



# ALUMNI & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

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## Brazil 2014 @ UCI

Discover soccer! Explore the World! Study Abroad!

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### PAY IT FORWARD

Make a  
life-changing  
experience possible!

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What's happening in Brazil in 2014? That's right! The World Cup! Over 200 countries enter the World Cup competition and 32 countries will compete in the 2014 cup. Brazil holds the distinction of winning the most World Cup championships ever (five), followed by Italy with four. And, UCI students can study in nearly all of the countries involved.

In this year leading up to the World Cup we are encouraging UCI students to *Discover Soccer! Explore the World! Study Abroad!* We have already hosted two Soccer & Pizza World Cup qualifier viewing parties. And, during the upcoming year we plan to host more World Cup viewing parties. In addition, once we know which countries have qualified for the World Cup, we plan to co-host events with academic departments and faculty in order to highlight these countries. It's a fun way for us to connect students to the world.

We've often heard from past participants that they discovered their passion for soccer while studying abroad. Did you discover soccer while you were abroad? If so, we would love to hear your stories and see your photos. Join us and share on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Brazil2014UCI>

And, save the date! Join us for another movie night during International Education Week. This year, in keeping with our soccer theme, we will be screening: *Bend it Like Beckham*, **Thursday, November 14, 2013** in Crystal Cove Auditorium. Watch for registration information coming in October.



## Full Circle:

By H. Victor Conde, UCEAP Bordeaux, France participant 1968-69

Last Monday I handed in my grades for my 45 Masters students. It was my last day as a professor of law in Strasbourg, France. This was the end of my career. It is so fitting that I end my career in France because this is where I developed an international vision, strong academic background, and motivation to become an international lawyer. It all came as a direct result of my experiences as a participant in the UC Education Abroad Program (EAP), which I did in 1968-69 in Bordeaux, France, the site of the initial EAP program started in 1962. I was a junior at UC Irvine, majoring in Classics and minoring in Political Science and International Relations. A native of Costa Mesa, I chose to do the EAP Bordeaux Program to search for my ancestral roots and see the sights of classical antiquity. Because of EAP I am where I am today.



1968-69 UCI EAP Bordeaux contingent.  
Victor Conde (center)

While in Bordeaux in 1968-69 (pictured to the left) I met a lot of French students at the University of Bordeaux. We partied, raised heck, toured the chateaux for degustation (wine tasting), solved the world's problems over and over, traveled on less than \$5.00 a day, and even went surfing in Lacanau, Biarritz, San Sebastian...and assiduously studied and went to class. By far the most excitement of my EAP year was my trip "behind the Iron Curtain." I took a UNESCO sponsored student exchange over Easter break, April 1969, to Moscow, Leningrad/St. Petersburg, Warsaw, and East Berlin. It was to meet university students from "the east".

In Bordeaux I was taking a course in the Soviet Political system, which included reading the main documents of communism. While not liking communist countries because of their human rights abuses, particularly religious persecution, I had a burning desire to see this system which I had been studying on paper in Bordeaux. I wanted to see the "evil empire" with my own eyes. On this trip I got to see communist countries and to meet real "commies" the same age as me. To my surprise the young communist students were just like me, language aside. We talked about our courses, our professors, our dreams and hopes. We danced and drank too much together. We even agreed that if we could just send all our government leaders up in space on Sputnik or Explorer satellites we could just party on drinking and dancing in world peace.

Of all the benefits of my year studying abroad, one of the most important was getting a more objective view of major US and world issues. After EAP I could see things much more objectively and listen better to the opinions of others. America needs more people with this objectivity and broader world view to work against the factors in our great country which have led, even in the present administration, to the government's attitude of US exceptionalism in world affairs.

*...story continues on page 3*

## Full Circle ...continued from page 2

In 1997 I had the great pleasure to be invited to teach human rights at UC Irvine through the Student Recommended Faculty Program. For the next several years I also gave a lecture each year to the outgoing UCI EAP students (to all countries) about how to judge their host country by its human rights record. I encouraged them to pay attention to how human rights were or were not respected in their host country and where to find the human rights which protect them in case they had to deal with the government while abroad. I really enjoyed it as a former EAPer myself. It was a thrill to be teaching at and giving back directly to my alma mater.



*Victor Conde in France 40 years later*

Three years ago I moved to Strasbourg, France, a city I had visited every July between 1989 and 2004 with my law students from California who attended the summer human rights session of the International Institute of Human Rights. I wanted to live in France because at that time I was not comfortable living in the US because of certain unnamed human rights practices. I had decided to return to the land of my ancestors where thanks to EAP and the resulting command of the French language, I could become part of a society with a better understanding and better practice of human rights, and where the food was much better. Strasbourg is the human rights capital of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights is located there.

Having moved there I wanted to teach at the University of Strasbourg Law School. But getting a teaching post there was nigh on impossible for one like me. But one day a call came from the University of Strasbourg asking if I could come teach a course to French and other European (ERASMUS Program= Education Abroad EU) law students. No brainer. *Mais oui!* I accepted. Another professor had begun the course and did not show up for the second week and bailed on the course. And there I was, a displaced Southern California surfer- human rights lawyer- educator, who was ready, willing and able to teach. It is clear to me now that had I not gone to EAP Bordeaux there is no chance I would have been at that place at that time with that skill set. But more importantly, I got this job because of my personal connections made in Bordeaux in 68-69.

*...story continues on page 4*

## Full Circle ...continued from page 3

*"But my most important thought was about what an incredible and incomparable educational experience I had that year (abroad). It set the course of my life and career."*

*- H. Victor Conde*

Last October I had the great pleasure to return to Bordeaux at the invitation of the EAP Program. The occasion was to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the whole EAP Program which, again, started in Bordeaux in 1962. Twelve members of that 1962 class were present, as well as two other 68-69 class members (Anna Kay Bourg (Ross) and Linda VanMeirhaegue (Cozadd)).

I met the newly arrived UCI student, Jessie Cruz (pictured to the right), and shared my experience and encouragement. We visited the old campus in Talence-Pessac, brand new for us in 1968, now graffitied and ill kept. What memories! But my most important thought was about what an incredible and incomparable educational experience I had that year. It set the course of my life and career.

So I end my career as an international human rights lawyer and law professor, which, while not the most financially rewarding, brought me a gazillion dollars (or better yet: euros) worth of personal satisfaction doing my little part to make the world a better place by trying to protect human dignity through law, international law. As we used to say in the 60s, I had become "part of the solution and not part of the problem."

I have done my small part, thanks to my education and experiences in Bordeaux. Thank you, University of California. Thank you, UCI, for allowing me to participate in this life changing odyssey of EAP. And thanks particularly to the UCI Classics Department which gave me the desire to go to the Old World to see and learn the foundations of our western civilization, and, in the process, finding out my path in life in serving the State of California and the other inhabitants of this planet as a lawyer and educator.



*Jessie Cruz (left) meets fellow anteater and UCEAP 1968-69 alum, H. Victor Conde (right), while studying abroad in France this past year 2012-13 at UCEAP's 50th celebration!*

### Alumni Spotlight on the Web — **You could be next!**

Each one shares fears and challenges as well as inspiring personal growth and career successes. We would love to have your story! Fill out the questionnaire at:

[eee.uci.edu/survey/alumnispotlight](http://eee.uci.edu/survey/alumnispotlight)



# Conducting Archival Research in a Medieval City

by Emilie Martin, UCEAP Florence, Italy participant 2012

Last Spring I finally fulfilled my dream of studying abroad when I spent six months living in [Florence, Italy](#). I got to spend every day exploring streets lined with Renaissance history eating gelato and pizza and speaking one of the most beautiful languages in the world. I finished an entire year's worth of Italian in one semester and got to take an art history class on Michelangelo in the very same buildings he worked in centuries ago.

As an art history major, this was such a unique and life changing experience. This class was the best I have ever taken and I was the most engaged as I have ever been as a student. I became close with my professor, Dr. Sheila Barker, and in February I became one of four students that was helping her do research for an exhibition entitled *Women Artists of Early Modern Italy: Documents from the Archivio di Stato di Firenze* held on March 2, 2012 in conjunction with the Jane Fortune Conference, "Women Artists of Early Modern Italy / Artiste nell'Italia dell'età moderna".



Our primary objective was to find biographical information on the five women featured in the exhibition to accompany copies of records of their activity as artists. This was an era when art, business, and education were dominated by men, so surviving evidence

of successful females in the field was rare and significant. After the exhibition and the school semester were over, I approached Dr. Barker and asked her if there was any possibility that I could extend my stay in Florence and continue an internship with her. She was impressed by my initiative and was flattered that I was interested in working with her.

During the month that I worked at the *Archivio di Stato*, I learned more than I ever expected I would about myself, archival research, and the Italian bureaucracy. I moved to an apartment outside the city center, lived with an Italian and was commuting by bus to the archive where I was one of three Americans in the whole building; until then I hadn't experienced the real Florence.

Aspects of my archival work included locating and transcribing early seventeenth-century Latin and Italian documents such as bank account records for Artemisia Gentileschi and private correspondence between a Roman art dealer and Leopoldo de' Medici.

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*"I learned more than I ever expected I would about myself, archival research, and the Italian bureaucracy."*

*- Emilie*

*Martin*

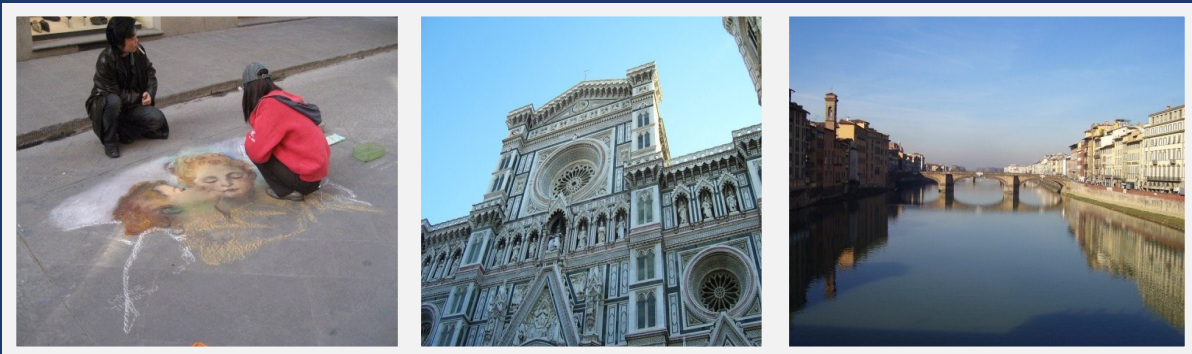
## Conducting Archival Research in a Medieval City

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I also developed outreach programs, co-wrote the text for the Jane Fortune Program webpage, and co-edited the catalog of manuscript documents exhibited at the conference “Women Artists of Early Modern Italy / Artiste nell'Italia dell'età moderna” which can be viewed [online](#). In addition, my accomplishments included strategizing research plans and laying the groundwork for an article that I am writing on an unpublished seventeenth-century document regarding a self-portrait by Sofonisba Anguissola. I hope to return to Florence someday soon to further develop and one day publish this article.

I never expected that a research internship would become not only my favorite part of studying abroad but also prove to be so crucial to the development of my career. Upon my return to UCI I secured an internship in the Department of Art History as a research assistant. After working with in the archives abroad I thought I knew all there was to know about scholarly research. In working closely with professors on campus I soon learned that modern research resources in Irvine differ greatly from those at the Archivio di Stato in Florence. I was pleased to discover however, that the knowledge I gained abroad of working a card catalog system and microfilm and hours of scanning nearly illegible handwritten manuscripts was put to good use at UCI while navigating the university's online and library resources, utilizing Google, and perusing shelf after shelf of periodicals.

My experience abroad not only prepared me for a future career as an art historian but also opened doors and led me to opportunities that I wouldn't have otherwise been exposed to had I not asked if it was possible. I am so grateful that I had this experience and I welcome any opportunity to mentor students who will one day have as much enthusiasm for Italy and art history as I do.



*Florence ambiance photos courtesy of Chrystal Fairbanks. All images copyright of Chrystal Fairbanks, 2008.*

# Your support makes a difference!

Scholarships are extremely important in making study abroad possible. We are very grateful for the generous support of alumni and friends who donated during 2012-13.

### Individual Donors (alphabetically listed)

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### Organizational Donors (alphabetically listed)

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The following recipients of the UCI Friends of Study Abroad Scholarship were awarded for the academic year 2013-14.

YooYoung Choi	Serena Hart	Sharon Shin
Miranda Gonzales	Diana Lieu	Stephanie Torres

Sister campus UC Davis announced on March 21, 2013 the receipt of a \$1 million gift to support study abroad at UC Davis. The gift comes from Ann E. Pitzer, a UC Davis alumna and current member of the UC Davis Foundation Board of Trustees. The endowment will support 20-40 UC Davis study abroad students each year, allowing them to have the opportunity to add a global perspective to their academic careers without having to worry about the financial barriers that prevent many students from participating in study abroad programs. If you know anyone who might want to do the same for UC Irvine students, please send them our way. We would be happy to make their giving dreams a reality!

*Pay it Forward!*

**Support us in our mission & make your gift today at:**

<http://www.studyabroad.uci.edu/contacts/support.shtml>