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MOSAIC



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MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE
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INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES AMAZE AN AMERICAN AUDIENCE



International Festival photos from left to right: Cai, Yuliang (Bill) warms up for the table tennis exhibition; Liu, Xiaojing (Hannah) strikes a pose on the runway during the fashion show; Yu, Jing (Jocelyn) sings a mellow solo, Write a Song.



Andrea Haynes
Coordinator, Int'l Programs

Students from China, India, Nepal, Kyrgyzstan, Korea, Brazil, Bhutan, and Vietnam wowed audience members at the fourth annual International Festival on March 25, 2011. According to Mississippi College president Lee Royce, spectators enjoyed a culturally enlightening and enriching experience: "The festival affords the campus a fine opportunity to see some of the rich diversity of cultures that exist in the world and at MC."

The event began with an exciting and energetic table tennis exhibition where four members of the nationally-ranked team added an artistic flair to the game of ping pong.

Members dexterously swatted balls over a net perched on top of a piano, while the pianist performed.

Following the rousing table tennis exhibition, other performances highlighted the diverse range of talents found among MC international students. Performances included vocal solos and duets in various languages, Chinese and Latin American dances, a Tai Chi exhibition, and instrumental performances on piano and guitar. "I just think it was an outstanding exhibition of the immense talent of our international student population that we don't readily get to see," said Diana Brackenridge of the Office of Global Education.

After the performance portion of the festival, 15

international students showcased cultural attire from seven different countries: China, India, Nepal, Kyrgyzstan, Korea, Bhutan, and Vietnam. The students drew deafening cheers from the audience as they paraded down the runway in their captivating cultural costumes, ranging from Saris and Ao Dais to Hanboks and Qi Paos.

Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and Clinton/Jackson community members attended the 2011 International Festival which took place in Swor Auditorium. Following the 90-minute performance, audience members enjoyed an elaborate reception that featured food from around the world. Attendees were able to sample food from India, Thailand, Greece, and China.

Jim Brackenridge, Executive Director of the Office of Global Education, summed up both the goal and benefit of the International Festival: "The Festival is such a unique and wonderful opportunity for our students, for it brings the entire world into our own backyard here in Mississippi."

The Office of Global Education would like to extend a special thank you to all of the International Festival participants; we are so proud of your hard work and dedication!

For more information on MC's international programs, please contact Andrea Haynes, International Programs Coordinator, at 601.925.7705 or ahaynes@mc.edu.



The Office of Global Education just finished another successful semester here at Mississippi College. Our Table Tennis Team performed superbly in the national competition, and the fourth annual International Festival was a delight to all who attended. Dr.

Royce, MC's president, especially enjoyed seeing the diverse talent found among our international students.

We honorably graduated 13 students from IEP and 32 students from MC academics. We look forward to these students attending graduate school or

securing full time work. We are also proud of sending 17 students and one professor, Andrea Haynes, to Sookmyung Summer School in Korea.

Join us as we embark on a meaningful and exciting summer semester!

Jim Brackenridge

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS RECRUITS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Andrea Haynes

Coordinator, Int'l Programs

The Mississippi College Department of Physics is partnering with the Office of Global Education to market its programs to international students with strong backgrounds in math and science. The department offers students two viable undergraduate majors: physics and engineering physics.

Studying physics trains a person to be a lifetime learner, a critical thinker, and an expert

problem solver. In addition, physics degrees prepare students for successful professions. According to a recent survey by the American Institute of Physics (AIP), 95% of physics graduates are either employed professionally or enrolled in graduate programs. Another AIP survey revealed that starting salaries for physics and engineering physics graduates range from \$40 - \$64,000.

The Department of Physics offers numerous benefits to its students. First, faculty members in the department hold

advanced degrees in the fields of engineering mechanics, electrical engineering, and physics. Second, the department boasts a student to teacher ratio of 10 to 1. Third, all physics and engineering physics majors have access to their own computer lab, which is equipped with 10 new desktop computers, each with flat screen monitors and internet connectivity. Finally, the department maintains its own physical science library in addition to the main MC library.

Many graduates of the Department of Physics at MC

have made significant contributions to the fields of physics and engineering. For example, Clifford Charlesworth, flight director at NASA, was involved in several Apollo missions, including the Apollo 11 and Apollo 12 moon landings. Furthermore, Dr. Joseph Hamilton recently made an historic contribution to the sciences as a principle investigator on a research project that discovered Element 117.

For more information or to apply, please contact Dr. Chris Maggio at maggio@mc.edu.

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE ENJOYS A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

Andrea Haynes

Coordinator, Int'l Programs

The Mississippi College Office of Global Education enjoys a mutually beneficial partnership with Sookmyung Women's University. Each year MC welcomes undergraduate students from Sookmyung for nine months of academic study, and in return, Sookmyung offers free tuition to MC students during its summer school program in Seoul, Korea. During the 2010-11 academic year, Hye-Young Park and Sooyeon Song came to MC from Sookmyung. Both upper-classmen, Park and Song are highly successful students who are fluent in English.

Park and Song found their academic experience at MC enjoyable and beneficial. Song said: "I really liked all my classes because they were so interesting and practical. It was not about learning boring theories or grammar, but useful knowledge. Most of our projects focused on practical research or personal opinion."

The students also made many friends during their year of study: "Before coming to the US, I heard from a lot of people that people in the US are so individualistic, and I didn't think I would be able to find any true friends. But, everyone was nice and helped me in many ways," Song said. Park added, "What I enjoyed most at MC was definitely friendships. I met lots of good friends and made precious memories with them."

MC will send 16 students to Sookmyung's 2011 summer school, June 27 – July 22. While in Korea, students will earn six hours of undergraduate credit from a broad range of courses. In addition, Andrea Haynes, Coordinator of International Programs, will teach an academic course at Sookmyung.

Park summed up her year at MC: "The exchange program with MC enlarged my experience and helped me to learn many things. I think the relationship should be kept and even be strengthened through more exchange programs."

CONVERSATION PARTNERS DEVELOP A SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP

Cheng Xu (Katrina)

International Student Worker

Most international students face loneliness and anxiety during their first semester at Mississippi College as they try to adjust to a new lifestyle and unfamiliar surroundings. Conversation partners help international students learn English and adjust to U.S. culture and lifestyle. More importantly, the students develop strong cross-cultural relationships. On many occasions, conversation partner pairs develop close friendships that last past graduation.

American student Marianna Fountain and Chinese student Feng, Ren (Rita) have been conversation partners during the spring 2011 semester. Both are undergraduate students. Fountain majors in English literature, and Feng majors in business.

The pair meets weekly to talk about anything and everything. They discuss a variety of topics which range from special cultural holidays (e.g. Chinese Spring Festival and American Thanksgiving) to course assign-

ments and homework.

Through being conversation partners, Fountain and Feng have achieved more than simply passing a 15-week assignment. "Before I had a conversation partner, I just knew that Chinese students



were friendly but a little shy," Fountain said. "I really like to talk with Rita (Feng), because she always talks about things that are newfangled to me."

Feng has also benefited from the relationship: "Marianna (Fountain) helps me to improve my listening and speaking of English though our conversation, and she encourages me a lot. She makes me feel that I have a close friend, and I do not feel so lonely any more."

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MAY 2011 GRADUATES!

Avusula, Ramachandram
Baniya, Naresh Bikram
Chen, Lujia
Chen, Siyuan
Chinthalapuri, Sravya
Guragain, Sulochana
Hailue, Ethiopia
Jain, Saurabh
Jin, Hongwu
Kang, Chung-Chi
Lan, Ou
Lhendup, Thujee
Li, Chien-Yi
Liu, Ou
Medaboina, Vidya
Mohindra, Vikas
Nepal, Pradip
Rao, Jiajia
Patel, Venu
Plaha, Nidhi
Rupakheti, Bishwanath
Sai, Xi
Thapalia, Naveena
Tian, Hongyu
Walker, Mark
Wang, Chong
Xie, Boer
Xu, Ke
Yang, Qi
Zhang, Hao
Zhang, Liang
Zhigitekov, Muratbek

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TABLE TENNIS TEAM ENJOYS A FIFTH PLACE FINISH



The MC Table Tennis Team placed 5th at the national competition. Team members include (L-R) Liang, Zhicheng; Ben VanHorn; Yu, Yang; Song, Xuan; Qiu, Huan; Yang, Zijun; and Cai, Yuliang.

Cheng Xu (Katrina)
International Student Worker

Mississippi College proudly announces the fifth-place finish of its table tennis team at the 2011 National Collegiate Table Tennis Tournament. The tournament was hosted by the NCTTA (National Collegiate Table Tennis Association), a non-profit organization that promotes competitive table tennis at the collegiate level in the U.S. and Canada.

The team competed fiercely at the April 15-17 national event in Rochester, MN. The team defeated larger institutions like Ohio State, Maryland, and Wichita State. Around 250 of the best collegiate players in the United States and Canada participated in the tournament.

"Every player on our team has done excellent," said long time captain, Qiu Huan (Ken). "They are still students, so they can only practice in their spare time. This achievement makes

me feel very proud of them."

Prior to competing in Nationals, the team attended a regional competition in Missouri April 9-10. Saint Peters hosted the competition, which had 96 players representing eight different states. MC team members won the doubles championship and runner-up in the singles division.

Congratulations to all of the players (pictured above) on the Table Tennis Team for their superb performance this year!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PURSUES LL.M. DEGREE

Xiaojing Liu (Hannah)
International Student Worker

Soon after graduating from Chongqing University with two B.A. degrees in law and economics, Li, Yiming (George) came to Mississippi College in August 2010. After finishing one semester in IEP, Li enrolled in academic courses and applied to the Master of Laws (LL.M.) program at MC. With his elite academic background, Li was quickly admitted.

The LL.M. program is a one year program tailored for individuals who have obtained law degrees from educational insti-

tutions in countries other than the United States. According to their areas of interest, students are free to choose from many different classes to equip them for the exciting challenges of global legal practice. The program is limited to 10 students, for each student is provided with an ample amount of individual attention, guidance, and support in order to succeed.

Li looks forward to the start of the program on July 5, 2011. He will be the first Chinese student in the program. As a child and adolescent, Li read numerous history and legal books. Extensive reading cultivated Li

into a thinker, and his personal sense of justice will shape him into a lawyer: "I am devoted to the higher cause of maintaining societal justice through legal means, for society cannot advance or flourish without the support of a sound and effective legal system," said Li.

Jim Brackenridge of the Office of Global Education holds Li in the highest regard, and he is confident that the LL.M. degree will prepare Li for a bright future in the legal field. After graduation Li plans to take the bar exam in California or New York and practice law in the U.S. Best of luck Li!