Aggie Students Go Global and Return to Share Their International Experience

Owen Cortner, AGG Student Representative

The summer of 2009 was a great summer for five students who traveled abroad for an international experience, to gain knowledge, make contacts for future trips and students, and educate themselves and others. You can log on to the AGG website at [http://aggiesgoglobal.nmsu.edu](http://aggiesgoglobal.nmsu.edu/) and click on their names to read their blogs while they were abroad.

On December 1, 2009 these students met with Dean Catlett (ACES), Ambassador Lewis (IRI) and other interested parties to share their experiences and knowledge gained. Below is some brief information from their presentations.

Ashley traveled to Ensenada, Baja California in Mexico during July. Ashley worked with students from Xsochicalco University to design a public health survey. Information from the survey was used to form a basis for developing a public health intervention targeting cervical cancer disparities in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

Casey spent two months in Phnom Penh, Cambodia volunteering with “Cambodia Against Child Trafficking” (ACTs), a national nongovernmental organization. Casey conducted field visits, witnessed training, and met with experts on human trafficking while conducting research that will culminate in an Honors Thesis.

Lindsay traveled to Belize to work as an intern for “Friends for Conservation and Development”. She assisted the organization’s educational director on visits to communities and schools. In addition, she designed promotional materials and strengthened community youth groups.

Morgan traveled to Europe to pursue interests in international agricultural trade and policy. He visited farms and a meat processing plant in France and attended the EU’s Green Week Conference in Belgium.

Owen attended the World Congress of Agro forestry in Nairobi, Kenya. He visited a smallholder farm, an agricultural research center, a plant nursery, a forest preserve on the edge of the city, and Nairobi National Park.

Please log on to our website at [http://aggiesgoglobal.nmsu.edu](http://aggiesgoglobal.nmsu.edu/) for more information on the presentations.
AGG Goes Italian
Dr. Gary R. Lowe, AGG Mentoring Coordinator

As a result of Dr. Lowe’s visit with Dr. Ian D’Agata, Director of the Wine Academy of Roma in Rome last summer, Dr. D’Agata visited NMSU in September. He came to speak with Hotel, Restaurant, Tourism Management (HRTM) faculty and students, representatives of the New Mexico wine industry, and ACES Viticulturist, Bernd Maier about a possible Rome based study opportunity for ACES HRTM students. Dr. D’Agata is an internationally known wine expert and is interested in developing ties with the emerging New Mexico wine industry. The Roma Wine Academy also has strong ties with noted hoteliers and restaurants in Italy. This contact was facilitated by the University of New Mexico’s international programs office. UNM has an on-going program based in Rome and they approached ACES/HRTM during the spring of this year to explore possible collaborative efforts. Following this visit, ACES and HRTM are moving forward to develop a possible summer, 2010 academic program in Italy. Our State Viticulturist is working with the Wine Academy and the NM Wine Industry to expand marketing opportunities for NM Wines.

$10,000 Raised in AGG Support
Mark Gladden, AGG Fund Raising Coordinator

AGG, IRI and HRTM joined forces to host the first-ever AGG Annual Scholarship Banquet on Thursday, October 29th. The event was held at NMSU’s Fulton Center where wine connoisseurs were treated to a truly delightful experience when representatives from the three major Southern New Mexico wineries conducted a wine tasting session followed by a five-star meal prepared by Chef Maurice Zeck and students of NMSU’s school of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management (HRTM). Professor Jolie Tixier’s HRTM 443, Meetings, Conventions and Special Events class helped organize both the event and the highly successful 25-Item Fine Wine, Travel & Artwork Silent Auction. The event raised over $10,000 in AGG scholarship support and established a strong relationship between HRTM students and the Wine Academy of Roma, Italy.

AGG Newsletter
Albina Armijo, AGG Communications Coordinator

If you are involved in an international project or have a visiting colleague or student from another part of the world, please contact Albina Armijo at alarmijo@nmsu.edu or 646-7936. We will share this information with the college and our campus partners by including it in our newsletter.