Letter from the Program Director

With the arrival of a new class of JYM students in Munich, a new brochure for 2005-06 hot off the presses, and with recruitment efforts already started for next year’s students, it is again time for us to ask you to support our students and the program which makes their JYM experience possible.

We do everything we can to make sure that the JYM experience remains affordable for students, while ensuring the best program support possible. Yet even though our program fee remains lower than our competitors, it still costs a student about $22,000 to live and study in Munich for a year. At these prices, students are relying more and more on financial aid and scholarship funds to help finance their JYM.

As you may know, JYM is an entirely self-financed program: we receive no funding from the university to meet our operating expenses. Through its Program Fee alone, JYM must cover all expenses related to the successful operation of the program each year. This includes basic costs such as rent, utilities and salaries, as well as program support such as Orientation, excursions, the Berlin Seminar, the hiring of instructors and tutors, etc.

From all accounts, JYM alumni continue to benefit from the lasting friendships and memories of their year in Munich. The numerous experiences of their JYM year have led to personal growth, a lasting appreciation of cross-cultural awareness and understanding, and even to career advancement. If you still consider your JYM to be one of the defining periods of your life, please consider making a donation today to help future students have that same opportunity of a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Director

Attention Class of 1980-81: Timothy Dolan Memorial Scholarship Fund

Alumni from the 1980-81 class year may remember Timothy Dolan who attended for the second semester from West Point Military Academy. Tim was something of a pioneer at West Point, apparently being the first person that they ever allowed to take a semester off to study abroad. As you may know, Tim passed away in 2001, far too early in his life. In 2002 a donor established a JYM scholarship fund in Tim’s memory and has contributed $10,000 each year for student scholarships. We would very much like to match those funds with contributions from the rest of the 1980-81 class members as a tribute to Tim and his life and his determination to study abroad with JYM in spite of the obstacles set out by his home school. If you would like to make a gift to the, indicate this on the Donation Form under "In Memory of ..."

- FAQs - DONATING TO JYM

If I make a check payable to Wayne State University, does the money go to JYM or to the university in general?

100% of your donation goes directly to JYM for the benefit of JYM students, regardless of their home school. No portion of your gift goes to any other account at Wayne State University.

Does JYM accept MATCHING GIFT donations?

Yes. You can double the impact of your generosity if your employer offers a MATCHING GIFT program. Contact your personnel office for the proper form and mail it with your check.

Are donations TAX-DEDUCTIBLE?

Yes. Gifts to the Junior Year in Munich at Wayne State University are tax-deductible as allowable by law. WSU is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, classified as a publicly supported educational organization and listed annually in Publication 78 of the Cumulative List of Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Code. Wayne State University's Federal tax-free number is 38-78-0203K.

More answers to FAQs are posted on the alumni section of our website at www.worldbridge.wayne/jym
Attention Class of 2001-02: "Tyler's Planet" Award

The class of 2001-02 will remember Tyler Stutzman very well. For those of you who did not know him, he was the brave young man from Anderson University who was determined to attend the JYM while battling leukemia. Tyler was extraordinarily talented and among many other things created a professional and polished 12-minute video for the JYM during his year in Munich. Tyler finally succumbed to leukemia in May 2003 after completing his studies at Anderson. Because he was such a special person, Professor Hans-Peter Söder makes an award in Tyler's name at the end of each JYM year to a student who has most exemplified Tyler's spirit that year: the "Tyler's Planet Award". Thank you so much to those of you who made a gift in memory of Tyler last year. If you would like to make a contribution to the fund for Tyler's Award, please indicate this on the Donation Form under "In Memory of ..."

Stay in Touch with JYM!

Be sure to keep your contact information current so that we don’t “lose” you if you move. Information about how you can update your mailing address and/or post information to the online Alumni Directory is on our website at www.worldbridge.wayne.edu/jym
Another JYM year started on September 22, 2004, with the arrival of the new group of 35 students from 25 different colleges and universities. Orientation and Oktoberfest are now vorbei and the University semester started on October 18th. We're looking forward to another successful JYM year. We expect to enroll another 15 or so students for the Second Semester Option of the program for those students who can’t afford a full year or whose school doesn’t allow more than one semester off campus.

Consul General visits JYM.

In February, the JYM was pleased to host a visit by the new US Consul General Matthew Rooney. The Consul General was accompanied by his wife Dianne and spent an afternoon with JYM students discussing politics, living abroad, and shared experiences. We were very pleased that our students had many pertinent questions and comments, making it a lively and informative event.

Berlin Seminar 2004—in the participants’ own words!

Twenty-eight students participated in the Berlin Seminar in February 2004, and it has henceforth been renamed "The Brrrrlin Seminar." Many of you will remember how frigid Berlin can be in February! Here’s an excerpt from the 2003-04 student yearbook by Kristi Rath who attended the seminar:

"...by the end of the Berlin trip tensions were definitely arising. Still, would this JYM er change anything about Berlin? Heck no! Even the three-hour frosty tours started to grow on me after a while, especially after my extremities went numb.

My very favorite thing about visiting Berlin was seeing all the plays. I’m not sure I have ever had so much culture crammed into a week before. The avant-garde pieces seemed to embody the spirit of Berlin: "hip" and "on the edge." Even the controversial "Kokain" was not without artistic merit. Wait, I’m not sure...what is art again?

Our meeting with Representative Ernst Barr, MdB in the Bundestag was also a remarkable highlight of the trip. It was a privilege to be able to meet with high profile people like Representative Barr and Hagen Koch, the leading expert on Wall history. Even though we might have gotten on one another’s nerves, Berlin was a wonderful experience. It is an amazing city, completely unlike Munich, with so much history behind it. I completely enjoyed the atmosphere and the city’s "fighter spirit." I look forward to visiting Berlin again...in warmer weather."

Does any of this sound familiar?!

Vienna Seminar

In our last JYM newsletter we mentioned that a new Vienna Seminar was planned for the Spring 2004 semester. We’re pleased to report this time that twenty students...
participated in the new Seminar which took place in May. The Seminar was organized and led by Professor Craig Decker of Bates College who is himself a JYM alumnus (JYM 1976-77). The group attended several plays and opera performances and were given a broad introduction to Austrian literature and culture. A highlight of the seminar was a private reading by Viennese author Peter Henisch.

Poetry Slam at JYM
Forty people attended a highly successful Poetry Slam at JYM in May that brought together German and American poets. M.L. Liebler, a well-known Michigan poet and Wayne State faculty member, led the poetry slam which was an exciting and vibrant evening event.

A Day in the Life of a Bundestag Intern
In recent years, the JYM has developed an internship component within the JYM program to take account of today’s students’ needs and requirements. As we mentioned in the last newsletter, we have partnered with CDS International in order to accommodate the large demand for internships and to formalize the arrangement. However, we still arrange individual internships for some students during the semester break. This year Matthew Rao (JYM 2003-04, University of Pennsylvania) was selected for the highly competitive JYM Internship at the Bundestag in Berlin. During the semester break, Matt worked in the office of Dr. Gerald Thalheim (SPD), Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Nutrition, and Consumer Protection.

Here is an excerpt of his recollection of the experience:

“One government-issued Audi A8: $80,000. One exclusive lobbyist buffet with champagne and steak tartare: $20,000. Realizing you’re more than a half foot taller than the German Chancellor: priceless. For some study abroad vacations, backpacking tours around Europe will more than suffice. Because I was fortunate enough to join JYM, though, I had the amazing opportunity to intern in the German Parliament for the month of March. My duties consisted of going to work every day in the beautiful, newly-renovated Bundestag complex, being shown the tricks of the trade by the Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Nutrition, and Consumer Protection, and being bought wine, caviar, and chicken wings by eager lobbyists who thought that my happiness was somehow connected to their getting government funding.

For lack of a better word, my representative was a machine. We would start out at 8:30 in the morning in the rickety old Audi, where Dr. Gerald Thalheim, MdB, would spend every moment unterwegs writing, calling, and doing the will of the people. Never skipping a beat, Dr. Thalheim and I would go from appointment to appointment, meeting with experts, constituent groups, and lobbying interests, all the time keep a cool neutral head and consuming nothing but coffee. At six one evening, after a full schedule of meetings and caffeine, Dr. Thalheim then faced a group of angry farmers and held a Referat for the next two hours, at the end of which nearly everyone left happy and mollified. Seeing me hungry and exhausted, Dr. Thalheim’s first thought after giving his speech was to see that I was well-fed, as he made his rounds throughout the crown with the best level of schmooze I’d ever seen. ... After following in the footsteps of a twelve-hour-member of parliament-day, I also had the amazing metropolis of Berlin as my own personal playground. I tried a new restaurant nearly every night I was there ... and riding the subway in Berlin was also an adventure, which runs all night on weekends and where mohawks and spikes on jackets are at least six inches longer than they are in Munich. ... Everyone was simply wonderful, and I gained contacts in this month that will help me throughout my lifetime. More than that though, I also gained some truly great friends. ... I took nearly 400 pictures in Berlin in an attempt to capture just how much it all meant to me, but they somehow don’t do it justice. I wish I could go back, but it’s just one of the many lightning-fast experiences that this year has brought me. It was also an exchange in the purest sense of the word—it was something personal, somehow moving, and it changed my life forever.”

Munich Summer Fellows Program
The Summer Fellows program continued to be a success this year with 15 college freshmen being invited to Munich for a week in July. Many of them intend to return to Munich on the JYM in their junior year. In fact, Matthew Rao, who is highlighted in the Bundestag Intern article, was a Munich Summer Fellow in 2002. As you can see, the week in Munich whets the appetite, and they return to JYM ready to do great things.
JYM Class of 1968/69 has a Reunion in Cincinnati

We were delighted to find out that the class of 1968-69 had a reunion at the Cincinnati Oktoberfest this September, their third including the JYM 50th anniversary celebration in Munich last year. Don Verity is the class contact for his JYM year and has done an outstanding job of tracking down his classmates and keeping contact information up to date with the group and with JYM records. We think you’ll agree that it certainly looks a lot like the "old days" in Munich with a good time being had by all. The JYM alumni who attended, most with their better halves, were Carolyn Dittmar, Brad Jordan, Brian McCarroll, George Riley, Tom Prince, Rod and Marcia (Weid) Stewart, Jerry Stonewater, and Don Verity.

Considering the great time the '69-ers had, we encourage other classes to organize JYM reunions, and if you do, please take pictures and let us know! We can provide class contacts with a list of names for each class, and updated addresses for those we are in touch with.

"Even though it has been more than thirty years, I still think of JYM as one of the two or three best periods of my life."
Richard Crispin, JYM 1968/69

Where everyone is

Thanks to the efforts of our class contacts last year, two-thirds of our alumni are now re-connected to JYM. Our records indicate they reside today in 47 states and 25 countries worldwide. With 184 alumni, New York tops the list of states with the most alumni. Close behind are Michigan (173), California (165), Massachusetts and Illinois (125), and Pennsylvania (121). Metropolitan regions with the most alumni include the Boston area (85), followed by New York City (76), Detroit (74), Washington DC (53) and Chicago (48). For a complete breakdown by state, region and country, visit the JYM website.

Alumni Directory and JYM website

We hope by now that most of you have visited the Alumni section of the JYM website. As with most alumni organizations, we think it's true to say that alumni are very interested in hearing where their classmates are now and what they've been doing since their JYM year. We've noticed that for many of the JYM class years, the entries are very few and far between. Please do consider adding your e-mail address and/or a short biographical entry so that your classmates can share in your experiences. Please also check the Directory every so often to make sure your email address is still correct.

Here is a list of all the things that you can do in the Alumni section of the JYM website:

- Update your current address with JYM*
- Post your e-mail address and/or biographical information on the Alumni Directory*
- Visit the Alumni Directory to locate classmates and see what everyone's doing now
- Search for Jobs & Fellowships that require German
- View the online "Illustrated History of JYM"
- View the 2002-03 Academic Year in Review
- See Who's Who and What's New at JYM today
- Make a tax-deductible contribution to JYM

www.worldbridge.wayne.edu/jym

**Please note that the online form transmits your update in e-mail form so you have to hit "Send" after it turns into an e-mail in order for it to be sent to us. We then update your entries manually.

Books by JYM authors

We’ve started to build a collection of books authored by former JYM students that is housed in the German American Heritage Room at JYM, a new seminar room dedicated last year to commemorate past and present transatlantic relations. If you’ve published a book, be it academic or fiction, we’d love to add it to the collection. Please consider donating a copy to the JYM office in Detroit, or send us the title and we’ll be glad to purchase it.
Junior Year in Munich
Donation Form

I would like to make a contribution to the Junior Year in Munich program

in the amount of  □ $1000  □ $500  □ $250  □ $100  □ Other _________

to be used for:  □ JYM scholarships (acct. 447529)  □ JYM program development (acct. 223876)

To make a gift in honor of, or in memory of someone, please provide the following information:

In Honor of _________________________________________________________

In Memory of _______________________________________________________

Whom should JYM notify regarding your gift? _____________________________
___________________________________________________________________

Please complete the information below so that Wayne State University can send your tax deduction receipt to the proper address. You can double the impact of your generosity if your employer offers a MATCHING GIFT program. Contact your personnel office for the proper form and mail it with your check.

Payment method:  

☐ Check, made payable to "Wayne State University"

☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard

Card number: ______________________________________________________

Expiration Date: __________________________

Signature: __________________________
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Please provide the following:

Name: __________________________

Address: __________________________

City, State: __________________________

Zip: __________________________

Phone: __________________________

JYM Class (e.g. 1960-61) __________

Please send this form with your check or credit card payment to:

Junior Year in Munich
Wayne State University
471 Manoogian Hall
Detroit, MI 48202

To discuss other ways to support the Junior Year in Munich (e.g. donating shares of stocks, annually-funded or endowed scholarships, naming opportunities, or corporate sponsorship), please call the JYM Detroit Office at (313) 577-4605.

With your gift of $100, we will send you a copy of the Illustrated History of the Junior Year in Munich, 1953-2003 from our Munich office while supplies last.