

Study abroad: Students muss career networks

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would make a lot of sense."

But college abroad isn't for everyone.

Students may come to regret missing out on quintessential American college experiences outside the classroom, like football Saturdays or the greek life of fraternities and sororities. They may discover that foreign universities don't offer the same resources as generally wealthier American ones, and students planning to return to the United States risk missing out on career networks and pipelines.

Gunnar Olson, Schell's guidance counselor at Indian Springs School near Birmingham, said some of his students who initially expressed interest in fall in going abroad — prompted

by disappointment with the results of the U.S. presidential election — have since reconsidered. Even Schell said she may return after a year.

Jennifer Shields, a graduate of the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and co-author of the book "Study Away: The Unauthorized Guide to College Abroad," strongly recommends a campus visit to a foreign university.

"If you're completely in culture shock for a week, maybe it's not the best decision for four years," she said.

Shields said St. Andrews — a popular destination with nearly 700 American undergraduates pursuing degrees — was the right decision for her. It exposed her to a wider variety of experiences and was less expensive than her American options.

That is sometimes the case, and in England, undergraduate degrees can be completed in three years. But buyer beware: Foreign universities often charge international students several times more than domestic ones (hence the aggressive recruiting). More importantly, Americans may have better access to financial aid at home.

But for Keegan, who also considered an American college, McGill was too good a deal to pass up. The top tuition rate is about \$12,600 in U.S. dollars, and Americans compete in the same pool as domestic students for merit aid.

"For me, the final decision was I liked two schools equally, and one of them was quarter of the price, and that was McGill," she said.

Vagina: Change at Women's Center spurs restructuring of show

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a Friday performance of "Monologues" in February with duct tape across their lips, wearing shirts with hand-written messages and passing out flyers protesting the performance.

"The biggest problem people had last year was not the production itself, but how the production was handled," Pete said.

In a post-production discussion group, participants discussed ways the production could have been done differently.

"We thought about not doing it again," Pete said.

The decision to perform the play again this year was made in the

context of a larger change in direction at the Women's Center.

"Last year we got a rep for being white-centric, and people didn't feel involved," Loh said.

When Erin O'Brien took over as the new director of the Women's Center at the beginning of the 2004-05 academic year, the center set about to reform its image, Loh said.

"We knew that if we did it again this year, we'd have to change it," Pete said.

The final nominations for cast members are due Dec. 10. The cast will be announced at the beginning of winter term.

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Directory: Federal law governs release of records

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they are attending the University while suppressing information they may want kept private, Associate Registrar Sue Eveland said.

"It's time to let students decide what they want to have out there about themselves," Eveland said.

Directory restrictions vary across the Oregon University System schools, Eveland said. Some schools don't release any information about anybody, while others define specific items to withhold or release, she said.

Leavitt said colleges and universities are generally guided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law governing the release of student records. The law gives the University choices about what elements to classify as directory

information, she said, resulting in different policies at different schools.

Leavitt said many University students didn't mind having their information in a printed directory, because it became quickly outdated. Students who were worried about their available information could move or change their phone number to regain privacy.

"But electronically, it changes immediately," Leavitt said. "The accuracy of the electronic directory makes some students not want their addresses on there."

Eveland said the University stopped issuing printed directories in fall because the directories were so quickly out of date.

ASUO President Adam Petkun said although temporarily removing

students' phone numbers and addresses could be inconvenient and "it's unfortunate it's taking so long, (it's) the right move at the time."

"They've had a lot of concerns from students who were uncomfortable with having that information online," Petkun said. "I look forward to having a full range of options."

Chereck said many students have indicated to him that people can reach them sufficiently through e-mail.

Until the system allowing students to choose their directory information is fully implemented in spring term, numbers and addresses not restricted by students will be available from the Registrar's Office.

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LCC physical therapy sophomore Jennifer Boling works with Stacy Miller at the Duck Stop Espresso Bar in the University Bookstore. All Duck Stop employees are donating their tips to the HIV Alliance to help fight AIDS.

AIDS: Youths vulnerable to infection; more than 12 million living with HIV

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Young people may be particularly vulnerable to HIV infection because of potentially risky sexual behaviors, substance abuse or lack of knowledge about prevention, according to YouthAIDS, an international organization promoting HIV/AIDS awareness. More than 12 million people aged 15 to 24 worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS, according to agency statistics.

University senior Chelsea Reed,

who works on the HIV Alliance's media relations team, said World AIDS Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention.

Students will also be putting up red ribbons on Sixth Avenue in honor of AIDS Day, Erickson said.

"It's something that can't be forgotten," Reed said. "We can't forget what's happened here, as well as in the world."

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