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Office of International Programs



Caroline O'Leary's Fabulous Year Abroad



October 7, Tampere

East weekend was Tampere Day, which meant that all of the museums in town were either reduced admission or free. A group of us took advantage of this and spent Saturday and Sunday roaming around.

On Saturday we went to the fish market and got as many free samples as we could eat. We then walked to Pyyrikki Ridge, a park where you can see both lakes on either side of Tampere. We also trekked up the five stories of the tower for a breathtaking view.

I know this won't be the end. This country has affected me so much that I am considering staying for another three months.

We headed back to town and stopped at Alexander's Church. It was so beautiful, post-Reformation with a basilica plan, dark wooden trusses, the pulpit celebrated in color and carvings, an organ, a balcony, iconography in prominent places but

sion of chandeliers down the center aisle. We sat there for forty minutes, feeling the space.

October 20, from Tampere

The weekend before last a group of us went to Tallinn, Estonia.

As we were coming into port on the ferry, the town rose up along a hill before us. To the left were modern buildings, and to the right housing projects from the Soviet era. Our hotel was outside of the old town in a rundown area.

A fortress wall surrounds the old

part of town, and many of the streets inside are cobblestone. It is very tightly built, crowded. The most memorable thing we saw was Aleksander Nevski Cathedral, of Russia Orthodox design with the most beautiful lines, soft corners, detailed, soft colors, rounded, curved—amazing.

That night, we ate at a medieval restaurant and had cinnamon beer (still dreaming about it!), filet mignon, yams, rice, fresh bread, fresh cheese, stew, veggies, mashed potatoes and very full stomachs!

May 22, Copenhagen

I really like Copenhagen. The people are helpful, there's a lot to see and do, and the weather's beautiful. The variety of things available in a very small area is incredible, and I highly recommend you visit here.

Be sure to see Christiania, where all the hippies live, and where they have Pusher Row—where some biker gangs have infiltrated the free-loving area and are beginning to commercialize

it. This means that the Danish government is finally cracking down—which may eventually lead to the squatters getting kicked out.

Now I'm heading to Luxembourg for a couple of days, then Berlin, Prague, Bratislava, and landing in Zagreb, Croatia, where I begin my summer internship. I'm excited about going to southern Europe!

Oh, when my family

visited, we went to the Netherlands and found the house where my great-grandfather was born!

July 21, Zagreb

I'm working for an architecture firm called Studio 3LHD. They've got me as the head designer for a house in Dubrovnik for a football (soccer) player who's Australian but plays for England. I'm completely amazed that they're allowing me to do this, but so far they like what I've done.

August 26

Zagreb is a lived-in city. There are tags (graffiti) over most of the buildings, but the streets are clean and safe. The people are animated and friendly—open to meeting new people and sharing their views on your country.

Working in the studio and seeing the design process from the beginning has taught me that your original conceptual design can change drastically just from the realities of making it an actual building. I have been working for a firm for six years and had no

idea. In studio you know some things would have to change if it were built, but you just don't understand the repercussions until you take it to the



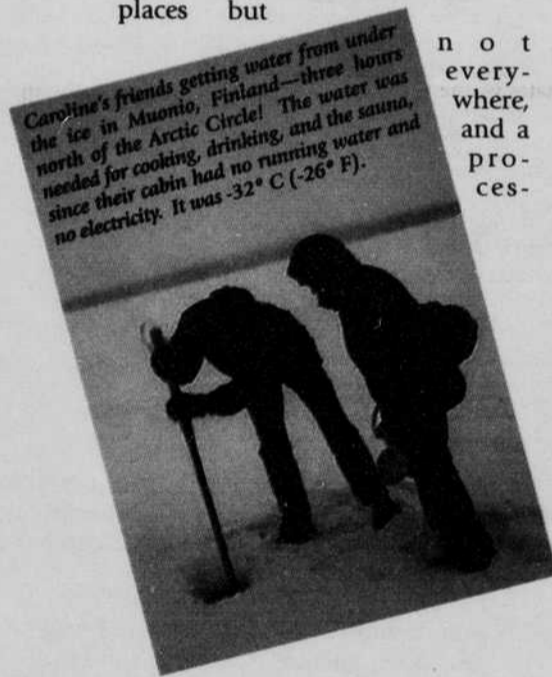
Nighttime in Tallinn, Estonia

next step.

My summer here has been incredibly full. At the beginning, we had about 14 students from around the world. Taking advantage of a beautiful country and the size of our group, we began traveling to the coast. We learned that a sunrise from a rooftop in Zadar and one from a beach in Pula are two of the most beautiful things you can witness.

I know this won't be the end. This country has affected me so much that I am considering staying for another three months. It's the life that pulses through the streets and the people: I want to see how they grow and transform as the seasons turn and the city changes.

Editor's Note: Caroline O'Leary is a senior majoring in architecture and political science. She studied in Finland in the fall semester of 2002 and in the DIS program (Copenhagen) in the spring semester of 2003. Afterwards, she completed a summer internship with an architecture firm in Croatia. If you wish this described your last year, come see us in 330 Oregon Hall!



Caroline's friends getting water from under the ice in Muonio, Finland—three hours needed for cooking, drinking, and the sauna, since their cabin had no running water and no electricity. It was -32° C (-26° F).

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'The Rewards Were Infinite': Hip Hop and HIV/AIDS Prevention in Tanzania



by: Kirstin Gunderson

I could write books—volumes—about my three months in Tanzania with the UO's Global Internships program, and that in itself is testament to its potential and its ability to help students grow and change in a well-structured space that is still open enough to allow for creativity.

My time in Tanzania was packed with little epiphanies and big lessons, and it was an experience that shaped my path more than any other here at the University of Oregon. Nestled into the hanging valley between Mt. Meru and Mt. Kilimanjaro in northern Tanzania is the United African Alliance Community Center (UAACC), where I worked during my three months in the program. The UAACC is a small, community-based organization that has grown to include an amalgam of classes and services ranging from HIV/AIDS prevention to courses in computer literacy.

My position at the center gave me the opportunity to both teach and help organize community events,

My time in Tanzania was packed with little epiphanies and big lessons.

as well as delve into my own studies on the effects of hip hop on the fight against HIV/AIDS.

In Tanzania, I lived and worked in Swahili, a feat that left me smiling and nodding



Kirstin (center) discusses HIV/AIDS prevention with Prosper Shayo (right).

much of the time, trying out simple phrases like "how did you sleep," and having them come out

more like "and how is you cat?" But I considered Swahili a welcome challenge, and in the end the rewards were infinite.

In my time at the UAACC, perhaps the biggest lesson I learned was one of humility, meaning that if you want to be heard, you must make what you say relevant to others. The IE₃ program gave me the chance to be a constructive voice, a teacher, and a student—all in a context that was independent and yet supported. It is a wonderful opportunity that I think all undergraduates should consider.

Editor's Note: Senior Kirstin Gunderson is majoring in international studies and Spanish. Kirstin also participated in the Quito, Ecuador program in the fall of 2002.