Spring 2010

Spring 2010, Greetings from Claire — who heartily recommends faculty exchange!

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Hello from Dijon and l’Université de Bourgogne, where I am teaching translation, English methodology and U.S. civilization courses to French students in their 1st, 2nd or 3rd year of licence d’anglais (equivalent to BA in English), while the Center is in the competent hands of my colleague Stacy VanDeveer and the rest of the wonderful CIE staff.

After just about ten years of directing the Study-in-Dijon Program here at UNH, for the first time this spring, I got to be part of a faculty exchange with the Resident Director of the program in Dijon, Véronique Assadas, who is currently teaching my courses at UNH, while I teach hers here in Dijon. I would highly recommend such an experience to all my colleagues, directors of study abroad programs at UNH, or others involved in international research and partnership. What a wonderful and easy way to internationalize our UNH campus with visiting faculty members from around the world, and what an easy exchange ours is: we each keep our home institution salary and switch our houses and cars!

I never had the chance to teach in a French institution of higher education before… well it is quite an experience to be a university professor in France, it has its challenges to say the least! It makes me realize how pampered our students are at UNH - and faculty members as well. Of course, this comes with a price. Students here pay under 200 Euros in annual tuition! Regardless, I enjoy teaching here very much and my students seem to be happy in class, even if they were a bit surprised at first by my relaxed teaching style and my student-centered approach. Be sure to stop in Dijon if you happen to be traveling in this part of the world in the next few months!

All is well, spring is in the air (after one of the coldest winters recorded in France in the past 35 years!), a warm hello to all of you CIE friends, and see you in the summer!

Claire Malarte-Feldman
CIE Director (on leave)