Worldwide. While at Ford, I spent another four years in Europe—two in England and two in Cologne, Germany.

It’s hard for me to imagine what my life would have been like if I hadn’t participated in the EAP program. Consequently, I want to do what I can to ensure that students today and tomorrow have the same opportunities I did to have such a transformative experience. I was excited to discover the EAP Scholarship program and how it enables me to so directly impact a student’s ability to participate in EAP. I urge all EAP alumni to join me in helping current UCSB students to realize their dreams of studying abroad.
Study Abroad: Still Transforming Hearts, Minds, and Lives

Three UCSB student peer advisors, all EAP returnees who assist us with recruitment, selection, and orientation activities, reflect on their experiences abroad in England, China, and the Netherlands.

I board the 25x bus for the last time, hands clutching my two large suitcases, shoulders sagging beneath a large backpack toting a year’s worth of school paraphernalia.

“Three quid,” says the driver. The three Queen Elizabeth coins clink as they hit the tray.

Hundreds of memories flood through me. The suitcases are too heavy to take to the upper level, to the seat that was always my favourite—favorite, I remind myself—right at the front of the bus, where wayward branches would hit the windows, and each turn felt like a jerk on the Indiana Jones ride. I feel an emotion welling up inside me that I cannot name. It stings, but it also soothes. I think of my conversation with friend and fellow UCEAP alum Charlotte about the colloquial differences between British speak and American talk.

“British people call periods ‘full stops.’ So what are commas? ‘Almost stops?’ And what are semicolons? ‘Stop—just kidding, keep going?’”

The emotion, I analogously name, is “semicolon.” I feel like an end is coming, but it isn’t really an end. This bus ride is an end to casual pub socializing, runs on the famous Sussex Downs, seeing films—not movies—at the Odeon; it marks the closing of my European travels, my developing British voice intonations, and my frequent visits to many eclectic tea shops.

But America is calling, senior year beckons, and my international heart whose passions demand skills that can only be learned in its place of origin bids me home. I board my final bus, tell the driver “cheers,” and keep going.

Upon arrival at Beijing International Airport, I couldn’t wait to talk up a storm with the Chinese locals and indulge in the culture. I considered myself a step ahead of my peers because I had aced all my Chinese classes for the past year. So you can imagine my shock when my cab driver couldn’t understand a single word of the directions I gave him. This was the first of many humbling experiences, especially during my first two weeks in China, that made me realize that fifty-minute Chinese classes every day where English was spoken 90% of the time didn’t separate me from the rest of the foreigners. I felt defeated in the backseat as the cab driver called the phone number on the directions I held. The rest of the way I sat in silence, without the nerve to even start small talk. These many experiences quickly piled up until I began to dread the thought that I would be in China for another eleven months. Luckily that feeling only lasted the first couple weeks of my time abroad. By the time summer was over, I had made friends, elevated my Chinese to a whole new level that I would never have achieved had I stayed in the US, and began thinking how much fun I would have with my remaining nine months. By the time my study abroad experience was over, I was wishing I was that newly-arrived, naïve student in that cab a year earlier: confused, helpless and about to start my amazing journey.

My EAP experience in the Netherlands was definitely the highlight of my undergraduate career…and it almost didn’t happen. I stumbled into the EAP office asking for financial assistance for a non-UC study abroad program and after being informed that no aid was available for those programs, I was also told about the extended deadlines for EAP. I found the Netherlands program was still open, so I immediately applied.

On my way out of the office, I called my “Tante” (aunt, in Dutch) Marcia to let her know that I would be visiting her and my other relatives in the Netherlands. This was a surprise to my whole family. You see, my heritage is very confusing, so I took this opportunity abroad to broaden my horizons in Europe as well as discover who I really was. I tracked down various family members from Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium and had a small family reunion where I put together a family tree.

This experience helped me discover my own family as well as how capable I was to handle all types of situations, even in another country. I have EAP to thank for having the opportunity to discover my heritage and interact with my 97-year-old great-aunt, who explained our family history quite nicely. Thanks, EAP!
of knowledge and the honing of particular skills in foreign settings to foster the capacity for imagination, making new connections, and serving others. Such an education will put students who study abroad in the forefront of those finding solutions for the many changes and challenges our world faces in the twenty-first century. Their EAP experience will also, as you surely know, help them see the world in all its diversity and immensely enrich the quality of their own lives.

A great deal of our success now and in years to come hinges on providing EAP students with the financial support to make their dreams of study abroad a reality. Unlike the past, parents and students now invest substantial amounts of money for a UC education. Moreover, with the loss of state funding in 2010, EAP has had to add program fees beyond the normal cost of tuition. Our office is committed to the priority of making EAP accessible to all students, and, thanks to the generosity of EAP alumni, it has been able to offer need-based scholarships to qualified students who otherwise would be unable to participate. But, as is increasingly the case, demand exceeds our resources. So, in remembering how much studying and living abroad made a difference in your life, I invite you to make a difference in the life of even just one of our students. A special scholarship has been established in connection with the celebration of EAP’s 50th anniversary. There are other gift and scholarship options available, including named scholarships. Please consider paying your EAP experience forward with a gift that will last a lifetime.
UCSB Gauchos couldn’t have had a nicer day to come back to visit their alma mater. EAP alumni returned to campus in record numbers on April 28th to join with friends across the UC system in celebration of UCEAP’s fifty-year anniversary. William H. Al-laway, EAP’s founder and director for its first 28 years, received an emotional standing ovation from the crowd.

Begun in 1962 with 80 students who spent a full year in Bordeaux, France, UCEAP now sends over 4,000 students abroad annually to more than 35 countries around the world. This is the largest undergraduate exchange program in the United States. UCSB has been particularly critical in the success and development of this robust program. Gauchos are often the largest student group heading off on EAP out of all the UC campuses (even though we have a smaller student body than many UC campuses!). So, it was no surprise that the 50th anniversary Alumni & Friends Reunion was dominated by Gauchos of all ages.

**EAP Scholarship Fund**

The cost of education continues to rise and the need for EAP scholarship funds continues to grow. Even if you’ve never donated before, won’t you please join our effort to ensure that qualified UCSB students will have the option to study abroad? If most of our 10,000 EAP alumni donate $50, we’ll be well on our way to establishing an endowment fund that would provide scholarship support for future EAP participants for years to come!

Scholarship recipient Lucia describes her EAP experience:

*My experience abroad through UCSB started in Madrid, Spain, then Lyon, France and now I am finishing my Bachelor’s degree in French and Communication in Paris, France. I have learned about Spanish theater, French politics, Lyonnais Cuisine and much more. I don’t think that I would be the open-minded, driven and worldly student that I am now, if it were not for the Education Abroad Program. I am now fluent in three languages and I am currently learning a fourth. Because of my experiences through EAP, I received an internship at the U.S. Embassy in Paris last summer. I am determined to join the Department of State and pursue a career as a diplomat. Without EAP and above all the scholarship I received, I would have never accomplished all of these things. Receiving this scholarship opened many doors for me and helped me get to where I am now.*

Chloe spent a year in Lyon, France and wrote to her scholarship donor:

*“Your generous support helped make my year abroad possible and I am eternally grateful. Thank you so much. Knowing how much you helped me accomplish something so life-changing, I hope that someday, like you, I will be able to give back to the EAP community and help someone in need of financial support to study abroad.”*

To give to EAP, simply return your donation in the enclosed envelope or donate online at http://eap.ucsb.edu/alumni/giftoptions.html. To learn more about giving opportunities please contact Chris Pizzinat, Deputy Director of Development, 805-893-5126, or Chris.Pizzinat@ia.ucsb.edu. Thank you!
EAP Photo Contest – These were the winning entries in our most recent photo contest.

“An Evening in Never Neverland - Vietnam”
Molly Neubert
EAP Spain

“Wine Vineyards – Beaujolais”
Jacqueline Lefebvre
EAP France

“Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep - Chiang Mai, Thailand”
Cherisse Theriault
EAP Thailand

$50 for 50!
CELEBRATING EAP’s 50-year history.
SUPPORTING EAP scholarships.
$50 for 50! encourages ALL 10,000 EAP alumni to donate $50 in this 50th year of EAP!

WHAT CAN $50 BUY YOU?
• 2 weeks of daily lattes at Starbucks
• Modest family dinner out
• One hour massage
• Impact on a UCSB EAP Student’s Life!