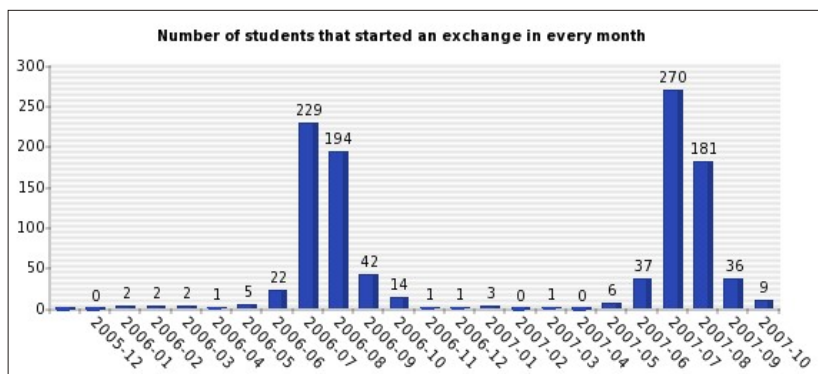




Dear IPSFers,

The big year is over, and it is a challenge to say goodbye now. I would like to share with you a summary of the things we have achieved together with some figures over the past year. Since September 2006, almost 700 students (679) applied for the exchange program, and 80% of them have already been placed by July 2007. The percentage of placed students is the same compared with last year's figures but the number of both applicants and placements exceeded both our expectation and last year's, figures. This was due to the increased number of SEP associations and the growth of some SEP-stable countries. It was interesting to note that two-thirds of all exchanges were intra-continental and one-third was intercontinental.



46 associations from 40 countries were active in 2006-07. SEP is conducted throughout the whole year, but most exchanges are done between May and November. Statistics shows that 41% of students had their exchanges in July; 45% in August; and about 7% (each) during spring and autumn.

Established associations usually placed 10-30 students each. New SEP associations mostly placed between one to five students each, which

is very good for programmes under establishment and good preparation for the next year. IPSF and SEP continue to grow each year, and these facts indicate that the future Chairperson and Executive Committee need to focus more on helping SEOs to provide more hosts.

This year Poland (61), Portugal (51), Hungary (42) and Serbia (28) placed the most students in their countries. This year was also set a new record for incoming new associations. SEP welcomed seven new associations: GUC-SPSA (Egypt), A.S.R.N. (Israel), APS (Japan), MPSA (Macedonia FYR), PANS (Nigeria), SNAPS (Sweden) and AEPHAR (Rwanda). The field of work was divided as follows:

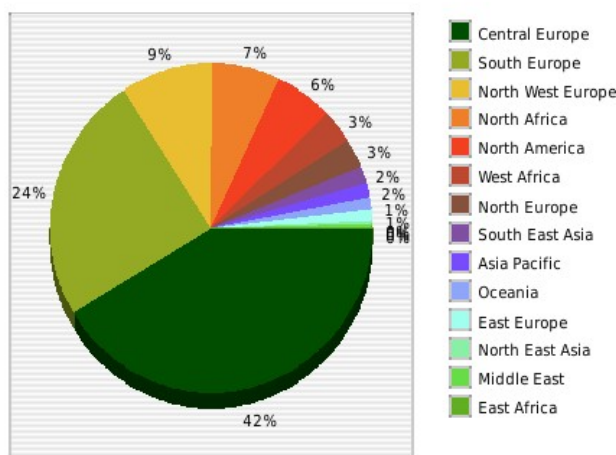
Community pharmacies	71%
Hospital pharmacy	13%
Faculties/universities	12%
Industry	4%

Future steps would be increasing number of hosts in less represented areas, as well mixed exchanges (combination of fields).

Nataša Nikolić

Chairperson of Student Exchange 2006-07

Number of applications from every region



Student Exchange Officers at the 53<sup>rd</sup> IPSF Congress Taipei August 2007  
Front: Veronika Sumpichova, Chairperson of Student Exchange 2007-08, and Nataša Nikolic, Chairperson of Student Exchange 2006-07

**Why Wait? Come and Join With Us!**

## :: EXPERIENCES OF STUDENTS

### Discover Indonesia (article for newsletter)

My preferred country to participate in the Student Exchange Programme was Indonesia. It was very easy for me to decide - who could say no to Indonesia? Superb national attractions: tropical beaches and island, impressive volcanoes, ancient culture and archeological wonders! And when you arrive, the most impressive wonder are the people. I was absolutely thrilled. We had warm welcome and everything was prepared for us. Both the professors and the students were at the top of this exchange.

Our main station was Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), School of Pharmacy. The University prides itself on its reputation as one of the country's centres of excellence in science and technology. ITB was also the place where Indonesia's first president, Sukarno, earned his engineering degree in civil engineering.

We started practice at the pharmacology department and our main goal was to find a conclusion on two different tasks. The first was to determinate the acute toxicity and LD50 of Water Extract of Bawang Kapal Bulbs (a cardiovascular drug) on mice and to determinate the antihypertensive effect of the extract. The substance was injected in the following order by dosage and we studied the toxic effects, level of severity, body weight development, and the macroscopic observation of the pathological organ. For the first time, I had practical work with live animal. I learnt how to work with rats and mice, and how to give them medicines and injections. We also had the chance to do post mortem surgery as well as how to treat and take care of them.

Thanks to the local SEO, Armiin and her great schedule, we had plenty of time to visit Indonesian natural attractions. Our trip was going through Bandung, Yogyakarta, Bali Island and Jakarta. We visited Borobudur temple, Uluwatu temple, many beaches and places on Bali (Sanur, Nusa Dua, Jimbaran, Dream Land, Ubud, Uluwatu, Kintamani and Denpasar) and many others. It was an unbelievable experience!

I would like to thank everyone involved in this project for all the efforts they made in order to organize it. It was a great experience! I saw and learnt many things. The Student Exchange Programme is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so don't miss it!



Students from Serbia together with local organizer

Milan Teodorovic

National Association of Pharmacy Students of Serbia (NAPSer)

Recipient of Development Fund SEP Grant

### SEP in Portugal

My preferred country to participate in the Student Exchange Programme was Portugal. In Portugal, I was not only a tourist; I was also a citizen there. For my Serbian friends and I, it was one unforgettable month. There were also pharmaceutical students from other countries who were with us during the exchange, in addition to other pharmaceutical students from Portuguese medical faculties.

The Local Exchange Officer in Porto was waiting for me at the airport and helped me to my accommodation. I was placed in a students' dormitory. It was very good and comfortable. There, I met many students (from Croatia, Poland, Spain) and established friendships with them. I had the opportunity to learn about pharmacy in their countries, other cultures and also to share the exchange experience with them.

I was going to take my practice at the Biochemistry Department (Faculty of Pharmacy, Porto). There, I learnt a lot of biochemistry, analytical techniques, the relation between vanilloid receptors of the rat maternal tissues during a normal pregnancy and spontaneous foetal-resorption units which was the topic of our practice. My mentor explained to me in great detail and it was very interesting.

Portugal is beautiful country. I was able to visit many amazing gardens, monuments, buildings, beaches and the wonderful

nature - I was at the beach almost every day. I visited Lisbon, Sintra, Guimaraes and I will never forget my trip. I had found out something about Portugal, about the people who live there and about their way of life.

It is very hard to describe every single day and write all my experiences in that month. I only know that my friends and I didn't want to come back home. It was a very good choice to have SEP in Portugal, and I want to recommend participating in SEP to everyone. I am thankful to all the people who helped me have this excellent experience.



Djenic Jelena while in Portugal

Djenic Jelena

National Association of Pharmacy Students of Serbia (NAPSer)

Recipient of Development Fund SEP Grant