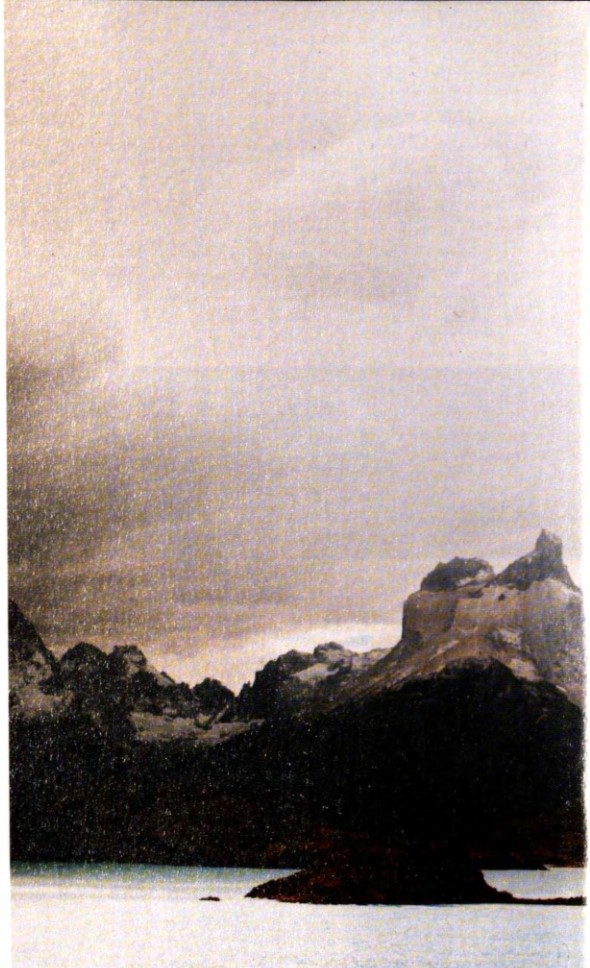


INTERNA

ATIONAL

WORDS *Leslie Franklin* // **SECTION** *Kendra Stevenson*

Learning didn't stop at the edge of campus. For about 48 percent of Harding students, the opportunity arose to go beyond the classroom and across the globe. Students traveled to over 40 countries throughout the course of the year in order to expand their horizons. From study abroad programs to mission trips, there were many ways for students to explore and connect with different cultures all over the globe.



SHAKING THINGS UP

HULA STUDENTS SHOOK BY QUAKES

WORDS *Katie West* // PHOTOS *Bronson Crabtree*



When juniors Gracie Tucker, Bailey Warpula and Abby Feenstra signed up for Harding University in Latin America (HULA), they did not realize that earthquakes were a part of the package. Throughout the spring 2017 semester, the group experienced a variety of earthquakes, as well as aftershocks. While on the trip, students stayed in Roca Blanca, an apartment complex located on the Pacific coast in Chile.

During one of the first earthquakes, Tucker was sitting in her living room with her roommates. They felt everything shake around them but were confused at what to do since many of them had never experienced an earthquake before.

"We started to feel it, and we looked up," Tucker said. "Then we looked back [down]. We looked up again at each other, and were like, 'Wait, do we need to be doing something?'"

Feenstra was also in the apartment when the magnitude 5.0 earthquake occurred.

"[When] we realized we were in an earthquake, I was freaked out," Feenstra said.

Most of the earthquakes the HULA group experienced were just small in scale, ranging from magnitudes 4.5 to 5.0 on the Richter scale; however, they also experienced an earthquake that registered at a magnitude 6.9. Warpula was in a cornerstore in town when the earthquake hit.

"Everything started shaking really badly," Warpula said. "The monitors in the store started shaking, and the ceiling fans looked like they were about to come out of the ceiling. You could hear drinks and bottles clinking — it was really loud."

Warpula's first thought was to run outside, which she later learned was the worst thing to do. The locals all scrambled to the doorway, which was the safest place to stand during the earthquake because that was where the building was the most stable. Warpula quickly followed suit, aware that the locals knew what to do.

"I felt like I needed to crouch down and cover my head," Warpula said. "I just felt so powerless."

The group also experienced a magnitude 7.1 earthquake on April 24, 2017, which caused a tsunami warning in the area. Feenstra was walking out of the classroom and heading back to her apartment when it happened.

"I booked it back inside, and all of us were just huddled together," Feenstra said. "We were under the door frame, my suitemates were under a table and my other suitemates were hiding under some other door frame. We were all just freaking out."

Even though the group was terrified of the earthquakes, they still found ways to be thankful, and none from the group were hurt.

"When the big earthquake ended and no one was harmed, I felt a sigh of relief," Feenstra said.

HULA visits Peru during their time in South America in spring 2017. They had the opportunity to take a ride on the Amazon River on May 27, 2017. // Photo courtesy of Bronson Crabtree

Students take pictures of Fitz Roy, a mountain in Patagonia, Chile, to remember their time abroad. During the first part of the spring 2017 semester, HULA visited Patagonia, Chile, on March 1, 2017. // Photo courtesy of Bronson Crabtree

Several earthquakes made for an interesting semester in Viña del Mar, Chile. Junior Bailey Warpula discovered the door frame of a building is the safest place to stand during an earthquake while she was at the cornerstore in Viña del Mar, Chile, during a magnitude 6.9 earthquake. // Photo courtesy of Bronson Crabtree



A NEW WAY TO WALK

HUE STUDENTS ATTEND
REFORMATION CELEBRATION

WORDS *Presley Nixon* // PHOTOS *Jim Miller & Abigail Cooper*



Both Harding University England (HUE) and Harding's main campus remembered the beginning of the Protestant Reformation movement on Oct. 31, 2017, the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of his 95 Theses.

On Oct. 18, students at HUE attended a Reformation walk in London in honor of the anniversary. The students began the walk by listening to a lecture on Martin Luther and how his actions and the actions of others led to the Reformation.

According to sophomore Hannah Wise, who attended the walk, students noted places around London that they would typically pass without review. They saw statues, landmarks, churches and other buildings, all while being told stories about Reformers' testimonies and how that applied to modern Christianity.

"The stories were so moving," Wise said. "They made us feel empowered, humble, thankful and blessed. It was surreal [to] actually see and stand at the places where so many things happened that changed our world."

Sophomore Samantha Steed also went on the walk, and she learned that some great people didn't initially seek to change the world.

"Martin Luther put the 95 Theses on the church door because he wanted people to discuss what he was having a problem with," Steed said. "He had no idea he was changing the world. God can and does use the smallest things to make the biggest impact."

On Harding's main campus, students remembered the Reformation during a week in chapel.

Dr. Kevin Youngblood, associate professor of Hebrew and Bible, was a force behind this week and helped to organize the theme with President Dr. McLarty and Dr. Monte Cox, professor of Bible and religion.

Youngblood listed three reasons why he believed it was important to commemorate the Reformation in chapel.

"The first is [that] the Reformation has had such a profound impact on western civilization," Youngblood said. "It's just an amazingly influential movement that has defined some of the hallmarks of western culture."

According to Youngblood, the Reformation was important to Harding because it impacted the West religiously, and the numerous denominations that developed as a result.

"To understand it all you have to know what happened and how it contributed to the extremely splintered and divided nature of Protestant Christianity," Youngblood said. "[The] third reason is because of Harding itself and Harding's identification with Churches of Christ."

Youngblood spoke more about this topic, saying the Reformation directly affected Harding's heritage and the faith of its student body.

"We've seen ourselves as kind of popping into the religious context of America without thought of what preceded us, but we are in fact very much a product of the Protestant Reformation and this is an attempt to raise our awareness of how we're being influenced by and how we're part of this larger movement," Youngblood said.

Members of the historical honor society Phi Alpha Theta hang Martin Luther's 95 Theses on the bell tower next to Kendall Hall on Oct. 31, 2017, for the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Professors from the Bible department spoke on the reformation in chapel Oct. 23-27, 2017. // Photo by Abigail Cooper

Harding University in England (HUE) attends a Reformation Walk at Westminster Abbey on Oct. 31, 2017. The group celebrated Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses on the 500th anniversary of the event. // Photo courtesy of Jim Miller

HUE attends St. Mary Woolnoth church in London, England, on Oct. 31, 2017. This was where John Newton, the author of the hymn "Amazing Grace," and William Wilberforce — central figure in Harding Read 2016 — met. // Photo courtesy of Jim Miller





During their time in Florence, students stay at the Villa, Harding's campus in Italy where students live and take classes during the semester. They had many opportunities to visit the Duomo and other local attractions in Florence, Italy, during fall 2017. // Photo courtesy of Grant Schol

The Parthenon is located in Athens, Greece, and is a main attraction of the Greece leg of the HUG/HUF fall 2017 semester. Students visited the Parthenon on the Acropolis which overlooks the entirety of Athens during their time in Greece in fall 2017. // Photo courtesy of Silas Heffley

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

HUF AND HUG COMBINE

WORDS *Emily Wheelless* // PHOTOS *Grant Schol & Silas Heffley*

In fall 2017, 40 students embarked on a new study abroad program, which combined the Harding University in Greece (HUG) trip and the Harding University in Florence (HUF) trip. This allowed the students to see what made each program so special.

Sophomore Coleman VanBrunt was one of the students on the first HUG/HUF trip and felt the experience was similar to other study abroad programs, simply because of the traveling.

"A rule [I] had on the trip was to try everything at least once," VanBrunt said. "I was nervous about the big change of leaving everything at home, but having friends who I admire and can always keep me laughing made any one of the multiple sites we visited feel like home."

When the students started their time in Greece, they were able to follow Paul's missionary journey throughout the country. In addition to those trips, the group went into Athens and visited the Parthenon, Mars Hill, Olympic locations and other well-known tourist sites. One weekend, students were allowed to pack their bags, fly and free-travel wherever they wanted to go. Clay Beason, director of the HUG program, spoke about the affordability of traveling in Greece.

"Students can fly inexpensively in and out of Athens," Beason said. "Some flights are as low as \$50 round trip."

The first half of the trip was focused on the HUG portion of the trip,

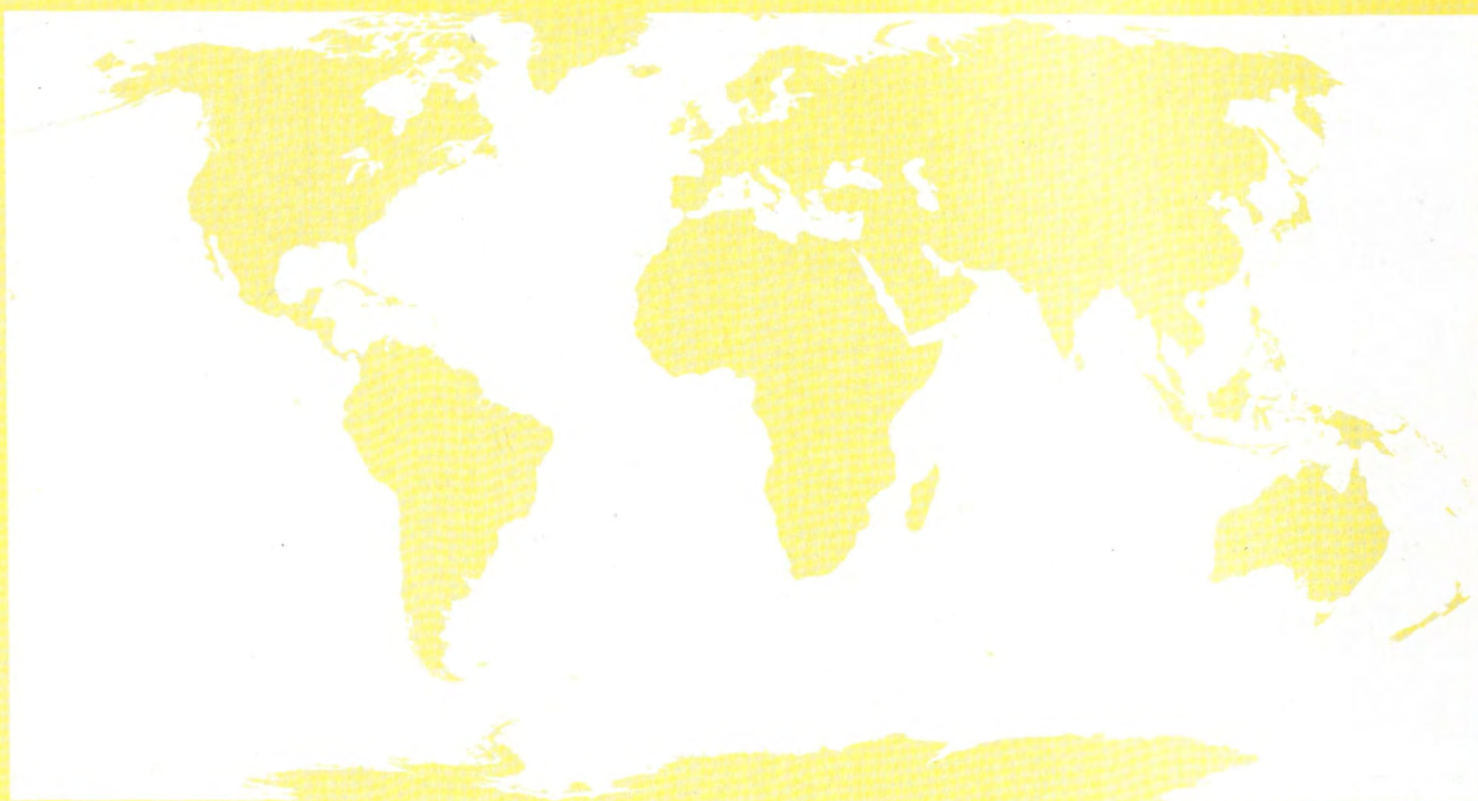
and the second portion captured the highlights of HUF. The transitional trip between HUG/HUF was a week-long trip to Israel where the students visited many Biblical historic sites. After leaving Israel, Robert Shackelford, director of HUF, took the students to Rome and then to Florence, where the students stayed for the remainder of the trip.

The HUF portion of the trip was filled with visits to many historic museums, churches and cities, including Naples, San Gimignano, Siena, Pisa and others. The students were able to have cultural exchanges all across Italy.

"We were super happy to work with directors Clay and Loren Beason on this new idea and program," Shackelford said. "I followed their progress on Instagram, prayed for them and was excited when they joined us after a little over a month."

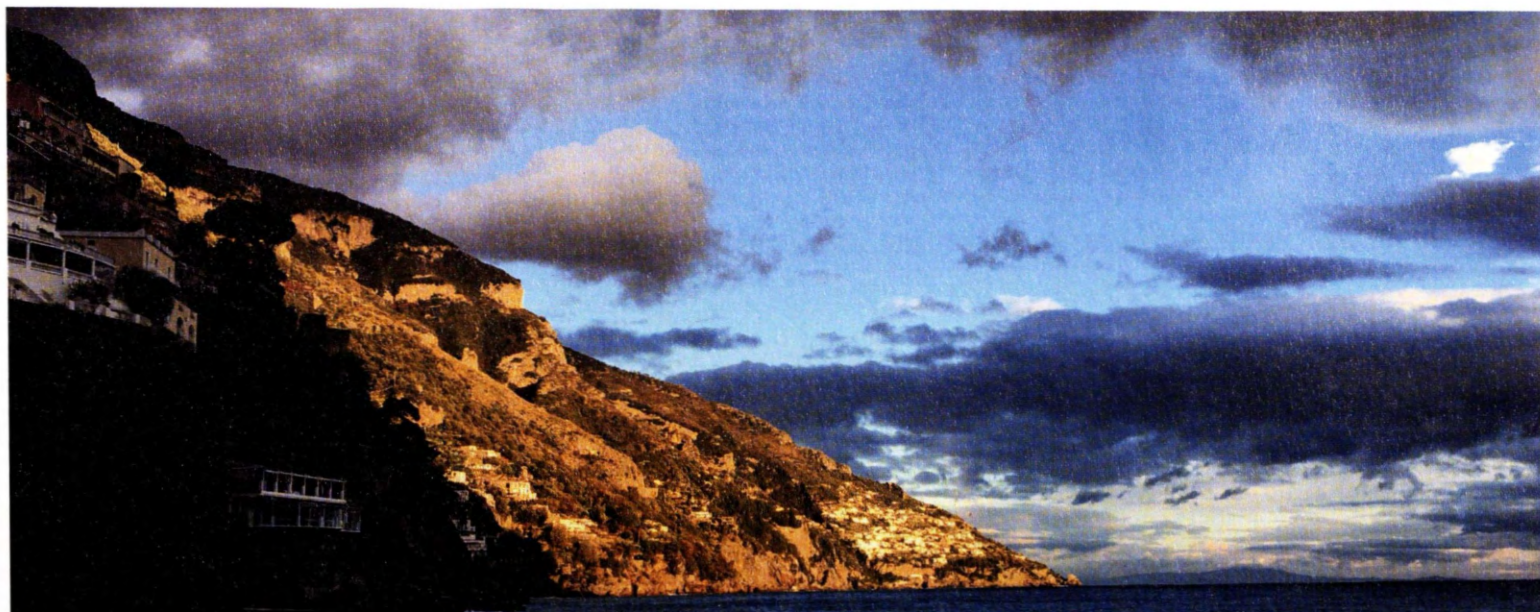
During the three months away from Searcy, the students also took part in classes. While at HUG, the students studied and visited sites for their humanities course, first ancient civilizations and then the Greek and Roman history. When they got to HUF, they continued their study of Roman history, art, philosophy and moved on to the Medieval and Renaissance periods.

"Going to either program, or in this case combining the programs, really gives students and visiting faculty a global perspective," Beason said. "Students come in contact with different cultures and religions. It is definitely an impacting experience in pursuit of integrating faith, learning and living."



INSPIRATIONAL ITINERARIES

STUDENTS DISCOVER NEW WORLDS DURING FREE TRAVEL



"I was traveling with a group of friends, and we stumbled upon this picture-perfect spot, just as the rain cleared. Our day included a very long and windy bus ride, walking 15 miles, missing the last bus on the way back and cramming in a cab. In spite of everything, this turned into a beautiful day that I will never forget." Photo by Leah Hostetter // Location: Positano, Italy



"My favorite memory here was during Carnevale. My friends and I each bought masks and joined in on the celebration. I will always remember that night because of the way the Italians embraced us and helped us feel a part of their vivacious culture."
Photo by Taryn Foster // Location: Venice, Italy



"Paris is a dream. Everything I had seen in 'Gossip Girl' and 'Julie & Julia' was spot on. The people of Paris are glamorous and cook the most amazing food. Everywhere around me was filled with beauty and was familiar in some way."
Photo by Katelyn Williams // Location: Paris, France



"Without a doubt, Iceland was most incredible place we went on free travel. My favorite memory from Iceland was getting to see the Northern Lights the first night we were there."
Photo by Luke Diles // Location: Gulfoss, Iceland



"My favorite memory from free traveling was driving through the Swiss Alps. Everywhere you turned it was just one breathtaking view after another. This picture was taken on a train going up to the top of the mountain called Jungfrauoch. It is considered the 'Top of Europe' because it is the highest tourist point." Photo by Rachel Smedley // Location: Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland



"I remember the town being so tranquil and quiet, nestled so comfortably between mountains and water. I'll never forget the beauty of this picturesque Austrian village."
Photo by Morgan Taylor // Location: Hallstatt, Austria

CLINICAL CARE

FACES OF HIZ PROVIDE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

WORDS *Josiah Abney* // PHOTOS *Makenzie Cobb*

For the students at Harding in Zambia (HIZ) in the fall 2017 semester, a normal homework load included caring for up to 100 clinic patients in a day. Every fall, Harding sent students to study and learn practical medical missions at the Namwianga mission in Zambia. Students participated in a wide range of clinic roles: everything from lab work to assisting childbirths.

Sophomore Hayley Ford commented on her favorite parts of working in the clinic.

"Working in the clinic gave me so much insight into third world medicine and ministry," Ford said. "[I] watched the physical and spiritual sides of healthcare collide, and I experienced God working through his servants to heal bodies while spreading his kingdom."

Sophomore Makenzie Cobb attended HIZ during fall 2017 and was thankful for the variety of cases she saw in the clinic.

"Working in the clinic gave me so much insight into third world medicine and ministry," Ford said. "My favorite experience in the clinic was witnessing a beautiful baby enter the world. Watching the miracle of life take place made me feel incredibly close to God."

While Cobb worked in the clinic, she could see God in countless ways.

"We are there to learn from the workers and see what medicine looks like in a developing country," Cobb said. "We fill in wherever they need us. Some of us sit in on screening patients, some work in the lab, some work in physical therapy [and] some count pills in pharmacy."

The ability to learn at the Namwianga mission meant playing a much more hands-on role in many of the activities that most pre-med students must wait to see in medical school.

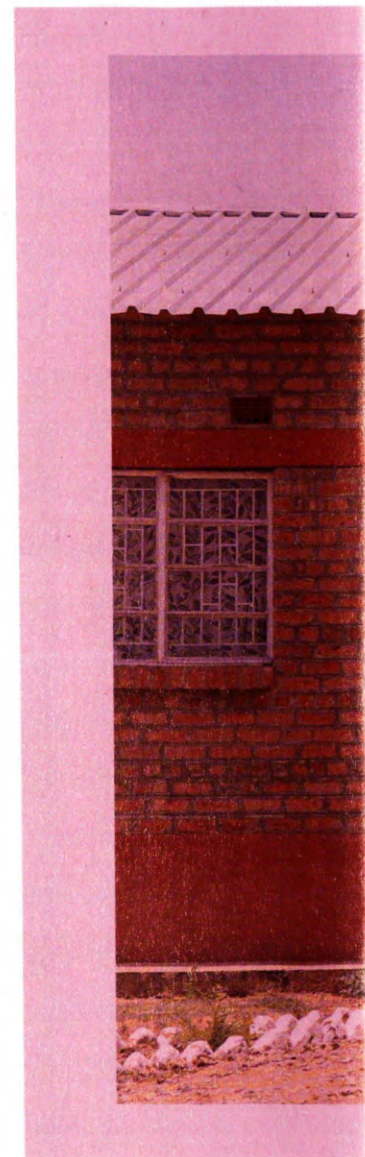
"We get to clean wounds, give shots, give examinations, help start IVs, pull teeth, help do teeth fillings, run lab work, sit [in] on surgeries [and] assist with [delivery]," Cobb said. "All of this was with the leadership and supervision of our professors."

Students leaned on Christian values to guide them to be enthusiastic about the career they have chosen, according to sophomore Ginni Davison.

"We learned how to show Christ's love to others who are hurting through holistic care," Davidson said. "I will be able to use what I learned back in the states to mold me into a health care provider one day."

Harding in Zambia (HIZ) students at the Namwianga Mission Zonal Health Centre volunteer with several workers and care for the citizens in the villages in Kalomo, Zambia, on Nov. 2, 2017. The students had the opportunity to assist with surgeries and births while at HIZ during fall 2017. // Photo courtesy of Makenzie Cobb

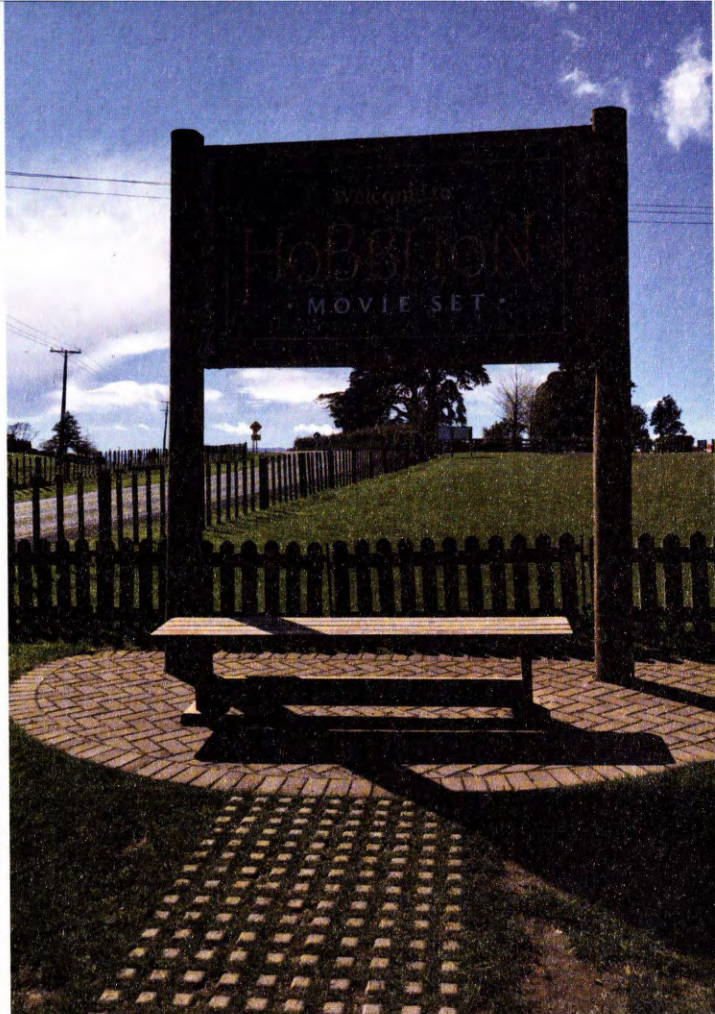
Sophomores Hayley Ford, Ali Davidson, and Makenzie Cobb, and freshman Ashley Webb learn from Ba Bernadette, Ba Lewiny and Ba Naomi at the Namwianga Mission Zonal Health Centre. Many of the clinical officers worked as physical therapists and dentists. // Photo courtesy of Makenzie Cobb







PACK YOUR BAGGINS



HUA VISITS HOBBITON

WORDS *Katie West* // PHOTOS *Elaine Savage*

Harding's Australasia program (HUA) did not lack in breathtaking views and amazing experiences on their trip in fall 2017, as the students cruised to the Bay of Islands, traveled to the Great Barrier Reef and explored amazing places like the Sydney Opera House and the Taj Mahal. In addition to their usual travels, the HUA group added one more trip to their program.

For the first time since the program began, the fall 2017 group explored Hobbiton, a set from "The Lord of the Rings" movies in Auckland, New Zealand. The set depicted the rolling hills and quaint underground "hobbit holes" of the Shire, the homeland of several main characters.

Dr. Jeffrey Hopper, dean of international programs, along with Pam Little, program director for HUA, decided to add Hobbiton to the trip. Hopper said it was an easy decision to make.

"Each year, more and more HUA students went there on their own to see [Hobbiton]," Hopper said. "So many went that Pam Little and I just decided to include it in the HUA program."

For some of the students, like sophomore Elaine Savage, this was a long-awaited trip. When Savage was in middle school, she watched "The Lord of the Rings" for

the first time and did research on where the movie was filmed.

"From the eighth grade, I had the dream to go to New Zealand and visit the place where they filmed the movies," Savage said. "So, this is all actually a dream come true for me. It was like stepping into a whole new world — the same feeling you get at Disney World or Harry Potter World."

Initially, not everyone was as thrilled with the detour. Sophomore Loren Williams had never read the books or seen the movies. However, other students' excitement helped pique her interest. Once they made it to Hobbiton, Williams was glad they visited because she saw the magic of the location.

"The hobbit holes were so colorful and small, and we learned just how much detail is put into making them look like a hobbit lives there," Williams said.

Freshman Lindsey Bender found it very easy to fall in love with the beauty of not only Hobbiton, but New Zealand as well.

"Anything you do in New Zealand and anywhere you go, you will be surrounded by breathtaking views and fall in love with what is around you," Bender said. "Being able to tour the set of such a prominent and amazing movie series made the sights extra special."

Harding University in Australasia (HUA) visits Hobbiton, a set from "The Lord of the Rings" in Auckland, New Zealand, on Sept. 19, 2017. This was the first year the group visited the movie set as a part of the program. // Photo courtesy of Elaine Savage

HUA visits sites in New Zealand, Australia and India during each fall semester including Coronet Peak on Oct. 3, 2017. The fall 2017 group left on Sept. 15, 2017, and headed straight to Auckland, New Zealand, to see Hobbiton. // Photo courtesy of Elaine Savage

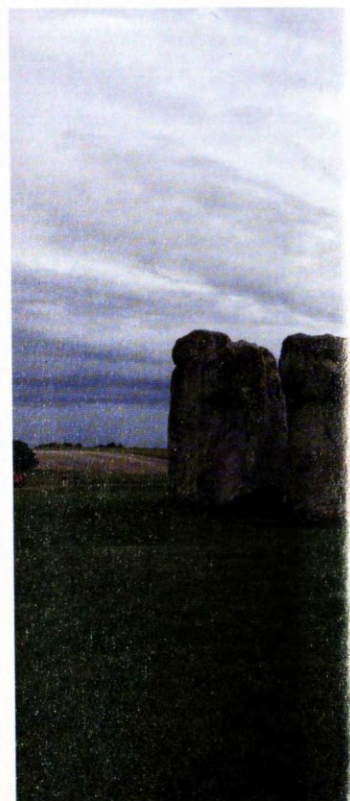
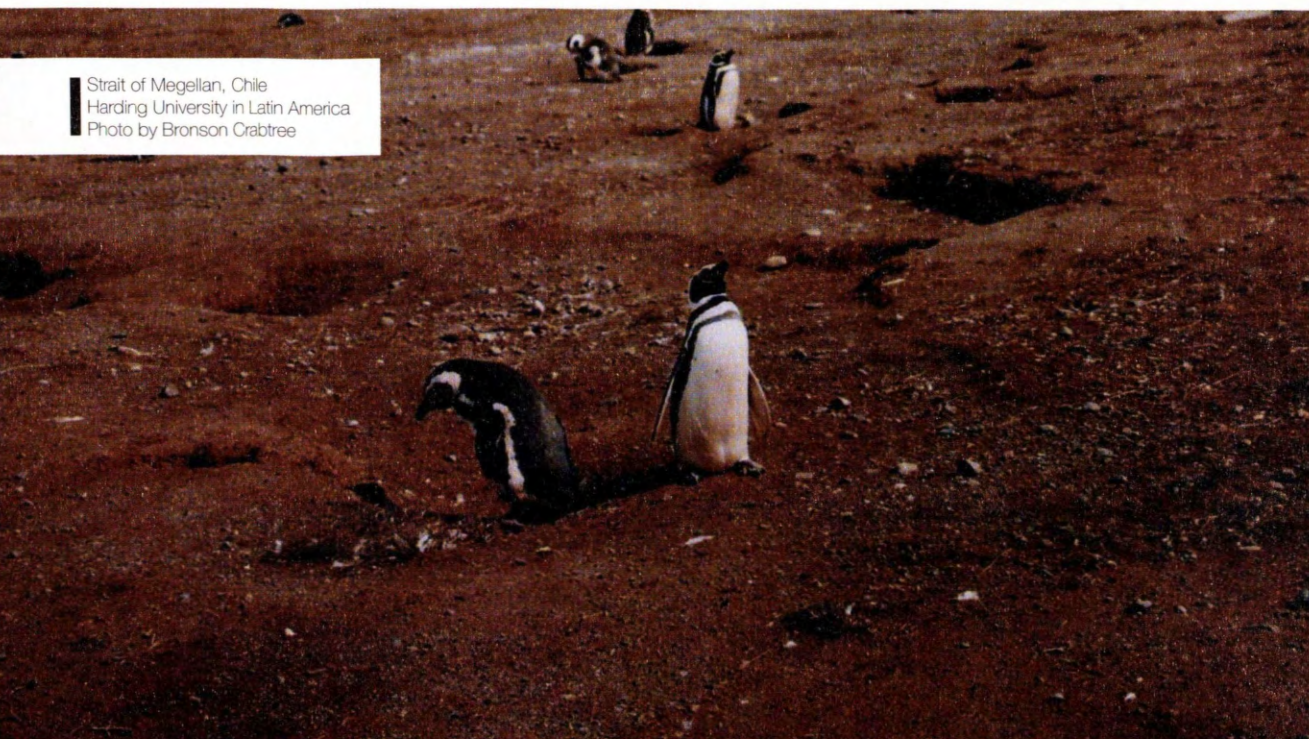
The set for "The Lord of the Rings" in Auckland, New Zealand, draws tourists from around the globe, including HUA students who visited on Sept. 19, 2017. Students explored the detailed hobbit holes, lush gardens and enjoyed refreshments in the Green Dragon Inn. // Photo courtesy of Elaine Savage

Duomo in Florence, Italy
Harding University in Florence
Photo by Grant Schol

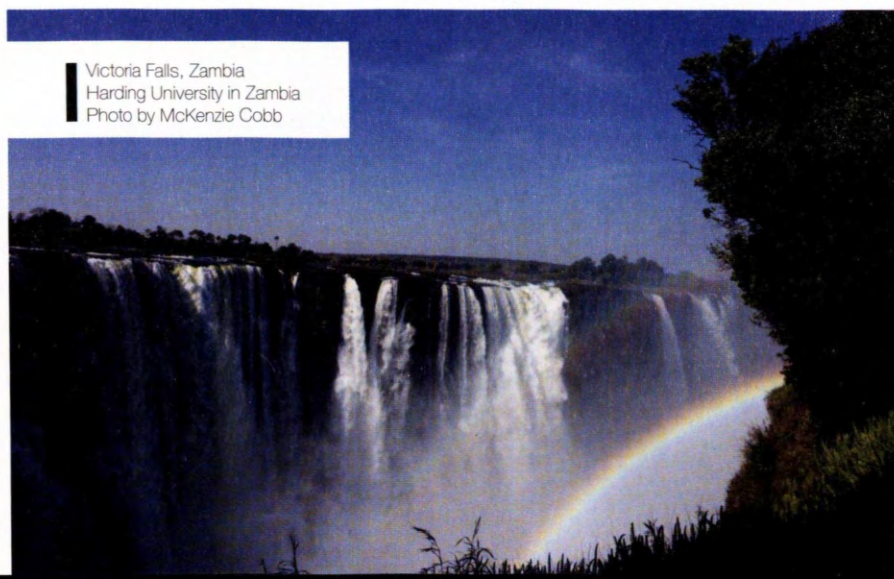


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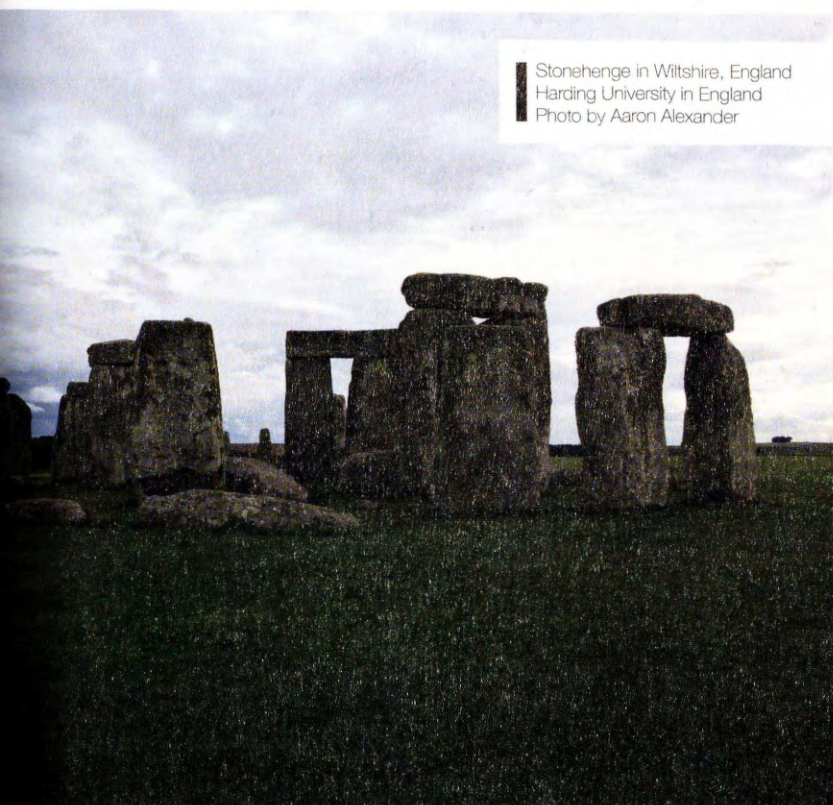
Strait of Megellan, Chile
Harding University in Latin America
Photo by Bronson Crabtree



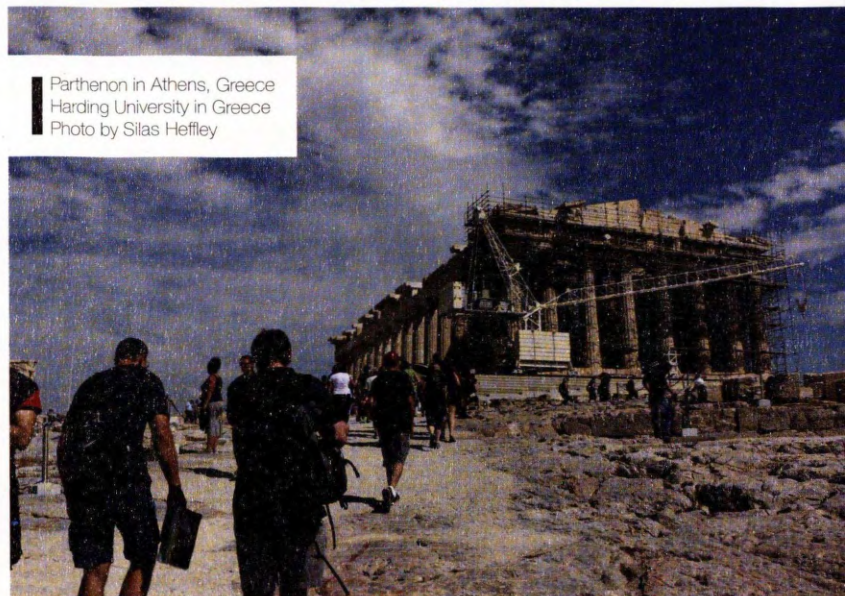
Victoria Falls, Zambia
Harding University in Zambia
Photo by McKenzie Cobb



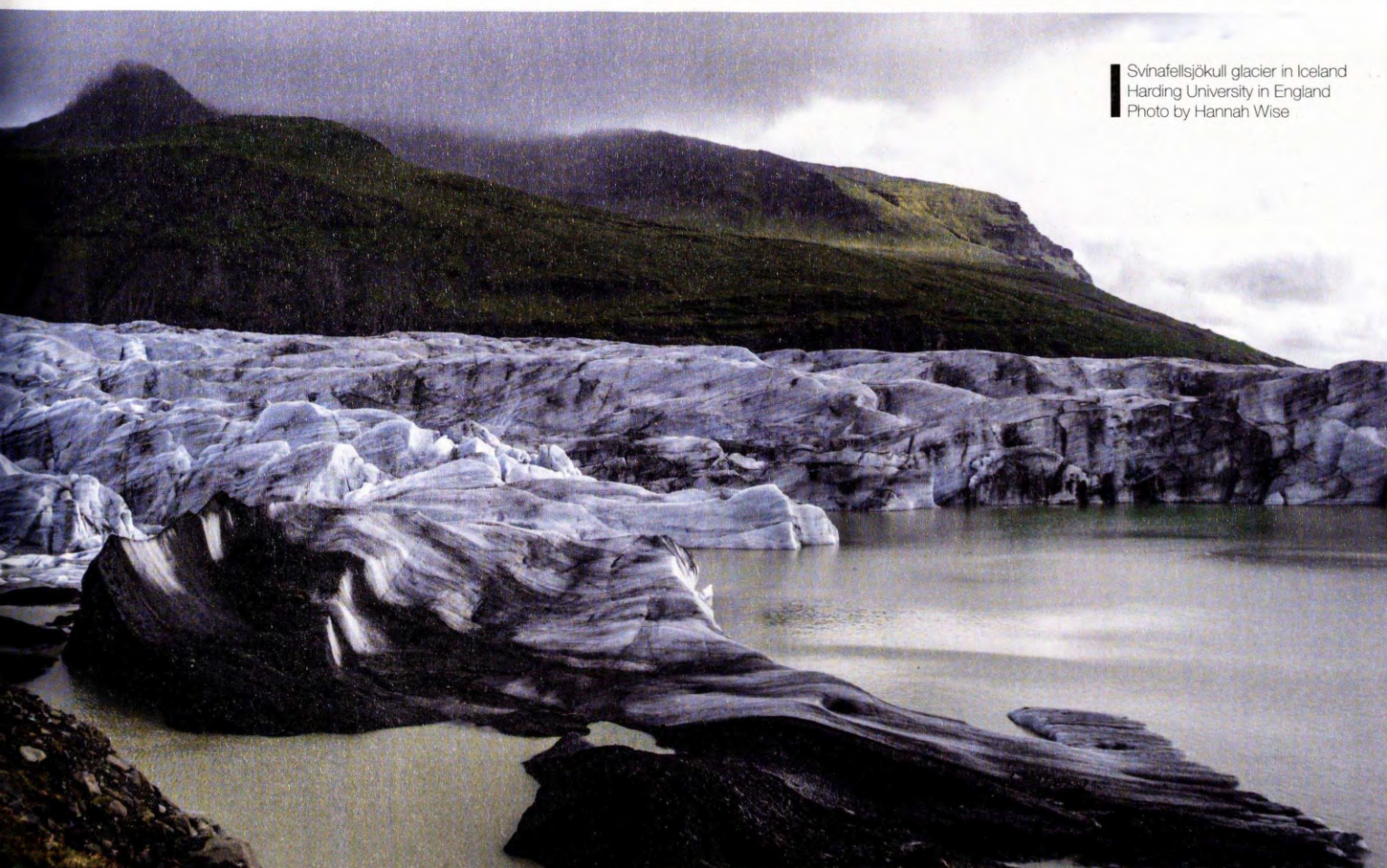
GLOBAL VISIONS



Stonehenge in Wiltshire, England
Harding University in England
Photo by Aaron Alexander



Parthenon in Athens, Greece
Harding University in Greece
Photo by Silas Heffley



Svínafellsjökull glacier in Iceland
Harding University in England
Photo by Hannah Wise