

opportunity, through engaging in international activities with our students, to make WCSU an institution where our students graduate ready to engage in a world of continuous cultural encounter and interaction, and ever changing skill sets where we empower our students to face the challenges of a 'flattened world'.



ISEP

International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) is a unique consortium option that offers semester and summer study abroad. Dr. Rob Whittemore is the ISEP Coordinator at WCSU. He can be reached at (203) 837-8461 or via email at whittemorer@wcsu.edu. For more information about ISEP, visit <http://www.isep.org/index.html>

Visiting Scholar: Kristian Nielsen

Mr. Kristian Nielsen, PhD candidate at the University of Tartu in Estonia is conducting research for his dissertation while at WCSU this academic year. Kristian originally hails from Denmark. Please help us welcome Kristian to WCSU! He can be reached at Nielsenk@wcsu.edu.

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International Services Office

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International Education Conference

WCSU will be hosting the CT State University system's international education conference this fall: "**International Perspectives: What Do We Mean By Green?**". It will take place on Friday, October 16th at the mid-town campus.



The conference goals are to:

- Raise awareness about global concerns and international issues;
- Provide opportunities for CSU colleagues to compare curricular strategies among CSU campuses and with the international partners;
- Learn about promising instructional strategies that help CSU students gain the knowledge and skills required for participation and leadership in a greening economy.

Michael Despines will be the keynote speaker. He is the Climate Resilience Campaign Coordinator of Friends of the Earth, based in Washington DC. His work at Friends of the Earth focuses on promoting appropriate U.S. policy and solutions that support domestic and international populations most at risk from climate change.



To register (free) visit: <http://www.ctstateu.edu/academics/conferences.htm>

Study Abroad Fair

The 2nd annual study abroad fair took place on Wednesday, September 2nd on the quad at midtown. On this spectacular day, more than 100 students learned about ISEP (international Student Exchange Program), WCSU in Spain, BUNAC (a work abroad agency), WCSU's Career Development Center and the University of Tartu in Estonia.

Wintersession Program in Florence, Italy

WCSU will be offering its first wintersession program in Italy in January 2010. Students will travel with Professor Patrizia Farina to Florence, where they'll study intermediate Italian and live in the marvelous city of Florence. The program will include 2 excursions to the medieval town of San Gimignano and the walled city of Lucca. Students will also participate in a hands cooking class, as knowing Italian food is essential to learning the culture! For more information visit www.wcsu.edu/international

The application deadline is October 2, 2009.



Interview with Susan Owino

What brought you to WCSU?

Education brought me to WCSU.

How did you decide on your major?

I wanted to be a human rights activist lawyer but changed my decision to do management.

What is your favorite thing about WCSU?

The method that professors use for instruction is very helpful. They also give chances for students to express themselves in class and it really helps.

What do you miss most about Kenya?

I miss the warm weather, living in the city and the people.

What do you like to do outside of school?

I love dancing, being outdoors and learning about different cultures.

Preparing Our Students for Careers in a Global Economy

by **Karen L. Koza, DBA, Associate Professor of Marketing/Co-Director Center for Business Research Ancell School of Business**

There is an article in a past Chronicle of Higher Education titled, "Flat World' Lessons for Real-World Students." It speaks to how colleges and universities need to take a hard look at how well we are preparing our students for careers in a global economy. Today, it is a reality that most of our students will probably work for a multinational firm or a firm with multi national interests. Having a skilled and globally focused workforce is perhaps the most important ingredient to any organization's competitiveness in a world where competitors can come from within Danbury or from across world, as India or China. In a survey conducted for the Association of American Colleges and Universities, more than 60% of employers polled said recent graduates lacked the skills to succeed in a global economy. How can we continue in growing a multicultural, multinational learning environment within WCSU that meets and exceeds the needs of our students in preparing them to succeed in a global economy? One way we in the Ancell School of Business are working to prepare our students are through international collaborations with partner universities abroad – most recently Loyola College in Chennai, India. Another is working, real-time, with multinational companies facing global issues / problems impacting their success in the global market. This past semester, spring 2009, three marketing classes (one senior level undergraduate; two graduate MBA) had the opportunity to work, real-time, on projects with a large multinational company, Staples, Inc., – enriched through WCSU's collaboration with Loyola College in Chennai, India. During the spring 2009 semester, WCSU - Loyola student teams, connected virtually using Information Communication Technology tools provided through Blackboard, Skype and GoToMeeting, investigated issues of importance to Staples in its pursuit of excellence in India – branding, supply chain / logistics and growth in the Indian market.

What do our students 'get' from working within these international projects with international partners? Let's pause and listen to the voice of our students involved in the spring 2009 collaborations: "Through this project I got to see what it would be like to be a part of a highly functional diverse business team and I feel the experience has made me stronger as a student and future employee for the multinational company I will work for after graduation." "This project has helped me develop leadership, communication, intercultural and technology skills. I believe this project has helped me grow both on a personal and professional level, and has better prepared me for situations I will face down the road." We have an