

UF India Study Abroad 2008 – REPORT



The University of Findlay, Ohio conducted an India Study Abroad Program, June 7-18. A group of 12 participants visited Chennai, India, a city with historical relations with USA. The first US export to India was ice in the 18th. century, which was shipped to Chennai (then known as Madras).

The scholars attended lectures delivered by global executives, US and Indian government officials and cultural experts and networked with them. They visited various businesses, which included Larsen and Toubro – India’s first multinational corporation and places of cultural interest, which included Mahabalipuram – an ancient trading port that dates back to at least 7 A.D. and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Dakshinachitra – a living cultural village. The group stayed in executive housing and a world renowned beach resort that is part of the business house that won the \$1,000,000 Global Eco Tourism Award. Travel and housing were air-conditioned. Participants experienced authentic Indian cuisine and enthusiastically participated in other Indian cultural activities. In addition, the group visited various educational institutions, a leading hospital, a wholesale fruit, flower, and vegetable market, shopping malls, a country club, resorts and the US Consulate in Chennai. Participants rated their experience an “A.”

Arrangements in India were done by Prakruthi – Outward Bound Experiential Center, Chennai, India, an organization with 27 years of experiential learning expertise and working with Indian and foreign educational institutions. An extensive collection of photos are available at <http://picasaweb.google.com/dnabarunghose> .



The students and faculty also attended the mega India-USA Global Business and PR Conference 2008 and presented their blind-refereed research papers. Here they networked with industrialists, educators, and administrators in government and private enterprise. Conference photographs can be viewed at <http://www.prsichennai.org> .

The study tour was led by Dr. Nabarun Ghose, Professor of Marketing and Business. For information on the expanded and improved India Study Tour 2009, June 14-24, and the India-USA Global Business Conference 2009, June 12-14, contact Dr. Ghose at ghose@findlay.edu or 419-434-4455.