



Eastern Connecticut State University

# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## Eastern Students Broaden Horizons

**Willimantic, Conn.** – On Nov.15, interested students at Eastern Connecticut State University attended a Study Abroad Fair in Wood Hall. William Hyndman, a representative from Cultural Experiences Abroad (CEA) was present from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. ready to answer questions and promote the benefits of international study.

Study Abroad Coordinator Robert Horrocks said, “This year we have more interest than ever in studying abroad.” Twenty Eastern students are slated to be studying abroad next year in countries such as Ireland, England, Spain and Italy. One of them will participate in the Semester-at-Sea, traveling the world on a ship and visiting different ports.

CEA has study abroad offerings in 14 countries including France, Spain, Hungary, Russia and Australia. “Spain is our most popular destination,” Hyndman said. “We send out about 3,000 students each year. More than forty percent of students who go abroad with us go to Spain. I think it has something to do with the language.”

While a common tongue is a definite benefit, it is not entirely necessary for the interested student traveler. “For a long time,” Hyndman said, “people who studied abroad went to perfect the language, but that’s not the case any more.” Now the focus is less linguistic and more cultural. “Students go to experience different cultures. And chances are that they are going to take their courses in English.”

The three student workers in Eastern's Study Abroad Department - Kristin Zaccaro, Christopher Daly and Ana Guajardo - have all recently studied abroad. Horrocks describes them as outstanding world travelers.

For many students the desire to graduate on time overrides the desire to go abroad. Hyndman said this shouldn't be a matter of concern. "If you play your study abroad right you should be able to take courses that will keep you on track to graduating on time. No matter what your major is, there's a study abroad program out there that will fit."

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

It is the policy of Eastern Connecticut State University to ensure equal access to its events. If you are an individual with a disability and will need accommodations for this event, please contact the Office of University Relations at (860) 465-5735.

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