In Kanazawa the group explored key sites such Himeji, Kanazawa, Kyoto, and Tokyo. and history, not only by doing coursework at Kochi interests in exploring Japanese culture, language, 2018 entitled “Japan - Past and Present”. The After leading URI’s first Study Trip to Japan, Dr. the university’s campus, and we owe a great thank the Chocolate Museum (and of course to Braunschweig, the group couldn’t leave without “Eau de Cologne”: Farina. Before they moved onover the immersion process. the students’ final statements on the blog confirm that the value of a short-term, and culture and language to experience the first-hand German in and enjoyed a free afternoon visiting the famous Asakusa Sensoji temple and the Sky Tree. The group visiting DESY. "Division and Unity, Dictatorship and Resistance”.

Winter J-Term 2018 to Germany

After leading URI’s first Study Trip to Japan, Dr. and culture, and after a boat ride, we celebrated streets. We also attended a traditional Tea house during the Japanese Edo period, Kimono town named Izushi, which featured the Samurai’s Next, on our way to Kyoto we stopped in a small students exploring Siemens was Hamburg, where they toured through the city. The Max-Muellerwasser model train exhibit spanning the world, as well as the Luftansa and Philips plant in Hamburg, where the group saw DESY and the HAW. Next they visited Cologne, where the students got to see the most important attractions of the city, the Kölner Dom, and the birthplace of the famous “Eau de Cologne”! Farina. Before they moved on to Braunschweig, the group couldn’t leave without visiting the Chocolate Museum (and of course also trying German chocolate)! After the group arrived in Braunschweig, they explored the university’s campus, and we owe a great thank you to our current GIEPers URU who gave insights into their institution and research for guiding the immersion process.

Winter J-Term 2018 to China

After eating in the Standing Sushi Bar in Himeji on top of their coursework, but also to talk about their culture shock experiences, expectations and newly-gained knowledge. Next, on our way to Kyoto we stopped in a small town named Tofuji, which featured the Sannō house during the Japanese Edo period. Kimono rentals and other shopping options. After arriving in Kyoto, the group walked through the Kiyomizu-dera Nenjizaka (Gion district), which has the city’s traditional old shopping streets. We also attended a Traditional Tea Ceremony, since tea is essential in Japanese culture, and after a boat ride, we celebrated being there with Izakaya night! Before leaving for Odawara and Hakone we went on a guided tour through the VW plant, visited Phaeno the science world of children and had fun with the interactive installations. Leipziger was next on the agenda, where they got the chance to compare VW’s plant to BMW’s, and enjoy a guided tour of the city After a stop through Leipzig’s history museum (“Zeitgeschichtliche Forschung”) with their exhibition “Division and Unity, Dictatorship and Resistance”. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather all train service was cancelled and the group was then visit TU Darmstadt on their last day, but they still met some of the current GIEPers for dinner in Frankfurt! The students’ final statements on the blog confirm that the value of a short-term, faculty led tour ahead of the entire year abroad should not be underestimated! You can see for yourself on our blog https://kurstudiensiea2018.wordpress.com (see: QR code), where you can find videos, pictures highlighting the students’ favorite memories, and passionate final conclusion statements like this one from Maae Vlot, OCE & GIEP 20: “As a junior in the International Engineering Program, I am already set on studying abroad in Germany next year. But this trip really put me into perspective everything I am aiming to accomplish. It is one thing to learn German in a classroom and a very different thing to experience the language and culture t h r o u g h f i r s t - h a n d i m m e r s i o n”. A great shot of Himeji Castle, also by Julian, which we explored with a free tourist pass, we visited Fushimi Inari as well. The last couple of days were spent venturing through Tokyo with a tour guided by a dear friend of Dr. Hoyer’s who has lived in Tokyo all of her life and enjoyed a free afternoon visiting the famous Asakusa Sensoji temple and the Sky Tree.

A park in the Japanese countryside, shot by choreographer Julian Andriulli, MCE ’18.

Integrated and coherent “German for the Professionals” curriculum URI offers and the highly integrated and cohesive language education students who, with their year abroad experience, provide a unique perspective in the international, political, and civil society courses she teaches here. We now even have a knight in the IEP! Congratulations to Lars Erickson, French IEP director, for having received the honor of Chevalier de l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques by the French Government (please see press release insert). Congratulations also to our German IEP coordinator Niko Traskoff who only came to URI last June but with his traditional speed and drive, he has already moved on to a tenure track position in German at URI. He will join our faculty in the fall while still serving as GIEP Associate Director. Niko successfully created two 1 credit courses which are specifically geared to prepare the IEPers going abroad. At the end of this semester we will say good-bye to Anett Geithner, DAAD Lecturer at URI since September 2015. Her huge impact on restructuring the German J-Term course to make it more interactive, the German internship course and the STEM-oriented German summer school. Aided by our Fall/Spring intern Jasmin Kassin she introduced a language tandem partnership between GIEPers and exchange students from TU Braunschweig/Darmstadt, organized German government exchange weeks, two nights, coffee hours, Anett, along with her husband Martin Keil who continues as much as URI Artist-in-Residence and son Leon, will return to Berlin this summer. We will miss you, Anett!! As I prepare my talk on “The Educational Impact of Dual Degree Graduate Programs at Research Universities” for the 2018 AIEA Thematic Forum I realize that of all 340 TUB/TUD exchange students at URI since 1995-96, 170 have finished dual MS and 62 MBA degrees by 2019. This is a representation of an average 15% of all EGR MS and 22% of all One Year MBA degrees awarded by URI over the last 20 years. The students’ research also resulted in numerous joint publications with our faculty. What an impact on URI research indeed, and the trend is growing! We in the IEP are now getting ready to celebrate the 58 graduating seniors on their amazing accomplishments. • Sigrid Berka, Executive Director

Winter J-Term 2018 to Japan

After standing in the Standing Sushi Bar in Himeji visiting Himeji Castle, was a definite highlight. Besides traditional sightseeing the students often engaged in group activities after a short break on top of their coursework, but also to talk about their culture shock experiences, expectations and newly-gained knowledge.

Winter J-Term 2018 to Germany

After arriving in Kyoto, the group walked through the Kiyomizu-dera Nenjizaka (Gion district), which has the city’s traditional old shopping streets. We also attended a Traditional Tea Ceremony, since tea is essential in Japanese culture, and after a boat ride, we celebrated being there with Izakaya night! Before leaving for Odawara and Hakone

Winter J-Term 2018 to China

As a junior in the International Engineering Program, one from Maeve Story, OCE & GIEP `20: "Division and Unity, Dictatorship and Resistance”. The students’ final statements on the blog confirm that the value of a short-term, faculty led tour ahead of the entire year abroad should not be underestimated! You can see for yourself on our blog https://kurstudiensiea2018.wordpress.com (see: QR code), where you can find videos, pictures highlighting the students’ favorite memories, and passionate final conclusion statements like this one from Maae Vlot, OCE & GIEP 20: “As a junior in the International Engineering Program, I am already set on studying abroad in Germany next year. But this trip really put me into perspective everything I am aiming to accomplish. It is one thing to learn German in a classroom and a very different thing to experience the language and culture t h r o u g h f i r s t - h a n d i m m e r s i o n”. A great shot of Himeji Castle, also by Julian, which we explored with a free tourist pass, we visited Fushimi Inari as well. The last couple of days were spent venturing through Tokyo with a tour guided by a dear friend of Dr. Hoyer’s who has lived in Tokyo all of her life and enjoyed a free afternoon visiting the famous Asakusa Sensoji temple and the Sky Tree.

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Winter J-Term 2018 to Japan

After arriving URI's first Study Trip to Japan, Dr. Maxim Gorki’s “Der Auftrag” was also a highlight. After leading URI’s first Study Trip to Japan, Dr. Winter J-Term 2018 to Germany

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To be honest, there are few places in 2017 was about the Bundestag elections and years of reunification, featuring a panel on exclusively was a lot of fun! School such as interviewing people on Block to prepare participants better for their up-school as a 4-week immersion course with will work as interns during their year abroad. J-terms, to show the students my country with my students from the first until the last in Zaragoza, Spain, where I took classes in the small mountain town of that always translates to better get from living in such a diverse and adventurous native speakers, you can learn more Spanish in Spanish-speaking countries, interacting with in the small mountain town of in the Andes Mountains in the distance, and every day I would wake in a house located at the base of the Cerro language courses and competitions. I really appreciate the curiosity of the students to include it more intensely into the curriculum or in- and also engineers in their sophomore year. "It had definitely been different than what I expected at the beginning of the program. It was a wonderful opportunity. They publicized it when I was a sophomore, and I think we all loved the great student and competitions. Seth: “I guess it was because my father had "I guess it was because my father had