The Second Annual Study Abroad Photo Contest, sponsored by the Traveling Terps and the Study Abroad Office, was held during Maryland Day 2007 (April 28th). Students, faculty, staff, and visitors voted for photos in the categories of Architecture, People/Culture, Landscape, and Off the Beaten Path. The winning photos are reproduced in this issue. All photos were taken by study abroad students during a study abroad experience. To see the semi-finalist entries in all categories, visit: international.umd.edu/studyabroad/photocontest

On the front cover —
First place winner in People/Culture category: Pilgrimage on Mount Moses (Egypt), by Anson Knausenberger

On the back cover —
First place winner in Landscape category: Deadlvei (Namibia), by Brendan Lowe

First place winner in Architecture category:
World Under the Roof (Korea), by Suehyun Cho

First place winner in Off the Beaten Path category:
Art Versus Nature (Court of the Lions, Alhambra palace, Grenada, Spain), by Anne Powell
Growing Partnerships with China
More and more UM colleges and faculty members have joint degree programs or research projects in partnership with Chinese universities. To further cultivate these relationships and explore new ones, President Mote; Associate Provost for International Affairs, Saúl Sosnowski; and UM Confucius Institute Director, Chuan Chen Liu, traveled to Beijing, Tianjin, Hangzhou, and Shanghai in May.

Responding to Conflict
When U.S. policy makers craft strategies for dealing with unstable world regions, the researchers at UM’s Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM) are hoping that they will have the Peace and Conflict 2008 report in their toolbox. The new report is the fourth in the biennial series that the Center publishes, and provides data on trends in national and international conflicts.

Faces of Niger
Abdoulaye Ibbo-Daddy, a journalist from the West African country of Niger, was awarded a Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship to study at UM’s Phillip Merrill College of Journalism last year. Wanting to show the real people of his little-known country, he created a photographic exhibit of 30 portraits representing Niger’s eight ethnic groups.
University of Maryland President Dan Mote, Associate Provost for International Affairs Saúl Sosnowski, and UM Confucius Institute Director Chuan Chen Liu traveled to China in late May to cultivate emerging UM-China partnerships. At the start of the trip on May 24, Dr. Mote spoke in Beijing at the 10th “Beijing China International High Tech Forum” in the Great Hall of the People.

In Beijing, the UM delegation met with officials from Beijing Normal University, including Madam Liu Chuansheng, Chair of the University Council, who plans to bring a delegation of 15 deans to UM in late April–early May 2008. They are interested in learning about UM’s administrative structure and pursuing academic collaborations. Liu is recommending UM to China’s Ministry of Education as a good site for leadership tours for Chinese university administrators.

In Tianjin, the delegation visited the Nu Teda College of Nankai University, which focuses on applied physics (mainly optics) and biotechnology, and is located in Tianjin’s new economic development zone, slated to be the northern high tech center of the country. Shanghai and Guanzhou are China’s other high tech centers, in the central and southern regions, respectively. Dr. Mote lectured to a large group of students at Nankai University where the UM group met with the university’s new president, Rao Zhihe. Chen Hong, Nankai’s Standing Vice President and Dean of Literature, is UM’s key contact in China for the Confucius Institute at Maryland, which promotes the study of Chinese language and culture.

In Hangzhou, a city in the Zhejiang province south of Shanghai, the delegation met with Madam Ye Rong Bao, vice chair of the Standing Committee of the Zhejiang Provincial Congress. As vice-governor for eight years, Ye was in charge of the province’s significant industrial development.

On May 30, the UM administrators visited Zhejiang University. UM already has strong collaborations with ZU and its new president, Wei Yang (formerly of Tsinghua and, most recently, from the Ministry of Education), is interested in expanding collaborations with the Philip Merrill College of Journalism and the A. James Clark School of Engineering.

ZU is one of 65 Chinese universities that receives study abroad grants.
from China’s Ministry of Education. The grants cover airfare and a living allowance for doctoral students, for up to four years, tuition excluded.

President Mote believes that ZU offers unique opportunities for students to go abroad that UM should explore. One model is an existing agriculture program allows ZU students to study abroad at University of California-Davis and intern with farmers and conduct extension activities as part of the program.

After the meeting, Mote lectured to an audience of 200 enthusiastic students. They were not shy about asking questions, and as they were fluent in English, no translation was necessary. At least four who attended the lecture are coming to UM in the fall, three in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE).

In Shanghai, the UM group visited the new campus of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), where its President, Zhang Jie, gave a presentation about the achievements of its alumni, faculty and students. This dynamic institution has many international connections, including joint degree programs with Michigan, Georgia Tech, Purdue, and with an E.U. conglomerate in business.

With the support of SJTU’s Associate Dean of the School of Mechanical Engineering (XI Li-Feng), UM is looking to develop exchange opportunities for students to go to SJTU, including internships and summer exchanges in the areas of agriculture, biosciences, and mechanical engineering.

Also in Shanghai, Mote and company met with Dr Gao Hong, general director of the Anhui Provincial office, who arranged for them to meet four companies interested in coming to Maryland for business. They also met Hu Hao, vice general manager of the Shanghai Yuan Investment Co. Ltd.

Wu Zengbao, board chairman of Yu’An Pharmaceutical Company, Ltd; and Sarhmy Lee of Sinofinn Energy Corporation, which is seeking a research center in the U.S.

**UM FACULTY ON THE GROUND IN CHINA**

Professors Richard Walker (left) and Roberta Rudnick (right) of UM’s Department of Geology sample rocks from deep within the Earth’s upper mantle. The green rocks in the large block of basalt (and in the sample held by Dr. Rudnick) are peridotite xenoliths — foreign rock fragments — composed primarily of olivine, which were carried by the basaltic lava from depths of 50-70 km in the Earth’s upper mantle. Pros. Rudnick and Walker and graduate student Jingao Liu visited China in May, 2007, as part of their collaborative research with scientists from the Chinese University of Geosciences, Wuhan, Northwest University, X’ian, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The project investigates the loss of over 120 km of plate from the bottom of the Chinese lithosphere. It is supported by both the U.S National Science Foundation and China’s equivalent institution.

Photo taken at the Yuanyang basalt locality, Shanxi Province, China
The previous edition of Peace and Conflict (2005) garnered significant media attention because it showed that conflict was declining globally, despite the fact that the war in Iraq had already escalated into a major melee. The current volume, based on data through the end of 2005, shows that the downturn in conflict appears to have been short-lived. “We report an uptick in conflict with the last year of available data,” says Joseph Hewitt, one of this volume’s authors. “It was a surprise to us that the previous trend was slowing down or reversing itself. We went from 19 active armed conflicts in 2004 to 25 in 2005.”

Hewitt explains that the six “new” conflicts they tracked were in fact pre-existing conflicts that had been dormant at the time of the last report, but have since re-emerged as active problems. “This tells us about the importance of preserving ceasefires and monitoring conflicts. These are important policy priorities,” he stresses. This report relies on a set of definitions about what constitutes “conflict” and is tied to how many people were killed. To be categorized as a “conflict,” a struggle must have accumulated 1000 or more fatalities over its duration, and to be counted as an active conflict, it must have caused 25 or more deaths in the current year for which data is analyzed.

This year’s Peace and Conflict report was produced by 14 contributors, 10 of whom are UM faculty members. It was written by Ted Gurr, Distinguished University Professor (GVPT); Jonathan Wilkenfeld, Professor (GVPT) and Director of CIDCM, and Joseph Hewitt, Assistant Director of CIDCM and the center’s Director of Government Relations. As with previous editions, the authors recognize the need to translate academic research into an accessible format for policy makers, so the volume is full of visual representations of the data. “You have to be able to tell a story with graphics, especially when people can only spend a minute or two with it,” Hewitt explains.
The research team analyzes open source data on every country that has ever been involved in a conflict, collected by the Uppsala Conflict Data Project based at Sweden's Uppsala University. Regular features of the Peace and Conflict publication include the Peace and Conflict Instability Ledger, which ranks the likelihood that a nation state will become involved in conflict; Trends in Global Conflict; Trends in Democratization; and Self Determination Movements and their Outcomes. New to this volume are several analyses about challenges to the stability of states, including a chapter by authors from UM's Start Center, which examines Global Terrorism and Failed States. The graphic on the number of terrorist attacks and fatalities by region (side bar at bottom) shows that Europe and Latin America, and recently Asia, have seen the most terrorist activity. “This graphic tells a story that’s not really appreciated,” says Hewitt. “That the Mideast is not the center of terrorism globally like it might seem to be.” Hewitt emphasizes the Start Center’s important contribution to understanding terrorism: “There aren’t a lot of databases out there that systematically track terrorist events and look at the regions, the types of attack and the targets. This is really going to open the door to better analysis and understanding,” he says.

The report’s authors hope that policy makers will view terrorist activity as part of what they term a “conflict syndrome.” “Terrorism is not isolated,” explains Hewitt. “There is a related set of problems that drives the political instability of states. Any policy intervention to solve any one of these problems should be taken with a view towards their relationship to the others.”

Hewitt names problems of democratization, internal political instability, involvement in international crises and threats by rebels and terrorists as some of the interrelated characteristics of the syndrome. He cites the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan post-9/11 as an example of U.S. foreign
policy that did not consider the interrelated problems of the region. “The intervention was all about solving the problem of terrorism and knocking out Al-Qaeda targets, but not a lot of thought was given to how to then solve the problem of political instability in the country. There was a reason why Al-Qaeda was in Afghanistan in the first place,” he explains.

Still, the Peace and Conflict 2008 report does not focus on the impact of U.S. foreign policy on global conflict. In fact, its impact is only measured indirectly in the section ranking states based on their measured risk of instability. In the 2003 forecast, in which neither Afghanistan nor Iraq appeared in the top 10 list of most unstable states; they top the list, respectively, in this edition’s forecast. This classification assigns a number to each state which assesses its risk of instability relative to an average, stable member state of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Peace and Conflict 2008 is the first edition of the report being published by a commercial press (Paradigm Publishers) and the authors hope that it will be distributed more widely to policy makers as well as reach the academic community for the first time. The companion website www.cidcm.umd.edu/pc will allow users to interact with the data and manipulate variables or the analysis used to create it. “We hope that professors will use this report and the website to illustrate how quantitative analyses can be done in international relations, Hewitt says. “All the data will be made public and students can download it and use it to pursue a certain area further or to change our underlying assumptions because they think that it might be a better approach.”

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* Falls out of top 10 in 2007, ** New to top 10 in 2007

The hard copy of the executive summary of Peace and Conflict 2008 is available upon request from CIDCM (free of charge). Send an email to cidcm@cidcm.umd.edu. An electronic copy is available at www.cidcm.umd.edu/pc.
New Provost Brings Legacy of Excellence & International Experience

On July 1, 2007, Dr. Nariman Farvardin, formerly Dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering, became Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost of the University of Maryland. Dr. Farvardin succeeds William Destler, who became President of the Rochester Institute of Technology in July. In his new position, Farvardin will serve as the University’s chief academic officer, with responsibility for both content and administration of all of UM’s academic programs.

Farvardin sees his new position as an opportunity to improve UM’s overall reputation: “I am a strong believer in building excellence across the board and not just creating pillars of excellence,” he says. “If we want a first-rate university, we have to be first-rate across the board. In this position, I have the opportunity to have an impact on all parts of the university.”

Farvardin leaves a legacy of excellence at the A. James Clark College of Engineering, where he served as Chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1994 to 2000 and then Dean from 2000 to 2007. He first joined the electrical engineering faculty in 1984 after earning his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. As dean, Farvardin promoted innovative new engineering programs, establishing the Fischell Department of Bioengineering, developing the Inventis and Keystone undergraduate programs, and fostering new initiatives focusing on women in engineering, undergraduate research and technology entrepreneurship. During his tenure, the School constructed the state-of-the-art Jeong H. Kim Engineering Building; built strong programs in nanotechnology that have placed the University of Maryland among the national leaders in nanotechnology education and research; established a major new initiative in energy research; and launched, with the School of Public Policy, an innovative Master of Engineering and Public Policy program to educate engineers in public policy issues.

Provost Farvardin speaks enthusiastically about the role of internationalization in the university’s quest for excellence: “I believe that international partnerships and initiatives are enriching in a variety of ways because we gain exposure to different cultures, languages, ways of doing things and, because I am a technologist, different technologies,” he says. “I believe that this is how we expand our knowledge base.”

He also emphasizes the multi-faceted role that international opportunities for students can play. “We need to provide more opportunities for students to go abroad, live abroad, and to work and interact abroad, so that when they come back here they can be more complete citizens and have a better understanding of how we should interact with the rest of the world,” Farvardin explains. “This is important for the students’ own sake and for the sake of the nation.”

UM’s senior leadership team will hold a strategic planning exercise this fall to chart a 10-year plan for the university. Farvardin predicts that they will address a variety of international programs, including increasing opportunities for study and internship abroad, providing students with more exposure to foreign languages, and making UM a more welcoming place for international students. “Creating more opportunities for international students to come to UM has two advantages,” he notes. “It increases the international visibility of the university, and by having a larger number of international students on campus, particularly at the undergraduate level where the number is small, you will create a new dynamic on campus. Our own students will have the opportunity to interact with international students without even having to travel. There is an abundance of very talented and very interested students internationally who can afford to pay to come here, but we haven’t sought them.”
Twice the size of Texas, Niger is largely desert, landlocked, and very hot — temperatures rise to 120 degrees at times. Its 12 million inhabitants are among the poorest on the planet. Subsistence crops, livestock, and one of the world’s largest deposits of uranium form the economy. Drought cycles, desertification, population growth and a drop in world demand for uranium constantly undercut its already marginal economy.
When awarded a Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship last year, I realized I would be a kind of ambassador from my little-known country of Niger. What could I offer?

Instead of giving a boring lecture, I decided to draw on what I was good at. I wanted to show the real people of Niger, their raw beauty and their hardships, to record their daily struggles to make ends meet, not just create postcard pictures. Yet I also wanted to show that Niger has much to offer!

A former French colony, Niger became independent in 1960. Since 1990, it has been a democracy with three constitutional branches. But like in any emerging democracy, the process is slow, often with one step forward, and two back. Illiteracy, mortality, and high fertility remain daunting challenges.

Yet behind this apparent poverty, lies diversity; diversity in culture, in ethnicity, and in lifestyles shaped and sharpened by centuries of exchange between people crisscrossing the deserts between Maghreb and sub-Saharan Africa, between the Arab world and the black continent, between desert and savannah, between sunrise and sunset. People survive with little but have much to offer to anyone who visits and is willing to take off his blinders. Niger's very proud, friendly and open people are trapped in a hostile, harsh, hard environment. Yet the country is also filled with light, colors, odors, moods. A beautiful country that should be appreciated fully with the mind, the heart and the senses.

I adored the way people let themselves be captured so easily, whether in the workplace or on the street. Spontaneously, with grace and a melting smile. Although I am a versatile photographer and appreciate the excitement of capturing the beautiful light over the Sahara, the green landscape of the rainy season, or the blooming plants by the riverside, I was most drawn to people.

Photography for me is a way of seeing, a means to capture a particular instant, a passport to life, a bridge that connects with the inner self of others, opens their hearts and creates intimacy. It has blessed me with a greater perception of the human spirit, allowing glimpses of children, women, men, seniors, and the moments that count in human life.
U.S. Wushu-Kung Fu Federation Holds Team Trials at UM

Ritchie Coliseum wasn’t the set of Jet Li’s next movie over the weekend of July 14-15, but there was a whole lot of wushu going on as the U.S. Wushu Kung Fu Federation conducted the 2007 U.S. Wushu Team Trials at the University of Maryland. The top athletes among 118 competitors earned the honor of representing the United States in the 9th World Wushu Championships, scheduled to take place in Beijing, China in November 2007. The event was cosponsored by the Confucius Institute at Maryland, the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs, and the Terp Wushu Club.

Wushu is both an exhibition and a full-contact sport, derived from traditional Chinese martial arts. It was created in the People’s Republic of China after 1949, in an attempt to nationalize the practice of traditional Chinese martial arts. In contemporary times, wushu has become a truly international sport through the International Wushu Federation (IWUF), which holds the World Wushu Championships every two years. The actor Jet Li is probably the most famous wushu practitioner in the world. He started wushu as a competition sport, and gained fame when he took the National Wushu Champion of China title five times, and then went on to star in a series of films that feature the martial art.

The wushu competitors performed in five categories: barehand; broad sword; saber; staff; and spear. Five women and five men were chosen for the A teams to compete in Beijing. Those who earn a qualifying score in Beijing will be eligible to perform in the 2008 Olympics, where for the first time Wushu will be an exhibition sport.

Photos above: women’s chang quan competition, men’s straight sword, and men’s spear competitors

Go East (or South or West) for Study Abroad this January

This winter, the Study Abroad Office at the University of Maryland encourages students to pack their bags for adventures across the world. Study Abroad sponsors a number of short term programs, including a martial arts course in China. Taught by UM professor of kinesiology Dr. Ang Chen, students will live in Shanghai and experience the physical, cultural and social effects of martial arts on Chinese culture.

Other students interested in the charm of Asia can explore the transformation of South Korean society, Japan’s historic performing arts, or sustainable development issues in Laos or India. Classroom lectures are paired with experiential opportunities, to impart a truly unique academic experience.

Winter term 2008 programs are also scheduled in South America, Europe and Africa. The application deadline for Winter term 2008 is Tuesday, October 2, 2007 and the scholarship deadline is Tuesday, September 18. To find out more, visit www.umd.edu/studyabroad or call the Study Abroad Office at (301) 314-7746.
UM to Host “Traces of Confucius”

Confucius may have lived more than 2500 years ago, but the giant portraits produced by the Shandong Publishing group depict his legacy in sharp detail. A delegation from Shandong Province, the birthplace of China’s great sage, visited UM in June to meet with President Mote and to present Dr. Charles Lowry, Dean of University Libraries, with a special exhibition art book, Journey of Confucius.

This work contains color portraits of Confucius, his significant students, and some of the stories surrounding his life—all taken from historical paintings. Included in the collection are also reprints of imperial portraits of Confucius’ descendants, and photographs of the area where Confucius lived in Qufu, Shandong Province, China. The delegation also gave President Mote a copy of the Analects of Confucius, one of the most influential texts in Chinese history. Mote presented the delegation with commemorative UM plates with their names inscribed.

Hou Xinjian, the photojournalist who captured the collection of images, and the Confucius Institute at Maryland, are planning an exhibition at UM, entitled Traces of Confucius. During his visit in June, Hou displayed some of his photographs near the sundial on McKeldin Mall (photo shows two images of Qufu). The exhibit, which will be the first stop on a planned U.S. tour, is scheduled for April 2008, and will display more than 100 images as 4’ x 9’ prints in the art gallery of the Art/Sociology building. The Traces of Confucius exhibit will launch a four-year exhibition series titled The Great Sages of China which will also include exhibits on Mencius, Mo-zi, and Sun-tzu, all famous disciples of Confucius.

Confucius is best known for his benevolent and practical attitudes, his exhortations on the value of learning and listening, and his advice on how to govern wisely. The Confucius Institute at Maryland intends for the exhibit to raise awareness of how Confucius and his teachings influenced not only Chinese culture, but contributed greatly to human civilization.

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE HOSTS CHINESE CULTURE CAMP

Laughing over the cheling (Chinese yo-yo)… eating jiaozi (dumplings) for lunch… pressing out the water during paper-making… steadying the brush for Chinese calligraphy… reciting intonations during the language session…

These were some of the sights and sounds from the two, one-week Chinese culture camps held this summer by the Confucius Institute at the University of Maryland. Local children enjoyed colorful Chinese arts and crafts, traditional games, a taste of geography, history, and society, and some interesting flavors at lunch. Guest artists shared traditional music, dance, martial arts, painting, and handicrafts with the children, who sampled each with hands-on experiences. The campers created tiny clay buildings for a penjing, or dish garden; made lanterns and dressed up for a “New Year’s” celebration; flew kites and folded paper into shapes. Please visit www.international.umd.edu/cim for more information about the Confucius Institute. To sign up for the listserv, through which you’ll be updated about events and activities, please email confucius@umd.edu.
UM Welcomes International Journalists for 15th Year of Humphrey Fellowship Training

Each academic year, the University of Maryland’s Phillip Merrill College of Journalism hosts a group of Hubert H. Humphrey Fellows in Journalism that include accomplished professionals from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Europe and Eurasia. This year’s 12 fellows are the fifteenth group to study at the University of Maryland since the program’s inception in 1993. Part of the U.S. State Department’s Fulbright Exchange Programs, the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program is designed to sharpen skills in media technology, broadcasting, and tele-radio communications. During their fellowship year, Humphrey Fellows participate in programs that combine academic coursework with professional development activities, such as internships with highly regarded news organizations.

Regina Dumba of Zimbabwe is a women’s rights activist and consultant director of the Feminist Political Education Project. She plans to focus on public policy analysis and public administration.

Gabor Fadgys of Hungary is a press officer in the Prime Minister’s Office. He will study government communication.

Samina Farzin Sheikh of Pakistan is deputy director of the government Press and Broadcasting Ministry. She also is attached to the Ministries of the Environment and Kashmir Affairs. She plans to focus on the role of the media in development.

Kinda Kanbar of Syria is the publisher and general manager of the independent English-language magazine, Syria Today. She hopes to study the role of media in the United States with the goal of founding a research institution.

A.N.M. Golam Kibria of Bangladesh is deputy chief reporter at Daily Prothom Alo, where he writes about corruption and human rights. He wants to study investigative reporting to enhance his journalism skills.

John Monibah of Liberia is the communication officer at Don Basco Homes, a program to help war-affected children. He edits a quarterly newsletter and produces a radio program. He wants to improve his journalism skills and study the role of media in development issues.

Munarsih of Indonesia is a senior journalist at Radio Republic of Indonesia where she is a talk-show host and presents news and interviews in both English and Indonesian. She wishes to study the role of journalism in democracy.

Hoa T. Nguyen of Vietnam is deputy manager of news for Ho Chi Minh City Television. He wishes to focus on news and television station management.

Larissa Novikova of Kazakhstan is president of the Women’s Rights Information Group, which monitors violence against women. She plans to hone her skills in advancing women’s rights.

Nadarajen Pillai of Mauritius is a manager at Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation for television. He wishes to study the latest television technologies as well as law and communication regulation.

Eitan Prince of South Africa teaches radio journalism as well as development and democracy issues at Rhodes University School of Journalism and Media Studies in Grahamstown. He is interested in learning about community journalism, narrative radio and media research about Hip-Hop.

Collins Wagumba of Kenya is an audiovisual producer and lecturer at Kenya Institute of Mass Communications. He writes scripts and directs programs about development, child abuse, HIV/AIDS and poverty. He wants to focus on media research and documentary production.

Fellows are available to speak to classes on campus, and the program occasionally organizes a “Humphrey Forum,” where a few of the fellows share their experiences and discuss the status of the news media in their home countries. For more information, contact Lucinda Fleeson at lfleeson@umd.edu or 301-405-2415.
International Dance Collaboration Unites East and West

The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at UM will host an innovative international dance collaboration this September. The full-length work, *A Slipping Glimpse*, co-commissioned by the Clarice Smith Center; the National Endowment for the Arts; the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; the Danspace Project, New York; and friends of the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company; brings together members of the San Francisco-based Margaret Jenkins Dance Company and colleagues from the Tanusree Shankar Dance Company of Kolkata, India.

Dancer/choreographer Tanusree Shankar, the artistic director of that company, has conducted master classes at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center and the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, based on the creative style pioneered by the late Uday Shankar. Her creative, contemporary choreography gives concrete shape to the music and text that inspires it, producing an original combination known as the ‘New Dance.’ These dances of the Tanusree Shankar Dance Company are a blend of rich local traditions and the more open outlook of the west—Indian in spirit, modern in presentation and universal in appeal.

The creators and company of *A Slipping Glimpse* are eager to interact with the members of the College Park campus, and the surrounding Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area, during their sojourn at the CSPAC. Individuals or groups wishing to attend rehearsals or otherwise meet with members of this collaboration may contact Lynnie Raybuck, Community Engagement Manager (phone: 301.405.5974; email: lraybuck@umd.edu) for further information.

Performances of *A Slipping Glimpse* will take place on Thursday, September 20, Friday September 21, and Saturday September 22. Information on performance times and tickets may be found at: http://claricesmithcenter.umd.edu/.

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Engineering Exchange Celebrates 20th Anniversary, Expands Scope

What started out as a small student exchange between UM’s Department of Mechanical Engineering and the University of Applied Sciences in Mannheim, Germany has grown to offer student training for foreign visitors interested in a variety of research programs offered by the A. James Clark School of Engineering.

The program has recently added a new agreement with Wolfenbuettel University of Applied Sciences in Germany, providing even more opportunities for exchange for the Clark School.

Each year the Exchange Visitor Training Program grants a small number of internship and training opportunities for international students anywhere from three months to a year with the Clark School. For example, all exchange students who work within the Center for Environmental Energy Engineering (CEEE) are here for six months or more.

About 350 students have participated in this program, with mechanical engineering offering over a dozen placements with more than twenty host professors. Some have been able to use the internship to complete their diploma or Master’s theses, some using the program to fulfill the practical training requirements of their home institutions, with all students having gained valuable international experience.

One of the longstanding partners is the Berlin Technical University, sending one to two students annually since the program’s inception. Maryland has hosted students from France, Italy, Turkey and South Africa, as well as several other German Universities.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering has operated the exchange program since the fall of 1998. Professor Reinhard Radermacher took over the program from Dr. Dirse Sallet in the early ’90’s with support from Jane Fines, Director of Undergraduate Recruitment and Special Programs in the Clark School.

The exchange program administrators hope to cultivate more involvement from Maryland host professors and labs, and to expand the program to encourage more international partnerships. More importantly, they hope to get more Maryland students to go for exchanges to the foreign institutions as well. For more information, contact Jim Barrett, Mechanical Engineering Marketing and Communications Coordinator, email: jcb@umd.edu.