

wars. At the Zimmer Wine Cellar we learned about several varieties of Alsace wine including the popular and famous Riesling white grape.

The group also toured Bastogne, a town in the Ardennes region of Belgium and the site of the World War II Battle of the Bulge. We visited nearby Mardasson Hill American Memorial dedicated in 1950 to commemorate the 76,890 American soldiers who were killed, wounded or missing in action during that battle. Later, our group walked through the forest where American soldiers in the 101st Airborne Division held out for two long months during the winter of 1944–45, until Gen. George Patton and his 3rd Army Division brought much needed reinforcements.

While in Belgium we also saw a trained bird show, featuring an Ardennes hawk, at Sir Godfrey's castle. Later, we traveled to Luxembourg, stayed in the capital city, toured the town and visited the American Military Cemetery, the final resting place of more than 5,000 U.S. soldiers, including Gen. Patton.

While having both historical and present-day political significance, most trips are also related to classes. During a trip to the G. Bastin chocolate store, the group watched a video about the process of growing, harvesting and refining cocoa, and we saw how G. Bastin chocolatiers make their products.

During the tour of the Stella Artois factory, we learned the

basics of beer production as well as how the world's largest brewer — InBev Corp. — produces, stores and bottles its products. A tour of the Port

of Antwerp allowed students to see how products are transported in and out of Europe's second-largest port (based on annual tonnage).

Through the Semester in Antwerp, 37 Madison students gained an international perspective on both business and culture. The ever-expanding European Union currently offers access to roughly 500 million consumers in the global marketplace, and that makes familiarity with EU laws and practices extremely valuable assets for business majors. The semester was a great academic, cultural and traveling experience. These three factors can make any business student better able to navigate the increasingly global business environment. **M**

## [Nursing News]

# Nursing adds new programs, welcomes scholar

*Doctorate and nurse practitioner programs address shortage and service gaps*

**T**he JMU Board of Visitors approved the Doctorate of Nursing Practice in June, and the new Master of Science in Nursing Program began the Family Nurse Practitioner concentration last summer, offering its first course to nine students.

"The American Association of Colleges of Nursing recommends that all advanced practice nurses have a doctorate in nursing by 2015," says Merle Mast, head of JMU's nursing department. "We have worked hard to expand all our nursing programs because of the national shortage in practicing nurses and nurse educators."

The doctoral program will help the shortage by better preparing advance practice nurses to address health care needs, according to Mast. The Family Nurse Practitioner master's program prepares nurse practitioners to provide primary-care services to pediatric and perinatal patients in addition to the adult population; and that translates into more practitioners to fill the gap in primary-care services.

New programs were not the only exciting news for the nursing department this year. Professors and staff members welcomed the department's first-ever international visiting scholar. In conjunction with JMU's international programs, the Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services and the College



Nursing department faculty members meet with international visiting scholar Sandra Buttigieg, director of the Institute for Health Care at the University of Malta. Left to right are Donna Trimm, Judith Rocchiccioli, Buttigieg, Cynthia O'Donoghue, Donna Sharpes and Jackie Ciccone.

of Integrated Science and Technology dean's office, the nursing department welcomed Sandra Buttigieg, a practicing physician, researcher and director of the Institute for Health Care at the University of Malta. Buttigieg visited with students and professors for two weeks and presented a lecture series on health care leadership, global health issues including childhood obesity, and the need for transformational interdisciplinary health care teams.

Buttigieg also consulted with leaders at Rockingham Memorial Hospital and graduate students from varying disciplines and attended several classes taught by JMU professors. She observed the practices of primary-care physicians and nurse practitioners in the Shenandoah Valley. **M**



While in Brussels, Belgium, spring 2009 Semester in Antwerp students and professors take a photo opportunity in front of the University of Antwerp's main academic complex. Students also toured the European Union Parliament and the city's commission building.