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# MOSAIC

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• NAÍJÍRÌÀ • Российская Федерация • المملكة العربية السعودية • ALBA •



Greetings from the Office of Global Education! We are pleased to launch our fourth newsletter, *MOSAIC*, and we hope it helps keep you abreast of all our excellent programs and exciting initiatives. The MC international program celebrates its seventh anniversary in January, and we are proud of the size and quality of our international student population. Not only do our students contribute to the overall excellence of Mississippi College, but their cultural diversity greatly enhances the lives of all students, faculty, and staff.

We hope *MOSAIC* gives you a glimpse of how the Office of Global Education impacts our campus, and we look forward to partnering with you in continuing to make Mississippi College a truly global community.

*Jim Brackenridge*

## MC STUDENTS ENJOY KOREAN CULTURE & LIFE



MC students gather at a local coffee shop in Seoul before classes begin (L to R, back to front): Yen Ton, Nannanni Luo, Pingping Jin, Chris Peace, Xinming Ye, Hao Jia, Oliver Avni, Xinyu Ye, Pei Yao, Karishma Ahuja, Carly McKie, Taylor Stringer, Andrea Haynes (staff), Shijie Wu, Hanna Finley, Summers Lee, & Wan Xia.

### Andrea Haynes Coordinator, Int'l Programs

Mississippi College proudly sent 16 students to Seoul, Korea, to study at Sookmyung International Summer School (SISS) from June 27- July 22. The students ranged from freshmen to seniors and spanned several nationalities: Vietnamese, Chinese, and American.

While at SISS, students enjoyed a variety of classes, such as Korean Language for Beginners, International Pop Culture, and 13 Ways of Looking at Jazz. Students also participated in cultural excursions. These in-

cluded a Seoul city tour, Nanta performance, Korean cooking class, and a lecture on Korean history and culture.

One MC student, Hanna Finley, regarded her Korean experience as life changing: "Not only was it an amazing opportunity to learn in and out of the classroom, but I got the chance to discover interesting new foods, a vibrant lifestyle, and overwhelmingly kind people."

In addition to students, MC also sent one of its staff members, Andrea Haynes, Coordinator of International Programs. Haynes was selected out of a pool of applicants to teach dur-

ing the summer program. One of 13 selected professors, Haynes taught Foundations of Leadership.

"The experience in Korea was a truly enriching and rewarding one. Teaching a variety of students from all different cultures exemplified the diversity we always hope for in our educational classrooms," said Haynes.

The Office of Global Education has begun preparing for Sookmyung International Summer School 2012, and it hopes to send an even larger group of MC students to participate in the program next summer.

## HAYNES VISITS BEIJING, CHINA

Jenny Price  
Coordinator, IEP

Andrea Haynes, Coordinator of International Programs, strengthened existing Office of Global Education partnerships and forged new ones during her visit to Beijing in June. While in China, Haynes explored ways to enhance existing relationships between MC and international colleagues. She also met with potential recruiters in an effort to start new partnerships.

"Visiting China was a growth opportunity for me and for our office: Not only was I able to develop pivotal professional relationships, but more importantly, I gained a deeper appreciation for the Chinese culture and people," said Haynes.



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LEADERS HELP WITH FALL ORIENTATION

Andrea Haynes

Coordinator, Int'l Programs

Fall 2011 proved to be a busy semester for the Office of Global Education. With over 85 new students from 11 nations, international administrators processed hundreds of documents and spent numerous hours orienting students to university life in the U.S.

International staff selected three international orientation leaders to assist with welcoming new students to campus. These leaders were each responsible for a small group of students—giving them campus tours, explaining important academic and immigration information, and helping them

adjust to Mississippi College.

International Orientation Leaders (pictured right, listed from left to right) included Liu Zequn (Sylar), an undergraduate computer science major; Miao Muiyi, an undergraduate accounting major; and Peng Xiaoliang, a graduate MBA-Accounting major.

All three leaders are successful students; they excel in their studies and are actively involved on campus and with the Office of Global Education. They became orientation leaders to help new students be successful as well.

"When I came here, many people helped me, for the first year can be very difficult for international students," said Miao. Liu recommends new



students engage themselves in MC's campus life: "Be confident and try to involve yourself on campus in new areas. You are the only person in life who can beat yourself!"

Peng also advises students to step outside their comfort zones: "Don't be shy. Talk to your classmates and professors. They are good people and are always happy to help you."

## INTERNATIONAL LIAISON REPRESENTS STUDENT NEEDS

Andrea Haynes

Coordinator, Int'l Programs

The MC Student Government Association appointed Chris Peace to the position of international student liaison for 2011-2012.

A senior from Clinton, Mississippi, Peace majors in English Writing and works for the Office of Global Education as an international student mentor. Peace first became involved with international students during his freshman year at MC, and he has actively participated in conversation partners, airport pick up, and study abroad. In addition, Peace consistently tries to spend time with international students in a variety of ways, ranging from fun nights out to meaningful conversations about life.

"I am deeply interested in the different cultures of humanity. By learning from the

way that others 'do life,' I not only gain a better cultural understanding, but I also learn how to enhance my life more and more," said Peace.

As liaison Peace will take international student concerns to MC administration in an effort to better meet the needs of the international student population. Peace looks forward to working with the international student population and welcomes all students to contact him: [cpeace@mc.edu](mailto:cpeace@mc.edu).



Peace (right) enjoys coffee with Yen Ton (left) at Sookmyung Summer School, 2011.

## HUAZHONG SENDS EXCHANGE STUDENT TO MC FOR 2011-2012

Brittany Perrotta

Resident Director

Mississippi College welcomes its first exchange student from Huazhong Normal University: Wang Haoyu. Influenced by the global perspective of Huazhong, Wang decided to study in America to "experience the dynamic and diversified culture of the nation."

An undergraduate physics engineering major, Wang has embraced the western classroom and set goals for himself during the 2011-2012 academic year: "I hope to learn a kind of ideology that will help me think critically and dialectically when tackling problems, develop good relationships with

American friends, and improve my English writing skills."

Wang especially appreciates the small size of the classrooms and the teacher-to-student ratio. The intimacy of the classroom setting fosters close communication with professors and effective study habits.

Though the transition is exciting, he admits there are many challenges, especially when it comes to food. Even ordering food at a restaurant makes Wang nervous. Thankfully he lives on campus with a Chinese roommate from his same hometown who understands his language, culture, and way of thinking.

Since arriving at MC, Wang has been impressed by the kindness and hospitality of all the people he has met. "They treat each other like brother and sister," said Wang. "These are the best people I've ever met."





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### IEP Cultural Trip

Fri, Sept 23  
Vicksburg Military Park

### IEP Cultural Trip

Wed, Oct 12  
Mississippi State Fair

### Dixie Division Tournament

Sat, Oct 22  
9am—4pm  
Clinton Healthplex

### Celebration of Culture

Thurs, Nov 3  
5pm—7pm  
Anderson Hall

### IEP Cultural Trip

Mon, Nov 14  
Thalia Mara Hall

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## IEP LAUNCHES AN EXCITING FALL 2011 SEMESTER

*Andrea Haynes*

*Coordinator, Int'l Programs*

The Intensive English Program launched the academic year with 50 new international students enrolled in fall IEP courses. The class for fall 2011 boasts more students than the previous four semesters.

Most IEP students arrived from China; however, the program also has several students from India, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey. In addition to new students, the Intensive English Program welcomes three new teachers: Chaeli Chambers (Intermediate Class), Joshua Matlack (Advanced I Class), and Kendrick Johnson (Advanced II Class).

Chambers, the Intermediate

Class instructor, comes to MC from Oxford, MS, where she taught elementary ESL in the Oxford Public School District. Advanced I instructor, Matlack, spent a year teaching ESL in France under the direction of the French Department of Education. In addition to teaching, Matlack is pursuing his graduate degree at Reformed Theological Seminary.

The Advanced II instructor, Johnson, lived in Japan during 2008 where he spent time teaching ESL and learning the Japanese language and culture. Johnson is also enrolled as a graduate student at Reformed Theological Seminary.

"Chambers, Matlack, and Johnson all bring a different set of skills and experiences which

will enrich the English instruction in the Intensive English Program during the 2011-2012 academic year," said Jenny Price, Intensive English Program Coordinator.

As always, IEP hopes to fully prepare its students linguistically and culturally to succeed in the American university classroom...while having a little fun in the process! Conversation and Writing Partner programs for the fall semester have already begun and the Office of Global Education staff has started planning cultural trips to places such as the Civil War Military Park and the Mississippi State Fair. The Intensive English Program looks forward to a highly successful and exciting fall semester!

## STUDENTS ENJOY A MOON FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

*Andrea Haynes*

*Coordinator, Int'l Programs*

At every autumnal equinox joyous sounds of celebration echo across Asian nations around the world in honor of the Mid-Autumn Festival, or **M O O N F E S T I V A L**.

The Moon Festival resembles the American celebration of Thanksgiving. It takes place on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 8<sup>th</sup> month in the lunar calendar, when the moon is its brightest and most beautiful in the night sky.

The full moon symbolizes *reunion*; as a result, families and friends come together on this traditional holiday to enjoy one another's company, gaze at the moon, dance, and of course, eat. Individuals enjoy a wide array of customary dishes, particularly, the moon cake.

Typically made of flour and egg and filled with fruit, beans, nuts, or sweet paste, moon cakes are round, representing



*New MC students participate in the Mid-Autumn Festival (left to right): Diksha Poudyal, Zhang Rui (RayRay), and Jiang Ri (Janet)*

the full moon.

On Sept. 12, both international and American MC students came together to celebrate the Moon Festival, bringing a taste of home to many Asian students. The Office of Global Education organized the event, which involved food, games, fellowship, prizes, and of course, moon cakes. Approximately 85 students, staff, and community members

attended the event.

New IEP instructor Chaeli Chambers enjoyed the Moon Festival: "It was a great opportunity to learn about my students' culture and to have fun with them outside of the classroom. It was also great to see other MC students interacting with international students and enjoying a cultural event together."