(2009 Study Abroad Participants at the Cape of Good Hope from Left to Right: Elizabeth Erin Danley, Tau Shanklin-Roberts, Dr. Glenwood Ross, Dr. David Poyer, Terry Anderson, and Sarah Amanda Arnason)

**Background and Overview**

This was the eighth running of the Economic Studies Abroad in South Africa Program since 2001. This program is designed as a follow on to the spring semester course, *The Economy of South Africa*. Both the study abroad program and the semester course are joint projects between the economics departments of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS) at Georgia State University (GSU) and Morehouse College. The aim of the Study Abroad Program is to present students with a broad understanding of the workings of the South African economy, its infrastructure, its environment and its governance. Through a series of lectures, in country discussions with industry and public officials, and site visits, the program participants examine the process of economic and social development, as well as South Africa’s role in the global marketplace. The program also addresses South Africa’s current socio-economic challenges,
such as unemployment, poverty, economic inequality and the AIDS epidemic. In addition, the program is designed to introduce the students to cultural traditions and important moments in South African history and political development.

The program started off in Atlanta with a historical overview of South Africa and a pre-departure lecture on the general state of the South African economy. The following two weeks were spent in South Africa. While in South Africa time was split between the Pretoria/Johannesburg area in Gauteng Province, the industrial center of the country, and the Cape Town area of the Western Cape Province. During the course of our stay, we attended seven formal lectures and had numerous site visits and cultural/historical experiences. The lectures primarily focused on various aspects of the economy of South Africa. However, scholars also touched upon economic developments in other parts of sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, the HIV/AIDS Co-Ordination Unit at the University of Cape Town presented us with a comprehensive overview of the current state of this pandemic in South Africa and on their efforts to stem the disease at the university and in Cape Town and the greater provincial area. The lectures were presented by the faculty and staff at the University of Pretoria and at the University of the Cape Town, and by government officials at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Tours included visits to Table Mountain, Sun City, the winelands of Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, and Paarl, the Lesedi Cultural Village, the Cape of Good Hope, penguin colonies at Boulders Beach, Seal Island, and the Pilanesberg Game Reserve. In addition, we had extensive city tours of Pretoria, Soweto, and Cape Town where we were exposed to much of the history and diverse culture of the country. Particularly interesting were visits to Nkosi’s Haven, an AIDS orphanage, where students were confronted with the direct impact of the disease, and to two museums that highlighted various aspects of the anti-apartheid struggle-- the District Six Museum and the Apartheid Museum. In addition, we had the privilege of visiting the informal settlements in the Langa Township.

**Detailed Itinerary**

**Tuesday, May 19th**

We caught Delta Airlines flight 34 at 4:10 PM

**Wednesday, May 20th, Day 1: Pretoria, Gauteng Province**

We arrived in Johannesburg at 4:05 PM. After collecting our bags, going through customs and exchanging dollars for rands our driver and tour coordinator, Mr. Shaheed Raffee, drove us to our hotel in Pretoria which was about 45 minutes away. We stayed at the High Performance Centre. This facility is owned by the University of Pretoria.
This was a day for us to catch up on our jet lag. No activities were planned.

Thursday, May 21st, Day 2: Pretoria, Gauteng Province

Morning: We started off our day with a series of lectures by various faculty from the Department of Economics at the University of Pretoria. The first lecture, which was given by Dr. Francis Kemeque, focused on economic developments in Cameroon. The second lecture focused on current economic conditions in Mauritius and it was given by Dr. Ruthira Naraidoo. Dr. Reyno Seymore then focused on the South African Economy. I was delighted to receive from him an autographed copy of the book *Zumanomics*, a book that details the economic challenges facing the recently elected president of South Africa—Jacob Zuma. Dr. Seymore had contributed a chapter on trade, industrial and competition policy.

Afternoon: After the lecture we had a tour of Pretoria. We made a point of visiting the Voortrekker Monument and the Union Buildings. The Voortrekker Monument is a national icon for Afrikaner South Africans. On December 16th, the anniversary of the battle at the Blood River, Afrikaners from all over the country stream to the Voortrekker Monument to commemorate the - in their view - most important event in the history of South Africa. The building is constructed in such a way that just on that day at 12 noon a ray of sunlight falls onto the Shrine of Honor in the Heroes Hall. It bears the inscription: "Ons vir jou, Zuid Afrika!" (We for you, South Africa!). The Union Buildings forms the official seat of the South African government and it also houses the Office of the President. In 1994 the buildings were the scene of much jubilation as they played host to the inauguration of former President Nelson Mandela.

Friday, May 22nd, Day 3: Pretoria, Gauteng Province

Johannesburg, Gauteng Province

Pilanesburg, Northwest Province

Morning: We started our day again with a visit to the University of Pretoria for another set of lectures. Dr. Gauther Kashalala spoke about the economic potential of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The second lecture was given by Dr. Olufunke Alaba. He spoke about the many obstacles—economic, social and political—that confronts and constrains Nigeria. The last lecture in the series focused on Zimbabwe’s economy. It was given by Dr. Margaret Mabugu, Assistant Professor of Economics. She spent quite a bit of time discussing the long history of land reform in Zimbabwe and social/economic inequities.

Afternoon: We drove from Pretoria to Johannesburg where we had a late lunch date at the *Villages of Nkosi’s Haven*, an HIV/AIDS orphanage. Gail Johnson, the director, had arranged a fabulous spread of various kinds of meats, fruits and vegetables for us. As we toured the villages she explained that the concept and philosophy of *Nkosi’s Haven* is to insure that HIV/AIDS infected mothers and their children remain together for as long as is needed in a
normal, accepting, non-judgmental environment. In addition, *Nkosi’s Haven* allows the children on the mother’s request to remain in the care of *Nkosi’s Haven* when she has passed away.

After our visit to Nkosi’s Haven we drove for another couple of hours to Pilanesburg National Park, which is in the Northwest Province. Pilanesburg is a game reserve with multiple lodging compounds for visitors. The park is situated on the eroded remains of a 1200 million year old extinct alkaline crater, one of only three in the world. There are several lodges at the park and the one we stayed at was called *Manyane*. This was to be our home for the weekend.

**Saturday, May 23rd, Day 4: Pilanesburg, Northwest Province**  
**Sun City, Northwest Province**

Today we went on Safari in open-air vehicle. This was one of the best. At one point we heard the roar of a lion. We stopped our vehicle and after patiently waiting in silence for about half an hour a male lion slowly walked out of the brush and crossed the road in front of our vehicle. What a treat. In addition to seeing the lion, we saw zebra, elephants, wildebeests, giraffes, warthogs and many types of African antelopes.

In the late afternoon we visited *Sun City*. *Sun City* is a short distance away from the game reserve. It is a resort with its own hotel, golf course, casino, theater, restaurants and shopping arcades, beach and water park. Normally there’s plenty to do. Unfortunately for us the water park and beach were being refurbished and was closed down and the fabulous African floor show extravaganza was on hiatus. After testing our luck in the casino, we just relaxed and took in the sights.

**Sunday, May 24th, Day 5: Lesidi, Northwest Province**

**Morning:** After a late breakfast we headed for the *Lesidi Cultural Village*. Along the way we decided to bargain for gifts and souvenirs at a large roadside market. The aggressive vendors here drive a hard bargain but with a little patience a good deal could be had.

**Afternoon:** We arrived at the Lesidi Cultural Village just in time to put our bags down and catch the 4 pm tribal show. The tribal show was part presentation and part performance depicting the history and cultural traditions of the Zulu, Xhosa, Ndebele, Pedi and Basotho people of South Africa. After the show, we toured the various tribal housing settlements and got introduced to the respective tribal customs. (Incidentally, we spent the night in the Ndebele compound. These are the colorful people of South Africa.) After the tour of the tribal settlements we were treated to an African feast. Crocodile, kudu, impala and goat were on the menu. Most everyone felt adventurous and enjoyed the fare.
Monday, May 25th, Day 6: Pretoria, Gauteng Province  
Johannesburg, Gauteng Province  
Sandton, Gauteng Province

Morning: We left Lesidi at the crack of dawn in order to make our 9:00 AM appointment at the Department of trade and Industry back in Pretoria. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is South Africa’s macroeconomic policy setting agency. Mr. Mkhuthazi Steleki, Deputy Director of Facilitation and Research, gave us a comprehensive overview of DTI and its current goals. A major goal of DTI is to alleviate poverty and to lessen inequality. Next, Tsapo Phukubje and Tim Dladla, both from the Economic Research and Policy Co-ordination unit of DTI, gave us an overview of the South African economy and its challenges. The last presentation was given by Shoni Museisi from the International Trade and Economic Development Division of DTI. Her focus was on South African and American trade relations. After the presentations and discussions we were hosted to a lunch by Mr Leslie Fick, Director of the DTI Learning Centre.

Afternoon: We left Pretoria and headed to Johannesburg. We had a tour of the downtown area of Johannesburg before visiting the Constitutional Court of South Africa. Established in 1994, this is the highest court in the land when it comes to constitutional matters. During our tour of the premises we were able to actually sit in the judges chairs. Of course, court was not in session. In the evening we drove to Sandton, a suburb of Johannesburg, and visited Mandela Square. Mandela Square is a gathering place where one can eat at the many restaurants and shop at the adjacent mall or just relax and people watch.

Tuesday, May 26th, Day 7: Soweto, Gauteng Province  
Johannesburg, Gauteng Province

Morning: We traveled to South West Township (Soweto), where we visited the Mandela House, and the Hector Peterson Museum. Soweto is the largest Black township in South Africa and was the home of Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu for many years. The Hector Pietersen Museum commemorates the 1976 Soweto uprising, a key milestone in the quest for Black liberation in South Africa. We celebrated our time in Soweto with a meal at the world famous Wandi’s Restaurant, where we tasted many African dishes.

Afternoon: We traveled to Johannesburg and toured the Apartheid Museum. This is an amazing place. Through the use of various forms of visual media, the Apartheid Museum transports the visitor from the beginning of the apartheid era in 1948 to its end in 1994. It chronicles the development of race-based social and economic policies and the evolution of domestic and international anti-apartheid protests.
Wednesday, May 27\textsuperscript{th}, Day 8: Cape Town, Western Cape Province

After a relaxing morning we caught a plane for Cape Town. Cape Town is 800 miles away from Johannesburg. It’s about two hours by air. We arrived in Cape Town at 2 PM. We were met at the airport by our tour operator, Ms. Sumaya Khan, and she whisked us off to our hotel in the city. The Park Inn is located in the city center and is really convenient to restaurants, shopping and entertainment venues, and it is not far from the waterfront. After putting our bags down we headed off to Table Mountain. Table Mountain has a flat top, hence its name, and is the centerpiece of the city. In fact the city has developed around the base of the mountain. We caught a cable car to the top of the mountain and explored the amazing vistas. After taking in the views and getting a bite to eat at the Dizzy Dassie Restaurant on the top of the mountain, we rode the cable car down and left for our hotel. (Incidentally, Andrew Zimmern of the TV show \textit{Bizarre Foods} on the Travel Channel was filming at the mountain when we visited. Our students were thrilled.)

Thursday, May 28\textsuperscript{th}, Day 9: Cape Town, Western Cape Province

\textbf{Morning:} This morning began with a visit to the \textit{HIV/AIDS Coordination Unit (HAICU)} at the University of Cape Town. Ms. Lucina Reddy, Project Officer and Peer Program Coordinator for HAICU, presented us with a comprehensive overview of the current state of this pandemic in South Africa and on their efforts to stem the disease at the university and in Cape Town and the greater provincial area. It was interesting to hear that all first year students in their Department of Commerce have a mandatory orientation that explains how HIV/AIDS is impacting businesses and the overall economy.

\textbf{Afternoon:} We visited the District Six Museum. Up until the 1970s, District Six was home to almost a tenth of the city of Cape Town’s population. District Six was largely populated by “Colored” and Indian people. In 1965, the apartheid government declared District Six a “whites-only zone”. More than 60,000 people were forcibly uprooted and relocated onto the barren plains of the Cape Flats. In the process, over a century of history, community life, and achievement against great odds, was imperiled. The District Six Museum Foundation was established in 1989 and launched as a museum in 1994 to keep alive the memories of District Six and displaced people everywhere. We then visited the colorful Cape Malay Quarters. This part of Cape Town is inhabited by the descendants of the people from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Malaysia, who were captured in the 17th and 18th century and enslaved by the Dutch-East Indian Trading Company. Many were Muslims and others were converted to Islam by the Cape Muslim community.

That evening we had a dinner engagement in Langa Township. The dinner was at a place called \textit{Lelapa}, which means “The Home” in the Xhosa language. The proprietor, Sheila Mahloane,
tell us her story about how she started off working as a domestic for 40 rand a month. A
turning point came when she noticed a receipt that showed that her employer had paid 40 rand
for a couple of bottles of wine and a packet of cheese, the equivalent of her monthly wage.
From that moment on she was determined to make a better life for herself. Through sheer
determination and pluck she started up a restaurant business out of her house in 1999. Today
she has expanded her business to three adjacent properties and is doing extremely well. By the
way, the food was excellent. It was actually the best that we had during our entire stay in South
Africa. A very good time was had by all.

Friday, May 29th, Day 10: Cape Town, Western Cape Province

Morning: We visited Langa Township. Langa Township was established in 1927 as a labor
camp for migratory Black men who were brought to Cape Town under the permit system.
Langa is a vast mixed-income Black community. Housing ranged from simple middle-income
single family housing to impoverished multi-family dormitory styled living quarters and single
family shacks. We saw quite a bit of evidence of improved living standards. All residences
were electrified and the homes had some access to safe drinking water.

Afternoon: We ended the day with a visit to the winelands of Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, and
Paarl, where we lunched, visited the Huguenot Monument and experienced wine-tasting at a
couple of the estates.

Saturday, May 30th, Day 11: Cape Town, Western Cape Province

We left for the famous Cape of Good Hope. The Cape of Good Hope is about 2 hours from the
city and there are many spectacular vistas along the way. On the way to the Cape we decided
to take a boat ride to Seal Island. Seal Island is a small land mass located about 4 miles off the
coast of South Africa in a body of water known as False Bay. The island is occupied by cape
fur seals and a few sea birds. The seals main predator, the Great White Shark, is also abundant in
the area. Our next stop was Boulders Beach. Boulders Beach is home to large and protected
penguin colony. Many people don’t realize that South Africa has penguins, but it does. After
viewing the penguins we still had about an hour’s drive to the Cape. Once there, we took lots of
pictures to prove to friends and family that we stood at the place where many great explorers,
including Vasco da Gama, had been. A short distance away from the Cape of Good Hope is
Cape Point. Cape Point is a mountainous mass of land that overlooks and protrudes into the
ocean. In fact, from the lighthouse that sits atop Cape Point one can view both the Indian and the
Atlantic Oceans. The restaurant that is located at Cape Point is called the Two-Oceans
Restaurant. We had a wonderful meal there.
Sunday, May 31st, Day 11: Departure

We flew back to Johannesburg where we caught our 6:45PM flight back to Atlanta.

Monday, June 2nd, Day 12: Arrival

We arrived at Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport around 8:20 AM, the end of a long and rewarding journey.
### 2009 Economic Studies Abroad in South Africa
#### Program Participants

Glenwood Ross II -- Director  
Bess Blyler -- Deputy Director

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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Dr. David Poyer (M)--  Associate Professor of Economics