

UR Accounting Goes International



A controversial and hotly debated topic in the U.S. is the convergence of U.S. accounting standards to International Financial Reporting Standards. Over spring break a group of eight accounting students traveled to London with a faculty member to gain a richer understanding of this and other international accounting issues. The objective of the London excursion was to move the learning of accounting from the classroom to the global environment and to provide a study abroad experience to students who otherwise may not have had this opportunity. While in London, students met with a diverse group of professionals from businesses with unique perspectives, ranging from the international CPA firms, KPMG and Price Waterhouse Coopers, to Lloyds of London and the International Accounting Standards Board, to the founder of a small boutique hotel group, Umi. It was not all business, the students also met over dinner with UR alumni living in London. This trip fulfilled our objectives of broadening the students' perspectives on international opportunities and deepening their understanding of accounting issues. It connected their classroom learning to the real world as exemplified by this student's e-mail from London to his accounting professor.

"A bunch of us thought you somehow got in touch with the people we visited because a majority of them spoke about leases. It was actually pretty cool to know what they were talking about and be able to respond and ask meaningful questions."

