

Interview with Hal Dorf April 12, 1995

INT: How did you get involved with the Department?

HD: I started working on the committees that established, established the international studies major, we started in majors ?? we got together to look at what the major might contain and Dr. Sarri, John Sarri from the History Department was the lead on that, share that committee and establish this major, and so that was my initial start on that, a year ago now the winter of '94 semester, Sarri was on sabbatical he came in to the office when we were still looking for majors ?? study aboard so I did that in addition to teaching????

INT: How many majors are there?

HD: About 34, will lose a number of them due to graduations

INT: And what are the requirements to get into it?

HD: Well its a little, there's not alot of requirements to get into it persay but the other requirements to complete is the they have to take four English, two years of Math, spend a semester aboard a least twelve weeks non-english speaking environment and then they take core courses such as cultural geography, world religions things like that they take as a core. Along with everybody takes a course that ?? liberal arts ??? ??? . Then they do some focus on ????, they also get economic ??? ???. Those are pretty much the requirements for the major degree.

INT: What can you do with that kind of degree?

HD: Well virtually anything 50% of the students that graduate, 5 years after they graduate are doing something that is within their major. So what a college degree really shows is that your trainable, you have the fortitude, the ability, the willingness to acquire knowledge. Nad in almost anything is their looking for people who can relate to other people in relationships. You have a lot that when you have to deal with other environments. Communication skills which is another major requirement, most people think on their feet. So that is what employers look for, I ma talking very generally now so and that is what a lot of jobs are requiring a college degree ??? ???. obviously I am not going to go out and be mechanics or accountants but there would be a lot of fields they could do ????? areas. There would be some of them go into government work, Peace Corp., ????? Corp., civil service and a lot of them teach english as a second language somewhere else. One student that will be graduating will be going back to Japan to teach english there, and there is another one that is teaching in Turkey now. So those kinds of things occurs and it really broadens their horizons I think. Globally and pretty well rounded someone who has the chose they have the ability to relate to other environments and get along with people everywhere.

INT: What exactly what are all the parts of this department that are housed in this office right now in the international studies?

HD: There are three components I can give you a hand out as well as verbally. Study aboard component which we will be discussing primarily and this summer they put that together with what

we call, the study abroad component was heavily for our majors. That is if the student wants to study abroad and or if the faculty and staff want to go abroad. So we have that component for study abroad, so there are a number of people out studying now. I will be taking a group of students to Africa on the May 12th, to Tanzania and South Africa, so there's a study abroad component that we have in our International Majors which we discussed third and probably get those numbers student population. So all International students who come to our campus were serviced through this organization.

INT: And what provisions and services do you offer the international students?

HD: We have, well one we are also involved in recruiting, that is what and I who was just in here, we were discussing strategies. And when we have recruitment of international students, once we get them here, once they are here they are admitted by admissions. Once they are here we meet them and greet them and they still have to be orientated and we meet at the airport or bus station have them get over to find a bank, banking relationships, maybe go down and get some clothes so all those kinds of services we have and international students club we work and staff.

INT: Are you involved in the club?

HD: As the advisor. International Student club. We have a reception friday for them. Those kinds of things. Once they are here, we require them to do is work with immigration/naturalization visas, so you have the person next door knocking at your door. She works in immigration naturalization, we keep a file on all the students, they have to take twelve credit hours, if they go below that they have to be passing. Then we also deal with the insurance coverage for them, health insurance, make sure they have health insurance and any other situations that might arise, counseling in a sense maybe in academic, maybe social more personnel, the true academic counseling center, and anything they might have.

INT: You are just here to support them?

HD: yes.

INT: Do you have future goals expansion plans for the department.

HD: That is what we were just discussing, when you came in here. WE were looking to expand, increase the program, and we hope by our centennial year, Northern's Centennial in 1999. WE now have 110 international students in our student body we hope to have 250. So we hope to build this up, primarily not just for the numbers but because of they bring to campus, diversity, interest, work ethic. When we are in a class you got someone who's different viewpoints, interest, background and perceptions are. we will work on that and the organization on campus creation of the university. We have some now, we have one with Scheuan, China we have another one with the College of Business in Finland. We have the three study abroad programs, Italy, and one in Mexico those kind of affiliations we expand as need be. We went on our trip to South Africa and West Africa we stopped at two schools with the potential to. Then improve our services, understand the we are here because the students are here.

INT: Do you find that it is hard to get the local students , the local student population involved or interested in this?

HD: Once they get to know the university students as they take some classes they aren't...they all have their own agendas to MUMBLE-MUMBLE, other clubs and groups mumble. International students tend to blend into the organization. As in the same token they are set apart because they are an unique resource of ? of campus. We are looking at the idea of having talk to ? going to top schools from elementary on up. Various schools MUMBLE we do a lot of translation and as for translation services they go over to the ski jumping, we had call from the forest service, they had someone from south east Asia ? speak MUMBLE MUMBLE they are unique, so those kinds of things we are going to do.

INT: What kinds of problems have you run into, from being the head of the department?

HD: Well a lot of it is with the learning end of it, because the budget are not always ?, we do, no one has any resources ????? ? decrease the national debt. We always have a limitation to resources. problems aren't that great it is just a matter of time and money Not enough time or money to do the things you want. Other than that it is ? ?. The administration conception is ? ? of course, we wanted to be in the University Center that is our goal, to get over there, there is more exposure. That is casually come by MUMBLE. We are so isolated here me and the administration MUMBLE. So we are looking at that.

INT: are you involved with Study abroad?

HD: yes.

INT: in what way?

HD: Well I work with that too, I was an advisor of it. But really our office we have a staff here graduate student ?, then we have facilitated the study abroad programs.

Int: What exactly does that involve?

HD: Well more students, well that is what supports them, we get more students to think about study abroad. Set up tables outside the bookstore, we talk to classes and try to ? ? know it or not. They are trying to get other people to say ? ?? it is new. We put out a form we have one in the spring, or rather February, all those that are interested in studying abroad come to ? ?. about ten faculty and staff either taught abroad or supporting that or Dr. Sarri for example ??? program.

INT: Why do you think it is important for the average "Yooper" to get this international perspective?

HD: Are you an average "Yooper"?

INT: Well I am not a "Yooper" personally but...I was born in Kentucky. I have been here for the last ten years.

HD: Oh so you live up here. Well 70 percent of our students live here for many of them you know they come to Marquette ???? and then beyond that a major might be going down to Chicago were in a global environment now ??? political ?? are goal for the winter is ??? cultural and environments ?? so in order to exist and survive ?? still there are a number of companies here that deal with national business ?? or the price of whatever the dollar ?? it impacts everybody even directly or not I think that global awareness everybody ?? had several ?? never been on an airplane before she went on a trip to eastern Europe ??? so I think it's just an awareness, I think that it is just an awareness I think that the awareness ???? MUMBLE develop for particularly those who are we call UPPERS because they need that, they have exposure. So it is either ? or ? ? ? sometime in your life kind of get hooked on ? ? business seminar we did which was MUMBLE MUMBLE it is very advantageous, because it has a goal of MUMBLE

INT: Well thank you very much.