

# the [jayhawk planet]

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*Latin America is becoming a popular study abroad destination, particularly at KU where the numbers grew significantly. Above, a KU study abroad participant enjoys visiting with children in Cuzco, Peru.*

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## Continued Growth in Study Abroad

Student participation in study abroad has increased by eight percent nationally in the 2006-07 academic year according to the *Open Doors* report, published annually by the Institute of International Education. A total of 241,791 U.S. students conducted part of their post-secondary education overseas.

The report also finds that as partnerships among foreign universities grow and a broader range of disciplines offer study abroad opportunities, students are more frequently choosing non-traditional study abroad locations. The *Open Doors* survey identified a twenty-percent increase in the number of U.S. students studying in China, Argentina, South Africa, Ecuador and India.

Following two years of double digit growth, KU is maintaining program stability. During the 2006-07 academic year, we registered an increase of 1.4% in the number of KU degree-seeking students completing international study. A total of 1,365 students participated in study abroad compared to 1,346 in the prior year.

For KU students, Latin America proved to be a popular study abroad destination during the 2006-07 academic year. KU saw a combined 37% increase in Peru, Belize, Ecuador and Guatemala.

Significant increases also were seen in Germany, (37%) and the United Kingdom (18%). Italy continues to be the most popular study abroad destination at KU

with a total of 327 students participated in various Italy programs.

Students are often eager to complete part of their degree programs overseas. The single greatest barrier for study abroad cited by students is a lack of money to cover the additional expenses incurred for off-campus study.

This issue of the *Jayhawk Planet* focuses on the KU alumni who, through their generous donations to the Office of Study Abroad, are helping change the lives and programs of study for KU students through scholarship assistance. Thank you for your continuing support!

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# The Chant Heard Round the World, “Rock Chalk Jayhawk”



*Sarah (left) with her host family*

*Sarah Madden is the daughter to Mary and Timothy Madden of Topeka, Kansas. She will graduate with Honors from the University of Kansas in December 2008 with a B.A. in African and African American Studies and a co-major in International Studies.*

As an Africanist with a background in French language, my desire to study abroad in French West Africa was self-explanatory. However, my choice to participate in a semester-long program in Dakar, Senegal meant I would not have other University of Kansas students attending with me. My passion to study abroad could not be stanchd by the thought of leaving my KU community and I decided to apply for the fall semester of my junior year.

Dakar, a city of two and a half million people, proved to be an adventure for this Jayhawker! Between the differences in public transportation to the similarities in music tastes, the cross-cultural comparisons were a lot to take in after my initial arrival. Additionally, I was there to study and had yet to meet my fellow students and faculty members.

A week after arriving in Dakar, the study abroad program coordinators organized an orientation session. During this time each student and faculty member would



*Dakar, Senegal*

be able to share information about themselves including nationality, area of studies and other interesting facts. At my turn, I spoke about Lawrence and the University of Kansas. To my surprise, I heard a “Rock Chalk Jayhawk” from the back of the room. One of the Senegalese faculty members had, only the semester before, completed her graduate work at KU!

The course I took under this KU alumnus, “Senegalese Gender and Society,” turned out to be the most influential of my career. Our professor provided us the opportunity to start a non-governmental organization. The organization focused on providing services to young women at the ages they are most likely to drop out of school; these services are afterschool tutoring, and leadership courses, as well as team building activities.

This project ratified my belief that faculty and programs at KU work together to foster students’ desires to undertake seemingly overwhelming projects. After my time abroad, I returned with an instilled sense of pride in my undergraduate institution.

## Rock Chalk!

*Submitted by Sarah Madden*

## Sarah’s Achievements

### 2004 - Present :

Honor Roll Student,  
University of Kansas

### 2007 - Present :

Global Awareness Program,  
University of Kansas

### 2008 :

J. Michael Young Opportunity Scholarship  
University of Kansas

### 2008 :

Research Experience Program,  
University of Kansas

### 2008 :

African and African American Studies  
Valuable Service and Leadership Award,  
University of Kansas

### 2004 - 2005 :

Undergraduate Freshman Scholarship,  
University of Kansas



*Grande Mosque, Dakar, Senegal*

# Thank You!

Through the generous support of our alumni and friends (listed below for donations received between July 1, 2007 and October 31, 2008), and the Office of the Chancellor and Office of the Provost, approximately 10.5% of the 1,028 eligible KU study abroad participants received scholarships toward their experience abroad in 2008. A total of 108 KU students received financial support for their studies in various countries. Scholarship amounts ranged from \$200 to \$2,000.

Our goal is to increase both the number and size of the scholarships awarded to KU study abroad participants and make studying abroad a reality for more KU students.

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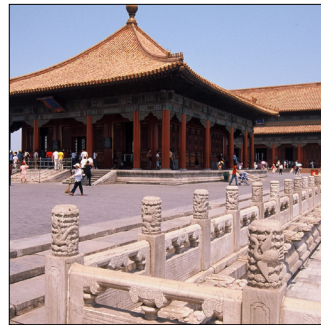
You may be able to create more opportunities, and give more back to KU, than you think possible. The key? Gift planning, a term that applies to several types of gifts. In essence, planned gifts are arranged now to benefit the University later. Planned gifts can support any activity of the University, including Study Abroad programs.

Gift planning can reduce taxes on your income and estate, effectively resulting in a larger gift. Many planned gifts bring additional advantages, such as steady, secure income for you. Planned gifts can include cash, securities, retirement plan assets, real estate or life insurance proceeds, and more.

Planned gifts can be structured in several ways: bequests through a will or trust, charitable gift annuities, retirement plan benefi-

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Planned gifts to Study Abroad should be directed to KU Endowment, the independent fund-raising organization that supports the University. For more information about planned gifts, visit [www.kuendowment.org/giftplanning](http://www.kuendowment.org/giftplanning) For answers to questions about gift planning, contact Jack Schwartz, KU Endowment's director of gift planning, at (785) 832-7327 or [jschwartz@kuendowment.org](mailto:jschwartz@kuendowment.org). Jack can work with you to devise the most beneficial gift for you, your family and KU. Consult with your attorney and tax adviser to determine how various options might affect your personal tax and estate-planning objectives.



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*“Happy Holidays from KU Study Abroad Staff...”*



*Left to right: (front row) Nancy Chaison, Jen Weghorst, Renée Frias; (second row) Ingrid Horton, Michele Arellano, Laura Dobson; (third row) Tracy Miller, Heather Moore, Justine Hamilton, Colleen Boley; (fourth row) Susan Gronbeck-Tedesco, Cathy Swenson-Tucker, David Wiley; (back row) Robert Lopez, Sam Billen.*