



"Globalization involves political, economic and social issues that are important to any citizen anywhere. Transition from authoritarian to democratic rule, human rights violations, extension of political and civil rights to everyone, free trade and finance, employment, living standards, poverty, and environmental degradation--these issues have global implications about which we all ought to know."

Mark Everingham, Social Change and Development and Political Science, comparative and international emphasis adviser in Political Science



Mark Schultz and Chris Hanrahan take time for a travel snapshot

Some UW-Green Bay students find ways other than exchange programs and travel-study trips to internationalize their educations. Chris Hanrahan and Mark Schultz had one of those "extra-ordinary" experiences in summer 1996.

Ecuador trip was geography and more

by Virginia C. Dell

"It was geography all the time."

That's how Chris Hanrahan and Mark Schultz describe their three weeks in Ecuador as research assistants to Prof. Marcelo Cruz.

Cruz, Urban and Regional Studies, is a geographer studying urbanization patterns in South America. The goal was to document "a new stage of urbanization in the world." Cruz explains that intermediate-sized cities are gaining population rapidly through in-migration from smaller towns and cities, while large cities are slowing in growth, a pattern occurring particularly in South America.

The assignment for Hanrahan and Schultz, both UW-Green Bay geography majors, was to discover and record in photographs the evidence of rapid growth in intermediate-sized cities.



Mark Schultz and Prof. Marcelo Cruz at the equator: Schultz is in the northern hemisphere and Cruz in the southern

"An amazing adventure," says Hanrahan, who uses the words "amazing" and "incredible" often to characterize the experience.

Says Schultz, "I was able to apply a lot of classroom concepts independently. It was the first time I was able to do that."

The two arrived in Quito, Ecuador's capital of about 2-million, on July 6. Cruz gave them a four-day orientation to the project, the culture, the currency, and the language ("How to get a hotel room and how to order in a restaurant," says Cruz, a native of Ecuador), and Hanrahan and Schultz went to work. To do the job, each researcher got one 36-exposure roll of film per city. Teacher and students documented the first city together; after that, Hanrahan and Schultz frequently worked on their own.

Despite being foreigners with cameras and despite their rudimentary Spanish—limited to high school except for Schultz's "couple of days" in college—the two came away impressed by the courtesy shown them by Ecuadorians.

"There was no way around being conspicuous," says Schultz, who is blond. "But mostly, being in larger cities, we went about our business and people went about theirs."

For their part, the two tried to be sensitive: they avoided pointing cameras at people directly. "...not polite," says Hanrahan. "We used

pocket-sized point-and-shoot-cameras," he explains, adding that the two often carried the cameras inside their shirts."

"We did a lot of 'walk-by shooting,'" adds Schultz.

The two felt most "foreign" in the Amazon lowland city of Puyo, where the sight of people carrying machetes on the street was a constant reminder of proximity to the jungle. "In addition to being two gringos in this rough and ready frontier town, we were carrying cameras and shooting pictures," says Hanrahan. Adds Schultz, "We realized we'd have to be discrete." The two recall sometimes making pictures from around corners or above fences to avoid calling attention to themselves.

In Puyo, the pictures document a rural population moving from the highlands: red-painted tin roofs mimic tile roofs of the highlands, but slope to shed rain; houses that look like highland homes are on stilts to avoid floods.

"Each city tells a different story," says Cruz. In the highland city of Ambato, the story was an influx of young professionals from larger cities, shown by new supermarkets, automatic teller machines and middle class single-family homes. Cruz explains that Hanrahan and Schultz had to "appreciate the urban landscape so that they could read it as a text. They had to have a good geographer's eye."

Travel in Ecuador: efficient and sometimes an adventure

"Efficient," is how Schultz and Hanrahan describe Ecuador's transportation. Bus companies operate as cooperatives and buses run frequently, explains Hanrahan. "We usually waited no more than ten minutes." A favorite anecdote recounts their return trip from Puyo in the Amazon lowlands to Quito in the mountains. A mudslide blocked the road in the foothills, halting traffic. The solution? Hanrahan, Schultz and other Quito-bound passengers clambered over the mudslide and boarded a "downhill-pointed" bus on the other side. Passengers from the bus above the slide transferred to the bus Hanrahan and Schultz had abandoned. Each bus turned around and headed back the way it had come. "We were only an hour late," says Schultz.

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Students from afar add perspectives

Students from other countries add international perspectives to the UW-Green Bay campus. While the total number of international students isn't large, the number of countries represented is significant.

Thirty-three countries, in addition to the United States, were represented among students enrolled in September 1996.

Most numerous were students from Japan—14—followed by Germany, the Netherlands, and Mexico.

Other students came from Antigua, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Guinea-Bissau, Hong Kong, Hungary, Jordan, Kenya, Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Spain, St. Lucia, Sweden, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Yugoslavia, and the United Kingdom.



"Travel courses are the best way for students to begin international experiences. Their value—pride in oneself, experience, cultural connections and historical context—affects students well beyond their college years."

Christine Style, Communication and the Arts and Art, faculty leader of "Arts Italy" trip, May 26 - June 16, 1997

Global view is campus- and community-wide

Students don't have to leave the UW-Green Bay campus to get a global view. Nor does the University limit its international perspective to the campus.

Courses across campus—in the humanities and fine arts, the social sciences, the sciences, and the professions—offer learning about and insights into the larger world. Some majors have international emphases.

"There's not any area in the University that wouldn't benefit and doesn't benefit from an international perspective," says Joyce E. Salisbury, director of international education.

The Office of Outreach and Extension extends the global view into the community. It offers non-credit study tours for adult learners and for-credit

travel for teachers. "Lifelong learning is what we do in everything we do," says Barbara McClure-Lukens, Outreach coordinator for continuing professional education. "We're always looking for new ways to do it."

The office is sponsoring two language courses for business travelers, "Spanish at Work" and "German at Work," this spring semester. Travel courses for teachers scheduled for summer 1997 include one to Guatemala with former UW-Green Bay Prof. R. McKenna Brown, and another, led by Prof. Sarah Meredith, to Berlin and Prague. Non-credit travel study organized through the TravelLearn consortium is aimed at "people who take their minds with them on vacation," says McClure-Lukens.

The students' own emphases in geography emerge in their observations.

Schultz, whose interest is cultural geography, says, "I found it reassuring that the Ecuadorian people within their own communities tend to hold a greater concept of community than we do in our society. There is a greater sense of collectivity that our society could learn from."

Hanrahan, a physical geographer, singles out the experiences of being in the second highest mountain range in the world and in a large city at 10,000 feet. "Part of the excitement every day was looking at the snow-capped Andes," he recalls.

The experience led them to personal reflection. Hanrahan, who describes himself as a typical American "who has to have everything done five minutes ago," says the slower pace allowed him to look differently at the way he lives. "In Ecuador, I realized at times I was just walking the streets and seeing what was there," he says.

Observes Schultz, "After this trip, I know what it's like to be a minority. As a result I think I have a greater sense of cultural sensitivity."

Not every moment in Ecuador was work. Hanrahan, Schultz and Cruz hiked to Inca ruins and visited an appropriate monument for geographers: the "center of the world," marking the equator.

Neither Hanrahan nor Schultz had traveled in South America. Hanrahan's previous travel venues were the U. S., Canada, and Mexican border towns. Schultz, whose mother was born in Poland, took a Polish language course at UW-Green Bay, spent a semester studying in Poland, and incorporated some travel in northern and eastern Europe.

Both are in the process of moving on from their UW-Green Bay experiences and last summer's trip to "the center of the world."

Hanrahan, whose home town is West Bend, graduated in August 1996 with an Environmental Policy and Planning minor in addition to his Geography major. He's working for Data-Tel Communication Services on a mapping project for Ameritech. For now, he'll see where the job leads.

Schultz, a Ladysmith native, graduated in December 1996. His Geography major is accompanied by a minor in Urban and Regional Studies and he'll make a transition to culturally focused studies when he enrolls in fall 1997 in post-baccalaureate studies at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Then he'll seek admission to Oregon's graduate program in folklore.