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MOSAIC



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MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE
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STUDENTS TRAVEL THE WORLD IN TWO HOURS



*Students and staff enjoy the Celebration of Culture.
(L to R): Diana Brackenridge, President Lee Royce, Xiaojing
(Hannah) Liu, Jim Brackenridge, & Muratbek Zhigitekov*

Andrea Haynes
Coordinator, Int'l Programs

Each year, the Office of Global Education hosts the Celebration of Culture: an event that promotes the wide array of cultures that are represented here at Mississippi College. Student leaders don traditional cultural attire and organize a table to represent their nations,

with traditional food, folk art, celebratory videos and photos, games, and souvenirs. In under two hours, students are able to "travel the world" and learn about the cultural diversity represented in the student body at Mississippi College.

Celebration of Culture 2010 showcased twelve of the many countries represented at MC: Japan, Ethiopia, South

Korea, Brazil, India, Cameroon, China, France, United States, Canada, Kyrgyzstan, and Nepal. In addition, the Mississippi College Table Tennis Team, ranked 4th in the nation, showcased their athleticism and skill with an exhibition during the Celebration.

Over 150 MC students, faculty, and staff attended the event, including Dr. Lee Royce, president of Mississippi College. Dr. Royce was excited to see such a diverse range of students, all learning from one another and developing friendships: "This (Celebration of Culture) provides a wonderful opportunity for international students to meet each other and to experience different cultures. It's also a wonderful opportunity for Americans to meet a wide variety of students from different cultures. It's really quite exciting."

On behalf of the Office of Global Education, we wish you a happy new year!

Fall 2010 was an exciting and successful time for us. To begin, we brought in a new staff member, Andrea Haynes, and expanded our programs. Second, Jenny Price, Intensive English Program Coordinator, led the program in our best semester ever: We graduated 23 IEP students into academics. Finally, Huan Qiu (Ken) coached our table tennis team to yet another regional championship in the Dixie Division Tournament. The team is currently ranked 4th in the national mid-season rankings.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating all our achievements this past semester. Enjoy this issue of MOSAIC!

Jim Brackenridge

MC INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ADVANCE STUDIES IN PH.D. PROGRAMS

Carrie Reeves
Assistant Professor, Art

The Office of Global Education at Mississippi College proudly fosters the continuing education of several outstanding international students after they graduate from Mississippi College.

International students not only face the common challenges a typical college student encounters when leaving home to earn an education, but they also face a significant linguistic and cultural barriers. Most international students experience a period of uncomfortable and frustrating adjustment—eating new foods, transitioning to a new culture, learning a new

transportation system (or lack thereof), and losing close proximity to friends and family. This combination of factors makes the transition from home to a new university quite colorful.

For this reason, the Office of Global Education salutes each graduate of Mississippi College and celebrates those who continue their education at other universities in doctoral and PhD programs. From the time international students arrive, the Office of Global Ed warmly opens its doors to international students, helping them excel as students under the outstanding team of professors and administrators at Mississippi College. Each student on the following list is a picture of excellence

and success, for each student continues to pursue his/her education on the doctoral level:

- Qianyi Cheng: *The University of Georgia*
- Xi Li: *Texas A&M*
- Dmitry Liskin: *University of Washington*
- Denis Aleksandrovich Sokolov: *Georgia Institute of Technology*
- Jianing Su: *Louisiana Tech*
- Yuhua Guo: *Florida State*
- Di Huang: *Michigan Tech*
- Zhenyu He: *University of Missouri*
- Jiabei Lin: *University of Alabama*
- Shravan Kumar Renapurka: *Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine*
- Niveditha Kadiyala: *Touro*

College of Pharmacy

- Xiaoyuan Liu: *Auburn Univ.*
- Yunfeng Pan: *University of Mississippi*
- Fangzhou Yu: *University pf Texas at San Antonio*
- Yifan Wang: *Louisiana Tech*
- Nannan Lin: *The University of Georgia*
- Huihui Huang: *Long Island University*
- Yanjing Gu: *University of Southern Mississippi*
- Yuan Yuan: *University of South Florida*
- Madhav Soni: *University of Mississippi Medical Center*
- Shuo Yao: *Louisiana Tech*
- Praneeth Reddy Nimmala: *University of Mississippi*
- Vijay Bhaskar Jupally: *University of Mississippi*

THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OFFERS POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Andrea Haynes
Coordinator, Int'l Programs

The Office of Global Education proudly announces two scholarship opportunities for Mississippi College students interested in overseas postgraduate study. Through a partnership with Huazhong Normal University, the Office offers full scholarships to select students who are interested in pursuing a master's or doctoral degree in the following academic fields: Chinese Language and Culture, History, Education, Psychology, Tourism Management, International Relations, Politics, Mathematics and Statistics, Life Science, or Physical Science.

Huazhong Normal Univer-

sity, located in Wuhan, the fourth largest city in China, is one of the most elite comprehensive universities in Central China. Huazhong boasts a substantial international population, with over 1,000 international students from 54 countries. The university comprises 18 schools, nine departments, and 82 research institutes, and offers 80 doctoral programs and 162 master's programs.

The scholarships offered through this partnership cover all student expenses – tuition and fees, housing, and health insurance – and give monthly stipends to both doctoral and master's degree candidates. Executive Director of the Office of Global Education, Jim Brackenridge, commented on



Former MC student, Clint Myers, snaps a picture with fellow classmates. Myers is pursuing his M.S. in Biology at Huazhong.

these scholarship offers: "We are giving students a unique and valuable opportunity. They will not only receive a free education, but they will receive much, much more. They will be able to secure a respected degree and gain invaluable cultural insight that will make them extremely marketable

in our global economy."

Students interested in receiving one of these scholarships may contact Andrea Haynes, Coordinator of International Programs, at 601.925.7005 or ahaynes@mc.edu. The deadline to apply is March 15, 2011.

IEP BOASTS A SUCCESSFUL TERM

Andrea Haynes
Coordinator, Int'l Programs

The Intensive English Program finished another successful semester this past fall. Jenny Price, Coordinator of the program, stated, "Last semester was one of the best semesters we have had since I came to work at MC; we saw a

strong community of learners develop and the most growth in English proficiency yet."

The program educated 36 students across all aspects of the English language: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. IEP also provided students with cultural programs to enhance co-curricular learning. Students participated in three separate activities: (1) a tour of the state capitol of Mississippi and traditional southern lunch, (2) a day of entertainment at the Mississippi state fair, and (3) formal etiquette training. At the end of the semester, IEP graduated 23 students into academics at MC.

For the spring 2011 semester, IEP welcomes 23 new students, increasing the total spring enrollment in IEP to 35 students from China, Nepal, Russia, and Turkey.



IEP students enjoy the etiquette dinner: (L-R) Suchita Panchal, Zequn Liu, and Hao Yao

STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

Huan Qiu
Staff, International Center

The Office of Global Education launched its mentoring program fall 2008 in order to help international students succeed academically. The mentoring program helps students in the following areas: improving their grades, adjusting to consistent academic study, and understanding course content.

The Office pairs struggling students with current international students who act as mentors. Fellow international students provide the most help to struggling students for they understand the adjustment to U.S. academics, and they are able to help the students in their native tongue. In order to be chosen as a mentor, stu-

dents must have a history of academic success, strong communication skills, and pleasant personalities. With the help of mentors, the numbers of students with academic problems has decreased greatly. For example, in the undergraduate program, there are less than five students who have problems with their GPA.

During spring 2011, the mentoring program will partner with the school of business, opening an international section in the finance and accounting lab where mentors will offer help Mon and Wed nights. Through this initiative and continued improvements, we look forward to seeing the mentoring program continue to improve the success of international students.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER 2010 GRADUATES!

Bayles, Olga Sofia Lepe
Chen, Han Chun
Chiang, Hsiao-Yen
Dahal, Pujyani
Dou, Jieni
Feng, Tong
He, Mengxue
Huang, Lili
Kajaria, Nishant
Koirala, Umesh
Kolbaev, Azamat
Maharjan, Anil
Nannuru, Mrunalini
Pathepur, Manoj Kumar
Rajbhandari, Shailee
Shah, Aenis
Sun, Huiming
Tasios, Jessica
Wang, Ying
Wu, Dong
Yao, Hao
Zhang, Yanan
Zhao, Difan

PREPARATIONS BEGIN FOR INTERNATIONAL FEST



MC students give a Tai Chi exhibition at the International Festival.

Carrie Reeves
Assistant Professor, Art

While international students bring unique cultural backgrounds to Mississippi College, their artistic talents and skills usually remain hidden. The International Festival gives students the chance to share this specific aspect of them-

selves and their culture with the Mississippi College community.

Although the Office of Global Education hosts various events throughout the year, honoring international holidays and promoting fellowship among students, the International Festival is its only performance-oriented event. It is also the largest international

event on campus. Many members of the MC, Jackson, and Clinton communities attend the festival, gaining appreciation for the abundance of multicultural talent and skill present at Mississippi College.

Held on Mississippi College's campus each spring, the International Festival boasts its fourth showing March 25, 2011. Cultural performances will include instrumental, vocal, and dance exhibitions, as well as a runway show that showcases traditional cultural attire. Afterward, the audience will be invited to a reception involving cultural food and drink. Contact Andrea Haynes at 601.925.7705 or ahaynes@mc.edu if you have any questions or are interested in performing.

DISCOVERING CHINA: LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

An Ran
Staff, International Center

The Office of Global Education and the Department of Modern Languages proudly announces a three-week long study abroad program for summer 2011. Through a partnership with Huazhong Normal University, located in Wuhan, China, MC students will have the opportunity to earn six hours of undergraduate credit in Chinese language, history, and culture. In addition to receiving six hours of credit, participants will also visit four major cities: **Beijing, Shanghai, Xi'an** and **Wuhan**.

Huazhong is an elite comprehensive university in China. Huazhong has 30,000 students and is known both for its top academic programs and national research centers in Modern Chinese History, Chi-



MC students participated in the Huazhong summer program in 2009: (L to R) Jones Daniels, Caleb Wilkinson, and John Mark Kolb

nese Linguistics, and Language Pedagogy. In 2010, Huazhong had 1,000 long-term international students and nearly 1,500 short-term international students from 54 countries.

Cost of the program is \$2,900, which includes housing, six hours of undergraduate tuition, travel within China, visas, excursions, and international insurance. Air travel to and from China, meals, and passport fees are not included

in the cost. Dates are tentatively set for June 16 – July 9. There will be an interest meeting on **January 27**. For more information, contact Andrea Haynes (ahaynes@mc.edu) or Beth Stapleton (bstapleto@mc.edu).

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