



**University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point**

Academic Affairs  
International Programs

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Dear "Former Foreigner,"

April, 2009

**Welcome home!** We are glad to have you back with us. There may have been days in the past semester when you yearned for your favorite pet, your favorite comfort foods, and the closeness of good friends and relatives. Each semester program has its own unique challenges, and hopefully any difficulties your group experienced overseas will soon fade and the positive impressions will stay. At this point we want you to enjoy your homecoming!

For many returning students the homecoming can be overshadowed by a new-found perspective on the world. Renewed contacts and familiar surroundings may now seem "strange" compared to the world you just recently left—places where new and exciting things surrounded you every day. Does this describe you?

Many students go through this "return home syndrome;" please don't feel alone in your feelings. In one very real sense you have become *internationalized*, a new *citizen of the world*. Perhaps the enclosed *USA Culturgram* and the Infogram: "Coming Home Again" will help you assimilate, to understand America again. But what can you do with your new perspectives and insights? Here are a few suggestions:

- ❖ **Keep in touch** with your group and with our office. We know that unless you've "been there," it's hard to understand the return home syndrome. Most groups plan reunions, and we enjoy hearing about them. If you're a *Pointer*, stop by and talk to us sometime. Perhaps you could volunteer to help with orienting the next group of students going abroad. If you're from another university, please write. We'll do our best to answer and offer helpful advice when you want it.
- ❖ **Join organizations** with a global or international scope. UWSP's International Club, the language clubs (French, German or Spanish Clubs), political and environmental associations with a global scope are excellent choices. The clubs are always looking for new members, and you are bound to meet people who understand the experience of living in another culture.
- ❖ **Share your adventures** through talks and presentations with those hoping to follow in your footsteps and those just interested in your travels. Whether it's on campus or with a civic or church group in your home town, please tell others. The success of our programs truly depends on students telling their stories!

Finally, to acknowledge your semester abroad experience, we enclose your graduation sash (unique by country). Please wear it with pride at your graduation ceremony! The world is truly a smaller place today than ever before, and your international experience can serve you well in your future vocational endeavors. Be sure to include your semester abroad on your resumé—and keep thinking international. There is always a good chance that you'll find yourself abroad again!

Sincerely yours,

<b>Eric Yonke</b> Director	<b>Mark Koepke</b> Assoc. Director	<b>Linda Garski</b> Business/Office Mgr	<b>Mary Shaw</b> Univ Services Assoc.	<b>Carol Grasamkee</b> Univ Services Assoc.	<b>Teri Michalski</b> Financial Specialist
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Enclosures (4): Request for an Official Transcript Form (non-UWSP students only), *USA Culturgram*, Infogram: "Coming Home Again," Graduation Sash

Dear Returning Student:

If you need to have your credits transferred to another university, you will need to have an official transcript sent from UW-Stevens Point. Please see instructions on how to obtain a transcript on the UWSP Registration & Records website at: [www.uwsp.edu/reg-rec/transcripts](http://www.uwsp.edu/reg-rec/transcripts) Please make sure you can view that all your grades are reported before requesting a transcript.

You will be able to view your grades online **starting around** December 30 (Fall programs), May 30 (Spring programs), or August 25 (summer programs). To view your course grades, go to your MyPoint account, click on Academics and under Course Information you then click on Grade Report. You will need your UWSP logon and password to access your MyPoint account. If you do have one, you will need to go to [www.uwsp.edu/it](http://www.uwsp.edu/it) and click on Student and then Your Account then Activate your Account. You will need your UWSP id number to proceed.

Please note that grades from some overseas universities can take much longer to report.

UWSP International Programs

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