

Changes in Latitude



IT'S A QUIET morning in June. Katy Kobzeff, AS '08, wakes up and walks through the door of her bamboo hut. Barefoot, she crosses the beach, leaving a trail of footprints behind her in the sand. She sits at the water's edge, facing east, to watch the sun rise over the Red Sea.

Last year, Katy was among 24 students to experience Egypt through Northeastern's *Dialogue of Civilizations* program. This five week faculty led course, titled "Egypt and the Global Community," is one of 27 trips in 25 countries now offered through the *Dialogues* program.

Katy witnessed this particular sunrise from the eastern shores of the Sinai Peninsula, having traversed the desert on foot, by jeep and, in part, on camelback. Their group had hiked to the top of Mount Sinai, toting snacks and playing Sinatra from an iPod. They had camped out with desert-dwelling Bedouins, and rode ATV's through the white sands and rock walls of the Bahriya Oasis – an experience that, from Katy's perspective, "made the Jeep commercials on TV seem easy."

Following such a trip, a peaceful morning on the beach provided the travelers a welcome (if only momentary) repose. "From my hut, I could see across the Red Sea to Saudi Arabia; if I looked north I could see Jordan and Israel," Katy recollected. "It was a gorgeous place."

"Home Is Where My Luggage Is"

Beyond Sinai, the *Dialogue* course led Katy through Luxor, Alexandria and other Egyptian cities. Cairo, for example, operated as the hub for immersion in the Arabic language.

"We spent the first week acquainting ourselves to Cairo: seeing the pyramids, the Cairo Museum, Coptic Cairo, Muslim Cairo," explained Katy. "Then we started our classes. When I arrived, I did not know how to say hello, yes or no. Now I can have full conversations with people in Egyptian Arabic, giving taxis



Katy working on the "Tomb of Menna Project"

directions and haggling over the price beforehand. It is amazing how fast one can learn the language when immersed in it."

Katy's time in Egypt extended well beyond the *Dialogue* program. She continued to study Arabic through the summer and fall, and took an internship with Dr. Melinda Hartwig, director of the "Tomb of Menna Project." Through this internship, Katy had the opportunity to study, document and conserve what is described as the "finest painted, non-royal Egyptian tomb open to the public today."¹

continued on back cover



Spending the day in Alexandria

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 *Changes in Latitude*
- 2 *Message from the Dean*
Support a Student
- 3 *When in Rome...*
- 4 *International*
Cooperative Education
- 5 *The Renaissance*
of Jewish Life
at Northeastern
- 6 *Around the College*
- 10 *Unlocking the Value*
of Your Real Estate
Alumni Events
- 11 *Those Who Can Do,*
Teach

Office of the Dean
College of Arts and Sciences
360 Huntington Avenue
100 Meserve Hall
Boston, MA 02115-5000

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 430

Changes in Latitude continued from page 1

Katy credits Professor Denis Sullivan, Director of International Affairs, as the person who encouraged her to go to Egypt and directed her to the Menna internship. "He knew that I had qualities that Melinda Hartwig was looking for, and called me aside to meet her," she said.

Following the Menna Project, Katy, clearly a traveler at heart, moved to Belgium to study and work as an intern with the European Union. She visited Morocco, Paris, Stockholm, Edinburgh and London, prompting her to observe, "Home is where my luggage is." This May, Katy graduated as an International Affairs major, with minors in History and Economics.

It is the goal of each *Dialogue* to connect students with peers in different national, cultural, political, and social environments, providing them with an experience that builds upon and profoundly enhances their academic studies and training in Boston. For Katy, this program certainly met its mark.



The May/June 2008 Egypt Dialogue Group at the pyramids

"My training is for international developmental economics, helping developing countries increase their economic growth, so that fewer people die of hunger, starvation, diseases, lack of education and lack of clean water. I am able to acknowledge that bad things do exist, and am on a path to try to create opportunities for change," said Katy. "One just needs to keep taking steps, no matter how small they are, in the right direction."

CA&S Newsletter
Vol. 1 No. 3
Summer 2008

James R. Stellar, Ph.D., Dean

Writers, Editorial Advisors:
Kathryn Finn, Patty Flint,
Jenny Sartori, James Ross,
Sylvette di Martino, Cara
Veilleux, Samantha Fodrowski,
Evan Gallivan

Photos:
Don Harney, Katy Kobzeff,
Brian Thompson, Anastassia
Lapteva, Scott Schlimgen,
Denis Sullivan, James Ross,
Yerina Ranjit, American
Research Center in Egypt,
The Office of Alumni Relations,
Salem Design, Justin Knight,
Courtney Brooks

Design:
Gilbert Design Associates, Inc.

College of Arts & Sciences
Northeastern University
360 Huntington Avenue
100 Meserve Hall
Boston, MA 02115

Internet address:
www.northeastern.edu/cas

Email address:
k.finn@neu.edu