



L.T. Jordan Institute

for International Awareness

Spring 2011 Newsletter



Explore the World



State of the Organization

Letter from the Chair
Spring 2011

Howdy Jordanites!

My name is Mario Garza and I am the chair of the MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness for 2010-2011. As you well know, the L.T. Jordan Institute was founded over 20 years ago, charged with a mission of providing Texas A&M University and its surrounding community with international exposure through programming and travel abroad opportunities. The students and staff of the Jordan Institute work diligently throughout the year to send over 70 students abroad through a wide variety of travel programs. This year, the Jordan Institute is working to expand the scope of its travel abroad opportunities. We are working with the Dept. of Geography to provide opportunities for students interested in ecological conservation in a new International Service Program to Belize.

The Jordan Institute also strives to create quality programs that bring the world to the Texas A&M campus and the Brazos Valley. This semester, program topics include: Islamic Contributions to a World Society, Innovations Fighting Global Poverty, and Encountering the International Job Market. Co-programs include a screening of the Russian documentary, "Virginity," along with a Salsa Dance Competition. The International Education Outreach Program is also reaching out to local schools, bringing cultural performance groups from Texas A&M to younger students in Bryan and College Station.

As a diverse and dynamic committee, we are continually seeking to expand and improve upon established programs. We especially welcome input and support from former members interested in promoting our cause of international awareness. Please let us know how you are doing, visit the website at ltjordan.tamu.edu, or stop by the temporary Jordan Office in Koldus 233. We have downsized in space, but continue to expand in our international endeavors! Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Mario Garza

2010-2011 L.T. Jordan Chair



“The L.T. Institute of International Awareness has been a great contribution to my extracurricular activities. It is a club that focuses on international affairs that occur today, and it’s a great way to stay up to date with current events. I enjoy the open discussions the most, because as a member, you get to hear the different perspective of other fellow members. Hearing the different opinions on certain issues is yet another way that Jordan can broaden your horizon.”

~Events Coordinator



Internship and Living Abroad

MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness Internship and Living Abroad Programs (ILAP) provides an opportunity for Texas A&M University students to actively participate in another culture by living and working for five weeks in a foreign country. We currently have Internships and Living Abroad Programs in Singapore, the Dominican Republic, China, Spain, and England.

“I really enjoyed getting to know my host family. They were so great. It was cool seeing how a family in China functions and the interests that my host sister and I share. I also enjoyed getting to do all the sightseeing and experience living in China.” ~Mayley Tang, ILAP China

“My job assignment was extremely interesting. The people I worked with were amazing and helpful, and I enjoyed the work more than expected.” ~ Jeffery Perry, ILAP Dominican Republic

“My experiences in Singapore will definitely be beneficial. Work experience alone is always useful in figuring out what one wants to do in the future, but working in a foreign country expanded my potential knowledge intake by far. ~David Rose, ILAP Singapore

“For the first time in my life I had the opportunity to apply my academic knowledge to real job situations. My assignments consisted of tasks I knew how to perform and other I did not know, so I had the opportunity to develop my skills and learn new ones.” ~Itzel Benitez, ILAP Spain

“I was beyond thrilled with my living arrangement! The house was beautiful. My host family was some of the nicest people I have ever met and they made me feel so at home in their house.”

~ Samantha Trent ILAP England Participant

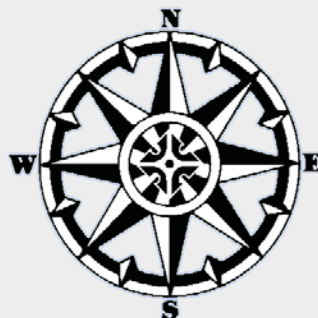
Intenational Service Program

The International Service Program is a service-oriented program that allows Aggie medical students to live in either the Dominican Republic or Honduras for four to eight weeks over the summer and participate in intensive community-based health projects and clinical experiences for the health of the people and environment of these countries.

Last summer we also started a short-term service program in Guatemala for undergraduate students at Texas A&M University. Students selected for this program traveled to Chimaltenango, Guatemala during the summer of 2010 for 3 weeks to participate in the Borlaug Institute's Food for Progress Program.



“I loved that we got to go out to rural villages as well as teach at the Scheel Center! Also, Antigua was a really fun town for us to hangout in and meet locals and other volunteers”~Trip Participant



Jordan Fellows 2010-2011

The L.T. Jordan Fellows Program provides highly qualified students personal enrichment and educational opportunities through an international cultural experience. This is achieved by designing a specific independent international study or research project in another country that will enhance the participant's educational or career goals. Fellows will receive grant monies (up to \$2000) to assist with travel expenses. This fellowship is designed for individual study or research and is not designed to fund a Study/Internship Abroad program.

Matthew Davis will be traveling to United Kingdom to research surviving archives of East Anglia that harbor the 14th & 15th century documents.

Maura Palacios will be traveling to Guatemala to study the fish community composition and biological patterns in the highlands of Guatemala.

Joelle Petrosky will be traveling to Abuja, Nigeria to study leadership in the context of the Nigerian culture

Nichole Roatch will be traveling to Peru to explore how anti-predator behavior is constrained by environmental conditions.

Andrew Shelnett will be traveling to Accra, Africa to conduct interviews with local government officials to determine best practices in modern

On-Campus Programming

Islamic Program:

A panel discussion regarding the Islamic Contributions to civilization



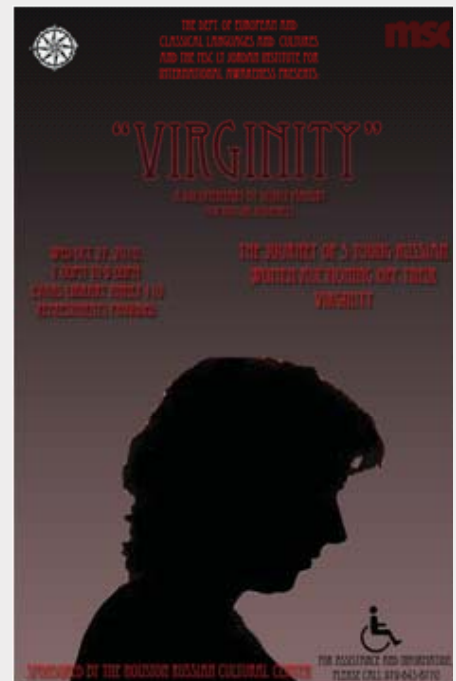
Salsa Dance Night:

An event designed for students to share their knowledge and skills about one of the most beautiful arts in the Latino culture, dance. Students who are not competing have the opportunity to learn and enjoy this fine art through salsa dance lessons and a live Latin band. This annual program is in done in partnership with MSC CAMAC and Aggie Nights.



Russian Film Festival: “Virginity”

Featuring lecture, film and discussion with filmmaker Vitaly Mansky



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Please designate my gift to support : ___ General Operating Expenses (Option — Specify Area _____)
 ___ The International Service Program

If your corporation matches employee charitable donations, please feel free to encourage your corporation to give to the Jordan Institute. Also, if you have any special skills or resources that could be valuable to us, Jordan joyfully accepts in-kind gifts!

Please return this slip with your contribution. If payment is by check, please make the check payable to the MSC L.T. Jordan Institute.