

Farmington student leads chapter

Student eye world business scene up close

By Diane Gale
staff writer

Brigitte Kilmes, a Farmington Hills resident, is serving her second term at the helm of the Michigan State University chapter of an international organization that provides students opportunities to work in other countries.

Kilmes, 21, is president of the MSU chapter of AIESEC, which is a French

acronym for the International Association for Students in Economic and Business Management.

"The purpose of the organization is most of the students are seeking careers in international business, and AIESEC gives them the experience which is highly suggested by international companies," explained Kilmes, who is working on a dual major in advertising and Spanish as well as a minor in business.

Kilmes is looking forward to a three month stint this summer in Mexico. She will be working through an AIESEC placement in marketing for a firm that's involved in international communications.

KILMES, a member of the MSU advertising association plans to finish her degree in 1984.

This year six students from MSU will be working in Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa, England and Finland.

None of these students opted for school credit, but all will receive paychecks in addition to their cultural and business learning experiences. The jobs will extend anywhere from two to 18 months.

The main goal of the MSU chapter is to urge businesses in the United States to hire students from other countries.

"One of the most challenging things right now is getting responses from companies, because the economy is so poor some of the businesses are laying

people off and they don't want to hire students from other countries," said Kilmes who was a 1980 graduate of Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

FOR EVERY foreign student that earns a job in the U.S. through AIESEC, a U.S. student is given a job in another country.

"The American students can go abroad and bring back knowledge from these other countries," Kilmes said. "So in the future we can better the businesses here in the United States."

AIESEC complements the student's theoretical classroom training with business seminars, career planning meetings, industrial work studies and

tours in various economic environments, Kilmes said. Kilmes also is president of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority-Beta Delta Chapter.

"One of the most interesting things about the organization is that we have the opportunity to meet people from all over the world at the various conferences we attend," Kilmes said.

The organization began in 1948 and is incorporated in 58 U.S. universities, and 400 universities worldwide. Approximately 85,000 students including 8,000 Americans have been involved in the program since its inception.

After graduation Kilmes plans to seek employment in a firm that's internationally oriented and preferably in a Spanish speaking country.

No cure for arthritis but control is possible

Medication combined with exercise, joint protection and rest, can control painful arthritis, according to the Arthritis Foundation.

Allen Morton, D.O. of the Michigan chapter, says there's a wide range of drugs from mild to very strong that can be used depending on the severity of a person's arthritis.

More than 1,350,000 people in Michigan have arthritis. To encourage people to learn more about this serious health problem, Gov. James Blanchard has declared May as Arthritis Month. "It's time we took arthritis seriously," Morton says. "Throughout the month we'll be conducting an intensive public information campaign to make people aware arthritis is more than the minor aches and pains of old age."

Though there is no cure for arthritis, a variety of new arthritis drugs become available each year "and recently, one painful form of arthritis, gout, became almost 100 percent controllable with medication," Morton says.

Arthritis quackery remains big business, totaling more than \$1 billion each year. To insure that correct information is available, the Arthritis Foundation is planning for simultaneous public health forums from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 7.

A "Doing Better with Arthritis" forum will take place at the Southfield Civic Center, 26000 Evergreen, with Louis Dvorik, Ph.D., as chairman.

Aspirin is still widely used for the initial treatment of arthritis and is safe, usually effective and inexpensive. Some people may not tolerate aspirin well or may require stronger medication.

One of several nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs can be prescribed by a physician, and if they fail to be effective, physicians can consider stronger drugs.

A new class of drug treatment for arthritis — immunosuppressive drugs — has been adapted from cancer treatment and can be effective in treating several forms of arthritis such as lupus and rheumatoid arthritis.

Finding the right medication for an individual sometimes involves trying several to see which one does the most good with the least amount of side-effects.

Occasionally people take a drug successfully for a long period of time and suddenly develop side-effects. Adverse reactions can range from ringing in the ears and nausea from aspirin to softening of the bones and diabetes from taking steroids.

People using any drug should follow directions and be monitored by a physician, the Arthritis Foundation advises. Cooperation between patient and physician is vital to get the disease under control.

According to Morton, medication is just one part of the overall treatment program. Exercise, proper rest and

sometimes surgery also play a major role in the relief of pain and the control of joint damage.

For more information call the Michigan Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation at 861-9096.

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Postmaster warns against job promises

Medical fraud and work-at-home schemes are still on the Postal Service's list of scams con-artists work through the mails, but Farmington Postmaster Kenneth B. Harris says high unemployment among industrial workers over the last couple of years has given swindlers a new and desperate audience.

Postmaster Kenneth B. Harris issued the warning in connection with Postal Consumer Protection week, April 24-30.

continue to insist, without one shred of truth, that there are scads of good jobs available in Alaska," Harris said.

The postmaster cited an advertisement for high-paying jobs in Alaska that resulted in hundreds of unemployed persons in southern California each sending \$350 to cover the cost of a trip to Alaska.

"When they gathered at a dock in Los Angeles after sending in their money," Harris said, "they discovered there was no ship, that their money and the swindlers were gone, and that there were no jobs."

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