

- ★ As part of a U.S. State Department grant program with the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication, **20 students from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka** visited OU in spring 2011. The five-week New Media Institute program was designed to educate the students about new media practices and the role new media can play for journalists and citizens in an emerging democratic society.



- ★ OU musical theatre seniors traveled to Hamburg, Germany, for final **auditions with Europe's largest producer of musicals**, the Stage Entertainment Germany Partnership.
- ★ In February 2011, a **conversation with Sister Rosemary Nyirumbe** about her work with rape victims in Africa was jointly hosted by the Center for Social Justice Center, an initiative of the OU Women's and Gender Studies Program; Sooners Without Borders, a multidisciplinary OU student organization devoted to finding sustainable solutions for water, health, education, development and peace; and Pros for Africa, a nonprofit relief organization founded by former OU football players.
- ★ Aaron Charnay, a student in the Department of the History of Science, pursued a **public health-related study abroad experience in Botswana**, where he learned some of the Setswana language and worked with rural clinics of Gaborone to improve health care in these and surrounding clinics.
- ★ Students and faculty in the OU School of Music performed in the **Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria**, one of the country's oldest music festivals, under the direction of OU director of choral activities, Richard Zielinsky, who also serves as the festival's artistic director and principal conductor.
- ★ EYECChina, the **first social entrepreneurship project** of the OU Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth, is developing a sustainable business model to eliminate a backlog of 1 million patients suffering from cataract-related blindness in China's Sichuan Province by 2020.
- ★ Lauren Ballinger, who earned a master's degree in international studies from OU in 2011, had an **internship with the U.S. Department of State in Morocco** and studied in Bordeaux, France. She recently passed the Foreign Service exam and expects to assume her first posting with the State Department in 2012.
- ★ Pre-med student Alim Ramji, under the supervision of Tassie Hirschfeld, associate professor of anthropology, completed an honor's thesis based on his travels to Honduras, Ghana and India to **work with Unite for Sight, an NGO providing vision care**. The two are co-authoring a paper for presentation at the Unite for Sight Global Health and Innovation Conference hosted by Yale University in spring 2012.