Building Momentum in the Region

This has been an exciting year at Notre Dame for those of us in Europe. The internationalization of the University is a top priority and this can be seen in recent initiatives at the University and in our region.

Since we have so much to report in the region—more than ever before—the editors of this publication have decided to increase the frequency from once to twice annually—a good sign that there has been a dramatic rise in both interest and activity in the region.

Among the many features in this edition, you can read an update on the ramped-up recruiting efforts in our region, the expansion of the Hesburgh International Scholars Experience to Europe, and first-hand accounts from current international students at ND.

We hear from Kathleen McCann ’00 who volunteered with the ND Haiti Program, and we have an opportunity of our own to make an impact on the global ND community in May by participating in the Hesburgh Month of Service, an annual event in honor of Fr. Hesburgh and his lifetime of volunteer service.

It was wonderful to see so many alumni at the recent Universal Notre Dame Celebration at the ND London Centre in April. We were very fortunate to have Dennis Jacobs, University Vice President and Associate Provost, as keynote speaker, who gave an update on the University and spoke about Notre Dame’s presence around the world, highlighting its major international hubs such as the prestigious ND London Centre. Notre Dame’s commitment to the internationalization of the University is also evident in the recent appointment of J. Nicholas Entrikin as first Vice President for Internationalization at Notre Dame.

Are you interested in being involved in the future of our region and getting to know other alumni in Europe? If so, why not come to our next ND Europe Regional Meeting on October 1-3, 2010 in London.

We can all be involved by working together to create a vibrant Notre Dame community in Europe by continuing to engage with each other and with the University. I look forward to helping grow Notre Dame’s global network with your support.

In Notre Dame,
Kate Ferrucci ’97
NDAA Regional Director for Europe, 2009-12
Universal Notre Dame Celebration
Recognizing the London Centre as international hub
by Kate Ferrucci ’97, Regional Director for Europe, Notre Dame Alumni Association

The Notre Dame London Centre was recognized as one of the premier international hubs of the University at a special event held at the elegant Notre Dame London Centre in Trafalgar Square on April 10, 2010. Seventy attendees including alumni, London Centre faculty and students welcomed special guest University Vice President and Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs for this very special event highlighting a year in which the London Centre has truly proven an enormous source of pride for the University’s international influence and prestige.

Greg Kucich, Director of the ND London Centre, gave an update on activities at the Centre. He welcomed the attendees, and discussed how in furthering Notre Dame’s ambition to have a truly global presence, the Centre is committed to developing activities that will raise the profile of the University in Europe and promote its interests to the wider world.

Laura Janke Jaeger ’89, President, ND Club of London, gave an update on the club, introduced the club’s officers who help support and facilitate the club and its activities, and discussed upcoming events for members. She also announced the updated club website, as well as the club’s new membership fee which will help to grow the club and enable larger and more frequent club events to take place. The London Club has joined the other alumni clubs in London in the All-Alumni UK Network to share best practices and events. This will provide more social and networking opportunities for members in London. Notre Dame hosted the second monthly happy hour in April. You can register for the network and view upcoming events on the website at http://usalumniuk.ning.com/.

Jennifer Nemecek talked about her first year in the new role as International Admissions Liaison for Europe and she praised the efforts of alumni in helping her reach out to schools. Admissions saw 92 applications from Europe this year, which represents a 29% increase over last year. This number includes Americans living abroad as well as

Kate Ferrucci ’97, Regional Director for Europe, Notre Dame Alumni Association Board, introduced herself and explained her role as liaison between the Notre Dame Alumni Association and alumni, parents and friends of the University in Europe. She welcomed any alumni and friends who would like to be more involved with Notre Dame in Europe to contact her. She talked about the upcoming Hesburgh Month of Service and let alumni know how they can participate. Kate thanked the many alumni volunteers who serve as a club officer or point of contact for their country or club; there are now 37 countries in Europe that are represented by these alumni contacts who volunteer their time to represent the University abroad. She recognized those present at the event who, in addition to the London club officers, included Carl Munana ’78 (President, ND Spain) and Kathleen McCann ’00 (club contact, ND Ireland).

Jennifer Nemecek talked about her first year in the new role as International Admissions Liaison for Europe and she praised the efforts of alumni in helping her reach out to schools. Admissions saw 92 applications from Europe this year, which represents a 29% increase over last year. This number includes Americans living abroad as well as

(continued on next page)
true international applications. Applications from true international students increased by 27%. These are significant changes compared to past historical data where we only saw very modest fluctuations and/or a downward trend in numbers.

Jennifer explained also that although we have students applying and being accepted, in the past they were not confirming. The number of matriculated European students had actually declined over the past five years and not increased even though the applicant numbers had increased. This year we have identified a solution to the problem by including the European students in the unique four-day Hesburgh International Scholars Program on campus. This year, 9 (out of the 16 admitted) European students joined the 40 Latin American students on campus. If you are interested in hearing more about admissions or would like to suggest schools to visit or fairs to attend, please contact Jennifer directly.

Guest speaker Dennis Jacobs, Vice President and Associate Provost of the University, delivered a wonderful talk that included a detailed update on the University. Jacobs discussed the University’s institutional goals, how Notre Dame works towards attracting the best students, how the University is working towards increasing the diversity of the incoming classes, and the growth in undergraduate financial aid—all of which are helping to create a richer experience for Notre Dame students. He talked at length about Notre Dame’s focus on experiential learning, including the three important components of community-based learning, study abroad and research. Notre Dame has off-campus programs on six continents, with the highest density of programs based in Europe—an example of which is the O’Connell House in Dublin, which is the premier center for Irish studies in the world. Jacobs discussed new academic leadership at the University, new buildings on campus including the College of Engineering’s new Stinson-Remick Hall; Geddes Hall which integrates theology and sustainability as the new home of the CSC and the Institute for Church Life; Innovation Park, which connects innovators, market experts and capital providers to help transform innovations into viable marketplace ventures; and Ryan Hall—one of two new residence halls. He also commented on Notre Dame’s athletic success, citing top moments from the recent year.

A reception followed in the elegant Senior Common Room, with lively discussion over wine and canapés.
From the ND Newswire
First VP for Internationalization appointed at Notre Dame
by Dennis Brown • April 29, 2010

Vice Provost of International Studies at UCLA, J. Nicholas Entrikin, has been appointed to the newly established position of Vice President and Associate Provost for Internationalization at the University of Notre Dame by Provost Thomas G. Burish.

“Enhancing and expanding the international components of Notre Dame—in all their many dimensions—is a top priority, and the creation of this position and the appointment of Nick Entrikin reflect the importance of this goal. Nick is a scholar of the first rank, a creative problem solver, a builder, an experienced leader in the international arena, and a person who receives high marks from his colleagues for being able to bring together faculty from across many disciplines to work together for common goals. We are very happy to have him join us and direct our efforts to extend Notre Dame’s global impact.”

In his new role, Entrikin will lead the effort to broaden Notre Dame’s international culture, programs, reach and reputation through expanded international research, collaborative projects and strategic relationships with global partners.

“I am very pleased and honored to have been chosen to lead the internationalization efforts at Notre Dame,” said Entrikin, who also has been appointed a professor of sociology. “During my campus visits, I have had the pleasure of meeting members of the campus leadership and have been impressed by their collegiality, pride in the University’s deservedly excellent reputation, and confident vision of Notre Dame’s future. These are difficult times for many universities, but at Notre Dame I found only optimism and enthusiasm about exploring new opportunities and expanding on existing strengths. Notre Dame is a special place, and my wife, Diane, and I look forward to becoming part of the campus community.”

At UCLA, Entrikin reorganized its International Institute by shifting it from the College of Letters and Science to become a university-wide organization and play an expanded role as the foreign affairs office for the university. He developed a comprehensive internationalization strategy that involved coordination and innovation along four lines, which included: collaborative research opportunities; student exchange opportunities; corporate, foundation and government partnerships; and private donor and alumni development.

Entrikin has taught and conducted research in the Department of Geography at UCLA since 1975 in the general area of human geography with a focus on environmentalism and the cultural significance of place and landscape in modern societies. Since 2003 he also has been a professor in the university’s Institute of the Environment.

In 1993, he co-founded—and has since co-directed—the UCLA History-Geography Project, an initiative that brings UCLA social science faculty together with community college and K-12 teachers in Los Angeles for seminars and workshops related to the curricular innovation for social studies instruction in California schools.

Entrikin is the author or editor of four books and the recipient of several fellowships and awards. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow, visiting director of research with the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in Pau, France, and a faculty fellow at the Yale Center for Cultural Sociology. He earned his master’s and doctoral degrees in geography from the University of Wisconsin and his bachelor’s degree in geography from Syracuse University.

“ Originally published by newsinfo.nd.edu. 
After several fits and starts in the past few years it appears that the Notre Dame Club of Spain is beginning to come together. We are still in the outreach phase identifying where our alumni and friends are and obtaining updated contact information. It’s fair to say there are concentrations of the community in Madrid and Barcelona, and then a broad scattering of others throughout the country. As Regional Director for European Alumni, Kate Ferucci has been most encouraging and helpful in this formative stage.

Moreover, the recent first trip by Jennifer Nemecek (Europe Admissions Liaison) to Spain provided an excellent opportunity for some in the Madrid area to get together and begin addressing some of the possibilities for a club. We enjoyed an excellent evening and dinner at La Casa Grana, a restaurant owned by Manuel Enrich, a Mendoza grad. After a long day of visiting top schools in Madrid, Jennifer brought us up to date on recent university initiatives, especially in the international sphere. Everyone here is enthusiastic about Notre Dame’s new commitment to a pro-active international strategy and there are some great opportunities to build on that theme here in Spain.

Cultures and traditions to build upon
The country has a strong Catholic tradition (recall Isabel and Ferdinand in the reconquest of the peninsula in 1492) and a close language, historical, and economic connection with Latin America (recall that other conquest that essentially began with Columbus in that same year of 1492).

It is no coincidence that Notre Dame’s year-abroad program for Spain is based in Toledo, which is known as the city of the three religions (Christianity, Islam and Judaism) where the interested visitor can explore so many cross-cultural threads. Modern Spain is a fascinating place with many crosscurrents in its politics, culture and business. Similarly our alumni and friends here represent a rich variety of backgrounds and interests and should be a great source of ideas and initiatives.

Some of our members here (and I suspect from other parts of Europe) have challenged themselves with the Pilgrimage of Santiago, known as the Camino de Santiago, which has its source points throughout Europe and Spain and ends in the province of Galicia. This year happens to be a “Jubilee Year” and huge numbers of pilgrims from all over the world are expected to make the trek.

In that same spirit, perhaps this year the Notre Dame community in Spain will find its legs and begin a new road of its own.

American Thanksgiving with a Spanish turkey for an Irish crowd
That pretty much sums it up! The Munana family reached out to the Toledo year abroad program to invite the students to a traditional Thanksgiving at their home in Madrid. Rosa Almoguera, who runs the Toledo program, was very helpful in coordinating a group of fifteen hungry and enthusiastic Domers. We cheated a bit on the traditions, and the Friday following is not considered a big shopping day in Spain, but nonetheless the spirit of the holiday was much in evidence.

As a family, we were thrilled to host the group and to spend some time hearing their stories. Clearly this is a crowd that does not sit still and almost everyone had already spent a good amount of time traveling in the Iberian Peninsula and to other parts of Europe and North Africa. Another theme that struck us was the strong awareness of international affairs and the aspiration to effect positive change in a rapidly evolving global environment. I am sure we will see and hear more from this gang.

(N.B. A word of advice for anyone considering doing something like this in the future: Do be sure to inform whoever is doing the cooking and preparations—in this case it was my wife Margarita—at least a day in advance that you plan to be invaded by a large number of youthful persons on Thanksgiving night!) Contact: cmunana@aol.com
Notre Dame Alumni Clubs are recognized for their efforts each year at the annual Alumni Senate in April. The award-winning clubs are selected by the Clubs Committee of the ND Alumni Association Board based on recommendations of Board Regional Directors. The Program of Excellence is one of several awards that are awarded annually by the Alumni Association. This award is presented to clubs that are judged to have outstanding overall programs and that have met the ‘Six Cs’ criteria. The ‘Six Cs’ are: Camaraderie, Catholic Spirituality, Current Students, Community Service, Continuing Education and Communication. Minimum criteria for the award vary by club size. There is no limit on the number of clubs receiving Program of Excellence Awards. A patch is provided to each winning club for display on the club’s pennant. During 2009, the ND Club of London was very active with many new initiatives, some of which included a joint student/alumni lecture series, UND Celebration and a new monthly newsletter. They also launched a new website. The club continues its tradition of student/alumni dinners, student welcome activities, monthly pub nights, game watches and charity events. Congratulations to the ND Club of London and to all of the clubs that received awards at Alumni Senate in April 2010!

Rome was host to the special 25th Annual Medical Ethics Conference. This conference, usually held on University of Notre Dame campus, has been organized by the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture since 1985. The week began on Sunday, March 7, with Mass at the Church of the Gesu followed by a reception at Archimede Sant’Eustachio. This was the first of many magnificent Baroque churches we would see this week! The following morning, Notre Dame Ph.D. candidates Claire Brown, Richard Kim and Bryan Pilkington presented papers. Plenty of time was allotted early in the week for touring of the Eternal City—the frequent showers dampening everything but spirits. Organized tours for the Scavi, Dominican and Jesuit sites, local churches and Papal Offices were available. A Papal audience was organized for the Wednesday morning, and the Notre Dame group was presented by name to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.

Setting the week’s theme, lectures by Notre Dame staff during the first four days included a comparison of American and European Bioethics by Professor David Solomon, Director of Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture, as well as a comparison of the regulation of death in Europe and America by John Robinson, Associate Dean of Notre Dame Law School. Kevin Flannery, S.J., gave his mid-week lecture, Making End of Life Decisions with the Help of Thomas Aquinas at the Pontifical Gregorian University for a bit of medieval flavor. The slow pace of the week ended on Thursday night, with a reflection on changing ethics in Alzheimer’s by Thierry Collaud, M.D., Ph.D.

Friday, the real work began in earnest at the beautiful facilities at the Pontifical University of Santa Croce with the annual J. Philip Clarke Family lecture. This year’s lecture, given by Fr. Michael Sherwin, O.P. from University of Fribourg, was entitled Truth, Freedom and Medicine: Towards a New Anthropology of Healing.

A mixture of panel discussions, small groups, and case studies covered topics such as euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide, neonatal resuscitation, health resource rationing and ageism. Important areas of debate this year were the policies towards neonatal euthanasia the Netherlands, the current health care reform package and American physician-assisted suicide laws. Discussions were kept lively, as always, with special help from Texan philosophers H. Tristam Engelhardt M.D., Ph.D and Mark Cherry, Ph.D.

The conference concluded on Saturday night, followed by Mass at La Chiesa della Santa Croce e San Bonaventura followed by yet more rich Italian food and superb local wine. A total of 83 philosophers, doctors, students, lawyers—and even a veterinarian, made the trip. Those all the way from South Bend included St. Mary’s Chair of Philosophy, Kevin McDonnell Ph.D, and Fr. James Foster, M.D., CSC, Assistant Dean of the College of Science and Chair of Preprofessional Studies. Local alumnus, A.J. Boyd ’00, met up with us for Mass and some local Chianti.
The ND Haiti Program
You can make a difference
by Kathleen McCann ’00, ND Ireland

Haiti was global news in January this year after the devastating earthquake. The world rushed aid to a country with shortages of food, water, shelter, and healthcare. However, in the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, many Haitians lived with shortages of food and clean water—and especially basic healthcare—even before the earthquake. The magnitude of the earthquake, that would have been devastating anywhere, was further compounded by lack of emergency services, transport, or adequate medical facilities. There was probably no country in the Western Hemisphere less equipped for such as disaster.

Since 1999, the Notre Dame Haiti program, led by Fr. Tom Streit, CSC has been dedicated to eliminating lymphathic filariasis. This disfiguring disease, also known as elephantiasis, affects about 26% of the population. Transmission of the disease could be halted by a simple process of fortifying local salt with a compound known as DEC. The “salt project” has been funded and supported by the CDC and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Fr. Streit has been working to overcome obstacles including poverty as well as lack of infrastructure and education. This project is close to the heart of Kathleen McCann ’00 volunteering at the ND Center in Haiti.

The ND House in Haiti − still standing and providing a welcoming home for medical teams.

Professor Emil T. Hofman, who brings over groups of medical professionals for “Reconnaissance Trips” to introduce them to the needs of Haiti and the Notre Dame program.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, the ND Center in Leogane has shifted its focus to coordinating with other international relief organizations in running a field hospital and providing basic medical and surgical services. The effort, coordinated by Dr. Ralph Pennino, needs ongoing medical volunteers and funding. As Dr. Pennino points out, Americans are used to quick fixes. Haiti will take years to recover.

I travelled with Prof. Hofman to Haiti last year, and I went back this April to lend surgical support to the team in Leogane. The trip isn’t easy—especially all the way from Dublin! Malaria, mosquito nets and heat are some of the inconveniences, but it’s worth it.

The ND Haiti program is a great thing to support this month through the Hesburgh Month of Service initiative to pay tribute to Fr. Hesburgh’s tradition of service.

For more information and to see a great video on the pre-earthquake effort in Haiti, go to www.eagreen.com/tad. To donate or learn more about Fr. Tom's project, go to haiti.nd.edu. Feel free to e-mail me at kmccann@alumni.nd.edu.

Hesburgh Month of Service May 2010

Alumni and friends of Notre Dame in Europe are invited to participate in a ND Alumni Association initiative this May in honor of Father Hesburgh. The Hesburgh Month of Service was established in 2007 to celebrate Fr. Ted's birthday and his lifetime of volunteer service.

This is the first year that Notre Dame Clubs in Europe are participating. We have chosen to support the Notre Dame Haiti Program as we pay tribute to Fr. Hesburgh’s tradition of service. Financial contributions of any amount can be made in support of the Notre Dame Haiti Program to aid relief efforts, in thanksgiving for what we have been given by Notre Dame and in petition for international justice and peace, two things Fr. Hesburgh has a history of fighting for. Your gift will go directly to addressing the disaster in Haiti and rebuilding the program.

How you can participate:
All information can be found on the Hesburgh Month of Service website: alumni.nd.edu/hesburghservice under “international clubs”.

The ND Haiti Program is a great thing to support as alumni and friends of Notre Dame around the world. Thank you for your participation in this initiative!
American University Clubs (AUC) France
Connecting alumni in Europe
by Michael P. Barrett ’07, ND France

American University Clubs (AUC) France, founded in 1993, brings together alumni of American universities living in France from all nationalities and announces monthly networking events in its newsletters. President Aurélien Cottet graciously answered my questions about AUC. If you would like to learn more, their website is: http://www.etheryl.net/AUC/ or contact Aurélien at: auc@acottet.com

Tell me about AUC—when was it founded, what are its missions, if it has a worldwide network?
Many years ago, the various American alumni groups in Paris took turns organizing the Annual Cocktail at the American Ambassador’s residence. In 1993, several alumni groups decided to create an umbrella organization, AUC, to plan this important and highly sought-after event. Over time, AUC broadened its scope. Today, the organization links presidents of the various American alumni associations so that their members can broaden their networks and make contacts and friends within other groups. AUC creates synergy between different American alumni associations in France and has become a great “tool” for promoting alumni events within the American community.

How does one become a member? Does one have to pay? Is it limited to graduates of American universities?
AUC is an organization that brings together American university alumni associations that have a chapter in France, like Notre Dame. It’s important to keep in mind that our charter is set up so that only these groups can be members. The various alumni associations do pay a symbolic annual fee. However, anyone who studied in the United States, regardless of nationality, can be on our mailing list free of charge.

How many members are there for AUC France? How many U.S. universities are involved?
In France, there are approximately fifty different member groups, all from the United States. We have around two thousand alumni who receive our monthly event newsletter.

Have you worked with John Fonseca and Notre Dame France before? Have Notre Dame alumni attended events?
I have not yet had the pleasure of working with John, but I am sure we will have an opportunity in the near future. I am very familiar with Notre Dame, and your alumni are an important part of our organization. Recently, I had the opportunity to visit your beautiful campus and spent a nice moment touring and taking pictures of the great Golden Dome.

Who organizes events and which partners do you work with?
In addition to AUC directly and our various alumni association members, the American Chamber of Commerce (Paris, Rhône-Alpes-Auvergne, Côte d’Azur/Monaco, Midi-Pyrénées/Toulouse, Bordeaux, Nord/Lille, Alsace-Lorraine/Strasbourg), Cercle France-Amériques, French American Foundation, the American Clubs of Paris, Toulouse and Lyon.

How did you personally get involved?
I am a proud alumnus of Georgia Tech, where I earned a Masters’ Degree in Aerospace Engineering (Go Yellow Jackets!). When I moved back to France, I became involved in and was elected Vice President of the Georgia Tech Club in France, and I was also VP of the Young Section of the Cercle France-Amériques. For France-Amériques, I was in charge of relations between alumni clubs. I volunteered to help AUC organize the annual cocktail at the Ambassador’s residence and it was a natural progression to become President of AUC.

Is it limited to Paris? Tell me about expansion plans you have elsewhere in France, and plans for long-term growth?
AUC was once limited to Paris. Since I have been President, I am proud to say that AUC is expanding into other regions of France. We now have branches of AUC in Lyon, Toulouse, Aix-en-Provence, Marseille and Monaco. Future cities include Strasbourg, Lille and Bordeaux. These extensions have been possible thanks to local clubs that already started an American gathering community in these regions of France. Eventually, we would love to have branches of AUC outside of France.

Lastly, why do you think it is a good idea to bring together graduates of United States universities in France?
There are benefits for both French and American people. When you are French and a graduate of an American university, you have lived a unique experience that has changed you forever. Coming back to France, many people feel lost and look for people who can understand them, who can relate to them. It is often the same for Americans living in France. They still want to keep an American link. For many people, college was one of the best times of their lives, and it is easier to connect with others who have had similar experiences. AUC brings together these two types of people and reminds us that our similarities are greater than our differences.
European Admissions Update
by Jennifer Ely Nemecek
International Admissions Liaison for Europe, Central Balkans, and the Middle East; University of Notre Dame

After completing my first European recruiting season at Notre Dame, I am happy with the progress we are making thus far. I have attended college fairs, conferences, visited schools and met alumni in England, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, France, Belgium and Spain. The two most important parts of my job are to connect with alumni in the region and working with Notre Dame study abroad centers in Europe. In a country, alumni and study abroad center staff help me understand the academic climate of a county, help identify schools to contact, make introductions and it is because of this collaboration that we have seen a spike in applications this year from European students.

Although we have just started recruiting in Europe, we’ve already seen a growth in applications from students in the region. This year we received 92 applications from Americans living in Europe and European international students. This represents an increase of 29% over last year. True international applicants from Europe went up by 27%. These are significant changes compared to past historical data where we only saw very modest fluctuations and/or a downward trend in numbers.

Hesburgh International Scholars Experience 2010
by Rubén de Jesus C. Medina ’05, Assistant Director, International Admissions; University of Notre Dame

The Hesburgh International Scholars Experience (HISE) was founded by Mr. Christopher Lund, Chair of the Latin American & Caribbean Advisory Council, three years ago. The purpose of HISE is to showcase Notre Dame to the best and brightest admitted international students during the spring in an effort to convince them to confirm with ND.

The first year we invited 24 students from Latin America, Spain and Puerto Rico, of which 19 attended the program and 12 will be Juniors next semester. During the second year we expanded the program and invited 36 students from Latin America and Puerto Rico of which 32 attended the program and 23 will be Sophomores. This year it was decided to fully expand the program to Europe in large part due to Ane Miren Perez, our original Hesburgh Scholar from Spain, who has done great work representing her country and the University.

Thus, this spring we invited 56 students of which 44 attended the program and as of today 26 are confirmed as first-year students for next semester. Of the 44 that attended HISE 2010, seven students were from Europe: United Kingdom (2), France (1), Ireland (1), Switzerland (2) and Belgium (1). So far of these seven European Hesburgh Scholars, four have confirmed their attendance to Notre Dame. Our hope is to continue expanding the program in Europe to bring even more bright students from the region as we look to establish a stronger ND presence in Europe.

Of the 92 who applied, 16 were admitted from eight European countries. Of the 16 who were accepted, 9 were invited to campus to participate in the Hesburgh International Scholars Program. Although we still have a long way to go as far as reaching European students, we are off to a great start.

Next fall I will be building on the contacts I have already established and branching out to schools recommended by alumni in the region. If you would like to suggest a school for me to reach out to, please feel free to drop me an email at nemecek.1@nd.edu. With so many great high schools in Europe, it’s hard to reach them all by myself. This past year, alumni have been instrumental in attending college fairs in Belgium, England, Germany and Italy so we can broaden our reach. If you know of a local college fair at or near your city, and you would like to attend as an alumni/admissions representative, I can send you some material and brief you on common questions so you feel comfortable speaking to students. Many other alumni of U.S. schools attend such events so I welcome your participation.

Thank you for a great recruiting season, and I look forward to your support as we prepare for the next academic year.
Hesburgh International Scholars Experience 2010
Photo highlights

Hesburgh International Scholars Experience Reception in the Press Box, Notre Dame Stadium.

Rubén de Jesus C. Medina ’05, Assistant Director of International Admissions (left), with Hesburgh Scholars at the HISE Luncheon.

Hesburgh Scholars pose with the Notre Dame seal on campus during HISE.

Fr. Theodore Hesburgh C.S.C. speaks to the Hesburgh Scholars in the Penthouse of Hesburgh Library.

From left to right: Christopher Lund, Chair of the Latin American & Caribbean Advisory Council; Carmen Nanni; Fr. Jim McDonald, Associate VP and Counselor to the President; Sofia Nanni; and Lou Nanni, Vice President for University Relations.

HISE attendees enjoy the evening at the Press Box reception.
International Students from Europe
Reflections on the Notre Dame experience

Name: Maria Capotescu  
Hometown: Timisoara, Romania  
Major: Accounting and German  
Class: 2012

Notre Dame sparked my interest during my third year in high school. I had my first extended international experience as an exchange student in Indianapolis. Notre Dame representatives came to the high school I attended and talked to prospective students about the wonderful opportunities we would have here. Two years later I set foot for the first time in my new home under the dome. What I like most about ND is its welcoming and accepting community and the plethora of opportunities that students can take advantage of. These are reflected in the diverse activities I am now pursuing on campus. I’m Accounting major with a supplementary major in German. My love for the German language and its culture motivated me to study in Berlin in the spring of 2011. On campus, I’m involved in Student International Business Council where I’m working on an accounting project with Deloitte and Touche. I’m also advertising commissioner for my dorm and a member of the German club for which I’ll be Treasurer next year. On weekends I volunteer with Special Friends by tutoring a child affected by autism. In addition to these activities, I work as a library assistant at the Business Information Center in the College of Business and am a German Teaching Assistant. This summer I’ll be working as audit intern for the accounting firm KPMG in my hometown in Romania. ND has made these experiences possible and I couldn’t have asked for more.

Name: Ane Miren Perez Ortega  
Hometown: Bilbao (Vizcaya), Spain  
Studying: Business  
Class: 2012

Notre Dame truly is my home away from home. I knew I wanted to study in the United States my senior year of high school, but I didn’t have much information about universities in the United States (nor the application process). I started doing some research on the Internet and I found Notre Dame recognized as “Parents most desired school for their children.” My parents immediately paid more attention to this school, and we found out that it was in the top twenty in the country. The programs and the pictures featured on the website were attractive enough, so I decided to apply. I didn’t know at that point in time that I was probably making the most important (and also the best) decision of my life. Luckily for me, the University had set up a program that same year for which prospective students from Latin America and Spain were invited to visit Notre Dame (all expenses paid) for three days. This program (Hesburgh International Scholars Experience) is what made me fall in love with this place. The people, the atmosphere, the spirit, the dorms, the classes, everything was exactly what I wanted from a place that would have to be my home for the next four years. I met great people at that program that right now are my best friends. Sure enough, two days after I got back from my trip to ND, I confirmed with ND and I couldn’t be happier. Today, I work for International Admissions at ND as an assistant, and I am in charge of the HISE program that has already expanded (in just two years) to Europe. I want high school students to experience what I did when I first stepped on this campus!

Name: Gianluca Puliti  
Hometown: Roseto degli Abruzzi, Italy  
Studying: Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering  
Class: 2010 (M.S.), 2012 (Ph.D.)

I came to Notre Dame for the first time in the summer of 2003 for eight weeks. This visit was part of my undergraduate research experience while attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) in Daytona Beach, Florida. I was so touched by the beauty and magic of the Notre Dame campus, that I came again in the summer of 2005 for another undergraduate research project. At this point I was invited by my research advisor here at Notre Dame to apply for graduate school, since I was just a year away from graduating with my Bachelor’s degrees at ERAU. I did apply to ND and to a few other major universities in the country. I was accepted in many of them, but Notre Dame was my dream, and I didn’t hesitate a moment to transfer here in the Fall of 2006 to start working towards my Doctorate. Since then, Notre Dame has inspired me profoundly and has enhanced my academic, spiritual and personal life. Because of the genuine people comprising the Notre Dame community, along with its deeply rooted Catholic values, I feel at home here more than anywhere else. Notre Dame has an awe-inspiring campus. From its serene nature to its picturesque architecture, you feel the magic everywhere. On days I feel most overwhelmed, I enjoy leisure bike rides along the trails of the lakes, which helps to clear my mind. When I stepped foot on campus for the first time, I instantly wanted to be part of the culture. Seven years later, I’m proud of my decision, and have had an unforgettable experience. The spirit of ND will live in me forever.

(continued on next page)
Name: Gergo Szakmany  
Hometown: Kerepes, Hungary  
Major: Electrical Engineering  
Class: 2012 (graduate school)

I was an undergraduate in Hungary when I first heard about Notre Dame. In 2005, I came here for a summer as a student to participate in the NanoBio REU program (Research Experience for Undergraduate). I saw a lot of opportunities to do research, and the well-equipped labs just amazed me. I had a chance to work in the nanofabrication facility and I was introduced into nanofabrication. The natural beauty of the campus attracted me so much. During my senior year at home I applied to the Notre Dame Graduate School, and fortunately I was admitted to the Electrical Engineering Department. It is very exciting to be a graduate student here especially since the new engineering building (Stinson-Remick Hall) has been completed. It is equipped with state-of-the-art machines and microscopes, what I can use during my research on antennas in nanoscale. I’m working under Dr. Porod’s advisory. I’m very glad to be able to do my advanced studies at a Catholic university. I especially enjoy the opportunity to participate in daily masses either in the beautiful basilica or in the newly built Holy Cross Chapel, which is located in the engineering building.

Keeping the Peace  
An international career in diplomacy
by Dr. Oana-Cristina N. Popa ’96 M.A., Former Ambassador of Romania to the Republic of Croatia (2005-09), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania

A fter earning my master’s degree in international peace studies at the Joan B. Kroc Institute of the University of Notre Dame in 1996 and a Ph.D. in history and international relations at the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj, Romania in 2001, I joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Before that I had been the Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission in Romania for almost four years.

I was appointed ambassador of Romania to Croatia in 2005 and served until the end of 2009. I had always been interested in international affairs, but it was at the Kroc Institute that I became interested in the idea of a career in diplomacy.

Today diplomacy has changed a lot, in a sense that traditional bilateral diplomacy is very different from what it used to be twenty years ago. As an ambassador you don’t just deal with bilateral relations between two countries, you deal with issues that involve entire regions, third parties, and international organizations. You need to discuss many topics knowledgeable. The Kroc Institute helped me learn to accumulate large amounts of information in a short period of time and that came in really handy ten years later. Therefore I was very happy and honored to return in 2006, ten years after graduation, to the University of Notre Dame in order to receive the Kroc Institute’s Distinguished Alumni Award for outstanding achievements.

Being a high level diplomat is an honoring but at the same time challenging job. You are the exponent of your country, your people, your culture and history in a different part of the world where some may not know much about where you come from. People look at your country by the way they look at you and that is a huge responsibility.

I have been twice honored by the president of Romania with medals of diplomatic merit and at the end of my mandate in Croatia by the Croatian president with the Order of Duke Branimir. This has been a great reward for my work.

On a personal level I have tried to combine work with family life, not always an easy task. I am married to Calin Neacsu, senior correspondent for Agence France Presse currently working in the Paris HQ of the organization. We have a son, Mario, age 14 months, born in Zagreb, with whom I am currently enjoying a few months of leave until my next assignment.
Community-Based Learning for ND undergraduates in Europe
by Rosie McDowell ’93, ’07 M.N.A.
Director, Community Based Learning Outreach, Center for Social Concerns

The Center for Social Concerns (CSC) continues its initiative to promote community-based learning opportunities to Notre Dame students while they study abroad. Spring 2010 saw two courses with community-based learning components offered by ND faculty members.

Prof. Kevin Whelan again offered “Introduction to Ireland” to students studying in Dublin. Ten students in that course were placed in community agencies serving at risk youth, tutoring older students returning to university level education, animating events and visiting the elderly, and assisting in ESL courses with unaccompanied minors who are refugees to Ireland.

Children of the Migrant Moon
Teaching in London in Spring 2010, Prof. Anton Juan offered “Migration Issues in Contemporary British Theatre.” Besides reading and analyzing theatre pieces focused on the theme of migration, the students worked in a parish community organizing effort and with school children and their parents who are recent immigrants to London. This connection to Sacred Heart School in Battersea builds on a long-standing relationship between the ND London Centre and the school administrators. The result of the community immersion was a theatre production, written and produced by students in the class to give voice to the immigration stories shared with them over the semester.

Professor Juan offered this reflection on the course: “Indeed I have come out of this experience, as my class has, with fond memories and, even more so, a new knowledge not only to keep for ourselves but to contribute to the world. Most of all, the students have seen how theatre can indeed be the forceful tool to unite and speak out issues from diverse origins, from conceptual framework onto the space of the theatre and beyond.”

The performance, held at Sacred Heart School, played to a full auditorium on April 23rd. Peter Balestracci, a history major and Italian minor in the class, shared this reflection: “I learned a lot from this class—about migration stories and the people who tell them, about the dynamics of the transmission of history from generation to generation, and the difference between the truth and what is often told to sugar-coat things. I learned that not everyone’s stories are painful. Many people have very successful migration stories, and others aren’t so fortunate. All in all, I met a wonderful group of people, heard their stories, and hopefully gave them an opportunity to express themselves and their culture.”

As greater numbers of students are studying abroad and Notre Dame moves forward with its efforts to internationalize, combining study abroad with community-based learning is one way to promote engagement and deeper learning for students in their host communities.

Rosie McDowell directs this initiative for the CSC in collaboration with on-site faculty and staff in Europe and the Office of International Studies on campus. Contact Rosie at McDowell.9@nd.edu to learn more.

How Europe Alumni can get involved:
Share your contacts: If you are active as staff, a volunteer or on the board of an NGO or nonprofit that would accept students to intern, volunteer or visit, please help us build a network of partner community organizations. Contact Rosie McDowell with your suggestions of places where study abroad students might have an opportunity to learn about social issues while in Europe.

Become a ‘fan’ of the CSC on Facebook
Visit the CSC’s website to learn about community-based learning opportunities: www.socialconcerns.nd.edu
One Bag of Plantain Chips at a Time
A Kiva fellow in Ecuador
by Leigh Madeira ’07

Ever since Mohammed Yunus won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for his work using microcredit as a poverty-fighting tool, microfinance has been at the center of a global controversy. On the one hand, it has been called “the most visible innovation in anti-poverty policy in the last half century”. On the other hand, some people claim that it is a usurious business that takes advantage of the poor and causes over-indebtedness*. As a Notre Dame finance major with a passion for service, I found the concept of making small loans to poor entrepreneurs extremely appealing and decided I wanted to learn more and see just how effective this “social investing” was at leveraging loans—as opposed to donations— in order to alleviate global poverty.

As such, I am proud to be writing this article from the offices of a microfinance institution in Guayaquil, Ecuador, where I am volunteering as a Kiva Fellow for three months. Kiva is a nonprofit organization that partners with microfinance institutions all over the world to provide them with interest-free loans. The financing comes from people just like you and me. Anyone can go to kiva.org and see profiles of entrepreneurs in developing nations seeking small loans to grow their businesses. By loaning as little as $25, you can join dozens of other “social investors” also funding a particular entrepreneur’s loan. You do not receive interest on your loan, but you do get your money back as the client repays**, along with updates on the entrepreneur’s business status.

In order to make this business model work, Kiva partners with microfinance institutions across the globe (called Field Partners) who upload photos and stories of their borrowers to help seek out funding from Kiva lenders. As a fellow, I was placed with a Field Partner in Ecuador where I have been meeting borrowers and ensuring that this microfinance institution upholds the ethical and financial standards required of a Kiva partner.

I had never really spent any time in a third world country before coming to Ecuador, and tried to keep an open mind, yet nothing could have prepared me for the culture shock of seeing what true poverty looks like at a nationwide level. I passed a protest on my way to work during my first week, only it wasn’t a protest involving lofty issues like animal cruelty, abortion, or gay rights—as is common in the United States. No, these people had taken to the streets to fight for something that I had considered a basic human necessity—access to clean water. Once, while out in the field visiting clients, I was about to throw some trash into what I thought was a garbage can, but which turned out to be a container holding a family’s weekly water supply since they do not have the luxury of running water in many areas here. I quickly learned that while a six hundred dollar loan may not go very far in supporting an American business, it can truly change lives in a country like Ecuador, where businesses I have worked with range from (continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)

village plantain stands to bicycle-riding fish salesman to talented shoe makers.

Working with diverse and unusual businesses like these, it’s no surprise that the best part of my job is getting out and meeting the clients who have received loans funded through Kiva. Although they don’t transform their businesses overnight, it is evident that access to affordable credit helps clients grow their businesses and smooth their income over the long haul. If someone falls ill in the family, the client doesn’t have to choose between paying medical bills and replenishing their store inventory. If a specific product is on sale, the client can use part of the loan to stock up and make a better profit because of it. While these developments may seem trivial to us, they do make a difference in the lives of clients, helping small communities grow and flourish one tiny bag of plantain chips at a time.

Now that I am here actually experiencing microfinance for myself, I must admit that it is not some perfect panacea for eliminating global poverty—additional work fighting political corruption, fixing local infrastructure, improving health care, and providing better education is also key to solving this greater problem. But microfinance is also not just a clever scheme to take advantage of the poor, as some skeptics like to claim. In this time of financial crisis, it is tempting to only focus on bigger macro issues, but I would argue that the poor across the globe represent the world’s largest untapped resource and its best opportunity for economic growth. Microfinance has the power to uplift the poor in a sustainable way, which aside from being a fantastic philanthropic selling point, can play a big role in beginning to grow the local economies of developing nations. With that, I encourage all of you to “think small” and get involved by making a $25 loan on kiva.org today!

Leigh Madeira is a 2007 graduate of Notre Dame, a Finance major with a minor in Japanese. Leigh also studied Spanish and spent a semester abroad in Toledo, Spain. Learn more about Kiva and the Fellows Program and make a loan today to a worthy entrepreneur!

How you can participate:

- Visit kiva.org to make a loan today! 100% of your loan gets passed on to the Field Partners.
- Learn more about the Kiva Fellows Program at: www.kiva.org/fellows
- Follow Leigh’s official Kiva Fellows Blog at: fellowsblog.kiva.org and search “Leigh Madeira”
- Join the “University of Notre Dame” and “University of Notre Dame – International Alumni” lending teams on Kiva to show your Irish pride for Kiva!
- Please contact Leigh at leigh.madeira@fellows.kiva.org with any questions or comments.

“As with any industry, there are unethical institutions out there that take advantage of the poor, creating a bad name for all of microfinance. However, Kiva is committed to only partnering with legitimate, socially-conscious microfinance institutions, which is one of the reasons why they have the Fellows Program in the first place.

**Kiva has over a 98% loan-repayment rate.**

Kiva

Helping others in your neighborhood and beyond

Kiva (www.kiva.org) is the world’s first person-to-person micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend directly to unique entrepreneurs around the globe. Its mission is to connect people through lending for the sake of alleviating poverty.

Did you know that there is a “University of Notre Dame – International Alumni” Kiva Lending Team? You can join the team at: www.kiva.org/community/viewTeam?team_id=2699

This team was started by alumnae and past Regional Director Pai Gee-Janssens ’97, and currently has nine other ND alumni members. We lend because we want to share and promote Notre Dame’s greatest traditions: a commitment to faith, learning, family and service.

You can go to Kiva’s website and lend to someone in the developing world who needs a loan for their business—such as raising goats, selling vegetables at market, or making bricks. Each loan has a picture of the entrepreneur, a description of their business and how they plan to use the loan so you know exactly how your money is being spent.

You receive updates letting you know how the business is going. The best part is, when the entrepreneur pays back their loan, you get your money back. Kiva’s loans are managed by existing expert microfinance institutions and provide a data-rich transparent lending platform, so you can trust that your money is being handled responsibly.

“Finally it’s easy to actually do something about poverty—using Kiva, I know exactly who my money is loaned to and what they’re using it for. And most of all, I know that I’m helping them build a sustainable business that will provide income to feed, clothe, house and educate their family long after my loan is paid back. Once the loan is paid back (crossing fingers!), I can choose to take the money out or give the money back as another loan.”—Pai Gee-Janssens ’97

Join us in changing the world—one loan at a time.
ND Women Connect is an initiative that the Alumni Association launched in May 2009. There are several ND Women Connect chapters throughout the United States, and the network is growing. The official website is womenconnect.undgroup.org. Contact your local ND club to learn about how you can unite with other ND alumnae. In tribute to all the amazing ND women in the world, ND Europe is pleased to introduce you to three ND alumnae who connected with love and life in Ireland…

**Contradictory Truths**
by Brittny Heinrich Ryan ’06
My life has always represented that famous quote about people embodying contradictory truths. I grew up mucking out stalls on a cattle ranch but loved reading Homer. I captained the varsity volleyball team during the same season I donned a cheerleading outfit every Friday night on our football sidelines. And when it came to college, I proudly wore my kugen-making, bierock-loving German Lutheran heart on my sleeve despite choosing the most proud and traditionally Catholic campus in the world.

Life after college has followed the same pattern. I met my husband, a County Meath man, during my semester abroad—in Spain of all places—and a week after I graduated in 2006, I found all my worldly possessions packed into a crate and a one-way plane ticket in my hand despite the fact that the film and television industry lay to the West. I’ve been here in Ireland ever since. We both come from farming backgrounds and have built a home with animals to care for and fields to till out in the countryside. As the Irish would say, it makes us both as happy as pigs in … rhymes with right. Sometimes it feels like we have secret identities since professionally we both commute to Dublin every day. He works as an industrial engineer while I move between marketing, promotions and television production. Our two lives—the city and the country—probably wouldn’t recognize each other if ever the twain should meet, but I have found that sentiment epitomizes modern-day Ireland. The past, the present and the future all seem to simultaneously run parallel and contradictory to each other. I think that means I found a good match. (Contact Brittny at: brittny.heinrich@gmail.com)

**Dual Citizenship, Dueling Identities**
by Áine Richards ’07
Shortly after graduating from Notre Dame I decided that the time had come to finally make proper use of my Irish citizenship. Though born and raised in Seattle, I was lucky enough to have dual citizenship thanks to my Irish-born mother. Growing up, I was never quite as American as my classmates, but summers spent in Ireland confirmed that I was not really Irish either. I was something else, neither able nor willing to fully embrace either identity.

In 2007 I moved to Ireland with the intention of spending a year working, traveling and figuring out what to do with my life. I was hoping to find adventure, romance and maybe even myself. It took two years longer than expected, but I eventually found all three, in spades.

In December, I will receive my M.Sc. in Human Rights from University College Dublin and plan to go on to a career in development work. In the meantime I will make the most of my time in Dublin, continuing to uncover the secrets of my other home and cultivating the wonderful relationships I have established. Though neither fully Irish nor fully American, I get to experience the best of both. (Contact Áine at ainerichards@gmail.com)

**Unexpected Joy**
by Beth Marchal McGettrick ’07
I went to study abroad in Ireland rather reluctantly in September 2005, my junior year. I was having such a great time at Notre Dame that I couldn’t imagine what Ireland had to offer that could be better. I found out in January 2006 when I fell in love with Seamas McGettrick, from Sligo in the west of Ireland.

I returned to Notre Dame for my final year, but afterwards came back to Ireland, working with a charity called Friends of the Elderly. Seamas and I got married in July 2009. I now live in Dublin city centre with Seamas, a postdoctoral researcher and engineer in University College Dublin. I am completing my final month of my Masters in Social Work in Trinity College Dublin.

I am greatly enjoying being a student social worker on an interdisciplinary team working with children and adults with intellectual disabilities and their families. I’m now so very grateful that I came to Ireland, as I can’t imagine anything happier. It’s a very joyful life getting to live in the middle of Dublin with Seamas and spend much time with both of our families in Sligo and Illinois. Feel free to reach out and connect with me. (Contact Beth at bethmcgettrick@gmail.com)
Alumni Profiles
Domers in Portugal, Belgium and Greece

António Carlos Fonseca ’77 Ph.D.
(ND Portugal)
ND class/studies: 1977, doctorate in Physics
Profession: Scientific Research, Vice Dean
College of Science
In Europe since: 1978
Language(s): Portuguese, English, French and Spanish
Favorite country: Argentina, United States, France
Favorite quote: Hard to pick. Depends on the circumstances.
Anything else you want to share about yourself or life in general?
I have three children, 38, 36 and 27—one girl and two boys, in that order. My daughter is a nun in “Sementes do Verbo” in Palmas, Brazil. One of my sons lives in São Paulo, Brazil and the other is starting his Ph.D. in Physical Geography/Geomorphology. I enjoy gardening and exercising.

Francois Delvaux de Fenffe ’95 M.B.A.
(ND Belgium; club president)
ND class/studies: 1995, M.B.A.
Further education: Specialization in Pricing Strategy and Tactics at the University of Chicago, Executive Education
Profession: Partner and co-founder of Minds&More (Marketing and sales consulting, project management and staffing firm based in Belgium with over 20 seasoned experts)
In Europe since: 2007, first year was based in London working for Monitor Group and then one year later relocated to Belgium
Language(s): English, French, Dutch
Favorite city: Brussels, Prague or Cape Town—hard to choose as each offers its own mysteries
Favorite country: Belgium and Switzerland—while small, they offer a lot of cultural variety
Favorite quote: “If there is a will there is a way”.
Anything else you want to share about yourself or life in general?
After the MBA at ND, I continued my passion in marketing services and my wife and I moved to Boston. After 12 years, we were ready for a return to Belgium in 2007 and moved to Europe with our three kids (who were born in Boston). The family integrated very well and the company that I launched in 2009 has taken off. I’m still in the world of providing expert marketing services (I think the ND professors would be proud). In 2010 I’m looking to relaunch activities for the ND Club of Belgium, and as President, to make fun things happen with the rest of the members.

Yannis Koutroulis ’04 M.Sc.
(ND Greece; club president)
ND class/studies: 2004, Electrical Engineering
Further education: Investigating for an MBA
Profession: Project Manager, Billing Systems Engineer
In Europe since: Spring 2004
Language(s): English, German and Greek
Favorite city: Chicago and Athens
Favorite country: Combination of the United States and Greece
Favorite quote: “Αλήθεια στην Ζωή του Πατρίδος” It sounds better in Greek, but in English it would be something like: “Sad is he who’s torn between two homelands” (for once you’ve tasted the best of two worlds, you can’t settle for one only; there will always be something missing). Also, one that I learned at ND: “The sky is the limit”.
Anything else you want to share about yourself or life in general?
I always think of the time I spent at ND and of how lucky I was to be part of it. I had the unique opportunity to participate in a totally different education system, meet great people and make good friends. Living in the United States is an eye-opening experience as you come across all of the existing cultures on the planet. It feels like a mini trip around the world and for this experience I will always be grateful to Notre Dame and to my professor Panos Antsaklis for offering me this chance and for believing in me.
Life has been quite kind to me after returning back to Greece, perhaps the positive ND energy that follows me has contributed to that. I started working as a S/W Engineer and was able to quickly develop my career. Currently I am working as a Project Manager and Billing Systems Engineer while being involved in all kinds of innovative technologies like RFID and Photovoltaics.
The most important part of my life is my wife Maria and our two kids Helena and Elias. I really wish for them to have the opportunity to get a taste of what I experienced at ND.
**Domer Travel Tips: France**

The inside scoop on where to go from alumni abroad

by John Fonseca ’70, ’72 M.B.A.; and Michael P. Barrett ’07

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**Paris, France**

by John Fonseca ’70, ’72 M.B.A.

Paris is a beautiful city. The following list contains recommendations for places to stay (be forewarned, there are no cheap hotels in Paris) and things to do, including some of my favorite places to see.

Some hotels that I can recommend and personally vouch for:

- Hotel Odéon (Latin Quarter) [www.paris-hotel-odeon.com](http://www.paris-hotel-odeon.com)
- Hotel Jardin de l’Odéon (also in the Latin Quarter) [www.hoteljardinodeonparis.com](http://www.hoteljardinodeonparis.com)
- Hotel Pavillon de la Reine (just off the Place des Vosges; This hotel is not cheap, but even if you don’t stay there you must plan on a lunch or a dinner in this area.) [www.pavillon-de-la-reine.com](http://www.pavillon-de-la-reine.com)

The Marais, the area where the Place des Vosges is located, is my favorite part of Paris. This is very old Paris, and the Place des Vosges has lots of little restaurants and art galleries.

A few good restaurants that are not too pricey:

- Aux 2 Oliviers (22 rue de Vaugirard, 75006; Tel: 01 43 26 26 45)
- Le Rouge Gorge (8 rue Saint-Paul, 75004; Tel: 01 48 04 75 89)
- Restaurant La Cigale Recamier (4 rue Recamier, 75007; Tel: 01 45 48 87 87; This last one is a specialist in soufflés. A little more expensive than the other two, but really worth it.

My favorite things to see in Paris:

- Musée du Quai d’Orsay: This is where the Impressionist paintings can be found; better than the Louvre.
- Wine Museum: A private museum across the river from the Eiffel Tower, at 5-7 square Charles Dickens (Rue des eaux) in the 16th Arrondissement. You tour their underground cellars, get a good historical explanation of wine-making in France, and get to taste some wines. Tel: 01 45 25 63 26
- Versailles (one hour from downtown Paris)

Other things that must be seen in Paris are the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe (get a real understanding of the layout of Paris), the Opera House, and the Champs Elysées.

A very efficient way to see Paris is to take one of the Red double-decker buses that go from one tourist site to another. You buy a ticket and then you can hop-on and hop-off for the entire day or even for 24 hours.

For more tourist tips, the Paris Convention & Visitors Bureau is a very useful site: [http://en.parisinfo.com/](http://en.parisinfo.com/)

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**RHONE-ALPES, FRANCE: A DIVERSE REGION TO DISCOVER AND SAVOR**

by Michael P. Barrett ’07

[www.americanexpatinfrance.com](http://www.americanexpatinfrance.com)

Often when France is mentioned in conversation, Americans think automatically about Paris and perhaps the Côte d’Azur or Provence. This is certainly understandable, as these areas are integral parts of the world’s top tourist destination. But there is so much more to see. Lille, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Strasbourg, Nantes, Angers, Rennes, Biarritz, Brest, Caen, La Rochelle, Aix-en-Provence, Marseille, Dijon … these are all cities well worth a visit in regions that include pristine beaches, gravity-defining mountain ranges, rich vineyards and cosmopolitan cities where tradition and history mix with modernity and innovation.

One of my favorite regions is Rhône-Alpes, one of the largest and richest in the European Union. The two main economic centers are Lyon, with France’s 2nd largest area by population, and Grenoble, Capital of the Alps. I have lived in both cities and can tell you how dynamic, international and vibrant their cultures, student life and traditions are. Lyon has strong business clusters in the biotechnology, IT, logistics and pharmaceutical sectors, as well as still-used Roman amphitheaters, Vieux Lyon (the old town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site), world-famous gastronomy such as Paul Bocuse and a top football club in Olymique Lyonnais.

Grenoble is specialized in nanotechnology and known as France’s Silicon Valley as well as a great student town (with a very American-like campus). It also has the largest native English-speaking population in France outside of Paris (over 30,000) and its own local cuisine which includes tartiflette and raclette. Site worth visiting in the area include the Bastille, the Musée de Grenoble and the Château de Vizille (about 30 minutes away), which has beautiful grounds and the Musée de la Révolution Française. Other towns worth a visit in the region are beautiful Annecy, ski-famous Chambéry, as well as Vienne for its jazz festival and medieval Perouges.

- Main airports in the region:
  - Lyon St. Exupéry Airport
  - Grenoble Airport
- Public transport:
  - Lyon TCL
REPORT FROM A NANOVIC GRANTEE

A Concrete Development
Undergraduate research in Germany
by Kevin Godshall ’11
Student, University of Notre Dame

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies is committed to enriching the intellectual culture of Notre Dame. It creates an integrated, interdisciplinary home for students and faculty to explore the evolving ideas, cultures, beliefs, and institutions that shape Europe today. The Nanovic provides a variety of opportunities for Notre Dame students to connect with the history and culture of Europe. Among its most popular programs are the awards given for undergraduate and graduate research in Europe, and for undergraduate European internships.

You can find out more about the Nanovic Institute for European Studies at http://nanovic.nd.edu.

I spent last summer in the city of Aachen, Germany, participating in an internship organized and funded for me and over two dozen other American students by the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) and the Nanovic Institute. The internships were hosted by the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH Aachen), one of the most elite technical schools in Germany. I chose my particular project, “Improvement of Textile Reinforced Concrete via Polymeric Impregnation” when I applied in January and was placed with a team of German graduate students.

After settling in to my dormitory room and two weeks of intensive language class, full time research began. The overall goal of my team was to develop a versatile textile-concrete composite that could be used in a greater variety of applications than traditional concrete. One of the most common building materials, concrete has great compressive strength, is durable, cheap and easily poured into almost any shape; however, it does not function well in thin walls. To expand the versatility of concrete, the technique of ‘textile reinforcing’ concrete was developed. As textile-reinforced concrete is pulled, the tensile force is carried by cords called “rovings” that are within the concrete. In combining the best qualities of each material, textile-reinforced concrete has the possibility for many new applications.

To produce textile-reinforced concrete, concrete is poured around rovings stretched across a mould so that as the concrete dries, it bonds to the rovings inside of it. However, as the rovings are stretched, they contract, similar to how a rubber band narrows when pulled. Because of the Poisson effect, as it is called, the rovings will break their bonds with the concrete if they are stretched to a certain degree. My task was to gather data on how this process occurs. Firstly, a mould was created such that a cube of concrete a third of an inch across with a single roving through the center could be produced. Once a roving was placed across the mould, concrete was poured into the mould, a process which needed a fair amount of practice to do properly, as even the smallest air bubbles could affect the tests.

Concrete requires four weeks to fully cure, but in the mean time semiweekly language courses kept us busy and the coordinator of UROP had many other activities planned for us. Each American was paired with a German student, who took their American partner shopping, to parties, to their home, to barbeques and even to the Netherlands. Additionally, low-cost day trips were available to UROP students on many weekends, taking us to places such as Düsseldorf, Liege and Maastricht.

Once cured, the specimen—a small cube of concrete with a single roving though the center—was placed into a tensile testing machine. This is a device that pulls on the roving and records the amount of force necessary to deform it to a certain degree. Our interest was not how much force the specimen could handle, but rather how the tiny cracks developed where the roving and concrete met. Once cracks develop in tensed concrete, they spread very quickly, so a high speed camera, taking as many as 6,000 frames per second, was placed above the specimen in hopes its images could tell us how these cracks first begin. But even at the maximum frame rate, cracking occurred too fast to make any conclusive results. Though I was not present to witness it myself, an even faster camera revealed that the roving moved first, and then burst though the concrete—a phenomenon that could only be captured at 30,000 frames per second.

After twelve wonderful weeks of fun and learning we had a farewell barbeque and were given a certificate of participation before returning to the United States. Though we had to leave, we brought back with us hundreds of hours of learning and practical experience as well as great memories of fun and friends.
European Parliament Internship

Learning about the Italian government in the Eternal City
by Kathleen O’Connor ’10
Student, University of Notre Dame

This summer I had the remarkable opportunity to travel halfway across the world, live in a foreign country, and work for a foreign ministry office. I studied abroad during Spring 2009 in Rome, Italy for four months at John Cabot University. As I struggled to find a summer internship in the United States, I also explored the Career Center at John Cabot to see what internships were available in Italy. I sent my CV to a few companies, without much hope for an opportunity. Then, about a week later, I got a call from the Italian Prime Minister’s Office for an interview. I had no idea what to expect. I didn’t know whether the interview would be conducted in English or Italian or if an American student would even have a chance of getting an internship with the Italian government. I was nervous, but also excited as I walked into the 16th century palace built by Raphael for my interview. After a whirlwind interview in both English and Italian, the head of International Affairs in the Public Sector stood up, shook my hand, and asked when I could start.

The first step was to secure enough funds to live in Rome for the summer. As a college student, I did not have much expendable income lying around. I applied for a scholarship from the Nanovic Institute of European Studies at Notre Dame and was awarded the European Parliament Internship scholarship. I found an apartment, and eventually started working.

The internship was fascinating. I worked with a young Italian woman who was a full-time student at John Cabot. We soon became very close friends, and worked together with our knowledge of English and Italian to help translate documents and communicate with foreign offices. My boss served as my mentor. He had us do research projects and departmental presentations to develop our knowledge of the European Union and the Italian government.

My boss allocated different projects to the interns based on their interests. Given my major in marketing and interest in Public Relations, he decided to put me in charge of creating a newsletter for the International Affairs department. I first started by creating a layout and design for the newsletter and selectimg the theme. I chose ‘Reducing Administrative Burdens’. This seemed like an appropriate subject given Italy’s notorious reputation for slow governmental operations, especially for citizens. It was also a topic growing in popularity in the EU as many other countries fought to reduce the time burdens for their citizens and decrease costs for administrative activities. Next, I conducted research, presented my findings to the department, and found professionals to write articles for the first newsletter. Unfortunately, the newsletter was not quite finished when I left Rome in August, but my associate intern took on the task of completing the newsletter to be issued in October.

Although I learned a lot about Italy, the EU, and working in the government, some of the most important things I learned while abroad over the summer were unrelated to the actual internship. I learned how to be independent, how to live and participate in an unfamiliar culture, and how to be outgoing and make friends in a formidable foreign environment. I had never lived somewhere for so long without other Americans to depend on. I was uneasy at first, but I found that I actually liked the independence. I learned how to live life to the fullest and make every moment walking through the eternal city count. I made Italian friends and spent time with them on the weekends going to the beach or surrounding towns for authentic Roman food. I lived life slowly, as the Romans do, by enjoying a gelato at the foot of the Spanish steps or reading a book on a bench in the middle of Piazza Navona.

The summer I spent in Rome is certainly a summer I will never forget. I improved my Italian by using it in a formal work environment, I made friends with people from a completely different culture, and I experienced life as an Italian. I hope to work in Italy in the future and use what I have learned from this experience to broaden my view of the world.
Where Are They Now?
Europe alumni notes

These notes are not only about alumni in Europe but about “Europe alumni”—a more nebulous phrase, which includes alumni, those who have a connection to Europe including ND undergraduates, ND staff, and Domers who are contemplating relocating to Europe.

Ed Kelin ’79, B.B.A. (Germany) has been working at Stars and Stripes for the past seven years as Director of Advertising for Europe and the Middle East. Stars and Stripes is the daily newspaper and website—www.stripes.com—that help support the United States Military’s service members and families stationed overseas. The company provides newspapers to those deployed. Currently they print and deliver 80,000 papers a day in Iraq, Afghanistan and other nations in Southwest Asia. Ed is based in Kaiserslautern, home of Ramstein Air Force Base and Landstuhl Army Medical Center. There are over 50,000 Americans in the area—making Kaiserslautern the city with the largest concentration of Americans outside the United States.

Robert E. Connolly ’74, ’77 J.D. (Ireland) works as a solicitor representing numerous pubs and restaurants in licensing matters. He is the author of several books including The Irish-American Republican Trilogy, Thirty Nine Dawson Street: The Autobiography of a Building, If Walls Could Talk: Great Irish Castles Tell Their Stories and The Legends: Beginnings. He lives on Dublin’s Northside. His new book, The Rise and Fall of the Irish Pub, was launched in Dublin in April. The book is a fascinating look at the pub trade in Ireland—and how it needs to reinvent itself to return to glory. For more information, visit: www.theliffeypress.com.

Michael P. Barrett ’07 (France) is finishing his Master’s in International Corporate Communications and Management at University of Grenoble and working until June at the American Chamber of Commerce Rhône-Alpes, managing their communications, PR and website. He keeps a blog for expats: www.americanexpatinfrance.com, and writes for several online publications. He is looking into job opportunities in France (as well as Brussels, Geneva…) in PR, media/web 2.0, communications and marketing, as well as translation and English teaching. He has professional and personal reasons (French girlfriend of almost 3 years, Marie) to stay.

SEND YOUR ALUMNI NOTE:
Have an update and want to include it in the next issue of this publication? Send your name, class year, country of current residence, a brief update about where you are, what you are doing and what you would like to do for inclusion in the next edition to: kateferrucci@alumni.nd.edu

ND Football Abroad
Ways to watch ND football outside of the United States

1. Watch the game live in a pub/bar:
If you know of a pub in another European city where ND fans can watch football games, please let us know. We’ll add it to the list! You can check to see if a local pub will show the game on their TV by going to www.allomatch.com, then clicking on “Sport U.S.”

London
The Sports Cafe, 80 Haymarket, SW1Y 4TE
T +44 (0) 207 839 8300

Rome
Scholars Lounge, via del Plebiscito, 101b
T +39 06 6920 2208

2. Watch the game online:
NBC Sports (only some home games)
http://nbcsports.msnbc.com/id/25889627/
ESPN America (away games)
http://www.espnamerica.com/

3. Watch the game at home with the aid of a Slingbox (TV streaming device that enables users to remotely view their home’s cable/satellite/PVR programming from an Internet enabled computer):
http://www.slingmedia.com/

4. Listen to the game live on WVFI:
http://www.nd.edu/~wvfi/
**ND Alumni Contacts in Europe**

Club leaders and country contacts in 37 European countries

**Albania**
Entela Josifçi '01 L.L.M.
Josifçi_Entela@yahoo.com
T +855 2321 9814 ext. 6330

**Andorra**
Ramon Lliados-Bernaus '95 M.S., '98 Ph.D.
ramon_liados@europe.com
C +376 35 42 70

**Armenia**
David Sargsian
david_sargsian@yahoo.com

**Austria**
Christoph Jünger '96
christoph_h_juenger@yahoo.com

**Belgium**
Francois Delvaux de Fenffe
fdelvaux@yahoo.com
C +32 (0) 495 242 986

**Bulgaria**
Ivelin Sardamov '96 M.B.A., '98 Ph.D.
isardamov@aubg.bg

**Croatia**
Emily Snow '01
esnow@princeton.edu

**Czech Republic**
Oldrich Bures '04 Ph.D.
lboro_1999@yahoo.com

**Denmark**
Lise Lotte Bundesen '81 M.A.
lbildainstitute.dk
W +45 3913 6590
C +45 2212 1942

**Estonia**
John Stewart Wilson ‘89
johns_wilson@hotmail.com

**Finland**
Dr. Peter Kelly '86 M.B.A.
peter.kelly@ttk.fi
T +358 9 451 3089
C +358 41 503 4508

**France**
John Fonseca ‘70, ’72 M.B.A.
Paris
j.fonseca@pulmonemed.fr
H +33 (0) 1 34 97 06 51
W +33 (0) 1 56 83 85 00

**Georgia**
Tamar Tandashvili ‘08
ttandashvili@gmail.com
T +995 95 64 393
Ketevan Nozadze ‘09
knozadze@gmail.com

**Germany**
Niels Hartermann ‘93 L.L.M.
(Hamburg)
niels.hartermann@llb.de
T +49 30 245 6619

**Greece**
Yannis Koutroulis ‘04
ykoutroulis@gmail.com
T +30 210 277 4398
C +30 694 421 4964

**Hungary**
Brian Faíola ‘96
bfaíola@mac.com
T +36 30 563 8878

**Iceland**
Gudrun Gunnarsdottir ‘05
gunnasoley@yahoo.com

**Ireland**
Paul McGinn ‘84
paulmcginn@eircom.net
Áine Richards ‘07
ainerichards@gmail.com
Kathleen McCann ‘00
dr.kathleenmccann@o2.ie

**Italy**
rmcmcc@hotmail.com

**Italy (cont’d)**
Fr. John Vargas, C.Ss.R. '94 M.S.
jcvargas@gmail.com
C +39 (0) 349 328 0217

**Kosovo**
Entela Josifçi ‘01
Josifçi_Entela@yahoo.com
T +855 2321 9814 ext. 6330
Agnon Vrenesi
avrenesi@yahoo.com

**Lithuania**
Arunas Leonavičius ‘96
arunas.leonavičius@tamro.lt
T +370 37 401099

**Luxembourg**
Daphne Graham
graham@internet.lu

**Netherlands**
Erik Hardick ‘09 M.B.A.
fhardick@hotmail.com
T +31 65 052 6684

**Norway**
Amy Oen ‘91
Amy.Oen@nhi.no
T +47 9979 7685

**Poland**
Paweł (Paul) Kotwica
pkotwica@post.pl
T +48 602 37 37 47

**Portugal**
Gonçalo Correia e Silva
gcorneliodasilva@hotmail.com
C +351 91 485 9288
Antonio Fonseca
antoniofonseca@ciu.cef.pt
T +351 21 790 4805

**Romania**
Bogdan Alexandrescu, M.B.A., Ph.D.
bogdan@alumni.nd.edu
Professor George Arghir ‘77 Ph.D.
georgearghir@hotmail.com
C +40 264 414 036

**Russia**
Mikhail Moskhot
Mikhail.Moshkov@gmail.com
T +7 985 784 1173

**Slovakia**
Ivana Sabanosova ‘04
sabanoso@gmail.com
T +421 904 246 731

**Slovenia**
Damjan Kobal ’92 M.C., ’95 Ph.D.
Damjan.Kobal@fmf.uni-lj.si

**Spain**
Julian Gutierrez ‘02 (Barcelona)
jgutierr_post@yahoo.com
T +34 6 78 57 61 25

**Sweden**
Steven Peterson ‘06
stevenpeterson@gmail.com
C +46 (0) 70 279 7993

**Switzerland**
David Schiesher ‘80 (Geneva)
schiesher@bluewin.ch
T +41 22 345 6512

**Turkey**
Isin Canturk ‘06
icanturk1@gmail.com
T +90 212 282 61 39

**Ukraine**
Oksana Klymovych ‘04 L.L.M.
oklymovych@lawyer.com

**United Kingdom**
Laurie Janke Jaeger ‘89 (London)
laure.j.jaeger@gmail.com
T +44 (0) 787 025 8869

**United States**
Kate Ferrucci ‘97 (Nottingham)
kateferrucci@hotmail.com
C +44 (0) 778 785 5087
RESOURCES

At Your Service
Your resource for staying connected to Notre Dame

Irish Online
http://irishonline.nd.edu/

Irish Online is the online community of the Notre Dame Alumni Association. Access to Irish Online is available to Notre Dame alumni, students, parents of current students, and friends of the University. It’s a great way to stay connected to the ND family!

Update your information on Irish Online today. Your up-to-date contact details on Irish Online will enable ND to send you newsletters by regular post and email. ND club leaders worldwide use this system to find new members for their clubs.

Through Irish Online, ND alumni will be able to:
• Connect with friends and classmates through the ND online community
• Use the improved directory to find fellow alumni
• Find mentors and contacts for career networking
• Discover greater access to Notre Dame news and events
• Take part in alumni events and volunteer activities

Irish Online requires a login name and password. Registration is quick, easy, and free.

Note for alumni without a SSN:
If you are having trouble registering for Irish Online because you do not have a SSN, there is an option to log in with your 10-digit code, which should be on the label of your Notre Dame Magazine. If you cannot retrieve your 10-digit code, contact the Irish Online Help Desk, and they will be able to assist you. Send an email to onlinehelp@alumni.nd.edu or call +1 (574) 631-1579.

Pray at ND
http://pray.nd.edu/

Pray at ND, wherever you are in the world! Have you heard about the green candle? NDAA’s green candle’s living flame burns weekly for all intentions received through the website.

ND Women Connect
http://womenconnect.undgroup.org

In May, the Alumni Association officially launched a new initiative called ND Women Connect. The group, facilitated through local ND clubs, provides opportunities for women graduates to foster personal and professional relationships; enhance personal and professional development; and make valuable contributions to Notre Dame, to their local communities, and to causes that inspire them.

Do You Have an APO Address?
We want to hear from you!

Notre Dame’s club presidents and country contacts in Europe do their best to reach out to the alumni, parents and friends living in their countries. To assist them in their efforts, the Alumni Association provides these volunteers with lists of people living in their countries. Unfortunately, those of you with APO addresses do not show up in these lists since your country is technically listed as the United States.

We would love to help you connect with fellow Domers in Europe. You can find your nearest club or country contact by using the International Club Locator at www.alumni.nd.edu/intlclubs. Or you can contact the Alumni Association’s Regional Director for Europe, Kate Ferrucci at kateferrucci@hotmail.com and she will connect you with the appropriate club or country contact.

The Notre Dame spirit is building in Europe and we don’t want you to miss the opportunity to be a part of the excitement!

Onward: Alumni Career Development
http://career.alumni.nd.edu/

Whether you are currently out of work or simply looking to find something new, the NDAA knows that searching for a job can be challenging. ONWARD: Alumni Career Development provides a series of career and professional tools and resources to aid you in your job search. These resources are designed to focus and simplify your search, and help you discover and use your own special skills and abilities to land that next position. The ONWARD program also allows you to network with other Notre Dame alumni, and provides unique career resources to help you be successful.

Are You a Notre Dame Lawyer?
The Notre Dame Law Association is open to lawyers who graduated from the Notre Dame Law School as well as lawyers who graduated from Notre Dame, but attended law school elsewhere. Contact Melanie McDonald of the ND Law School External Relations Office at Melanie.McDonald@nd.edu or +1 (574) 631-6891 to ask about joining the NDLA. Membership is free.
Social Networking
Connecting with Notre Dame alumni online

LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com

The Notre Dame Alumni Association teamed up with the ND Career Center to create the official Notre Dame Alumni Network on LinkedIn. LinkedIn is an online network of more than 65 million experienced professionals from around the world. This free service is one of the most powerful career development tools available today. When you join LinkedIn, you create a profile summarizing your professional accomplishments. Your profile helps you find—and be found by—former colleagues, clients, and partners.

LinkedIn ND Alumni Network Group
http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/802

The “ND Alumni Network” on LinkedIn currently features more than 15,000 members who are ready to help alumni open doors to opportunities using the ND family connections.

NEW! LinkedIn Alumni Abroad Subgroup
http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/2286051

The ND “Alumni Abroad” subgroup of the “ND Alumni Network” on LinkedIn launched in 2009. Please consider joining and being part of this alumni community. There are close to 300 members already! The mission of this group is to:

• Strengthen the bond between Notre Dame and its alumni abroad
• Help connect and build links between alumni abroad in order to support networking opportunities and professional career development
• Promote mentoring and internship opportunities for current ND students who desire to work abroad.

NOTE: Before joining the ND Alumni Network or the Alumni Abroad subgroup, you must first login to linkedin.com and create a profile.

Facebook
www.facebook.com

Are you on Facebook? If so, why not join the Notre Dame network on Facebook? You can also join the following country- or region-specific Facebook groups of ND alumni. It’s another great way to connect with ND alumni currently working and living in Europe.

• Notre Dame in Europe (currently 170+ members consisting of current students, alumni, and friends):
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=4755692067
• ND Club of Belgium
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=108195895891065
• ND Club of France
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=186007131494
• ND Club of Germany
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=132397266592
• ND Club of Greece
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10078113247
• ND Club of Ireland
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=295094455248
• ND Club of Italy
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54478851321
• ND Club of London
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=49472083429
• ND Club of Spain
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=11122936222591
• ND Club of Switzerland
  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=179151623709

Websites for ND Clubs in Europe

Does your Notre Dame Club currently have a website? Check out these club websites in the region:

• ND Club of Germany: germany.undclub.org
• ND Club of London: london.undclub.org
• ND Club of Italy: italy.undclub.org

... and coming soon, websites for other clubs in the region, including: France, Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, and more! Would you like to help develop your club’s website? If so, contact your club to find out how to get started.
Useful Contacts
University of Notre Dame contacts on campus and in the region

Notre Dame Alumni Association
University of Notre Dame
100 Eck Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556 USA
+1 (574) 631 6000

Notre Dame Alumni Association
Cathy Dale
Coordinator, Worldwide Clubs
cdale@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 9224

Irish Online Help Desk
onlinehelp@alumni.nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 1579

Jennifer Ely Nemecek
International Admissions Liaison for Europe, Central Balkans, Middle East
12, rue du Printemps
78230 Le Pecq / France
Skype: jennemecek
+33 (0) 625 214 150
nemecek.1@nd.edu

Alumni Travel
www.alumni.nd.edu/travel
alumtrav@nd.edu

Office of International Studies
www.nd.edu/~ois
Kathleen Opel, Director
Opel.1@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631-9525

Nanovic Institute for European Studies
www.nd.edu/~nanovic
A. James McAdams, Director
amcadams@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 5253

International Student Services & Activities
http://issa.nd.edu
Bethany Burgun ’98, ’00 M.A., Director
burgun.1@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 2702

Kellogg Institute for International Studies
http://kellogg.nd.edu
Scott Mainwarung, Director
smainwar@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 7816

Kellogg/Kroc Information Center
http://kkic.library.nd.edu
318 Hesburgh Center for International Studies
Library.kic.1@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 8534

Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies
http://kroc.nd.edu
Scott Appleby
Appleby.3@nd.edu
+1 (574) 631 5665

Mendoza College of Business, Executive International Education Department
www.nd.edu/~execprog/
exectivePrograms/
Tom Dowd, International Program Manager
TDowd1@nd.edu
Mike Cloonan J.D./M.B.A. ’95, International Program Faculty
mcloonan@nd.edu

The Career Center at ND
careercenter.nd.edu
248 Flanner Hall
LoriAnn Edinborough, Program Director
Edinborough.1@nd.edu

Center for Social Concerns
centerforsocialconcerns.nd.edu
Rosie McDowell ’93, ’07 M.N.A., Director, Community-Based Learning Outreach
McDowell.9@nd.edu

Credits
ND Global: The European Edition
is brought to you by:

Designer/Editor
Kate Ferrucci ’97
kateferrucci@alumni.nd.edu

Co-Editor
Michael P. Barrett ’07
michaelbarrett1984@gmail.com

Senior Editor,
Alumni Communications
Angela Sienko
... and many ND alumni in Europe. Thanks to the many ND clubs and individuals who contributed articles to this edition!

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News items, photos, letters to the editor, updates for the “Where are They Now” section, articles and ideas for articles are actively sought from alumni who wish to contribute to forthcoming editions of ND Global: The European Edition. Please send your contributions to your ND club leader or to:
kateferrucci@alumni.nd.edu

We are ND!