IU Institute Offers Year-Long Seminar in German Studies

Indiana University's Institute of German Studies on the Bloomington campus fosters the study of issues facing contemporary Germany, as well as research concerning the country's recent past, when it was divided into East and West. While the Institute has neither faculty nor courses of its own, it serves to coordinate the cooperative efforts of related disciplines such as history, sociology, economics, political science, philosophy, art history, and Germanistik. At present, the Institute's primary attention is focused on graduate students. The Institute offers an option in the German master's program, as well as a Ph.D. minor and a doctoral concentration in German Studies, and a year's full-time interdisciplinary seminar.

This intensive seminar program provides beginning and advanced graduate students with a broad background in German studies. The seminar, open to students in any discipline which might be enhanced by a concentration on the German-speaking areas of Europe, is considered to be of particular value to prospective college teachers of German and to persons preparing for a career in international relations.

The curriculum consists of twelve credit hours during each of the fall and spring semesters, with one or two of the courses taught by a guest professor from Germany. Some of the courses are designed specifically for the seminar group, while other courses taken by seminar participants are part of IU’s regular course offerings and involve special credits and assignments for seminar students.

The seminar curriculum is best described as "multi-disciplinary," with diverse backgrounds and disciplinary interests represented among the seminar's faculty and student participants. In order to facilitate this interdisciplinary linkage, seminar participants come together in a weekly colloquium which meets throughout the academic year.

To provide seminar participants with the opportunity for undisturbed, full-time study, six to ten fellowships are provided through internal and external sources, with the Max Kade Foundation providing the major source of funding. Applicants for these fellowships must possess a bachelor's degree in a participating discipline, as well as a good command of German, since many of the seminar courses are conducted in the German language.

The application deadline for these fellowships is February 15. For application forms and further information contact Albrecht Holschuh, Director of the Institute of German Studies, Ballantine Hall 644, IU-Bloomington, tel. (812) 855-7947 or 855-1640.

Emeritus Professor Completes Two-Year Teaching Appointment in Singapore

Irving Yucheng Lo, IU-B Emeritus Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures and Comparative Literature, recently returned to Bloomington after completing two years as Visiting Professor in the Department of Chinese Studies at the National University of Singapore. This university, popularly known as NUS, was created in the seventies as the result of the merger of three universities. The Department of Chinese Studies at NUS offers a small graduate program which requires three to four years of study. Courses offered by the department include translation, linguistics, history, philosophy, literature, and literary history and criticism. After completing the program, graduates pursue such careers as government service, teaching in secondary schools, journalism, and radio or TV broadcasting.

During his two year appointment at NUS, Professor Lo offered courses on translation and on classical Chinese poetry of the T'ang, Sung, and Ch'ing periods, in addition to a seminar on the lyric poet Hsin Chi-chi. A new course "Literature and Life," designed by Professor Lo for NUS students, featured Chinese translations of major Western authors.

IU-Northwest Professor Trains Nicaraguan Nurses

Socorro Roman, assistant professor of Nursing at IU-NW, spent two weeks this Summer as an instructor for 21 nurses from Nicaragua who participated in Duquesne University's Nicaraguan American Nursing Collaboration Project, where both her professional skills and her cultural/linguistic knowledge were fully integrated into the teaching task. "Language is a critical issue in efforts to disseminate healthcare information", she pointed out, as most nursing materials published in English have not yet been translated into Spanish for use in Latin American countries. A native of Mexico, she specializes in cancer prevention among minority groups and is concerned about the low value the U.S. educational system puts on learning about other languages and cultures.

After holding clinical and educational positions at area hospitals, Roman joined IU-NW's faculty in 1984 and is currently pursuing doctoral studies at Purdue in addition to her teaching responsibilities. She is committed to exploring cross-cultural issues in nursing and increasing the number of minority health-care professionals. A recent recipient of the Hispanic Health Leadership Award for the Midwest region, Roman is an active member of the national multicultural task force of the Oncology Nursing Society.