In August 2011, Zsolt Ugray, an associate professor at the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business, left for his native Hungary as part of the Fulbright Program, an international educational exchange sponsored by the U.S. government. The program, which operates in more than 155 countries around the world, is designed to increase international understanding by studying, teaching, conducting research, exchanging ideas, and contributing to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Halfway through his yearlong experience, Dr. Ugray sent the following as a brief report on his activities to that point:

“The first half of my sabbatical year went really fast. Shortly after my arrival to Budapest, Hungary, in late August, the local Fulbright Commission welcomed all visiting Fulbright Scholars and held a busy orientation week to prepare us for the year ahead. My teaching responsibilities at my host institution, Corvinus University, where I’m a visiting professor in the information systems department, started the next week. I participated in a variety of activities: I taught a course, gave lectures, worked on research projects, and participated in institutional meetings. I taught a very rewarding information management course for doctoral students. The students liked it so much that they asked me to offer a second part, which I happily volunteered to do for the spring semester. I also gave several lectures, which were attended by a mix of faculty and students. I gave a couple more at Pannonia University and attended a conference in Sibenik, Croatia, where I presented a research paper. I started a few new research projects with colleagues from the university on the use and development of information systems and business intelligence tools, which we continue to work on.

“Part of being a Fulbright Scholar involves the honor and responsibility to participate in a variety of activities organized by Education USA and the Hungarian Fulbright Commission. Many of these activities are scholarly, while others are informational events for a variety of audiences, ranging from local business people, professionals, academics, students, to U.S. diplomats, and public service professionals.
“I’m grateful for the opportunities that are available to me during my sabbatical year, and while I’m still having a great time in Hungary, I’m already looking forward to returning to Logan to share my experiences.”