



# Washburn's International Accent

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Volume II, Issue 1

*International Accent, published by the Office of International Programs, strives to inform the university community of all things international and to foster the awareness of international education at Washburn. You can also view it at <http://www.washburn.edu/iip/newsletters>*

## Calendar of Events (September 7-October 30, 2002)

Sept. 7, 2-4 p.m. International Student Club Sports Day on the WU Soccer Field. Call 231-1051 for more information.

Sept. 10, 1-5 p.m. English for the Foreign Born Tutorial starts at i-House. Tutoring is available every Tuesday & Thursday. Call 231-1051 for more information.

Sept. 10, 5-7 pm, International Student Reception with Regent Karen Lee

Sept. 11, noon, i-House, Brown Bag Lecture presented by Karen Ray. Call 231-1051 for more information.

Sept. 18, 6:30 p.m. ICT, meeting i- House

Sept. 20, 7:00 p.m. Shoestring Film Series, Amores Perros (Mexico), Stoffer 103.

Sept. 21-24, Tongji University (sister university) delegation from China on campus.

Sept. 25, noon, i-House, Brown Bag Lecture presented by Thimios Zaharopoulos. Call 231-1051 for more information.

Sept. 28-October 4, Cortes/Hillebrand workshops (see article).

Oct. 4, Sept. 20, 7:00 p.m. Shoestring Film Series, Get Out Your Handkerchiefs (France), Stoffer

103.

Oct. 6-12, Dr. and Susan Farley lead alumni trip to Peru. Call Alumni Office at for more information. 231-1010 extension 1641.

Oct. 9, noon, i-House, Brown Bag Lecture presented by Gary Schmidt. Call 231-1051 for more information.

Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m. ICT meeting i- House.

Oct. 23, noon, i-House, Brown Bag Lecture presented by David Freeman. Call 231-1051 for more information.

Oct. 30, 4-5 p.m. International Student Reception with Dr. & Mrs. Farley, i-House. Call 231-1051 for more information.

## FYI

### Special Exhibit at Mulvane

Mulvane Art Museum has an outstanding exhibit of "Family Holdings: Flatweaves from Turkey" through October 6. After Labor Day, Mulvane will have new extended hours as follows: Tuesday and Wednesday 10am-7pm, Thursday and Friday 10am-4pm, and Saturday and Sunday 1pm-4pm. Call 231-1124 for more information.

### Difference Between "Arab" and "Muslim"

"Arab" is a cultural and linguistic term, not a race or religion. The Arab World consists of 22 countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

There are more than 200 million Arabs. The Organization of Islamic Countries has 55 member states. The 4 largest are Indonesia (170 million), Pakistan (136 million), Bangladesh (106 million),

India (103 million). About 1.2 billions Muslims live around the world. Muslims are followers of Islam and most are not Arabs. More information is available at the web site of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee:  
<http://www.adc.org/education/aboutarabs.htm>

### **Head Librarian Awarded Fulbright**

A senior Fulbright Award went to Wanda Dole, director of Mabee Library. She will be a consultant in Bulgaria to American and Sophia Universities' libraries.

### **German Singers Return to W.U.**

Dietrich Hillebrand and Barbara Cortes, who have been visiting Washburn since 1999, will be returning to campus the week of September 30 to provide master classes to Washburn vocal students and work with German students to prepare a program celebrating the works of Heinrich Heine. Dietrich and Barbara have toured around Europe instructing vocalists for several years. Previous programs presented at Washburn by Dietrich and Barbara have included informational lectures and music selections based on works by Schiller and Goethe.

### **English for the Foreign Born to Resume**

The free tutorial service is offered again this year on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5 p.m. at the i-House. Registration is Sept. 5 and tutoring begins Sept. 10.

### **International Programs (IP) Reorganized and Relocated**

The Institute for International Programs and International Student Services have merged to become the new Office of International Programs (IP). The new office, now located in the renovated i-House office area (the west

side), has responsibilities over the following major areas: international student services, study abroad for non-foreign language majors, faculty abroad, international relations, and partnership with the International Center of Topeka, Inc. The new phone numbers are:

Main Office 231-1051 (direct line)

Bobbie Anderson, IE Instructor, x2688

Heidi Kraus, Activities Coordinator, x2087

Christine Winchester, Assistant to Director, x1051

Baili Zhang, Director, x2086

### **Familiar Face Join IP Staff**

Christine Winchester joins International Programs as Assistant to Director. She spent last year in the Leadership Institute as Assistant to Director. Before that, she was Assistant to Director in the Office of Multicultural Affairs for three years.

### **International Scholars Join Washburn**

#### *Chinese Scholar Teaches Chinese*

Chunguang Li, a native of China, is the new Adjunct Instructor of Chinese. Li has had a long career in education. He was Professor of Musicology at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. He was visiting professor/scholar in the Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics at Florida State University, Columbia University, and Northeastern University. He also served as consultant to Columbia University's Center for US-China Arts Exchange. In addition, Li has had a distinguished career in editing and publishing Chinese journals and magazines. The various positions he has held include: Executive Editor, Journal of the Central Conservatory of Music (an academic quarterly in Beijing), Special Reporter, The People's Daily (Beijing), Special Editor, The New Observation (a socio-cultural bi-monthly), and Editor-in-Chief, The China Daily News (New York).

## ***Spanish Scholar Joins Spanish Program***

Jose-Carlos Saa Ramos joins WU as lecturer, modern languages. He is a graduate of the University of Santiago De Compostela, Spain. He received a master's degree from and is working on his Ph.D. at the University of Kansas. Saa-Ramos previously taught at the University of Limerick, Ireland.

### ***Former International Student Returns as Faculty Member***

Wenying Sun, a native of China, is Assistant Professor, Computer Information Sciences. She received her bachelor degree in English from East China Normal University, Shanghai, China, her second bachelor degree in computer information system from Washburn in 1994, and her master of software engineering degree from Kansas State University last May. Before joining the Washburn faculty, Sun worked for USD 501 and Kansas Foundation for Medical Care as programmer/ analyst. She lives in Topeka with her husband and their three-and-half-year old son, Benjy.

## **In Brief**

### **Government to Track and Monitor International Students and Visitors**

The U.S. government has created and started to implement a system to track and monitor international student and exchange visitors. The electronic monitoring program is called the "Student and Exchange Visitor Program" (SEVP) and the technical application of the program is called the "Student and Exchange Visitor Information System" (SEVIS). The following Q and A's are taken from the INS web site:

Q: What is SEVP?

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) is the reengineered nonimmigrant student and exchange visitor (F, M, & J visa categories) process, converting what is currently

a manual procedure into an automated process. This change is expected to improve data collection and reporting, enhance customer service, facilitate compliance with regulations, and help the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) better monitor school and exchange programs. This program was formerly referred to as the Coordinated Interagency Partnership Regulating International Students (CIPRIS). CIPRIS was the name assigned to the now-completed pilot project, which tested the concepts associated with new data collection and reporting methods. Information obtained from this pilot system was incorporated into the national system development effort that resulted in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

Q: What is SEVIS?

SEVIS is an Internet-based system which maintains accurate and current information on non-immigrant students (F and M visa), exchange visitors (J visa), and their dependents (F-2, M-2, and J-2). SEVIS enables schools and program sponsors to transmit electronic information and event notifications via the Internet, to the INS and Department of State (DOS) throughout a student or exchange visitor's stay in the United States. The system will reflect international student or exchange visitor status changes, such as admission at Port of Entry (POE), change of address, change in program of study, and other details. SEVIS will also provide system alerts, event notifications, and basic reports to the end-user schools, programs, and INS field offices.

### **International Enrollment Holding Steady**

This fall semester, we welcome 35 new students from twenty countries to our campus. Countries most represented are China, Korea, Kenya, Japan and Taiwan. "New" countries at Washburn are Belgium, Bolivia, Togo, Uzbekistan, and Zambia. Although international student enrollment remains stable, students have been reporting that it has become considerably more difficult to obtain an F-1 student visa at the U.S. embassy in their countries and at least one

student has been unable to return to Washburn from her home country.

## **Spring International Graduates Honored**

This past spring semester, one of the largest classes of graduating international students said farewell to professors, textbooks and classrooms and hello to life after college. On May 15, friends and family celebrated these students' achievements at an international student graduate reception held at the i- House. Those graduating were: Abdulkareem M. Alluhaib (MBA, Saudi Arabia), Kyung Ho Seo (MBA, Korea), Kyle Brandt (BB in Marketing, Canada), Zhen Chen (BB in Accounting, China), Ivan Chervenakov (BS in CIS, Bulgaria), Kun-Li Chiang (BA in Art, Taiwan), Darren Fuller (BA in Art & CIS, Belize), Shih-Chin Huang (BFA, Taiwan), Hwan Kyoon Kim (JD in Law, Korea), Thing Fong Kwan (BS in Chemistry, Malaysia), Yoko Oi (BA in Psychology, Japan), Natalia Romanenko (BB in Finance, Kyrgyzstan), Koklin Tee (BS in Math, Malaysia), S. Mert Tanol (BB in Marketing, Turkey), Adam Wood (BA in Art, England), Desmond Tan (BA in PE and BU, Singapore), Kamal Taher (BA in Political Science, Jordan), and Bunge Toweett (BS in CIS, Kenya).

The graduates were encouraged to nominate their favorite professors, who were also invited to attend the reception. Those nominated were: Steve Angel, Janice Barton, Bob Beatty, Robert Boncella, Gary Cameron, Tom Clevenger, Richard Driver, Ruth Driver, Tom Esser, Bruce Mechtly, Richard Moellenberndt, Odebisi Otudeko, Mark Peterson, Oscar Plaza, Aziz Sharafy, Loren Smith, Gary Stark, and Glenda Taylor.

## **Congratulations**

Amita Noisaengsri, Thailand, won first place after advancing to the top level from a field of 175 students in the Communication

Department's Spring Speak Off competition on the April 17! Great going Amy!

Robyeat Mallick, Bangladesh, received a \$250 scholarship from the Rotary Club. Good for you Robyeat!

The following students were recognized at the Honors Reception of the Modern Languages Department: Salih Haldun Akar, Turkey, Mamadou Ba, Senegal, Sandra Castro, Bolivia, Daungkamon Srijan, Thailand, Jamie Huang, Taiwan, Wesley Kipronoh Langat, Kenya, Kyung-Joo Park, Korea, Suyun Zhang, China.

## **Trip to Japan**

by Sam Billen

I arrived in Japan late May, 2002 with six other WU students and our teacher, Randall Martin, to learn more about the language and culture of Japan and visit the friends we had made a couple months before through the exchange program Washburn University has with our sister university in Fukuoka. For two weeks, we stayed in the dorms and attended classes each day. Among other experiences, Fukuoka University was kind enough to invite us to participate in a keno practice (keno is a very old fighting technique using swords made from bamboo), and a traditional tea ceremony. We were brought to many ancient temples and other beautiful attractions all over the southern-most island of Kyushu. I must admit that one of my favorite experiences of Japan was the food. We tried "unagi" (eel), and even "basashi" (raw horse-surprisingly delicious). Our host family weekend was a great experience as we were completely submerged in the culture and taught what everyday life in Japan was like. Everyone we met at Fukuoka University and in Japan showed us such kindness during our two weeks, and every one of us returned to Kansas with the desire to revisit that beautiful country someday.

*(Articles and information for this issue are contributed and edited by the IP staff.)*