

Experiences abroad

Student adventurers can find foreign flavor on the international circuit

By SHARON KEBSCHULL
Staff Writer

The chance to combine travel with work can be very enticing for students looking for summer jobs. International opportunities are more plentiful than students may realize, but they take some time to search out.

England, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland and Scandinavia might seem the perfect places for a culturally enriching summer frolic, but the more exotic Japan, India and Africa may provide a more unusual experience — as long as you're willing to hunt them out.

"The concept of internships is American only," said Robin Joseph, experiential learning coordinator for UNC's Career Planning and Placement. "It does not exist in other places."

Finding American and worldwide corporations and private foundations that offer overseas internships won't be impossible, but most only offer small stipends to cover living expenses. Travel may come out of the intern's own pocket.

The *Guide To Careers in World Affairs*, published by the Foreign Policy Association, lists internships with private nonprofit organizations, international businesses and banking and federal government jobs, many of which are unpaid or include just a monthly stipend for living expenses.

Some require college degrees or take only graduate students, and may last anywhere from one month to a few years.

Junior Year Abroad, a program offered by many colleges, is one of the most popular options for international study, travel and work, but the best time may actually be later in a college or graduate career, according to the guide. Waitressing and unskilled labor jobs can be harder to come by, so many employers seek students with some professional background or a college degree, the guide reports.

Traveling overseas requires pre-planning, Joseph said. Too often students simply decide to go without really thinking through what they want, she said. Visas, work permits, and housing must be considered, she said.

Although some programs offer academic credit, there's no guarantee that the credit will transfer to UNC, Joseph said.

"Volunteer work is the most valuable way to get practical hands-on work experience," Joseph said. Non-profit organizations welcome volunteer internships, she said.

With many of the programs, students are expected to find their own housing, usually through the classifieds when they arrive.

But Joseph said the "Work in Britain" program will help students

in their first few days in Britain. The program, sponsored by the Council on International Educational Exchange, provides students with discount housing for their first three nights. It also helps students bypass the usual work permit through a governmental agreement, giving them a special permit for a maximum of six months. They provide a booklet for job searches, guiding students in anything from work with the BBC to banks to pubs. They also provide orientations, social functions, and counseling.

The International Association of Students in Economics and Management, which has chapters in 48 countries, places over 5,000 internships annually.

Boston University offers 15-week programs combining internships with study for 16 hours of credit, said Ashley Taheri, operations manager. The internships are available in London year-round, at a basic cost of \$4,675. The programs provide housing in apartments in the Kensington area of London. The program is accredited by Boston University and the credits usually transfer, Taheri said.

While it may seem late to be planning summer internships, Taheri said spaces are still available on the Boston University program. Financial aid can be harder to get for summer programs, so there are

usually a few spaces left later in the spring.

Another college with a large overseas program is Marymount College in New York. Their "Educational Programs Abroad" cover a wide variety of professions and prefer students going to non-English speaking countries to be fluent in the country's language.

Fluency may be a plus to students looking for jobs on their own, especially for those such as teaching English or working as an interpreter. Internships with the American-Scandinavian Foundation do not demand fluency, but some preparatory study is suggested.

The best place to look for work is England, Joseph said.

"There are a zillion things to do

in Britain," she said, citing the *Directory of Summer Jobs in Britain*, available at the career planning office.

There are opportunities to work with the disabled, on historic preservation projects, or with young offenders, she said.

Some of the colleges that will accept students into their programs are Beaver College, American University, Drexel University, University of Cincinnati, and Long Beach City College.

Some other books can be good starting points. *1986 Internships*, edited by Lisa Hulse, *Vacation Study Abroad*, and *Academic Year Abroad*, both edited by Edrice Howard, list working opportunities and some advice on going overseas.

Tourists in Europe save money with student travel discounts

By HANNAH DRUM
Staff Writer

Students wanting to travel abroad this summer should plan ahead in order to take advantage of the many discounts and reduced fares available to them.

"Most students going to Europe start by finding an inexpensive flight to London, and they go from there to find what is the best deal," said Barbara Kiser, manager of Continental Travel Agency.

Kiser said that most students planning a vacation in Europe buy a Eurailpass.

The Eurail Youthpass, which costs \$310 for a one-month pass or \$400 for a two-month pass, allows the holder unlimited train passes in 16 European countries.

With the Eurail Youthpass, students can travel second-class on trains and also receive substantial discounts on steamers, ferries and bus fares.

While in Europe, anyone with an American Youth Hostels membership can stay in a dormitory-style Hostel for \$3 to \$8 per night.

Because Hostels are so popular among students, reservations are recommended. Reservations should be made four to six weeks in advance for Hostels in tourist areas.

Another private organization provides students with additional discounts in Europe. With the International Student I.D. Card, college students are eligible for reduced rates on airfares, rail fares and rental cars.

Under the Student I.D. Card's vacation plan, a student can rent a

Renault for up to 60 days for as low as \$25 per day. This plan is especially economical for several students traveling together.

For students who want to see the world but are afraid to do it alone, student tour packages provide travel opportunities under the supervision of experienced guides.

There are a number of student tours available, but students should be wary of organizations offering tours around the world for an unbelievably low price.

A student should expect to pay up to \$3,000 for an extensive, two-month tour of Europe. A 15-day tour of Australia or the Orient will cost around \$2,000.

While student tours cost consid-

erably more than an individual traveler would have to pay, tour groups stay in tourist-class hotels with private baths. Continental breakfasts and dinner are usually provided at no extra charge.

In addition to the package price, students are sometimes responsible for the flight arrangements overseas.

A wide variety of destinations and trip durations are available, and several tours can be combined for a custom-designed vacation.

Most local travel agents can make reservations for the student package tours. Information about the Youth Hostel cards is available at the Office of International Programs' study abroad department in the basement of Caldwell building.

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