



Nov. 19, 2008

Dear Fellow JYMer,

I'm writing you now because it's time for us to replenish our scholarship funds so that students in financial need can have the same once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study in Munich with JYM that you had. Your generosity at this time of year can make JYM a reality for students who need scholarship assistance. Please take a moment to make a special year-end gift to JYM.

Last year JYM Alumni Scholarships totaling nearly \$19,000 helped 17 students defray the costs of living and studying in Munich at a time when the exchange rate reached an all-time high of \$1.60 per Euro. Thank you! Things are looking better so far for this academic year, but cost will certainly remain an obstacle for many students given the current economic downturn. The success of our year-end fundraising campaign not only directly helps deserving students, but also allows JYM to maintain a program fee that is a third less than other study abroad programs. This year I anticipate we'll need to make more scholarships available. Will you help again?

I had hoped to put together a fall alumni newsletter, but an unexpected additional teaching load cut into the time I originally planned to make that happen. As many of you know from the website, **Dr. Marianne Riegler**, JYM resident director from 1960-94, passed away in April. I know she is certainly missed by the thousands of students who gained from her leadership as resident director for so many years. I'm currently gathering other news stories and information about alumni for our spring newsletter, so if you have some news you'd like to share, please feel free to email it to me (mark.ferguson@wayne.edu).

Students from across the U.S. are already making their study abroad plans for next year and will soon be applying to JYM. I'm convinced that our commitment to university integration and a "German-language-only" program model have allowed us to remain strong and dynamic. Enrollments have remained steady the past two years (more than 50 students annually from 30+ colleges and universities); we are beginning to see success with our engineering internship program with ThyssenKrupp Steel, and a new Honors seminar on Goethe's *Italienische Reise* is challenging students to critically examine the idea of travel, self-discovery and *Bildung* (and even includes a trip that traces Goethe's footsteps from Weimar to Italy!). I believe it is this unique mixture of academics with learning-by-doing that create the unforgettable and life-changing experiences that come to mind when you think back on your JYM experience.

On a personal note, I feel incredibly fortunate to have been a JY student more than thirty years ago, and the memories and friendships made back then are as strong as ever. This is why I'm so passionate about what I do as JYM director, and why I feel a sense of duty to give back to the program that has given me personally so much. If you feel the same way, which I imagine you do, please join me in making a year-end gift to JYM today.

Sincerely,

Mark Ferguson, Director
Junior Year in Munich

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNIOR YEAR IN MUNICH • 401 MANOOGIAN • DETROIT MI • 48202
TEL (313) 577-4605 • FAX (313) 577-3266 • JYM@WAYNE.EDU • WWW.JYM.WAYNE.EDU