HERZLICH WILKOMMEN!

The task of connecting to 3,400 JYM alumni has been daunting, but we are indeed making progress. If this is the first you have heard from JYM for a long while, let us say Welcome Back!

In this issue you can read about how JYM has changed over the past few years, as well as our plans for the future.

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Volunteers Needed as Class Contacts

JYM is looking for volunteers who would like to take on the role of Class Contact for their year. We realize that a list of class contacts exists from 1985, but since that list may be outdated by now, we thought we'd start all over.

As we prepare for the 50th anniversary of JYM in 2003, the role of Class Contact will become increasingly important. We hope that Class Contacts will help us inform as many alumni as possible about the reunion in Munich, as well as coordinate any activities your class may wish to undertake beyond those arranged by JYM.

We can provide you with 1) a list of names of everyone who participated in JYM during your year, and 2) a separate list of names with accompanying addresses (some good, some outdated).

Comparing the two lists is not necessarily an easy task, since many of the addresses may have changed in the meantime, and some of the names may have changed as well. But as many of you have already discovered, the rewards of connecting to former classmates from years ago in Munich are well worth the effort.

JYM Alumni Directory on the Web

The JYM website has proven itself a great tool to help alumni connect with each other. If you haven’t done so already, we invite you to visit the Alumni section of our website where we’ve posted a directory of JYM class members from 1953 to the present.

Although we are continually adding information to the directory, we still have a long way to go to connect to all 3,400 alumni of the JYM. If you would like to be included in your class list, or if you know of a classmate for whom we have no information, please request an e-mail survey from the JYM office in Detroit:

JYM@wayne.edu

www.langlab.wayne.edu/JuniorYear/JrYrHome.html
Retirements lead to Changes at JYM

After many glorious years establishing JYM as the premier study abroad program in Germany, Professor Marvin Schindler retired as program director in 1994 and in the same year Dr. Marianne Riegler, who guided JYM in Munich as resident director for decades, also retired. Eleanor Tudor, assistant to the director in the Detroit office, retired from Wayne State in 1996.

Leading the JYM today are Professor Mark Ferguson - a 1976-77 alumnus of the JY Freiburg program and JYM program director in Detroit since 1995, and Dr. Hans-Peter Söder - a native of Karlsruhe with a Ph.D. from Cornell University who has been resident director in Munich since 1994. Louise Speed, who administered Wayne State's JY Freiburg program until its closing in 1997 is now assistant to the director of JYM in the Detroit office, and Randi Cruse - a 1994-95 alumnus of the JY Freiburg program, joined JYM as assistant to the resident director in Munich in 1998.

JYM and the Global Economy

JYM always has provided students with the experiences and skills needed to enter the world of international business and trade. In response to the increasing need for a global workforce, JYM began making pre-professional experience an option within the program in 1997. Since then JYM students have enjoyed the opportunity of overseas internship experience in the areas of healthcare, automotive industry, e-commerce, marketing, economic development consultancy, publishing, and foreign service.

In April 1999 Wayne State University's new president, Dr. Irvin D. Reid welcomed Michigan’s Gov. John Engler and members of the MI Economic Development Corporation to our new institute in Munich. In 1999 JYM co-sponsored a conference on Global Management at the BMW Conference Center, and thanks to a grant which the University of Munich’s International Office received from the Bavarian government to expand the longstanding Detroit-Munich partnership in new directions, JYM was able to host a group of law and business students from Munich who visited Wayne State University, as well as organize JYM’s first-ever alumni reunion in Detroit.

Language Training Online

As you certainly remember, it sometimes can take several months before JYMers feel truly confident with their language abilities in Munich. In order to increase the speed with which JYM students can hit the ground running when they first arrive in Munich, JYM is developing a language training and cross-cultural orientation program which students can access via the internet before they leave for Munich. We believe that web-based instruction of this kind promises to better prepare students for their year abroad.

In April 1998 JYM said goodbye to the Leopoldstrasse and moved into its new location at Richard-Wagner-Strasse 27 (U-Bahn Königsplatz). JYM continues to recruit on average 60+ students each year from 25-30 different colleges and universities across the US.

JYM address in Munich:
Richard-Wagner-Strasse 27
80333 Munich
Tel. (089) 52 30 26 36
50th Anniversary of JYM

Although the 50th anniversary of JYM is two and a half years away, we have already reached several decisions about the reunion in Munich. We have set the date for July 2003, and are exploring the possibility of holding the reunion over the 4th of July.

The official celebration will take place over three days, and three major events are certain: an opening reception, followed by a dinner with an accompanying program, and a concluding gala event. There will also be at least one large group activity (either a picnic in the English Garden and/or a "rafting" picnic on the Isar), as well as rotating visitation by class year of the new JYM institute.

Since we anticipate that class members might wish to do something together as part of their own class reunion, JYM will suggest a number of possible activities, ranging from walking tours of the city to hiking outside of Munich.

Over the course of the upcoming year, we will forward this information to Class Contacts, and also place it on the JYM website. Please check the Alumni section of the JYM website on a regular basis to stay informed about more details as they become available.

JYM Detroit Office:

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We hope you will be able to respond quickly to this year’s scholarship fund drive so that we can make awards available to those students who are just now applying for admission to JYM.

On behalf of those JYM students whose lives will be greatly enhanced by their participation in the JYM program, we thank you for your generosity.

2001 Scholarship Fund Drive

JYM receives approximately $6000 annually from alumni which is deposited in our JYM scholarship account and distributed the following year to students who otherwise could not afford to participate in the JYM.

Unlike the new campaign for an endowment fund described below which represents a long-term investment in JYM, donations to our annual scholarship fund drive are used immediately to assist students accepted into the JYM program. As we work towards connecting to the more than 3400 alumni of JYM, we hope to increase the number of scholarships we can distribute to the class of 2001-02.

If your employer has a matching contribution program, you can double the impact of your donation which in turn will allow more students to benefit from your gift.

We know that 1970 was a special year for JYM students in 1959. We know that LIFE magazine took pictures of JYM students 1959. Does anyone recall the film, or if JYM students were involved?

Endowment Campaign

As we prepare to celebrate JYM's past in 2003, the time is also right to think about JYM's future. The most effective way to provide support for the JYM on an ongoing basis is through the establishment of an investment fund (known as an endowment) whose earnings and growth are solely restricted for the designated purpose of supporting the JYM. For example, an endowment totaling $500,000 would generate $25,000 annually to support program operations. Moreover, as the interest generated by the endowment accumulates over time, so too does the amount which the endowment can pay out to JYM on an annual basis. JYM would use these funds to enhance essential support services such as orientation and instruction, as well as to offset the regularly incurring costs of maintaining our institute in Munich. If you would like to help invest in the future of JYM so that generations of students to come will continue to benefit from the JYM experience, please consider helping us obtain the initial deposit of $10,000 needed to open an endowment account for JYM at Wayne State University. Inquiries and contributions should be sent to the JYM office in Detroit.

Founded in 1953 at Wayne State University with the generous support of the German American Cultural Center of Detroit, the Junior Year in Munich is America's oldest academic year abroad program in Germany.

In 1967 the Bavarian Ministry of Science, Art and Research granted JYM unique status as an official course of study (Studiengang) at the Ludwig-Maximilian-University of Munich.

This official affiliation as an academic institute at the LMU explains JYM's full name in German:

"Junior Year in Munich an der Universität München."

FILLING IN THE GAPS

Rumor has it that a short film was made in Munich the 1950s about German and American students living and studying together after the war. Does anyone recall the film, or if JYM students were involved?

We know that LIFE magazine took pictures of JYM students in 1959. Does anyone know if they were ever published?

We know that 1970 was the last year JYM students departed for Europe by ship (on the Statendam), but what was Orientation like on board?
JYM students have been privileged to witness European history in the making for nearly 50 years. From the era of post-war reconstruction, through the Cold War and the tumultuous 60s, to the fall of the Berlin Wall and German unification, JYM has been there. Part of our 50th anniversary celebration in 2003 includes the publication of a colorful and informative History of the Junior Year in Munich. We have lots of old photographs, but unfortunately we are not sure when they were taken. We’ll be placing some of these on the website with the hope that alumni can help us identify them. You can also help us put together a spectacular publication by sending us photographs or “realia” (interesting memorabilia from your scrapbooks) which will help us document each class year. We’d also greatly appreciate hearing about your personal impressions and eyewitness accounts of your year in Munich. After scanning them for publication, we’ll return them to you. Please help us make the History of the Junior Year in Munich a permanent record of an outstanding tradition that alumni and future JYMers can take pride in.