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The Read Review welcomes news items and photographs of cultural or international events. We also seek articles about international education.

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EHHS Expands Education Abroad Programs

College of EHHS administrators and faculty hope to launch two new Semester in Florence programs in Fall 2011. This is part of the campus-wide internationalization initiative headed by **President Lefton**. In his State of the University speech in September, President Lefton stated, "Our goal of creating an optimum environment for acquiring, generating and sharing knowledge makes it imperative that we expose them [KSU students] to different cultures, languages and modes of thinking that exist in our world." According to **Senior Associate Provost Timothy Chandler**, in order to provide this exposure, KSU administration has requested more study abroad development across the disciplines.

In response, the College of EHHS has developed Semester in Florence Programs for Education and Sports Administration. **Dean Daniel Mahoney** explains the motivation for developing these two programs, "Our College has a long history of being involved with international initiatives. Our faculty have been active around the world, and we have always hosted a number of international scholars. However, with the exception of the student teaching abroad opportunity, we have had only a limited number of study abroad experiences and most were short term. The study abroad program in Florence will allow EHHS students to spend a semester overseas together as a group and will provide them the opportunity to become fully immersed in the local setting. It will be the type of experience that will impact them for the rest of their lives."

The implementation of new education abroad programs requires collaborative efforts across campus departments. OIA



Study Abroad Program Officer, **Sarah Hull**, explains the importance of collaboration between OIA and the College of EHHS administrators and faculty, "Since several of the EHHS majors have very specific course requirements due to license restrictions, it was important to create a program that fits directly into the curriculum." **Dr. Alexa Sandmann**, Director of the School of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Studies, explained that it was "important that the course offerings help any Education student to move forward toward graduation." Dr. Sandmann expects that the education abroad program will fit seamlessly into the current KSU curriculum during the sophomore year.

The Semester in Florence programs will include both academic and co-curricular activities. The academic components will include a field experience; courses in Italian history, culture and language; other courses provided by KSU-Florence and the possibility of an online course. Co-curricular activities include a 3 day excursion to Rome and other cultural field trips. Six administrators serve the KSU-Florence campus and will provide on-site orientations as well as ongoing academic and logistical assistance.

Three EHHS Students China Bound

"Faculty connections are the critical element that can determine success or failure of a partnership with an overseas institution. Many times a faculty member might be the initial point of contact because of their research or teaching. However, they are the vital element through the entire process of establishing and maintaining an active relationship."

-**Ted McKown**, Associate Director of International Affairs, KSU

This summer three specialist-level school psychologists from KSU's College of Education, Health and Human Services will be journeying to Beijing to work in kindergartens for one month. There they will learn about early childhood educational practices and coach young children in language skills. KSU students going to Beijing include **Megan Urban**, **Kaitlin Eickemeyer** and **Greer Davis**. Their faculty advisor, **Dr. Caven McLoughlin**, a professor of early childhood school psychology, has been actively involved in the process.



Dr. Caven McLoughlin

This cross-cultural learning experience has a history that goes back twenty-four years. In 1987 McLoughlin invited two Chinese students, Dong Qi and Cheng Yue, and their faculty advisor, Lin Chongde, from the Beijing Normal University, to Kent State for one semester. Grant funding was utilized to bring these three scholars to campus. These three visitors have since risen to positions of influence in the realm of Chinese higher education, and the relationship between McLoughlin and these three individuals has been fostered through continued contact over the years. McLoughlin has collaborated professionally with both Cheng Yue and Dong Qi. McLoughlin and his Chinese

colleagues have written on special education and research on developmentally delayed children in China as well as Chinese early childhood education. On a personal level, McLoughlin reflects on the experiences of seeing each other's children grow up.

According to McLoughlin, "In the late 1980's we [the U.S.] had the gold, now they have the assets over there. What goes around comes around." McLoughlin attributes the success KSU is having in the recruitment of Chinese students to relationships established over two decades. "Trust builds over time, it does not happen overnight. "Also he points to the fact that what appears to be an institution-to-institution arrangement is actually founded on individual-to-individual relationships.

Kent State University continues to extend its global reach through building partnerships with international institutions. Since 2008, President Lefton's internationalization agenda has led to the opening of an office in Beijing, China, as well as the signing of MOUs with seven leading Chinese universities. These initiatives have led to a significant increase in the number of Kent State students from China. In Spring 2008, the university had 91 Chinese students, representing 12 percent of all Kent State international students, while today Kent State has 576 Chinese students, representing 40 percent of all Kent State international students. According to OIA, the Spring 2011 count shows 45 Chinese students enrolled in the College of EHHS. This number includes 5 doctoral students, 24 master's students and 16 undergraduate students.



Kaitlin Eickemeyer, Meagan Urban, and Greer Davis

Three Faculty Members Awarded CIIE Travel Award



Dr. Joanne Kilgour Dowdy



Dr. Philip Wang

Three faculty members were awarded CIIE Travel Awards to support their travel to Kampala, Uganda to attend the ATLAS 2011 Conference that will be held June 6-8, 2011. The conference is a product of the partnership between KSU, Makerere University, ATLAS Africa, University of North Texas, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Nature Uganda, Nature Palace Foundation and Uganda Tourist Board. **Dr. Andrew Lepp**, Professor of Recreation, Park & Tourism Management, is serving as a key organizer for the program as well as an institutional link for KSU.

The award recipients are **Dr. Joanne Kilgour Dowdy**, **Dr. Davison Mupinga** (not pictured) and **Dr. Philip Wang**. These faculty members will be presenting at the conference. **Dr. Kilgour Dowdy** will share her love of drama and teaching by presenting a drama workshop. She writes, "Workers who are promoting sustainable tourism and environmental preservation, as well as professors, writers, basic literacy instructors, and other community workers will be trained to use several strategies for advancing literacy practices in diverse settings."

Dr. Davison Mupinga will present a research paper on promoting tourism using vocational craft centers, and **Dr. Philip Wang** will be presenting "Conceptualization of an Environmental Living Center: A Case Study."

CIIE congratulates these Travel Award winners and wishes them safe travels.

Visiting Fellow: Ia Kupatadze



The Read Center and EHHS have welcomed visiting fellow Ia Kupatadze for the Spring semester. Through sponsorship by the IREX University Administration Support Program, Ia is visiting KSU from Ilia State University in Tbilisi, Georgia. Her current roles at Ilia State University are coordinator and advisor within the College of Engineering. While at KSU, Ia hopes to learn more about partnerships between companies and

universities in the fields of architecture and engineering. Program requirements include creating a work plan, visiting a variety of U.S. universities, researching her chosen area of focus and reporting her findings back to IREX.

Ia graduated from Georgia Technical University with an architect's diploma and from the University of Georgia-Athens with a Masters of Fine Arts in Interior Design. Her professional experience includes teaching interior design, working as an architect and now creating architectural education programs.

During her stay in the United States, she hopes to visit MIT and Chicago.



Congratulations
to the 2011 recipients
of study abroad
scholarships and travel awards!

Mary Erste

Roger and Judith Read Study Abroad
Undergraduate Scholarship
(Educational Psychology-Italy)

Kyle Janosch

10,000 Village Study Abroad
Undergraduate Scholarship
(COST-Germany)

Josiah Zachary Nyangau

CIIE Travel Award
(ATLAS-Uganda)

Shujuan Luo

CIIE Travel Award
(Comparative International Education
Society-Montreal, Canada)

Upcoming Events

All are welcome to attend.

Sponsored by the Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education



Population Connection Workshop

Tuesday, April 12, 12:30-2:00 p.m., 200 White Hall

For students, teachers and faculty! This workshop is for science, social studies, math, health and environmental educators. Free teaching materials will be provided.

Overpopulation threatens the quality of life for people everywhere. Population Connection is the national grassroots population organization that educates young people and advocates progressive action to stabilize the world population at a level that can be sustained by Earth's resources.

Cultural Dialogue:

Higher Education in Kyrgyzstan and Georgia

Wednesday, April 13, 12:00 p.m., 200 White Hall

These visiting research scholars are here studying at Kent State University under two different US Department of Education sponsored programs and will share their perspectives of higher education issues in their respective countries. Join us for this informal, informative look at the trends and current concerns of higher education in these newly independent states. Light refreshments will be served.



Global Tourism Contest

Friday, April 22, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Moulton Hall Ballroom

Drop in to see the creative travel posters and trip design presentations from undergraduates in the Introduction to Global Tourism course.

Participate by voting for your favorite poster.

Light refreshments will be provided.