



# FRIENDS WORLD SCHOLARS

The Friends World Newsletter • Spring/Summer 2003

## GREETINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON

April 23, 2003

I am pleased to update you on a number of new initiatives the program has been exploring to strengthen our identity as a global education program committed to the study of contemporary issues. First, the Peace and Reconciliation Program is just finishing a successful year in London, and plans are underway to expand the program to South Asia and Latin America. Faculty at these centers are engaged in a series of conference calls to plan a four year program, and many plan to meet and continue this work at a Peace Education Institute being held in South Korea this summer. Next, the Environmental Issues program in Latin America – also new this year – has gone very well and is proving to be quite popular with students. We may expand this program to South India as well. Finally, discussions are also underway on a program in Global Health and Healing Traditions, with potential programming in South India, China and Latin America. Partly as a result of these discussions, the center in Latin American is investigating possible links with colleagues in Cuba, as Long Island University has a license which would allow our students this study opportunity.

I am delighted to report that the students in the Comparative Religion and Culture Program, in Turkey these past ten weeks and presently in Istanbul, have been able to continue with a full program and finish their academic year. We

have been in regular contact with State Department officials in Ankara, and they have given weekly approval to our program and to our intention to complete the program despite the war in Iraq. Traveling this past year to Taiwan, Thailand, Rome, Athens and Turkey, this program continues to be a wonderful educational opportunity for our students and we are already researching locations for next year's program. Opportunities abound for the safe study of cross-cultural issues, as long as we can be flexible with our destinations! Special thanks to the faculty and staff of this year's program, who have done such an outstanding job.

One final note – the news out of London is that the first year of our new Foundation Year Program has been a huge success. We have received wonderful feedback from both parents and students, and retention into the sophomore year looks to be at a record high. To many students, pursuing global citizenship and cross-cultural understanding now seems such an important and worthwhile challenge. I am grateful that we have dedicated and experienced faculty and staff – in all our centers – that can continue to make this possible.

Sincerely,  
Robert Glass  
Dean, Friends World Program  
Long Island University

## SENIOR RECOGNITION MAY 17, 2003

The schedule for this exciting annual commencement event is as follows:

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast – Kanas Lobby, Chancellor's Hall

9:00 - 12:00 noon

Senior Presentations – Duke Lecture Hall, Chancellor's Hall

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Lunch with seniors, staff, and guests – Kanas Lobby

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Senior Presentations – Duke Lecture Hall

3:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Move to Athletic Center for formal ceremony

4:00 p.m.

Welcome – Dean Robert Glass  
Southampton Provost greets seniors, families and friends  
Awards

Introduction of speaker

Dr. Alex Boraine –  
Dean Robert Glass  
Address by Dr. Boraine  
Awarding of Diplomas  
Reception

## STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Yazmin Alfaro**, Administrative Director of the Latin American Center since 1991, has resigned. Her recent marriage to Dean Robert Glass brings her to Long Island, where we warmly welcome her.

• **Carol Baker**, Administrative Assistant to the Dean since 1995, has resigned. We are grateful for her unique and important contribution to the Program and wish her well.

• Southampton College has named its new Provost, **Daniel J. Rodas**, formerly an Assistant Vice President at Duke University. Dr. Rodas is the successor to Timothy Bishop, who ran a winning campaign for the House of Representatives in Washington from the First Congressional District.

## THE FRIENDS WORLD PROGRAM PREVIEW DAY, MONDAY, MAY 19, 2003

Activities will include faculty and student presentations, discussions on student success and academic

expectations and provide attendees the opportunity to meet students, staff and faculty up close and personal.

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**COMPARATIVE RELIGION  
& CULTURE CENTER**

Contact World Headquarters

**DR. ALEX BORAINÉ TO BE  
GRADUATION SPEAKER**



Friends World is honored to welcome Dr. Alex Boraine as our May 17 graduation speaker. Educated at Rhodes University, Oxford University and Drew University, Dr. Boraine was ordained as a Methodist minister in 1956 and in 1970 was elected as the youngest President of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa. In 1974, he was elected to the South African legislature as a member for the opposition Progressive Party. Together with Dr. van Zyl Slabbert, former Leader of the Opposition, he formed the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA), and in 1994 started Justice in Transition, a non-governmental organization whose express objective was to facilitate South Africans to deal with the history and effects of the apartheid years. In 1996,

Dr. Boraine was appointed by President Mandela as Vice Chairperson of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa. Elected Fellow of the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University as well as Mansfield College, Oxford University, Dr. Boraine's other honors include an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Rhodes and the Harvard Peace Prize.

In 2000 his book, "A Country Unmasked: The Story of the South African Truth & Reconciliation Commission" was published, and he has contributed chapters on truth and reconciliation to a number of books on South African reparations, justice and truth.

Dr. Boraine will address the graduating seniors, and will attend a reception following the ceremony. As always, the graduation is open to the public, as well as to the families and friends of the senior class.



Restaurant doorway, Kyoto, Japan  
photo by Eliza Wagner, FWP '04

When I am not home in Sweden I am studying photojournalism and Japanese Studies at Friends World Program of Long Island University, New York. I am in my final year of my bachelor degree. My studies so far have taken me to Japan and London. While living in Kyoto I had an internship in advertisement photography. During the 8 months of the internship, I learned how to use studio equipment, lighting techniques, medium format cameras and how to professionally relate and work with clients. The internship gave me a unique opportunity to learn Japanese language, culture and customs. Now I am studying in London and I am looking for new and interesting photographic challenges.

-Jonas Borg, FWP '04

**LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY OFFERS SUPPORT  
TO FRIENDS WORLD PROGRAM FUNDRAISING**

On January 30, Robert Glass and the Council of Overseers Development Committee met with Richard Gorman, LIU Vice President for External Affairs, and two members of his staff to review the relationship between FWP development efforts and the LIU Development Office.

The Council Committee, Valentine Titus, Gary Sazer and Quentin Sammis, along with Jane Ann and Donald Smith, were eager to explore ways in which LIU could support Donna Olson, our staff grants researcher, and the volunteer efforts of Council members.

The discussion centered on ways in which Friends World as a program of LIU could benefit from the interest and experience of the LIU Development Office to strengthen our fundraising

and alumni activities. Richard Gorman assured us that his office was ready and willing to provide staff support and guidance in all aspects of fundraising: program development, scholarship funds, establishment of an endowment, alumni contacts and the annual appeal.

This meeting was very encouraging to us all, and will make it possible to undertake more effective projects in the future. Robert Glass, Donna Olson and the Council Development Committee will need to plan how best to use the help offered. We are most appreciative that our small staff will be supported by LIU's Development Department and we look forward to working more closely with them.

## ONE WORLD TO SAVE

Perhaps the most poignant paradox of being a Friends World student is seeking to live up to the charge of social activism in societies to which we do not belong. On November 19th of 2002 the students and faculty of Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan, gave CRC students an extraordinary opportunity to make an attempt at doing just that. Reacting to feelings of isolation and impotence amongst the members of the CRC crew, third year Friends World student Channa Abel took it upon herself to head up the organization of a World Peace Prayer Ceremony.

As a representative of the World Peace Prayer Society, an international youth-driven NGO, Channa had previous experience with these events in Japan. Bringing one to Taiwan, however, posed unique challenges. Since none of the CRCers spoke Chinese we had to rely on help from enthusiastic members of the Fu Jen English Lab. Tireless and resourceful, Tina and Dennis (the heads of the aforementioned English Lab) pulled together assistance from all over Fu Jen University. With a tight deadline, all of CRC and a fair number of Taiwanese students got to work on planning the event.

A World Peace Prayer Ceremony is a very free-form event open to people of any nationality, race or creed. Besides the central ceremony, in which the flags of every country in the United Nations (and the other regions of the world) are held up and wishes of peace are given to each, there is no formal structure.

We were left, therefore, with a lot of room to decide what we wanted. Did we want to invite a few guest speakers? Would we throw in a little singing or praying? Maybe we could convince our tribal leaders, Chrissy and Andrew Irvine, to do an interpretive dance?

In keeping with our CRC themes of intercultural/interreligious

dialogue we incorporated offerings from our own traditions to precede the flag ceremony, including: a Hindu prayer, chanted movingly by Anuja Bakshi, a Hebrew prayer by our very own Amy Fornari and the singing of "Let There Be Peace On Earth." We were heartened by the attendance, especially by the presence and participation of visiting students from France, our patron Professor Joseph Chan, Chairman of the Religious Studies Dept. and Father Louis Gendron, one of the vice-presidents of Fu Jen University. As all in attendance stood without



complaint for over an hour and a half, a slow realization of the vastness of our world and the pervasive profusion of conflict within it spread through the room. Literally, dozens of the countries named are or were recently at war; and there were more of which we were ignorant.

The essence of intercultural social activism can be encapsulated in one fondly remembered experience of the process. When setting up a table to advertise the World Peace Prayer Ceremony, Caitlin and Adina found themselves not only incapable of answering the questions of Mandarin-speaking Fu Jen students, but unable to read the flyers, which

we had translated from the original English. It is difficult to handle the feeling that your actions are in vain and that you yourself are peripheral. Before we lost hope we were joined by a Catholic monk who just happened to be a virtuoso on the Highland Bagpipes, and a few helpful Taiwanese students able to answer questions. As the wind whipped the flyers from our hands delivering them to packs of passing students the entire day turned very surreal. We will always remember our adventure in Taiwanese Activism to the tune of a Scottish Reel.

*Caitlin Orrison and Aric Clark (CRC class of 2002-2003)*



### ABBEY'S ADVENTURES:

*Abbey's trip began weeks ago, spending time in Costa Rica and New York. Before the end of April, she will study in England, Turkey, India, China and Japan, each for two weeks. The idea for her trip came about when she decided to focus her thesis on the Friends World Program's model and mission statement. She is researching to understand how the mission and model of experiential learning are understood at each Friends World location. Specifically, she is studying the process of student assessment and how it reflects the model and mission of the program. Because of her interest in experiential models of education and assessment, she had the opportunity to utilize the resources of Friends World, to learn from and study with the culturally diverse faculty in each of the locations.*

My friend, Margie, and I spend the day walking around Ankara. I haven't taken much time to just walk around the cities I am studying in, and it was such a relaxing way to finish my time in Turkey. We stopped for lunch and bought doners, which are freshly cut meat sandwiches that can be found in stands on every corner in the big Turkish cities. We ate our sandwiches on a bench overlooking part of the city, and in our view was Ataturk's Mausoleum, where the revered founder of the Republic of Turkey, Kemal Ataturk, rests. The building looks a lot like the White House in that it is a large, white building with many pillars in front. The Mausoleum stands tall above the city, and on that day in particular the clouds formed in just a way that let the light shine down just over the building. It was quite a sight, and also quite telling of the importance and respect that Turkey feels for their leader who brought Turkey to where it is today. Pictures of Ataturk can be seen on every wall in every building in Ankara, watching over the people.

*Read more about Abbey's adventures at*  
<http://www.southampton.liu.edu/news/abbey/abbey.html>

## FRIENDS WORLD PROGRAMS

### Peace and Reconciliation

London, England; Heredia, Costa Rica; Bangalore, South India, Hangzhou, China

### Global Health and Healing Traditions

Heredia, Costa Rica; Bangalore, South India; Hangzhou, China

### Comparative Religion and Culture

Multi-site (Taiwan, India, Turkey)

### British and European Studies - London, England

### East Asian Studies - Kyoto, Japan

### Chinese Studies - Hangzhou, China

### South Asian Studies - Bangalore, South India

### Foundation Year Program - London, England

### People and the Natural Environment - Heredia, Costa Rica

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## PRO-PEACE SOCCER MATCH



photo by Jonas Borg, FWP '04

Peace and Reconciliation student Gabriel Furshong helped coordinate a Pro-Peace soccer game in Islington, north London in mid-February. Bianca Jagger was there to kick-off the match, organized by the Iraqi Student and Youth Association and Americans Against War. The game was organized to show that Americans and Iraqis were united in their opposition to the war.

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## FW WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU...

Friends World has many opportunities for students and alumni to be featured – publications, viewbooks, websites, etc. If you have an article, a poem, perhaps a photo (electronic – 300 dpi – minimum size 3" x 5"), or news of you, please feel free to contact us. Send information to: [Joyce.Tuttle@liu.edu](mailto:Joyce.Tuttle@liu.edu)

Please visit our website @ [www.liu.edu/friendsworld](http://www.liu.edu/friendsworld). Click on to the alumni section and send us your latest information. View our student profiles and consider adding yourself. Please tell us what you've been doing in Friends World, or since Friends World!