MOSAIC

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Jenny Price
Coordinator, IEP

There are terrific things going on in the Intensive English Program (IEP) at Mississippi College this fall! This semester we welcomed thirty-five new students to the program from several countries, including China, Nepal, India, and (for the first time) Japan. These 35 students have joined the IEP in hopes of being put on the fast-track to improving their English proficiency as well as their understanding of American university culture – both essential to their academic success here at MC.

After students took the Institutional TOEFL test in August, the IEP staff looked at the students’ scores and then placed them into the appropriate class for English instruction. The IEP offers English instruction in all four areas of language acquisition: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Within those areas, the IEP also offers four levels of language instruction: beginner, intermediate, advanced, and advanced II.

In addition to their regular course work, IEP students are also required to participate in Conversation Partners, Writing Partners (sponsored by MC’s own Writing Center), and field trips to local venues such as the Mississippi Capitol, the Mississippi State Fair, and the Civil War park at Vicksburg. Also, in an effort to better assimilate students into academic classes upon graduation from IEP, the IEP office is working with MC’s professors to coordinate visitation classes so IEP students can attend an MC academic class once a month.

As anyone can see, Mississippi College’s IEP students are working hard this fall to prepare for their entry into the world of American academics.
SOOKMYUNG OFFERS MC STUDENTS ECONOMICAL STUDY ABROAD

Carrie Reeves
International Center

The Mississippi College Office of Global Education partners annually with Sookmyung Women’s University, offering MC students the opportunity to take summer classes in Seoul, South Korea. Sookmyung, founded in 1906, is a prominent women’s leadership university and is located in South Korea’s 600-year-old capital. Seoul boasts a population of 10 million people and is a charming mix of the old and the new with ancient palaces juxtaposed against skyscrapers, street markets, & Christian churches.

Sookmyung International Summer School (SISS) is a three-week summer study program in June and July, and both male and female students are invited to attend up to two undergraduate courses during the program. Professors from Sookmyung’s partner universities around the world teach all the courses in English. Classes meet during the week, and students go on cultural excursions on the weekends. Each summer, SISS offers approximately 10 different courses from which to choose, including courses in business, mathematics, history, English, and the arts. Each course taken earns 3 undergraduate credit hours, and all credits are transferrable to MC. Tuition and admission fees are waived by SMU for MC students, making it a very economical summer study opportunity for students to increase their learning within a global environment. Students are only required to pay the program fee, which includes room and board. All MC students, regardless of major or classification are eligible to apply.

Interested students are encouraged to attend an informational meeting on October 27 at 3pm. The meeting will be held in the Library Electronic Classroom. Andrea Haynes, Coordinator of International Programs, is the liaison between MC and Sookmyung University; as a result, she will direct the application process for SISS 2011. Contact Haynes with questions at ahaynes@mc.edu or at 601-925-7705.

TABLE TENNIS TEAM PREPARES FOR REGIONAL COMPETITION

Huan Qiu
International Center

With the support of executive director Jim Brackenridge, the MC table tennis team began in 2007. During its first two seasons of competition, MC defeated all other universities in its region, winning the regional championship for two consecutive years. In addition, the team has beaten universities such as Stanford, Brown, and Michigan State in national competitions.

The Choctaws practice three nights a week, and they are diligently preparing for the Dixie Division regional tournament on Saturday, October 16. The tournament begins at 9am at the Healthplex. The team’s performance in Dixie Division affects its position in the national championship this upcoming spring in Fort Worth, TX. Because of the addition of new, highly skilled players, the team has increased its competitive edge and is confident its national ranking will improve.

PRICE VISITS S. KOREA & CHINA

Andrea Haynes
Coordinator, Int’l Programs

IEP coordinator, Jenny Price, spent five weeks this summer in South Korea and China as a representative for MC’s International Programs.

Price begin her summer stint in Seoul where she taught Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language to undergraduate students at Sookmyung Women’s University. Price described her experience: “It was great to see faces from all over the world working and studying together...It was truly a complete joy and extremely enlightening.”

After her four-week stay in Seoul, Price traveled to Beijing where she learned about Chinese culture and met with different student recruiting agencies and colleges. Of these, she visited Beijing Science Technology and Management College located in northern Beijing. While there, Price toured the campus and spoke extensively with the college’s international department about possible student exchanges, professor exchanges, and “3+1” programs that could be done in conjunction with MC’s international programs.
LAW SCHOOL LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE DEGREE

Andrea Haynes  
Coordinator, Int’l Program

The Mississippi College School of Law will launch the first program of its kind in 2011: a one year Master of Laws degree.

Accredited by the American Bar Association, the Master’s of Laws degree (LL.M.) welcomes individuals who have already graduated with law degrees from educational institutions outside of the U.S. The program aims to prepare these individuals for global practice by increasing their knowledge of the American legal system, building their proficiency in representing U.S. clients, and helping them develop a network of international relationships.

The School of Law has developed the LL.M. curriculum so that it is fully integrated with the J.D. program; as a result, students are able to choose classes according to their interests and/or expertise. Upon graduation, students can sit for the bar exam in certain states, including New York.

The School of Law is still in the planning & recruiting process but hopes to start the program this summer. Any student of non-U.S. citizenship who has received a bachelor’s degree in law from a recognized institution is eligible to apply.

For more information, please visit http://law.mc.edu/prospective-students/llm/ or contact Susan Copeland at scopelan@mc.edu.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

Jenny Price  
Coordinator, IEP

The Office of Global Education excitedly welcomes Andrea Haynes into its ranks as the new Coordinator of International Programs. Haynes replaces Carrie Reeves, and her responsibilities include helping international students acclimate to MC, increasing cross-cultural awareness, implementing campus-wide programs, overseeing publicity, and coordinating exchange programs.

Originally from Coldwater, MS, Haynes received her B.A. in Public Relations from Miss. State University and her M.Ed. from the University of Georgia in College Student Affairs Administration. In addition to serving overseas with Campus Crusade (2004-05), she has visited numerous countries and continents in various capacities. Haynes is a tremendous asset to our office, and we expect to see great things from her!

IT’S ALL IN A NAME! THE STORY BEHIND MOSAIC

Our newsletter is entitled MOSAIC, for the name paints a beautiful picture of our international students and the role they play in student life at MC.

A mosaic is a singular picture or design that is composed of several diverse objects, e.g. colored glass. While each separate object or piece of glass retains its own unique beauty, all the objects work together to create a beautiful masterpiece.

It is the same with our students at MC. Each student contributes his/her own inherent beauty and cultural uniqueness to our campus, which we value greatly. But, it is together that we compose that which is more beautiful than ourselves: the majestic image of God.

The quarterly newsletter is published by Andrea Haynes. Please direct any questions or concerns to ahaynes@mc.edu.