



# Washburn's International Accent

November, 2004

Volume IV Issue 2

*International Accent, published twice a semester by the Office of International Programs, strives to inform the university community of all things international and to foster the awareness of international education.*

<http://www.washburn.edu/iip/newsletters>

## Calendar of Major Events

(November 1, 2004-January 30, 2005)

(Please call 231-1051 for more information.)

November 3, noon, iHouse, Brown Bag Lecture by Lee McGinnis, "McDonald's and More, Marketing in Seoul"

November 5, 5-7 pm, Topeka Friendship Network's Hay Ride

November 12, 11-6, and November 13, 9-5, iHouse, International Center of Topeka Holiday Bazaar

November 15-19, International Education Week (See below for more information.)

November 15, 7 pm, iHouse, Japanese Film, "Laputa: Castle in the Sky"

November 16, iHouse, 11-1, International Student Cultural Display and Open House; iHouse, 7 pm, French Film, "Bon Voyage"

November 17, noon, iHouse, Brown Bag Lecture by Marydorsey Wanless, "Gum Bichronmate Photographic Images from the British Virgin Islands"; 7 pm, iHouse, German Film, "Beyond the Silence"

November 18, 11-1, Union, Study Abroad Fair; 7 pm, iHouse, Spanish Film, "Bolivar soy yo (I am Bolivar)"  
November 19, 7 pm, iHouse, Chinese Film, "The Thunderstorm"

January 15-February 19, 2005, Mulvane Art Museum, Exhibit featuring Chinese Artists Ertai and Maya Gao.

## International Education Week

This year the fifth International Education Week is set for November 15-19. Activities planned include a Study Abroad Fair, a foreign film series co-sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages, an International Student Cultural Display with food sampling, a Brown Bag Lecture and an Open House to showcase the most recent renovation of the iHouse. See the Calendar of Major Events on the left for schedules of the events.

### *Secretary Colin Powell Issued a Statement on International Education Week*

"... International Education Week provides an opportunity to highlight the benefits of international education and exchange; to express appreciation for students and scholars who study and teach here; and to commend the millions of people who build and strengthen bridges of international understanding by organizing and participating in exchange programs.

Throughout America's history, openness has immeasurably enriched our democracy, our culture, our economy, and our nation as a whole. America's educational institutions attract talented future leaders from around the world. International students and scholars benefit from engagement with our society and academic institutions and we benefit enormously from their interaction with our society as they help our citizens develop understanding and knowledge that enriches our lives, increases international cooperation, enhances our national security, and improves our economic competitiveness.

Meeting the 21st century challenges that confront all countries requires an unprecedented degree of understanding and cooperation among nations and among leaders in every field. The professional partnerships and lifelong friendships that result from international education and exchange help build a foundation of understanding and lasting partnerships. These partnerships are important for a secure, prosperous future, not only for the United States, but also for the world as a whole.

We are immensely proud that more than 200 alumni of State Department-sponsored international exchange programs have become heads of state or government, and we recognize the contributions of teachers and language instructors in building grass roots mutual understanding. I know that tomorrow's leaders are among the thousands of men and women who will participate this year in U.S government and privately sponsored educational exchange programs. We look forward to welcoming these exchange participants in our country, while continuing to encourage more of our own young people to study in other nations.

Please join us in this celebration and share your International Education Week activities on our website <http://exchanges.state.gov/iew/>. The more we learn about and understand each other, the more effective we will be in creating a world of global citizens, and the better our chances of achieving peace in our increasingly interdependent world.”

## Scholarships Announced

The following students have been awarded \$500 each for the current school year thanks to generous donors to support Washburn University. Congratulations, recipients! Many thanks, Donors!

### Class of 1910

Kalpesh Maru, India  
Victoria Ledeneva, Kyrgyzstan  
Pulat Komiljonov, Uzbekistan  
Micah Mwanzi, Kenya

### Class of 1912

Binky Onyango, Kenya  
Natalia Ivchenko, Kyrgyzstan  
Wichulee Scott, Thailand  
Suyun Zhang, China

### Stanley Curyea Memorial

Bahtier Hashimov, Kyrgyzstan  
Amita Noisaengsri, Thailand  
Jossen Mvalo, Malawi

### David Thurston Memorial

Dae Kyun Kim, Korea  
Brian Mulanda, Kenya  
Lucio Malvisi, Italy  
Veronica Alarcon, Bolivia  
Robyeat Mallick, Bangladesh

### International Center of Topeka, Inc.

Judith Nandwa, Kenya  
Miya Han, Korea

### Rotary International, Topeka Downtown

Ovokeraye Achinike, Nigeria  
Bin Guo, China  
Chen Min Huang, Taiwan  
Riyo Kusazumi, Japan

## Meet Nathan Bremer, *Study Abroad Coordinator*

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, I was pleased to begin my job here as Study Abroad Coordinator in the Office of International Programs. For the last three years I was an advisor in the Office of Overseas Study at Indiana University in Bloomington, where I worked primarily with programs in Western Europe and Latin America. Before working as an advisor, I completed my MA in Classical Studies at Indiana, where I also did my undergraduate degree in Spanish and Latin. I spent my junior year studying in Madrid, where I experienced



firsthand the personal growth and enrichment of an international educational experience. I'm looking forward to helping Washburn students have a successful and rewarding

study abroad experience as well. Please stop by and visit or call me at 231-101, extension 2095 if you have any questions.

## Faculty Feature— Howard Faulkner

During '03-'04, I was the Senior Fulbright Professor in the Department of English, University Moulay Ismail, Meknes, Morocco.

Meknes is a city of about 750,000 inhabitants, located between the capital, Rabat, and the historical city of Fes. It is best known for its over 30 miles of walls built by the Moulay Ismail.



The university there was founded in 1982, as one of many new universities built in Morocco to help the growing population. Previously, there had

been universities only in Rabat and Fes. My campus of the university in Meknes (one of three campuses) had about 4,000 students majoring in the arts and humanities.

The system of higher education is currently undergoing reform. The first-year students were on the new system, while the other three years were still on the old--a disparity that led to some problems, including several strikes by first-year students.

The English Department is more oriented toward linguistics than toward literature, so I taught no courses in American literature, my specialty. Rather, I did courses in Initiation to Culture, Poetry, Critical Theory, and, to graduate students, Public Speaking.

In general, the colleagues and the students, who have little exposure to native speakers of English, were extremely friendly and helpful--and very grateful to have a native speaker in the classroom.

## ISI-A Tri-Lingual Program

This school year Washburn plays host to a unique group of eight students. They are known as the ISI students. ISI stands for the International Study

Institute. Based in Tokyo, the ISI recruits students from all over Japan to participate in a tri-lingual program: First, they go to China for three years studying economics, the Chinese language and some English in some of the finest schools like Beijing University, Fudan University, and Tongji University. (This particular cohort came to Washburn from Tongji.) Then they go to the US for their fourth year to study English. Finally they go back to China for their fifth year to finish their bachelor's degree in economics. The purpose of the program is to produce graduates who are fluent in three languages and know something about economics and three major cultures. The aspiration of many of these students is to work for a multi-national company that can use their talents.

The group arrived in August. They are now taking twelve hours of intensive English and five hours of Chinese. They all live in the LLC. Initially they found the transition to Washburn and Topeka rather challenging after having lived in Shanghai for three years, but they all have made good progress since. In an effort to make them feel welcome, Vice President Ron Wasserstein and his wife Sherri hosted a BBQ dinner at their home on September 17, where the students and the teaching staff enjoyed a great evening! Please say hi to these students when you see them on campus and wish them great success.

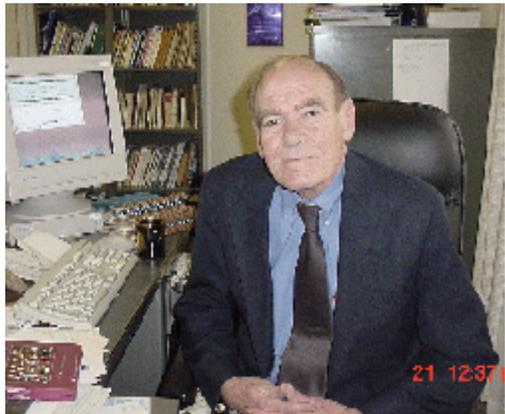


The ISI group and some of the teaching staff posed with the Wassersteins in their back yard. Front from left Akemi Mori, Yukari Yamagata, Yuka Kotabe, Akira Kurihara, and Jun Ohshima. Back from left: Zhou Lindong, Chinese instructor, Daisuke Takahashi, Bobbie Anderson, English instructor, Ron and Sherri Wasserstein, hosts of the event, Takuya Kudoh, and Jun Nakashiro.

## Memorial –

### Dr. William A. Langdon

Dr. William Langdon passed away on September 21, 2004. He was born August 25, 1934 in Rock Creek, Kansas, and graduated from Oskaloosa Rural High School in 1952. He was a veteran of Korea, serving in the army from October 1953 to August 1955. He then enrolled at Washburn, where he graduated with a BA



in German in 1959.

Dr. Langdon taught French and German at Ottawa University and through KU Extension

at the Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary during 1960-1964, during which he earned an MS in French and German at Kansas State Teacher's College (now Emporia State University) in 1963. He joined the Washburn faculty as an adjunct in 1964, and became a full-time faculty member in 1965. He completed his Ph.D. in German from the University of Kansas in 1983.

Dr. Langdon was tenured and promoted to Assistant Professor in 1969. He became chairperson of the Modern Foreign Languages Department in 1983, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1984. In 1987, Bill was appointed Director of the International Center, a title later changed to Director of International Programs later. He retired from Washburn in 2002.

During his long and productive term as department chairperson and director of international programs, international student enrollment increased from 30 to nearly 200, and study abroad increased from about 4 students per year to about 60 students. He established official relationships with 14 foreign institutions. He spent much time studying in Germany, traveling on Fulbright awards and on numerous Sweet Sabbaticals. He was also presented the O'Conner Cup Award at the Hopkins Festival in Ireland in the summer of 2001.

## Remembering Dr. Langdon

"I will hold two memories of Bill in my heart and in my mind. This first is of Bill as department chair and as colleague here at Washburn. Bill Langdon was the epitome of collegial--no task was too big or too small; no student or faculty need was too petty or too vast. Bill served his department, his college, his university, and his community with his whole heart and we are richer for his doing so. My second memory is of Bill abroad, most especially in Ireland at the Hopkins Festival. There Bill shared his love of language and literature with a cohort of colleagues from around the world. He loved to laugh with us, to listen with us, and to talk, long into the night with us. His blue eyes sparkled as he drank in the intoxicating brew of international companionship. I know I speak for Des Egan and Bill's many other international friends when I say au revoir, old friend; our hearts are empty without you but joyous with having known you." ---**J. Karen Ray**, former dean of CAS, Professor of English

"Dr. Langdon's kindness, his gift of seeing the goodness in every dark place, combined with his steadfastness, had a profound impact on not only me, but everyone who had the opportunity to know him and his work. Dr. Langdon had a vision much larger than Topeka and he brought the world to Washburn campus. He opened doors for student and faculty to see the global community as part of their world.

He was true to his Kansas roots and showed me and others another home. He became my family and I shall miss his humor and kindness."

---**Eithne McKibbin**, former student from South Africa

"Dear Dr. Langdon: One beautiful memory about being abroad is getting to know you. Thank you for being a mentor and for helping me to gradually learn how to open up my mind. Thank you for your time with and for the Thai students. You let us realize that being in Topeka, so far from home, was not such a bad idea after all." ---**Wan Panwilard Garudanga**, former student from Thailand

***If you wish to send condolences or a donation, please mail it to:***

ICT/William A. Langdon Scholarship Fund  
Washburn Endowment Association  
1700 College Avenue, Topeka, KS 66621, USA