MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL is the newsletter of the Office of International Programs (Saul Sosnowski, director; Joseph Scholten, associate director) and the interconnected group of offices under its auspices, including International Education Services (Valerie Woolston, director), Study Abroad (Michael Ulrich, associate director), the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs (Michael Ma, executive director), the Confucius Institute at Maryland (Chuan Sheng Liu, director) and the Maryland English Institute (Marsha Sprague, director). We publish two issues during the spring semester, one during the summer, and two in the fall. To submit story ideas, please contact the editor, Kelly Blake, at kellyb@umd.edu or 301.405.4771.
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Irish Ambassador Noel Fahey Visits UM, April 19th

Photo credits/notes
front cover
UM Study Abroad/boats in Londgi, Cameroon

Alfredo Nava Tudela/Los Voladores de Papantla, Mexico City, Mexico
The Voladores de Papantla are Totonac Indians, and the voladores rite is a traditional act of worship (now most often performed as entertainment for tourists, as in this picture). The voladores climb to the top of a tall pole, wind ropes around the pole, and then leap off into the air. As the ropes unwind, they descend slowly to the ground. The caporal (at the top) plays a drum and flute and invokes an ancient spiritual offering in the form of a spectacular dance.
The State of Maryland ranks as the second highest recipient of federal research and development dollars (per capita) among all US states. Given that a large percentage of that money funds University of Maryland faculty research, Mel Bernstein, UM’s Vice President for Research, has a big job in helping to maintain and grow Maryland’s research programs. Dr. Bernstein joined the University of Maryland on October 1, 2006 as V.P. for Research, and Professor of the Practice in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. Previously, Professor Bernstein served in two roles while on an Intergovernmental Personnel Agreement (IPA) through Tufts University at the Department of Homeland Security. From June 2003 to February 2006, he served as the Director of University Programs in the Office of Research and Development in the Science and Technology Directorate; and as Director of the Office of Research and Development (acting) through September 2006.

President Mote regularly emphasizes the importance of the university’s international ties and stresses that for any university to be great today, it must be engaged globally. Dr. Bernstein sees the research component as integral to the process of “internationalizing” UM. He believes that it is crucial that we continue to attract outstanding international graduate students by framing important research problems in ways that attract the “best and brightest” and by working collaboratively with other institutions and countries on complex global issues including the impact of globalization, international security, climate change, and improving public health. “It’s unrealistic to imagine that we would operate in isolation from the rest of the world,” he says matter-of-factly. “Collaboration and tapping of resources that may not exist in this country is important.”

Bernstein says that the university is strategically seeking to pursue large research themes based on UM’s advantages both in terms of faculty experience and our strong collaboration with federal research institutions working in areas including food safety, secure wireless communications, nanotechnology, biotechnology, earth and space science, language and linguistic research, homeland security, and transportation safety. He gives several examples of how UM is having an impact globally in these areas and how these projects are linking faculty with colleagues around the world. “In the area of global climate change prediction and analysis, we are one of a small handful of universities in the United States and the world who have intimate relationships with agencies like NOAA and NASA and have the scientists with the needed skills in this area,” he explains. On the topic of international security, the START (Studies of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism) Center, a Center of Excellence of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security based at UM, is working to create an international database on terrorism and its origins, and is currently partnering with countries including Israel, Italy, and Uzbekistan. “You cannot respond to terrorism without understanding the motivations, what drives people to violence,” Bernstein says. “How do groups start, grow, and flourish, and why?” Another significant UM initiative to launch later this year is the new School of Public Health, which will involve international collaborations to address global public health challenges, from undernutrition and disease outbreaks to the global...
obesity epidemic. Bernstein encourages UM faculty interested in pursuing new international collaborations to approach his office, which may provide seed funds for the project.

Bernstein sees China, India, and other emerging areas like Latin America, as priority areas for UM’s involvement, and says that UM benefits from international linkages because they are an opportunity to share knowledge and culture and create a positive global perception of the institution as being involved in research for solutions to major worldwide problems. Student exchange is important as well, Bernstein says, because those who are educated here may return to their countries and become successful leaders.

Rather than open up a UM campus in another part of the world, Bernstein is interested in maximizing our existing alliances with other institutions and creating new ones. He points to the degree programs offered through the R.H. Smith School of Business in China, Switzerland, and Tunisia; the leadership development programs that the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs provides for Chinese education and business leaders; and the A. James Clark School of Engineering’s partnership with the Petroleum Institute (PI) of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates to establish the Education and Energy Research Center (EERC), as examples of ways that UM can expand globally.

UM First to Offer Executive Master’s for Chinese Research Park Managers

The University of Maryland will offer the world’s first executive master’s degree designed for research park managers at the Torch Hi-Tech Industry Development Center, Ministry of Science and Technology in China. The program will provide the partners at the Torch Center and UM with substantial visibility in supporting worldwide scientific innovation.

The Executive Master of Public Management degree will be offered by UM’s School of Public Policy, which is recognized as one of the country’s premier programs in public policy, management, and international affairs. Overseeing the program will be Professor Kenneth Apfel, the school’s Office of Executive Programs, and a new faculty Program Director yet to be hired. The program will also utilize the expertise of the R.H. Smith School of Business and the A. James Clark School of Engineering, two of the most highly-ranked programs of their kind in the nation.

The program will be conducted for a period of at least five years, with the first cohort of classes to begin on or about October 1, 2007. Students will begin the year-long program with six months in residence at the University’s campus in College Park and conclude with six months of study in China. There will be an anticipated class of 40 students in the program each year.

Courses will be taught in English and will include Public Administration and Management, Leadership Principles and Practices, Financial Information for Managers, Innovation Strategy and Entrepreneurship, Tactics and Principles of Negotiation, Moral and Ethical Dimensions of Management and Leadership, Managing Across Sectors, and Technology Entrepreneurship. The Torch Center will provide English instruction for future prospective students in the first year of the program.
Smith School Joins MBA Students Worldwide for Global Supply Chain Game

With programs and partnerships now on four continents, the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland strives to lead in the fast-moving digital economy and create true connections among students worldwide. The school’s latest global experience for students, which they claim is “the world’s first, real-time gaming competition,” had students from the United States, Finland, France, the Netherlands, China, Taiwan, and India playing simultaneously across time zones.

The first-ever Global Supply Chain Competition on March 27—hosted by the Smith School, game co-developer Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands and sponsor Sun Microsystems Inc.—had 14 MBA student teams competing from their home institutions on three continents. Sun senior executives and invited members of the media watched as players vied to increase profits and market share by creating the most efficient supply chain in a virtual world where unexpected problems, the players’ business decisions and those of their competitors influenced the game.

“It’s a constant flow, and that’s really what’s important to us — to give some kind of simulation of what the real world is like for a global supply chain manager,” said Thomas Corsi, Michelle E. Smith Professor of Logistics and co-director of Smith’s Supply Chain Management Center.

Students embraced the game as serious competition, strategizing and weighing business decisions as they played the role of computer suppliers in Asia who, according to the game scenario, cannot meet the increased demands of distributors.

The game culminates a five-year collaboration between Supply Chain Management Center co-directors Corsi and Sandor Boyson and Delft University. Most other business games are turn-based, but the Supply Chain Game accounts for decisions in the game as they are made. Sun Microsystems donated two powerful servers to host the game so students from around the globe can log on through a Web portal that contains playing instructions, content and background information.

Last October, the team ran a successful trial of the game with five schools from around the world. Delft professor Alexander Verbraeck and his colleague Stijn-Pieter van Houten, the chief technical architects of the game, traveled to College Park to help run the March 27 competition.

Van Munching Hall was the communications hub, with telephone and Internet conferencing joining the schools.

At the close of the competition round, teams were given a chance to talk about what they had learned and Verbraeck announced the three teams that were commanding the largest share of the market with the highest revenues. The top three teams received prizes —portable GPS systems for the top team, Apple iPods for the second place winners and digital cameras for the third—donated by Sun Microsystems. For more information, see www.smith.umd.edu.

PHOTO Students at Nankai University in Tianjin, China playing the supply chain game
MARYLAND DAY 2007:

UM’s Annual Open House Features International Theme This Year

The ninth annual Maryland Day event on April 28th, 2007 celebrates an international theme and will feature a “Global Village” in Hornbake Plaza. The university welcomes everyone in the region to join in celebrating the global diversity of our campus.

Opening ceremonies at 10 a.m. will feature a grand procession of international flags that represent our students from all over the world. There will be international cooking demonstrations along with student performances of dance and song.

There will be some 400 events all over campus, including tours, exhibits, demonstrations, and sporting events.

Along with “Global Village” activities in Hornbake Plaza:

- See the Persian Vision exhibit in the campus Art Gallery.
- Explore Latin American and Caribbean culture courtesy of the Latin American Studies Center.
- See what happens behind the stage curtain at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.
- Learn about hurricanes and the future.
- Enjoy a cultural extravaganza at the Nyumburu Cultural Center.
- Enjoy traditional choral ensembles, contemporary or a cappella groups at the Memorial Chapel.
- Gain a window to the world with Traveling Terps – the UM organization for students with international interests.
- Discover a variety of innovative 4-H projects through interactive and hands-on activities.
- Perform your own radio show in the Library of American Broadcasting.
- Learn tips for a healthy, balanced life from the Department of Health and Human Performance.
- Travel the world journalists travel in, and learn about our College of Journalism’s international programs.

“Maryland Day is our way of sharing with the community everything that makes the university such a treasured resource for the state and region.”

University President Dan Mote, Jr.

All Maryland Day activities run from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Everything is family friendly. Admission and parking are free, and campus navigation is easy with the help of complimentary activity maps. Get more information at www.marylandday.umd.edu, or send questions to: mddayhelp@umd.edu.
UM Builds Ties to Africa Through Study Abroad, Engineers Without Borders, & IT

STUDY COLONIALISM IN CAMEROON

Adventurous UM students have nearly 30 choices in six different continents for a study abroad experience this summer 2007, including two new programs in Africa: *A Case Study in European Colonialism* in Cameroon and a *Community Planning Studio* in Cape Town, South Africa. Led by faculty co-directors Dr. Gabriele Strauch, Associate Professor, Department of Germanic Studies, and Dr. Gladys Brown, Senior Fellow, James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership, the Cameroon program will give students the opportunity to learn about the impact of colonialism on this West African country through visits to important historical sites.

The group will follow in the footsteps of German colonialists, as described in contemporary journals, visiting sites that still bear the stamp of German colonial history. Students will analyze their experience using the critical tool of postcolonial theory, particularly in applying them to travel logs of German colonial women and fictional works by contemporary Cameroonian writers and Afro-Germans of Cameroonian descent.

Students will also meet with Cameroonian scholars at the University of Yaoundé I, Buea and Bamenda. They will confront questions such as: How were colonial powers able to gain control over so large a portion of the non-Western world? To what extent was the Church the “handmaiden” of colonial powers, and vice-versa? How did the experience of colonization affect those who were colonized? What forms of resistance arose against colonial control? How did colonial “education” and language influence the culture and identity of the colonized? What are the ramifications of Germany’s colonial past today, as seen in Afro-German communities in cities such as Berlin and Frankfurt?

Interested students may extend their stay in Cameroon after this course by participating in a two week Service Learning project in Maroua, the provincial capital of the extreme northern province (June 16 – June 30, 2007), in conjunction with EFA International, a non-profit organization that through education and empowerment promotes the successful future of African youth infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS. Volunteers may choose to train local youth in basic computer literacy; work to design and complete a mural to serve as a community education tool; or organize and run a week-long soccer camp for AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children. Participants will have the option of a local home-stay for some or all of their time in Maroua, and will take part in a number of day trips and cultural events.
DESIGN LIVABLE COMMUNITIES IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Graduate students in urban planning can attend a studio in Cape Town, South Africa offered by the Urban Studies and Planning program (URSP 705). Led by Dr. Sidney Brower, a graduate of MIT and the University of Cape Town, the Community Planning Studio program will engage students on a current local planning issue. They will interact with residents, personnel in the City of Cape Town Planners Department, the University of Cape Town, and local preservation organizations. Previous topics have included the preservation of the old Malay Quarter, residents’ satisfaction with a new design for multi-family housing, and an evaluation of planned centers in informal settlements. Students will have time to explore the beautiful setting and become familiar with the local culture.

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS LIGHT UP BURKINA FASO VILLAGE

Three students and two faculty from the A. James Clark School of Engineering welcomed the new year by providing energy to a small village near Dissin in the West African country, Burkina Faso. Through a project sponsored by the UM student chapter of Engineers Without Borders, the team installed two solar panels and indoor lighting for an adult literacy center. The installed lighting enables people of all ages to study later into the evening, and makes the center available for evening community meetings and other village gatherings.

Thierry Some, a recent mechanical engineering graduate whose family lives in Burkina Faso, was the liaison between EWB and the village. Jason West, an engineering graduate student and the project team leader; Kana Matsui, a sophomore civil engineering student and project co-leader; and mechanical engineering faculty advisors Jungho Kim and Elisabeth Smela, rounded out the team.

In addition to installing lights and solar panels, the trip’s main purpose was to plan future development projects. The team evaluated other villages surrounding Dissin for future projects such as solar water pumping for small garden irrigation and water sanitation projects. The team plans to return to Burkina Faso in January 2008 to install an additional 12 lighting systems and possibly a water pumping system.

Other campus Engineers Without Borders projects
include improving water sanitation in Ecuador, advised by mechanical engineering faculty Elias Balaras; potable water and irrigation enhancements in Thailand, advised by civil engineering faculty Debo- rah Goodings; and the improvement of potable water availability in Brazil, a project advised by Peter Chang from civil engineering.

Visit UM student chapter of Engineers Without Borders: www.eng.umd.edu/ewb/

**BUILDING THE IT INDUSTRY IN AFRICA**

Africa, global competitiveness, and information technology are not usually strongly associated concepts. Nonetheless, continent-wide transformations in Africa’s telecommunications sector, the emergence of regional economic communities and champion policy makers, and increased global investment interest in Africa indicate that this is likely to change in the near future. To strategically foster Africa’s development in this sector, the Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM) held a one-day forum, *African Global Competitiveness in Information and Communication Technologies*, with telecommunications ministers and policy makers from across Africa on March 16, 2007. Through an analysis of current African and global trends, senior policy makers, analysts and scholars from both sides of the Atlantic examined what technology or infrastructure investments need to be made to help Africa succeed in this sector. They also explore in which applications, services or technologies African countries can build a competitive advantage in the coming years.


For more information, contact Kelvin Wong, CIDCM Assistant Director, Telematics Programs at kwong@cidcm.umd.edu or (301) 314-1285.
**New International Research Center Probes Media’s Role in Shaping Global Affairs**

How do American, British, and Arab media cover issues of terrorism and the war in Iraq? How do concerns over “national security” or media complicity in political agendas influence the coverage viewers see? What ethical responsibilities do the media have when covering violence? How can we use media to become more knowledgeable and responsible world citizens?

These are just a few of the questions that international students in the new “Salzburg Academy Program on Media and Global Change” may tackle this summer. The International Center for Media and the Public Agenda, a new project of the UM College of Journalism, has initiated this new study abroad program in partnership with the Salzburg Seminar, an institution with a 60-year history of bringing together some of the world’s most imaginative minds to probe complex global issues and pioneer creative solutions. The ICMPA and the Salzburg Seminar will bring together a global faculty and 60 undergraduate and graduate students to live and study in residence in Salzburg, Austria from July 29-August 18, 2007 at Schloss Leopoldskron, the 18th century Rococo palace that is home to the Salzburg Seminar and was “home” to the Von Trapp family in *The Sound of Music*. Dr. Susan D. Moeller, Director of ICMPA, and an associate professor of media and international affairs at the University of Maryland, will lead the program.

Students from universities in China, Russia, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Israel, Egypt, Pakistan, Spain, the United Kingdom, Chile, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, and the United States will spend three weeks analyzing the role that media play in shaping global problems, examining distinctive international media and policy models, and considering media’s role in promoting global awareness and understanding. The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation is providing a grant that will help bring top students from Latin America and support the development of a website and curriculum, complete with cross-cultural case studies on media, public policy, and related courses. These will be made available to partner institutions who may lack the resources to develop a curriculum in house. The ICMPA and the Salzburg Seminar will oversee the website and make the course materials from the Academy and other resources for international journalists available online.

Students will receive six credits for their participation in the program, which includes two courses: Global Media Literacy (JOUR 431/731) and Global Media, Global Change (JOUR 432/732). Global Media Literacy will explore how different media (television, newspapers, the Internet, magazines, radio and film) shape views of global events and global issues within nations, across regions and internationally. Particular attention will be paid to the accuracy of the information and the values and underlying messages conveyed in its presentation. In the course Global Media, Global Change, students will consider and evaluate how media around the world not only cover, but help frame two issues: climate change (“global

*Salzburg Academy, continued next page*
Salzburg Academy, continued...

warning”) and terrorism. These issues were selected from an ICMPA poll of the partner institutions asking what they considered the most important contemporary global issues. Students will work in cooperative teams and apply analytic frameworks derived from the Global Media Literacy course to examine one of these issues as it is represented regionally (in the US, European, Asian and/or Middle Eastern media, for example).

In addition to the Salzburg Academy program, the ICMPA also has several research projects. They include one, in collaboration with the Dart Center on Journalism and Trauma, to create curricula for journalism schools that will train journalists to better report on violence, and a multi-year, multi-part study of how American, British and Arab media have covered terrorism since 9/11. *

For more information, see www.icmpa.umd.edu, www.salzburgseminar.org/academy, and www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad/salzburg

ICMPA Director Dissects Media Coverage of Violence and War

Susan Moeller, Ph.D., is author of the books Compassion Fatigue: How the Media Sell Disease, Famine, War and Death (Routledge) and Shooting War: Photography and the American Experience of Combat (Basic Books). She was formerly the director of the Journalism Program at Brandeis University for eight years. Moeller has also been a fellow in the International Security Program and at the Joan Shorenstein Center for the Press, Politics and Public Policy, both at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She twice held Fulbright Professorships in international relations, in Pakistan and in Thailand. Moeller has authored numerous major media studies, including the recent “Media Coverage of Weapons of Mass Destruction” (a NSF-funded study through the Center for International and Security Studies, University of Maryland). With Frank Ochberg, M.D., founder of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma who served on the committee that defined post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Dr. Moeller is currently collaborating on a on a book about how to better cover violence and trauma in the media.
UM Hosts Sichuan University Leaders for Inside View of US Research University

In February 2007, a 24-person delegation from Sichuan University visited the University of Maryland to explore the leadership structure and operational methods of a US research university. UM officials hosted the group, which had made contact with the university when President Mote and a UM delegation visited Sichuan University in the summer of 2006. The special program at UM for Sichuan officials provided the opportunity for UM and Sichuan officials to further learn about each institution’s interests and challenges.

Sichuan University (SCU) is located in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, and the fifth most populous city in China. With more than 70 thousand students, SCU offers the widest range of academic disciplines of any university in Western China. Sichuan province is also known for being one of the only remaining panda habitats in the world; the Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuaries, on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, are home to more than thirty percent of the world’s highly endangered pandas.

Professor Tang Junwen, Director, Personnel and Leadership Training Center, led the Sichuan University delegation, which included officials from both academic and administrative functions – physical sciences, chemical engineering, foreign languages, politics, and economics, as well as public relations, university financial management, international programs, the President’s office, and more.

The program was developed and managed by the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs and College of Education, an effort led by Ken Hunter (Senior Fellow, IGCA) and Donna Wiseman (Associate Dean, College of Education). Dr. William Destler, Senior Vice President and Provost and Dr. Saúl Sosnowski, Associate Provost for International Affairs and OIP Director, welcomed the delegation.

The delegation was oriented to the inner workings of UM via presentations on topics including the structure of colleges and work of the deans (presented by Dean Cheng-i Wei, College of Agriculture, and Dean James Harris, College of Arts and Humanities), learning and teaching excellence (presented by Jim Greenberg, College of Education, Steve Selden, College of Education, and Bob Yuan, Biology), and university research administration, presented by Toni Lawson and Helena Moynahan, among others. The group also visited OIT at multiple sites to learn about the UM network and services; toured the Jeong Kim Building of the A. James Clark School of Engineering; and met with Herb Rabin, Director, Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute, to discuss technology development and transfer.

Throughout the program, Sichuan and UM officials engaged in lively discussions and identified some similar agendas and challenges as large research universities engaged in the process of internationalizing.

In March 2007, Sichuan University sent four computer science faculty members to UM to work with our computer science faculty, led by Larry Davis, for eight months. More faculty exchanges between the universities are planned for the coming year. ✉
Bernardo Alvarez Herrera, Ambassador of Venezuela to the United States, spoke to faculty, staff, and students at the School of Public Policy’s Tuesday Forum in December 2006. The event was co-sponsored by the institute for Philosophy and Public Policy.

The Ambassador’s talk, “The Search for A New Direction in Venezuela: Participatory Democracy, Integration, and Oil,” addressed the series of dramatic political, economic, and social changes that have taken place since 1998. Ambassador Alvarez says these changes reflect the true spirit of the country’s people.

“President Hugo Chavez has looked to lead Venezuela down a new path that increases democratic participation, grows the economy, and bridges the social chasm that exists between rich and poor.”

—BERNARDO ALVAREZ HERRERA, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO THE US

Alavarez became Ambassador on January 27, 2003. He previously served as Vice Minister of Hydrocarbons and Director-General of Hydrocarbons at the Ministry of Energy and Mines, Director of Cooperation at the Universidad Central de Venezuela, Executive Secretary and Venezuelan representative for the Forum on Debt and Development, and chief of the Research and Development Division at the Venezuelan Institute of Foreign Trade. He has also been a professor at the School of Political and Administrative Studies at the Universidad Central de Venezuela since 1982 and has held numerous positions within the university as well.

Research Professor Tom Hilde, who arranged Ambassador Alvarez’s visit, is working to create the Joint Center for Advanced Policy Studies of the University of Maryland School of Public Policy and the Center of Formation and Research in the Humanities of Universidad Católica Andrés Bello. Building upon the many relationships in academia, government, culture, and business developed through Hilde’s Fulbright Senior Scholar visit to Venezuela in 2005, the proposed center will be a fulcrum for exchanges between the University of Maryland and four major Venezuelan universities regarding ongoing policy issues. The Center will also provide a forum for guest lectures and conferences, as well as a center for concrete policy analysis, conceptual and normative analysis, and hands-on policy work and field research. The center will foster an exchange program, Hilde says, enabling graduate students from Venezuelan universities to pursue master’s and doctoral studies at the University of Maryland; and graduate students from the University of Maryland to pursue studies in Venezuelan and other Latin American universities.

A workshop is being planned for late spring at UM with Ambassador Alvarez and his staff. Participants will include the Venezuelan Minister of Education, Minister of the Environment, energy officials, opposition officials, scholars, and other stakeholders, all supported through the assistance of the embassy.
Study Abroad Launches New Program in Berlin

The UM Study Abroad Office has established a Maryland-in-Berlin program in conjunction with the FU-BEST program at the Freie Universität Berlin (Free University of Berlin). The program is open to all UM students, as well as students from other accredited American universities, beginning in Fall 2007. Students on the program take German language and culture courses at the Free University, in addition to two semester-long courses with Maryland’s Resident Faculty Director, Dr. Gabriele Strauch, Associate Professor of German at the University of Maryland.

Students are not required to speak any German before enrolling in the program, although all participants are expected to take language classes while abroad. The Maryland-in-Berlin program is a Fall-only program, although students are welcome to stay on as regular FU-BEST participants for the Spring semester if they would like to study abroad for a full year.

Berlin is a dynamic, multicultural metropolis with 3.4 million inhabitants. The city has a rich and dramatic history that spans centuries and encompasses all of the ups and downs of Germany’s past. Modern-day Berlin offers spectacular arts and culture, including museums, opera houses, concert halls and theaters, ample recreational opportunities, a first-class public transportation network and a vibrant nightlife. The Free University is one of Germany’s premier institutions of higher education, located in Berlin’s charming southwestern sector.

The site of the FU-BEST Program is a large villa in the FU campus area, a gift of the American people to Germany during the Cold War years. Every Friday during the semester, students on the Maryland-in-Berlin program will experience the city of Berlin through scheduled outings and field trips. In addition, the program sponsors a week-long excursion to Poland, Munich/Vienna or Dresden/Prague (varying from semester to semester).

For more information on the academic program and costs, please visit: www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad/berlin

UM History Professor Receives Fellowship to Study Nazism, Fascism, and Radical Islam in Berlin

Jeffrey Herf, UM professor of history, received a Fellowship at the American Academy in Berlin for fall 2007 and will work on the project: “Nazism, fascism and radical Islam: Lineages, Comparisons and Differences.” He plans to write a modest size book on the subject in 2008.

The American Academy in Berlin invites scholars, writers, artists and journalists to spend a semester at its offices and living quarters located on the Wannsee, in the suburbs of Berlin. The Academy provides a unique bridge between Germany and America through the scholarship and creativity of distinguished individuals involved in cultural, academic, and public affairs. You can read more about it at www.americanacademy.de/
Ambassador Noel Fahey has been part of the Irish Foreign Service since 1974. He became head of the European Union (EU) Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1991. During his tenure, he helped with negotiations to strengthen the EU, including the Treaties of Maastricht and Amsterdam. In September 1998, he became Irish Ambassador to Germany. Fahey has been Ireland’s Ambassador to the United States since 2002.