

UPEI student excavates in Hungary

UPEI student Tasia Bulger took time to go to Hungary to take part in an archaeological dig



By Tasia Bulger
Post Contributor

I had the fortunate opportunity to travel to Győr and Salgotarjan in Hungary to volunteer on two separate excavation sites with fellow classmates from UPEI. One experience was completed in correlation with a directed studies course which I received credit for from UPEI. After completing the volunteer work, I wrote a short paper documenting the excavation along with a brief historic summary of the excavation site. The second excavation was solely organized on a volunteer basis; one of my professors suggested the site and organized the contract for myself and another classmate to volunteer at the excavation.

The two excavation sites were very different, both yielding unforgettable learning experiences.

The first excavation site was located 15 minutes outside the city of Győr, in North Western Hungary. The excavation was located in an agricultural field, ad-

acent to the river Danube. The site was thought to have been a Roman watch tower AD 150 when the excavators originally begun to survey a few months prior. However, the site turned out to be a rest station for Roman soldiers. Becky Wedge, a fellow classmate of Art History and I worked under the supervision of two archaeologists, Szilvia Biro and Attila Molnár, and also had the opportunity to work with five students of archaeology of the University of Pécs. spent two weeks on the site. The second excavation site was located inside the small town of Salgotarjan, in Northern Hungary, underneath a bypass highway adjacent to a Tesco supermarket. The site was an urn cemetery abundant with pottery urns, bones of humans and animals, and other artifacts dated approximately to the Migration period. In Salgotarjan, another UPEI student Sarah Gilis and myself were supervised by Dr. Andrea Vaday, a prominent archaeologist and professor at Pécs University, and with another archaeologist, Antal Szabo. Again, as

if a bizarre twist of faith, I was reunited with some of the same students I had met the summer prior in Győr, which made the experience even more enjoyable.

Being able to travel to Hungary and participate in these excavations was an extremely beneficial journey for myself to experience. It enabled and challenged my networking and communication skills from my Bachelors of Business Administration degree, improved my French language skills, developed new friends and personal connections globally, and finally I experienced a culture relatively unknown to myself before the voyage. My reasoning for writing this article is to promote awareness with regards to the possibilities for travel which UPEI offers through various departments.

My experiences began as requirements for a Fine Arts Directed Studies course and resulted with being asked to return to participate in more excavations by the archaeologists who I worked with. Definitely a rewarding experience!

Diversity Office to host UPEI Diversity Week

By Maria Durling
Diversity Office

The Diversity Office at the University of Prince Edward Island will be hosting its first annual Diversity Week from Jan. 19 - 24.

A highlight of the week will be an address on Jan. 22 by Ben Yang, well-known throughout Canada as an insightful and inspirational speaker on issues of globalization and cross-cultural communication. He will speak at 1 p.m. in the W.A. Murphy Student Centre. Yang is currently Director of the University of Toronto's International Student Centre and an instructor for the International Educator Training

Program at Queens' University. He also serves as chair for the Canadian Bureau for International Education Immigration's advising committee.

Other activities during the

week will include movies, displays, cultural activities, international foods, presentations, and much more.

Ruth Freeman, coordinator of the Diversity Office, envisions the week as an opportunity to explore and share the increasing diversity of the university community.

"The spirit of diversity recognizes, acknowledges, and celebrates what makes us different from one another," she says. "But it also seeks to build on what we have in common and what unites us across boundaries of class, gender, ethnicity, religion, language, culture and ability."

All Diversity Week activities are free and open to the public. A schedule of events will be available in early January on the Diversity Office's website at www.upei.ca/studentservices/diversity-office. For further information, please contact Ruth Freeman at 628-4332 or rfreeman@upei.ca.

The week starts on Monday, January 19 at 12:00 Noon, McMillan Hall, WA Murphy Student Centre

Opening Ceremony

Awarding of Prizes for the "Diversity at my University" Photo Contest Slide show presentation of all photos submitted to the photo contest
Free cake, refreshments and Diversity Ribbons
International Foods available in the Courtyard Café all week long

Time: 7:00 pm, The Wave

UPEI's first ever Drag Queen Beauty Pageant, hosted by the Rainbow Alliance