

DALKEITH REMEMBERED

SEPTEMBER 2014

WHERE
HAVE WE
BEEN?!

We've been keeping very busy here in the WIS Administrative Office since our last publication of the *Dalkeith Remembered Alumni and Friends Newsletter* so to those of you who have been in touch to let us know you've missed the updates, we say welcome back...and to those of you who have been students in Scotland in the last two years and had no idea there was such a thing as the alumni newsletter, we say welcome! We hope you enjoy this newsletter with updates on what exactly has been keeping us so busy, including [Program Director Brent Greene's retirement](#), and the [welcoming of a new Director](#); the development of an exciting new education abroad [opportunity in China](#); and ushering in the age of the ["second generation" WIS participant!](#)

STILL MAGIC AFTER ALL THESE YEARS: BRENT GREENE

After many years of invaluable service to the Wisconsin in Scotland program, Brent Greene retired this past August 2013. Brent's experiences with Wisconsin in Scotland include serving as the Resident Director during the 1993-94 academic year, and serving as Wisconsin in Scotland Director from 2001-2013. The Wisconsin in Scotland program is better today because of Brent's many years of tireless and passionate advocacy for the WIS experience. Prior to his retirement, Brent took some time to reflect on what this program means to him, and to so many of us.

So, this is really just a reminder of what every one of you already knows. Wisconsin in Scotland is magical. It has been one of the most engaging, powerful, life-changing experiences for thousands of students, faculty, staff, family, friends and many others. Sure, education abroad all by itself, no matter where it takes place, transforms most everyone. I'm a fan of education abroad in any way, shape or form—it's all good. But, there is something "extra magical" about WIS—really, it's not just that I personally love the program. There is something truly magical! I've talked to hundreds of students who have studied abroad all over the world. They have virtually all had wonderful experiences. But, I've never met any who have developed quite the same fascination with their experience and deep affection for where they studied as those who participate in WIS.

I think I understand some of that WIS magic having lived at Dalkeith House for a year and having visited many times (something over 30...no, I'm not bragging...just feeling very lucky). I've witnessed the magic over many, many years. I feel very fortunate to have served as a bridge for this twenty-seven-year-running program. I've known every resident director since the beginning (and was fortunate to be one of them). I have met or known virtually all of the faculty and hundreds upon hundreds of the thousands of students who have participated in WIS. I get together with some regularity to this day with Michael Padgett, the "Godfather" of WIS (I know, he hates that I call him this, but he is). I've known both Dukes of Buccleuch, I worked with and was very good friends with Willie Grainger and now Jim Smith. I have always been and continue to be great friends with Cameron & Susan Manson—and many others! I point all of this out to underscore my point; the program is magic and all of these people know it too. If it were only the one-off student or just a few whose lives were completely transformed by WIS it might be easier to write it off as simply "a great fit for them but just another program for most." Nope, virtually EVERYONE who has been a part of the Wisconsin in Scotland program loved it and still loves it. It is a part of who they are—still, not just something that was a passing experience. It is embedded in their souls.

The magic is in being in stunningly beautiful Scotland. It's in living in a very historic palace, built on the foundation of a castle. It's in the vast splendor of Dalkeith Estate. It's in having an incredibly rich, gorgeous and mystical city of Edinburgh just out the front door. It's having The Continent only a skip and jump away. It's living in a highly charged & exhilarating international learning community. It's learning about everyone and everything, from everyone and everything. The magic is in standing in the dinner line with your professors/students. It's the global crossroads that Dalkeith House serves as—where people come and go from all over the world. It's the Greyhound, and Smiths, and Mayson's and...it's those thousands of places and people and memories that are yours and mine and everyone's who has been a part of the WIS program! Maybe the magic is about the Grey Lady or the Loch Ness Monster or Castles or "How the Scots Invented the Modern World," or that infectious Scottish brogue, or...it's about absolute magic, pure and simple!

So, keep believing in the magic of Wisconsin in Scotland, for most of it is real! What I know is real for certain is the magic of Wisconsin in Scotland as a powerful international learning community and the magic that has changed thousands of lives—forever! And so, keep the magic of Scotland—of Wisconsin in Scotland in your heart & soul and let the magic continue for another 27 years—and many, many more!



Brent Greene (far right) sits on the steps of Dalkeith House with other WIS legends (from L-R) Michael Padgett, Willie Grainger and Doug Pearson

WISCONSIN IN SCOTLAND PROGRAM INSPIRES CHINA EDUCATION ABROAD

A new education abroad option for students was launched in the fall 2012 semester. This program, Experience China, was inspired by and built on the foundations of the Wisconsin in Scotland program. Students in the Experience China program live and learn together as a community of international scholars on the campus of Zhejiang International Studies University in Hangzhou, widely regarded as one of China's most beautiful cities. In just the two short years since the Experience China program began, it already boasts two Wisconsin in Scotland alums in its rank of participants. Read the reflections of spring 2010 Wisconsin in Scotland participant, Kristin Klimeck, as she was abroad this past semester as a spring 2014 Experience China participant:

I have many stories and adventures to share from my education abroad experience and I have found that "a good tale never tires in the telling" - Scottish proverb. My name is Kristin Klimeck, a graduating senior with a Marketing Communications major. I have had the opportunity to travel many parts of the world while a student at UWRF. I have been a part of the Wisconsin in Scotland program and also the Experience China program. I have had many amazing and life changing endeavors that include: hiking the Great Wall, climbing Mount Olympus in Greece, riding a bike on the ancient wall of Xi'an, navigating a group of fellow students through Rome, participating in traditional Scottish ceilidhs, wandering through bamboo forests, and much more. I can only share a few of the incredible moments I have had in Scotland and China.



Scotland wasn't a debate for me. I always knew I wanted to go and once I found out River Falls had a program that could get me

there, it was just a matter of when. Wanting more than ever to be immersed in a culture bursting with tales of fairies and castles straight out of story books, I suddenly found myself signed up and accepted into the program for the spring semester of my sophomore year. Soon an impulse decision would turn into a life changing journey. The Wisconsin in Scotland program was beyond my expectations, and enhanced my desire to experience new cultures. My eyes had been opened and I was ready to get lost in another culture. I never thought that another opportunity would present itself so quickly or that I would jump at the chance.

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Four short years later I was face to face with another chance to travel. China, a vast expanse of uncharted territory for me, required more thought and discussion than Scotland. It was the next place on my travel bucket list, but was it the right choice at this point in my life? Here was an opportunity to experience an entirely different culture and a time to push the limits of my comfort zone. A chance to absorb myself in ancient traditions and landscapes, open doors for others seeking new ventures, and cultivate my understanding of a people with such a rich history. I had a door standing wide open for me, all I had to do was walk through it. The pieces fit too perfectly so, pushing away any doubts, I walked through that door and am now beyond ecstatic with what has transpired.

My experiences in China to date have been nothing short of phenomenal, much like Scotland. There are always fun activities to do, sights to be seen, and food to eat. The most lavish dishes can be found at any sit down restaurant while



street food is equally as delicious. Rice is easy to come by and the steamed buns should be illegal. My favorite are the pork steamed buns and I eat them regularly. While taking in the sites it is easy to rent a bike from one of the many bike stations situated throughout Hangzhou. Many times while riding a bike or walking around the city, I am in wonder at why more travelers do not come to China to experience this fascinating country.

Contrary to China, the language barrier was not as prominent in Scotland and navigating through the cities was a simple task. In Scotland, double decked buses were the mode of transportation, food was just as drool inducing as ever, only it was different from that in China. Meat and potatoes reign supreme and a good old pasty will satisfy any hunger pains. If you are a food connoisseur, or maybe an adventurous food junkie, haggis and blood pudding are a must try. After filling up on pasties, getting lost in the historical towns and mist enshrouded hills were a favorite pastime. Living in a palace is probably the most exciting thing in life.

Two very different countries with equally fascinating and rich histories produced memories and lessons that I will forever carry with me wherever I go. To say that I have had an incredible time is an understatement, but to say that I do not regret either of my decisions to participate in both programs is the truth. I am deeply grateful to have had these programs available to me, giving me the chance to broaden my horizons, discover more about myself than ever imaginable, and to learn more from my experiences than a classroom could ever teach. As said by the great Chinese philosopher, Confucius: "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand."

SECOND GENERATION STUDY ABROAD

The fall 2012 semester in Dalkeith represented an important milestone in the history of the Wisconsin in Scotland program with our first “second generation” WIS student participant. For a number of years students have participated in the program who once lived in Dalkeith as the children of faculty, however UW-Stout student, Lauren Kortbein, marked the first child of a WIS alum to participate in the program. Twenty-six years after her mother, Christine Tyink, participated in the inaugural semester of the Wisconsin in Scotland program, Lauren found herself roaming the same storied halls of Dalkeith yet living an experience totally her own. While in Scotland, Lauren was interviewed by UW-River Falls Wisconsin in Scotland program Ambassador, William Judd—please enjoy some excerpts from that interview as Lauren reflected on her experiences compared to her mother’s:

What did your mother first tell you about the program?

Although growing up I always knew my mom had studied abroad in Scotland, she never forced me into the program...She encouraged me to look into study abroad programs and find a country that would best suit my wants...The more information I was given, I realized that Scotland was a very viable option for me.



Lauren stands in front of the picture of her mother’s 1986 semester

Photo Credit: Kathy Helgeson, UWRF Communications

What are some of the differences between your current experience and your mother’s experience?

My mom and her 70 housemates all had to share one telephone that operated on coins. When someone called the house, somebody had to go answer it, then run and find the person whose parents were on the phone. Now, when you arrive at the house you’re given a cell phone. All we needed to do was buy a SIM card and

“top up”, which means put minutes on our phone. We’re able to text and call locally and internationally.

What are some of the similarities?

Although there are definitely a lot of differences between studying abroad in Scotland in 1986 and 2012, there are also a lot of similarities. Perhaps it’s because Scotland is such an old culture that 26 years doesn’t make a big difference.

One of the most unique things about my mom and me was that we realized we stayed in the same room. She sent me a picture of the house with an arrow pointing to her room, and it was only then that we realized that for 3 months we lived out of the same place. It’s very comforting to know everywhere I go in the house, my mom has also been. She knows what I mean when I explain a story that happened in a certain area of the house, and she’s able to empathize with any issues I may have. It’s certainly a wonderful feeling!

What would you like to tell the children of parents that have studied abroad?

To those students who have had parents studying abroad: My biggest fear was that I was turning into my mother. Not that this is necessarily a bad thing, as my mom is the most wonderful mom in the world, but I didn’t want to feel like I was just copying everything she did. Not only did I attend the same college that she did, but now I was going to participate in the same study abroad experience. As much as it may seem like I’m repeating my

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mother’s experiences, I’m definitely not. There are similarities, but the differences are huge. Scotland and the United Kingdom are immense, and it would be almost impossible to do the exact same things as someone else.



At the entrance to Dalkeith House, proudly sporting mom’s sweatshirt

Photo Credit: Kathy Helgeson, UWRF Communications

What would you like to say to the students thinking about joining the program?

As for students who are thinking of participating in the Wisconsin in Scotland program as first generations: *do it*. There isn’t a better country to study abroad in. As soon as I arrived in the United Kingdom, I immediately felt comfortable. Since they speak English, it’s easy to figure out where you’re going and what you’re doing. The first few weeks as I was wandering around the city, trying to figure out where I was and where my destination was located, I noticed people were more than willing to help you. You can stop anyone on the street and not only will they give you exact and specific directions on where to go, they’ll tell you what else is nearby that you shouldn’t miss. The Scots are an extremely friendly bunch, and they don’t hesitate to help you out. By the last few weeks that I was here, I was the one getting stopped on the street. The fact that I looked the part of someone who had grown up here and knew what they were doing made me feel like I had finally made Scotland my “home away from home”.

Independence was something I had been promised as soon as I went away to college...Although this was true on some levels, you don’t realize how much you’re missing out on until you study abroad. Living 200 miles away from home...provides a much different experience than living 2,000 miles from home...Only when you have to rely on yourself to get from Glasgow to Edinburgh to Dalkeith do you understand the true meaning of independence...Being independent is one of the most empowering feelings you can experience, especially while you’re still in college. Even if you’re only just starting to think about studying abroad, sign up!

**WISCONSIN IN SCOTLAND
ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
NEWSLETTER**

Wisconsin in Scotland
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
102 Hagestad Hall
410 South Third Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone: 715-425-3238

Fax: 715-425-3541

E-mail: kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu

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[HTTP://WWW.UWRF.EDU/
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Scottish Photo Project

Last newsletter we told you about a unique video project with Blipfoto and Scotland.org teaming up to create "Scotland the World Over", a global celebration of Scotland that culminated on Burns' Night. We hope you all had a chance to submit your Saltire photos, but even if you didn't, we're sure you'll enjoy the [final product!](#)



Welcome to Our New Director!



Katrina Larsen began in her role as Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Education and Executive Director for Global Connections on the UWRF campus in July. Katrina has extensive experience with supporting both incoming and outgoing international student groups on the UWRF campus. Though she has previously visited Scotland, an upcoming September visit will be her first experience in Dalkeith. Join the conversation to share your words of advice, and other "not to be missed" sites and activities in Scotland with her (and anyone else visiting for the first time) [here!](#)

SCOTTISH RECIPE: GRANNY MCKIE'S APPLE CHUTNEY

This tangy chutney is easy to prepare and makes an excellent accompaniment to cold meats.

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs cooking apples, peeled, cored and chopped
- 1 lb Demerara sugar
- 1 oz ground ginger
- 2 lb onions, finely chopped
- 1 pt malt vinegar
- Pinch of mixed spice
- Salt to taste

Directions:

Put all the ingredients into a preserving pan or a large heavy bottom saucepan. Bring to a boil and simmer for about 2 1/2 to 3 hours until the mixture thickens to the preferred consistency. Stir intermittently throughout the cooking period. Allow to cool, spoon into prepared jars and seal.