

Trip to Kosovo is Topic at AU's Bergren Forum

3/17/00

Alfred, NY -- Rich Simington, director of gift planning in Alfred University's Division of University Relations, will describe his eye-opening visit to Kosovo during Thursday's (March 23) Bergren Forum. Simington spent three weeks in Kosovo in August 1999 under the auspices of the Kids Care Program, an effort of Presbyterian Church USA to provide counseling to children devastated by war, death, relocation, and ethnic cleansing. Before he left for Kosovo last summer, he said that as an unmarried man with vacation time available, he was in an ideal position to volunteer for the trip. He returned to his home in Hornell and his job at Alfred University with a new understanding of how little we know of the suffering and upheaval in the Balkans, as indicated by the title of Thursday's talk, "A Naive American in Kosovo." The forum, held at 12:10 p.m. every Thursday, is in Nevins Theater in Powell Campus Center. The audience is encouraged to bring lunch; coffee and tea are free. The event is free and open to the public. The Bergren Forum is held weekly while the University is in session.