



International News

Community Colleges for International Development, Inc.

Summer 2004

CCID Presidents Visit Jikei Group, Japan

by Yoko Keki

A big "hello!," or "konnichiwa!," from Jikei Group of Colleges, Japan. The Jikei Group is proud of having been the first member in Asia to join CCID. As full members of the organization in 2003 it is hoped that by example we can encourage CCID members to develop links with other colleges in Japan and with organizations throughout Asia.

In April a group of presidents from

CCID affiliated colleges visited Japan on a fact-finding and getting-to-know-you visit. For most of the visitors this was a first visit to Japan, and even to Asia. We trust we managed to strike a happy medium between properly introducing them to a new culture and minimizing their sense of culture-shock.

The visit was split between Japan's two most heavily populated areas: Kanto, Tokyo and its surrounding area, and Kansai, the area of Japan encompassing Japan's second city, Osaka, and the ancient capitals of Kyoto and Nara, and the cosmopolitan seaport, Kobe. In both areas guests visited Jikei schools and took the opportunity to sample Japanese culture along the way.

The first evening in Japan, the visitors enjoyed a banquet at a traditional Japanese restaurant. Beer and sake were poured with a generous hand, a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by everyone, and any and all chopstick mishaps were chalked up to cross-cultural experience. Good fun.

The next day guests looked at Jikei colleges, with visits to no fewer than six schools in Tokyo. All the visitors seemed impressed by the range of programs and by the facilities provided for students. To give just one example, the state-of-the-art design and test facilities available to students in the automotive design course left no-one in any doubt as to why graduates have such an impressive employment record, nor why Japanese car makers continue to set trends in the world market.

The world is becoming smaller. Jikei is passionately committed to interna-



Presidents trip participants learned a new culture while on the spring visit to Japan

tionalization, which is why English language instruction is provided to students on all courses and why we are so keen to foster links with schools abroad.

We in Japan recognize that we have a lot to learn from overseas, and nowhere is this more true than in the area of film making, dominated, of course, by Hollywood. Happy circumstance, then, that the Americans visit coincided with the opening of the new film-school in Tokyo. The school's program and facilities have been developed after close study of similar schools in America.

Guests were among the many distinguished attendees, from both Japan and around the world, at the school's inaugural entrance ceremony. That ceremony was held in collaboration with three other arts schools in Tokyo, and the entertainment at the ceremony was provided by students from our music and dance courses, whose talent and exuberance delighted our guests. For most of the visitors this ceremony was the highlight of their time in Tokyo.

In Osaka, the visitors were given an opportunity to see the medical welfare

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CCID Presidents Visit Jikei Group, Japan



Presidents trip members at the Golden Pavilion in Kyoto

and technology schools. Of course, the medicine practiced these days in Japan is chiefly orthodox Western medicine, but guests were intrigued to see how medical practice in Japan remains to some extent informed by traditionally Eastern methods and techniques. Perhaps most interesting for our visitors was a practical class in which the students were learning acupuncture. This blend of the best of East and West is seen as well on one of the nursing courses, where students are given the opportunity to practice providing in-home care in a full scale mock up of a traditional Japanese home.

No trip to Japan can be called complete without a visit to Kyoto. There are enough sights here to occupy the visitor for a month, but our guests had to pack as much as possible into a single day. From the glittering wonder of the Golden Pavilion, to the old Geisha district of Gion, our visitors were given a taste, if only a taste, of the Japan of Shoguns and Samurai. In the late afternoon and evening we were entertained by Maiko, at a dinner arranged and hosted by Dr. Kunihiko Ukifune, the chairman of Jikei Group. This was a cultural experience none of

our visitors will forget, and at least one was moved to tears by the poise and beauty of the Maikos' dancing.

As the visitors left from Kansai airport next day we could feel content that they had been impressed by what they had seen of Jikei Group colleges, and of Japanese culture. A small illustration of the mutual benefits to be derived from cross-cultural exchange: one of the guests was heard to lament how she'd miss Starbucks' —Japan's 'green tea frappuccinos' on her return home to, of all places, Seattle. Let's see

what other benefits can be gotten from a blending of cultures.

At the entrance to all Jikei Schools hangs a sign encouraging students and staff to greet each other, and guests, "With A Smile." Smiles were in no short supply on this trip: strong bonds were formed and firm friendships established.

CCID INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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CCID Mission Statement

"The mission of CCID is to provide opportunities for building global relationships that strengthen educational programs, and promote economic development."

To accomplish its mission, CCID provides:

- **Technical Training:** Develops technical training for economic independence and human resource development.
- **Economic Development:** Supports curriculum development and programs that encourage global understanding.
- **Partnerships:** Facilitates educational exchanges that result in increased global awareness.
- **Leadership:** Initiates and coordinates international linkages to advocate the necessity of global partnerships.
- **Professional Development:** Initiates, facilitates and encourages international relationships that enhance global competencies.



Kirkwood Community College: Recruiting Requires Partnerships

Kirkwood Community College serves a seven county area in Eastern Iowa, with the main campus located in Cedar Rapids. Why would international students from over 100 different countries choose this community college as their destination of choice for their post secondary education? How does Kirkwood recruit so many students from around the world to study and live in the Midwest?

First of all, one has to realize that the Midwest, especially Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has a lot to offer an international student. There are many reasons why Iowa is a premier destination for education and training for students from all nations. The reasons that a student, as well as that student's parents, would look for include: affordable cost of living, safe location with a low crime rate, small class size, teachers who are student-centered and not required to spend time on research or publications, friendly people in the community who use standard English (in contrast with a southern accent for example).

Cedar Rapids fits all of the above criteria, also Iowa boasts about the quality of education that is provided. Still, with the decline in number of Visa students throughout the U.S.A., a proactive approach is still in Kirkwood's best interests. What options have worked well?

One option was suggested by Gayle Glick, Kirkwood's international student advisor for the past 28 years. Ms. Glick has encouraged current and previous international students to recruit their friends or family members each time they visit their home country. Word of mouth has been one of the most effective methods of recruiting over the years. Today, word of mouth, coupled with the web site for additional program or admission information, has added to the effectiveness of personal contact.

Another choice for Kirkwood has been a statewide organization, P.I.E., Promoting Iowa Education Internationally www.studyiowa.org. Iowa's Governor Vilsack endorsed this effort

and he and Lieutenant Governor Pederson sent a letter to all Iowa college and universities, urging them to join this effort. Reasons to become a member included:

- Increased revenue to institutions, communities, and the state
- Increased diversity of students
- Cost sharing in recruitment activities
- Institutional growth in scope and initiatives
- Strengthened relationships with business, industry, non-profit agencies, and governmental agencies
- Strengthened relationships among Iowa educational institutions
- Internationalization and enhancement of educational experiences for all students
- Potential for increased retention of international students in Iowa
- Opportunity to meet and build relationships with current and future leaders in education, business, industry and governmental from other countries

A recent collaboration of this statewide group was to invite a select group of Colombian high school and counseling representatives to Iowa. This group also planned to attend the NAFSA conference in Baltimore, so the P.I.E. group helped with airfare to cover their stopover in Iowa. The P.I.E. executive board proposed Colombia, due to the limited opportunities to travel to Colombia to recruit the strong undergraduate market, and this would provide an ability to more easily measure the impact of this initiative.



The P.I.E. Consortium in Iowa recently hosted several delegates from Colombia, including Maria Clara Gutierrez and Martha Roman.

Kirkwood also has appreciated the recruiting efforts of AACC. Their web site has additional information on the international resources available www.aacc.nche.edu

In the past, the community college model was not clearly understood by many of our global friends. AACC has shown significant progress in educating many overseas counselors and schools, as well as embassies. Before this was available, community colleges were blended with universities at recruiting fairs, and this was neither effective nor successful.

Recruiting international students has never been easy, and Kirkwood is not alone in the quest for new partners who can help in this important effort for international programs.

With many programs, it is difficult to measure success. With recruiting, however, the numbers speak for themselves. With over 500 international students from over 100 countries, and a steady increase over the years (as far back as Ms. Glick can recall), Kirkwood is pleased with the results of their multi-option approach.



My Education in America

By Chinedu Amaku



Chinedu Amaku

My name is Chinedu Amaku and I am an international student at Mountain View College (MVC). Writing this article has been an eye-opening experience that has given me the chance to reflect on my own story, and to encourage others to see what the world has to offer them. As I wrote this, I realized the unique opportunities that education in the U.S. has given me, as well as my many accomplishments since beginning this journey from Nigeria.

The motivation behind my travel was simply to attain a higher education, but in two years at MVC, I have done much more than just pursuing an education. Leaving the safe haven of friends and family was not an easy thing for an inherently shy person like me. However, these experiences have transformed my shy demeanor into a lion's roar (by no accident either as the lion is my college's mascot).

At MVC, I have had the opportunity to volunteer in various activities. It is these experiences that I have treasured most. I was part of the Service Learning program on campus, which gave me the chance to mentor another student. My responsibility was to help him improve his English skills. Through this process, I learned not only his culture, but also Spanish. Spanish has now become my minor.

As a member of the Student Government I went out to the community to elementary schools to read to children.

The greatest reward I have received to date was seeing the smiles on those children's faces, knowing that I was appreciated. I also participated in and raised funds for the Relay for Life, an event that celebrated cancer survivors and raised money for cancer, held on campus and sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Another role I am currently filling is that of a student ambassador. I am the face of MVC to prospective students, honored guests on campus and the community. MVC has opened a door for me through which I can not only network, but also improve myself and help others along the way.

Some of the honors I have been privileged to receive include becoming a Certified Student Leader, being awarded

the Star Award for outstanding member of the Phi Theta Kappa, and being on the National Dean's List for two consecutive years. One of the teachers that I credit for my success is Dr. David Schutte.

As I look to the future, I know I will get a bachelor's and a master's and eventually a doctorate degree. But as I look back on my experiences, a lot of the learning I have done has been outside the classroom. As for the rest of my future, I know that I want to travel. I can't wait to see what the rest of the globe has in store for me. I can't wait to discover what more I can accomplish. MVC has truly become my most valuable connection.

CCID Executive Offices Activity Roundup

by John Halder

During a recent presentation, I informed a group that it feels as though 75% of my time is spent on conference calls. The following sample of recent activities in the CCID offices helps to indicate why.

World Cocoa Foundation

CCID has been participating in bi-weekly conference calls with the World Cocoa Foundation, Hershey Chocolates, Mars, and others, discussing many issues involving child labor in West Africa. The industry is sensitive to claims that chocolates are made with West African child labor, and is working hard to provide solutions - whether the issue is real or imagined. Providing vocational and technical training for families is one answer. However, a lack of any tertiary infrastructure is slowing the process. The work continues.

Fifth National Video Conference

The team that produced the four earlier live national video conferences - the American Association of Community Colleges, the American Council for International Intercultural Education,

the Institute for Community College Development and CCID - have been joined by the League for Innovation in the Community College, to assist in production of *International Studies in the Community College: Faculty, Courses and the Curriculum*. The uplink date is November 10, 2004, and twice weekly conference calls are being used to develop the content.

Presidents visit to Japan

The CCID presidents visit to Japan, reported elsewhere in the newsletter, was attended by a total of 12 persons. From the perspective of the executive offices, this was a perfect sized group. Dr. Ukifune and the Jikei Group of Colleges hosted the delegates, and provided an outstanding program. All participants returned with a greatly increased understanding of Japanese technical education, and gained insights into Japanese culture. This program and the one to Australia a year earlier has provided an excellent foundation upon which to continue building presidents visits into a pillar

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CCID Calendar of Events

CCID Study Abroad Programs

Visit our study abroad web site www.ccidinc.org for details of Student Study Abroad options. Colleges with an interest in participating in:

International Perspectives on Sustainable Energy (Denmark)

International Perspectives on Agriculture (Denmark)

International Perspectives on Nursing (Ecuador)

should contact the CCID offices at (319) 398-1257.

CCID Summer Institute at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Seattle

Hosted by Green River Community College, with Highline Community College, July 17-19, 2004.

This planning and professional development activity, for those within the CCID family, will include a focus on:

Emerging Opportunities for Community Colleges in Asia and the Pacific Rim

Details are posted on the CCID web site <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us>

Fifth Live Annual Videoconference, November 10, 2004

International Studies in the Community College: Faculty, Courses and the Curriculum

To register as downlink site, go to <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us>

This program is part of a series focussing on international issues in community colleges. Co-sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges, American Council on International Intercultural Education, the Institute for Community College Development, and the League for Innovation in the Community College.

CCID 28th Annual Conference, February 19-21 2005, San Diego, California

Hosted by State Center Community College District.

International Education in Turbulent Times

Themes will include:

- Incoming Students - SEVIS again, and the view from Homeland Security.
- Outgoing Students - balancing the risks
- Alternative Funding
- Development Work

Cross Border Issues

Please mark your calendar, and check: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us> for details.

CCID Presidents Inspection Visit to Thailand, Spring 2005.

Call the CCID executive offices (319) 398-1257 to be on the mailing list, and check the web site for details: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us>

CCID Professional Development activity to Japan

Hosted by CCID member college - the Jikei Group of Colleges.

Check the CCID web site: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us> for details.

CCID Summer Institute, July 2005, hosted by Sinclair Community College, Dayton, Ohio.

Check the CCID web site: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us> for details of this premier professional development training event.

CCID Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 2006.

Check the CCID web site: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us> for details.

CCID Summer Institute, July 2006, hosted by Kirkwood Community College,

Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Check the CCID web site: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us> for details



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CCID Executive Offices Activity Roundup

of the CCID calendar. We are now planning the visit to Thailand for 2005, with assistance from Beng Poh Yoshikawa from the University of Hawaii Community College systems.

Study Abroad

Much planning and work with international organizations enabled U.S. faculty to lead approximately 60 students to Denmark and Ecuador this summer. Nineteen persons are in the group reviewing Sustainable Agricultural Practices in Denmark. Faculty members from South Central Technical College, Peter Neigebauer is heading up this program, with assistance from Crowder College and Iowa Central.

A similar number of students and faculty members traveled to Denmark with the Sustainable Energy program, headed by Ray Beets of Iowa Central Community College. Other colleges with students and faculty members participating include Hillsborough, Crowder and Harford Community College.

Kathryn Smith of Hillsborough is leading the group of 20 heading to Ecuador to study International Perspectives on Nursing. Other colleges in this team include Highline, and Hinds.

An essential component of the success of all three programs is strong local partners in each of the countries. In Denmark CCID has a Memorandum of Understanding with Youth For Understanding, Denmark, and in Ecuador the partner is FUNDACO. The programs have been strengthened immeasurably by partnering with these organizations, and their logistical support and advice.

These programs are based on the Troika model of a minimum of three colleges participating in each, rotating leadership and a college commitment to scholarships for students. They are designed by community colleges for community college students, and are focused on the technical and vocational fields. CCID owes much to Hillsborough Community College and the leadership provided by Michael Brennan for the success generated.

Jikei Pilot Student Program

CCID is working on a pilot program with the Jikei Group of Colleges, Japan, to bring Japanese students to the United States. Initially, using a model of three colleges clustered in a region, groups of Japanese students will come to CCID colleges for two years, followed by transfer to four-year colleges. In the Pilot Program are Kirkwood, Eastern Iowa and Waukesha. John Halder accompanied the Jikei representatives on their tour of the colleges. If successful, the program has the possibility of being replicated in other regions of the country.

CCID Services

CCID is undertaking a plan to let the rest of the world know about the services provided by the organization, and the benefits from networking through the consortium. The first of a series of initiatives is being implemented to share this information.

Namibia Project Implementation

CCID has been planning and undertaking behind-the-scenes activities to implement the recent USAID/ALO grant to provide entrepreneurship training to the Polytechnic of Namibia. Budget review meetings, and planning for the first video conference between the participants has been underway, and will be followed in August by the ALO Synergy Conference in Washington, D.C., attended by all ALO grant recipients.

By the time this newsletter is published the CCID Summer Institute, held in Seattle and hosted by Green River Community College, with assistance from Highline, will be over. Already we are deep into planning for the annual conference: *International Education in Turbulent Times* being hosted by State Center Community College, California. And a glance at the CCID calendar, found elsewhere in the newsletter, indicates planning is underway for conferences, institutes and other activities to the year 2006 and beyond.

CCID Programs and Services





Students Receive Community College of Philadelphia's International Studies Award

In May six students finishing their course work in Community College of Philadelphia's International Studies curriculum option in the Liberal Arts received the college's Distinguished Achievement in International Studies award. This is the second year the college has given awards to students in the International Studies major whose course work, grade point average, and pursuit of international understanding outside the classroom demonstrates exceptional work. These awards reflect both the high level of academic work by the students in the program, and the growing numbers of students at Community College of Philadelphia majoring in International Studies.

This year's recipients, Baiyina Brown, Abraham Cisne, Traci Lordan, Francis Murphy, Sonja Rittenhouse, and Sarah Salisbury, illustrate the fascinating range of backgrounds and academic interests among students studying in the program. Students graduating this year have done language work and course concentrations in areas that include Japanese and Japanese history, Spanish and Latin American studies,

Arabic, anthropology and Middle East studies. During the coming months these students will begin their studies at a range of four-year international and area studies programs in both the Philadelphia area and across the country. Last year's graduates in International Studies are now in international programs at Arcadia University, Rosemont College, West Chester University and St. Joseph's University, and received an impressive range of scholarships to help continue their studies including the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship, the All-Pennsylvania Academic Scholarship and a Dean's Scholarship.

Since its start about seven years ago the number of students in the program has continued to grow with over 60 students currently majoring in International Studies. Students indicate on surveys that they select this field of study for a variety of reasons including the college's transfer agreements with colleges and universities with strong



Three of the students who received the Distinguished Achievement in International Studies award from left, Traci Lordan, Abraham Cisne and Baiyina Brown

international and areas studies programs, and the need to be globally competent in order to prepare for a career in the world today. The curriculum has been nationally recognized in a number of publications and awards, including the recent selection of Community College of Philadelphia as one of six exemplary colleges of how to internationalize a campus (Internationalizing the Campus 2003, NAFSA: Association of International Educators, sponsored by the United States Department of State and Educational Testing Service). Students in the curriculum are required to study two years of a foreign language, take a range of foundational courses in international studies such as World History and Geography, and select with the program advisor a course concentration focusing on one world region or a specific topic in global studies. Thanks in part to a series of grants through the United States Department of Education Title VI program, the college has developed and is now offering a wide range of courses in Asian Studies, African Studies and Latin American Studies, including associated language courses. The curriculum will continue to strengthen in the next few years through a number of new initiatives including a current Title VI grant that will result in new courses in the area of Middle East Studies, including additional courses in Arabic and Hebrew.

New International Education Opportunities for Students with Disabilities

The International Education Department of Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in collaboration with the Center for Students with Disabilities completed a project supported by the Mobility International USA. As a result, one student with disabilities, Rhonda Baranowski, traveled to Germany and Ukraine last fall to pilot test a future study tour that would be offered to all students next year. The project helped our NTC student develop advanced skills in leadership and advocacy. In the future, the project will support the disability rights movement in the United States through increasing the participation of students with disabilities in the international education programs of the college and will help students develop a broader understanding of the milestones and experiences of

the disability movement in two important European countries.

Just recently, Rhonda came back from the NAFSA conference that took place in Baltimore, MD. Together with the Mobility International, she was presenting on opportunities for students with disabilities in international education. Rhonda shared her experience and the results of the initiative with Germany and Ukraine. She also focused on the diverse disability movement in these two European countries and discussed availability and quality of accommodations for people with disabilities (accessibility, communications, transportation, and socioeconomic environment). Rhonda is planning to assist in developing an evaluative case study of the educational benefits of international travel.



Russians Expound on Virtues of NIS Grant

by John Brenner



Russian participants from ISPU from left, Irina Astrakhenseva, Sergey Kupriyanov, Eugene Grubov, Natalie Klochkova, John Brenner, Alex Karyakin, Michael Shiko, and Olga Makishina

Marketing and Internet Commerce. They also wrote a small textbook for their students on the topic because they see the need for Russian students to understand the possibilities that the Internet offers in the area of business. One faculty member noted that the experiences of the grant increased his

ability to teach a course on international negotiations, which looks at business and cultural patterns of people in the world. A business faculty member noted that as Russia progresses into the capitalistic system, it is important to understand the credit system of the United States society. She noted that while in the U.S., she gained much information about how the system works by visiting and talking with banking officials.

Other Russian professors noted that they learned much by observing and participating in new methods of

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Southwest Virginia Community College (SVCC) of Richlands, Virginia, is concluding the two-year New Independent States (NIS) Grant with Ivanovo State Power University (ISPU) in Ivanovo, Russia. The grant focused on the exchange of faculty members with an emphasis on economics, free market economy and business practices. Recently, John Brenner, Global Education coordinator made a final visit to ISPU to do an evaluation of what the Russians learned from the grant.

The Russian professors all had positive comments to make about participation in a grant with an American community college through funding by the U.S. State Department. The professors were from the business, economics, sociology, English and country studies departments. All of them had been familiar with the use of the Internet in education but they felt that participation with the Americans helped them expand their knowledge with video conferencing, PowerPoint lecturing, Blackboard systems of communicating with students, creating CDs of American lectures and the use of chat to discuss issues with an entire class. Clearly, the Russians learned a great deal about technology from this grant because technology was an integral part of the entire exchange. Both ISPU and SVCC students and faculty members participated in many of these videoconferences.

Two of the Russian faculty members used their learning experiences to create two new ISPU courses: Internet

The Amazon Opens Doors to Opportunity

For three biology instructors at State Center Community College District's Fresno City College, the wonders of the rainforest came to life as they traveled in small canoes upriver into the Jau National Park in Brazil. As part of their goal for internationalization of the curriculum, and a long term goal of starting a field studies exchange program, instructors Rodney Olsen, Carl Johansson, and Roger Luckenbach spent a month in the Amazon River Basin in Brazil last summer.

Why Brazil? The instructors are interested in comparing issues in Brazilian ecosystems to issues found in ecosystems in the United States, for example the Pacific coastal rainforest, Florida everglades, and the tall grass prairie. Carl Johansson has been conducting field studies in Brazil for the past ten years. Early planning is underway to develop an exchange program for Fresno City College students and students of the Universidade Católica de Goiás in Brazil to have the opportunity to study these analogous ecosystems and share their learning and experiences. Plans are also underway to develop instructional units at Fresno City College based on



FCC instructor, Rodney Olsen holding an Amazon earthworm

the instructors' experiences in Brazil. The units will focus on bio-diversity, land-use practices, and people, place, and culture. In addition, the experiences each instructor brought back will enrich the content taught in their classes.

This trip was made possible by a \$2,800 grant from the Center for International Trade Development (CITD). Established in 1989, the CITD is part of the State Center Community College District and supports the internationalization of curriculum and establishing ties with other countries.

For information call (559) 442-4600 or web site: www.scccd.com.



Workshop in Digital Media

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Ben Jones, assistant professor, Visual Arts, and Don Matthews, director, International Affairs traveled to the Dominican Republic March 31 - April 4, 2003 for Ben to conduct a workshop in the Fundamentals of Digital Media at the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (FUNGLODE) in Santo Domingo. The workshop was held April 1 and 2.

The workshop was the result of an MOU between DBCC and the foundation where one of the agreed to activities would be the offering of various workshops and classes at the foundation for the benefit of the general population in Santo Domingo. Yvette Lopez, director of projects for the foundation and Yamile Eusebio, who schedules programs at the foundation, coordinated the planning of the workshop. At DBCC, Dr. Sharples assigned the project to Dawn Sealy and Ben Jones to develop the curriculum, Frank Lombardo, Nancee Bailey and Don Matthews to coordinate the logistics.

The foundation covered the expenses

for Jones and Matthews and provided transportation as well as the venue for the workshop. The participants included 25 professionals, students, and foundation personnel ranging in ages from 20 to 60, the majority being between 22-30 years old.

The class consisted of an introduction to the use of Adobe PhotoShop, an explanation of the various features of the program and numerous exercises to allow the students to develop competence through hands-on applications. The final exercise combined all of the techniques learned into a finished project. The class was taught in English with translation provided when needed. Since the PhotoShop program for the students was in



Ben Jones in Digital Media classroom

English, the use of English was appropriate, although there was a wide disparity in English ability among the students. That problem was addressed partially by having those students who spoke English well to sit near those who did not. This solution was somewhat successful. The translation of the lesson occasionally also was helpful, but no doubt, there were times when some of the students were not able to understand the discussion. Recommendations for future workshops will be forthcoming.

In addition to the workshop, the delegation visited the U.S. Embassy and spoke with Tawnie McNeil, the new Cultural Affairs officer, Laura Sofia Abreu, Cultural Affairs and Sonia Rodriguez Disla, director for Information Resources. They also went to the USAID office and met briefly with Neicy Zeller and Lisette Dummitt who work with education and partnership programs. Also on Friday night, the two had dinner with Van Elder Espinal and his wife, the vice president of the Business Association co-sponsoring the creation of the community college, Universidad Comunidad de las Americas (UCLA), with FUNGLODE and in Eastern Santo Domingo. DBCC will be assisting the foundation and the association in developing the college there.

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Russians Expound on Virtues of NIS Grant

teaching, understanding and comparing Russian/American business systems, and increased cross-cultural understanding. One faculty member said she was surprised and encouraged by the optimism of the American faculty members and students. She noted that some Russians remain pessimistic about the future and expect solutions to come from the top of society but that in the U.S. she saw a different pattern, one where the benefits go to the most motivated individuals.

Faculty members noted that the grant offered them an opportunity to discuss the problems of democracy in the USA and Russia. These discussions, plus the opportunities to meet Americans and bring them to the ISPU campus has given the Russian faculty members and their students a competitive advantage for the future. The personal experiences, knowledge about society, governmental operations, business practices and travel experiences have enriched the professional lives of the faculty of ISPU.

Grant director, Brady Surlles of SVCC, will host the final three Russian professors on campus this summer. Michael Shipko of ISPU will be one of the visiting Russians where the two will conclude the grant and discuss the future involvement of the two educational institutions.



How to Internationalize Modules Workshop Hosted by Moraine Valley by Linda Gruber



Moraine Valley hosts 'How to Internationalize Modules' Workshop

Moraine Valley Community College attracted 30 of its faculty members to a half-day workshop on April 30, intended to introduce them to a conceptual framework created by presenter Theo Sypris of the Midwest Institute for

International/Intercultural Education (MIIE) in Kalamazoo, Michigan. And what a dedicated group they were! Disciplines represented at the workshop ranged from the hard sciences, to the social sciences, to the humanities, as participants were walked through the process of identifying an issue in one of their courses that reflected the full spectrum of reality as presented in Sypris' framework: environment, interaction, human characteristics, human

activity, and/or human intellect. Faculty members volunteered to share their course syllabi with the presenter beforehand, and then during the session Sypris explained to the group at large where the most

appropriate and ripe spots for the infusion of international material were located in these sample syllabi. The afternoon concluded with Dr. Neil Holman, curriculum specialist, inviting faculty members to seek assistance through Moraine's Center for Teaching and Learning, and Dr. Judy Marwick, assistant vice president for Academic Programs, encouraging the audience to continue their professional development through Global Education - one of the college's strategic initiatives. Lastly, Sypris overviewed the Summer Institute that MIIE holds each August in Kalamazoo and the opportunities it affords for those who want to roll up their sleeves and begin curriculum development in earnest. At press time, a good sampling of the workshop attendees had applied and were accepted for the MIIE Summer Institute.

Visiting Fulbright Professor from Lebanon Presents at Moraine Valley by Linda Gruber



Visiting Fulbright professor, Dr. Adnan El Amine, from Lebanon presents at Moraine Valley

On March 29, 2004 approximately 275 people gathered at Moraine Valley Community College to hear a presentation on *Education and Youth: Politics in Lebanon*, a PowerPoint presentation by Dr. Adnan El Amine, visiting Fulbright professor from Beirut, Lebanon and a full professor at Lebanese University there. The attentive crowd was drawn to the talk and included interested parties far beyond the college's district boundaries as well as the local campus and community due to a number of factors: current world events, the demographics of Moraine Valley which reflect a good percentage of Arabs and Muslims, and the engaging manner and fine scholarship of Dr. El Amine. His talk was a highlight of the college's yearlong focus on the Middle East. In his remarks he shared the results of a survey he conducted of 2,400 college

students in Lebanon and their attitudes toward education, politics, and the heroes that they exalt with some names on the list appearing as surprising ones to Americans not familiar with Lebanon's history. Earlier in the day, the professor met informally with student representatives from the Arab Student Union and the Muslim Student Association, where snacks, smiles, and exchanges about life in America were in order. A luncheon attended by administrators and faculty advisors who work with Arab and Muslim students was held, and then a reception for the college community as well as community leaders in Arab-American affairs was given to honor of Dr. El Amine. His visit to Moraine was made possible by a grant written by Moraine's neighbor, St. Xavier University, and as a delegate from a special Fulbright program entitled *Direct Access to the Muslim World*.



Indian River Community College Presents International Week

A four-day series of events celebrating cultural diversity comprised International Week at Indian River Community College (IRCC) this spring.

Activities began with a panel discussion, *Current Issues and Perspectives on Immigration*, moderated by Dr. Annie Fuller, IRCC associate professor of history. The discussion explored immigration from historical, cultural, and legal perspectives and addressed the contributions and impact of immigrants on Florida and the United States. Other participants included Dr. Richard Mulanax, IRCC professor of

humanities, Dr. Fontley Corrodus, IRCC professor of social sciences and Angelina Castro, attorney.

The theme for Tuesday was International Film Day. Complementing their study of European history and political science, students analyzed *Welcome to Sarajevo*, the story of a group of journalists during the war in Bosnia in the 1990s. On a lighter note, *Cinema Paradiso* was shown later in the day. This charming Italian coming-of-age film follows a young boy's introduction to the world of movies.



Under the Cultural Diversity Day banner, Mexican dancers were among the many students and community performers who participated in IRCC's International Week.

Pellissippi State Hosts French Economic Development Officials

On March 20-22, 2004, a delegation of 28 people from Anderson, Knox, and Blount counties in Tennessee visited Cherbourg, France, as part of a Pellissippi State Technical Community College tour. The college has engaged in an exchange of students with Institut Universitaire de Technologie (IUT) in Cherbourg for the past six years. During a meeting at IUT, some of the Manche district officials said they were planning to be in the Knoxville area in April to visit economic development agencies and would be interested in visiting Pellissippi State as well.

The proposed visit took place on April 19, 2004. The French delegation consisted of François Ricaud, director of Manche Expansion—the Economic Development Agency of the Manche County Council and the Manche Chambers of Commerce and Industry—in Saint-Lô, and Jacques Leprieur, who is in charge of international affairs for the same agency.

The topic of discussion was the college's interaction with its community, especially in regard to economic development. Members of the college staff discussed the use of advisory committees made up of community members, activities of the Small Business Development Center, and the role of the Business and Community Services division in providing customized training.

For the past 10 years, the department of the Manche in Normandy and the State of Tennessee have been partners and have engaged in numerous visits. The current emphasis of the partnership is economic development. Manche Expansion is offering free assistance to Tennessee companies wishing to do business with or in Europe. They help with identifying potential partners, securing financing, locating appropriate real estate, and recruiting employees. The goal is to help North American companies position themselves in the emerging European market.

The activities went out-of-doors with "College Connection" when International Week teamed with the Campus Coalition Government for games and refreshments. Students wore nametags stating their state or country of origin, and all were encouraged to speak with someone they had not met before.

The culmination of the week was "Celebrating Cultural Diversity Day," a showcase of international entertainment, displays and foods. The entertainment began with kilted bagpiper Kevin Brown, an IRCC student, leading his young pipe and drum playing sons, as well as other college students into the Student Union. Colorful Mexican dancers followed, with Calypso singers, Irish step dancers, Spanish Flamenco dancers and others rounding out the roster of multi-cultural entertainment.

International Week is sponsored by the IRCC Global Initiatives committee and the Cultural Diversity committee and expands upon the IRCC International Day first held in 2002.



St. Clair County Community College in London - Thanksgiving 2003

by Jean E. McNaughton-Heering



SC4 staff from left, Bud Cheney, Dr. Tom Mooney, Jean McNaughton-Heering and Paul Schmitt

On November 25, 2003, sixteen staff, family and friends of St. Clair County Community College (SC4) boarded a Northwest flight overnight to London's Gatwick airport for a five-day whirlwind tour of the city. The purpose of the trip was to become acquainted with Goldsmiths College (part of the University of London) to explore setting up a program for St. Clair County Community College students to attend the college as part of an international cultural exchange.

Upon arriving we were escorted to an hotel in the Kensington area of London. London is a very old city, yet very alive and cosmopolitan. Kensington is in the west end of London near Buckingham Palace and Kensington Palace. The hotel was across the street from Kensington Park and Hyde Park. Henry VIII and his daughter, Queen Elizabeth I used to hunt fox and deer in Hyde Park (about 500 years ago). In Kensington Park, there is a large and beautiful monument

to Prince Albert (husband of Queen Victoria). Mass transit is the only way to get around in the city, since it is heavily congested. Buses, the Underground (subways) and the famous black taxis are all readily available and easy to navigate. Everyone is willing to help a lost tourist.

The best way to get familiar with the city is to take a bus tour. Hop on one of the many double-decker tour buses (Big Bus and Original Tour) and a tour guide will point out the many famous (and infamous) sights, while also telling some of the history of the city. The bus tours also include guided walking tours and a guided boat ride down the Thames as part of the fee. Visitors may get off at any point to tour. But first, they go all around the city, then begin their own adventures.

Different people had different interests, so most broke into smaller groups to see what they were most interested in. Some went to Madame Toussauds Wax Museum and the London Dun-

geon, others went shopping at Harrod's world-famous department store. Others toured St. Paul's Cathedral (where Lady Diana Spencer and Prince Charles were married in 1981) and Westminster Cathedral. Most spent an afternoon at the Tower of London. This ancient castle was begun by the Romans 2,000 years ago. Additional building was done when William the Conqueror took over England in 1066 and it was also the prison where two princes were murdered and buried - their bodies found some 200 years later during remodeling. Two of Henry VIII's wives "lost their heads" at the Tower. Yeoman Warders (Beefeaters) retell the stories of life at the Tower. Among some of the items at the Tower were Henry VIII's armor (including the full armor of his horse), the cell where Sir Walter Raleigh spent about 14 years of his life and, of course, Britain's crown jewels!

Other sights visited by the group included Piccadilly Circus, Trafalgar Square (and the famous monument to Lord Nelson), the National Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Museum of Natural History, Westminster Cathedral (where over 4,000 famous Brits are buried), Buckingham Palace, the Houses of Parliament including listening to Big Ben, the huge bell in the clock tower, and the London Eye. The London Eye is a huge Ferris wheel built by British Airways several years ago on the bank of the Thames. Each "pod" holds about 30 people and the ride is a half-hour long. On a clear day (which we had two of them) you can see much of the city. An evening boat ride down the Thames offered another view of the city. Finally, a trip to London would not be complete without fish and chips and a pint of ale.

Four staff (Dr. Tom Mooney, Mr. Paul Schmitt, Bud Cheney and Jean McNaughton-Heering) met with staff at Goldsmiths College (near Greenwich) on Thursday. The staff showed their facilities, including the library and student housing flats, before providing a lovely lunch. Discussion was about the possibility of sending a student to Goldsmiths College for two terms, possibly in January 2005. About 11% of the students at Goldsmiths are international. Jill Thorn, assistant registrar, explained that the college is very aware of the needs of international students and works hard to make their stay comfortable and in a good learning environment. This would be a wonderful opportunity for a SC4 student to learn more about people from different countries and cultures, while visiting in a country that speaks English.

After a whirlwind tour of this beautiful and historic city, the group flew home, arriving at Detroit Metro Airport. While it felt good to be home, they all looked forward to returning to London to spend more time taking in its history - both old and new.



Scottish Ties

by Bob Keener

Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio, and North Highland College in Thurso, Scotland, have agreed in principle to establish a sister college relationship following a Sinclair visit there in May. Video conferencing and distance education capabilities will enable the two colleges to effectively exchange programs with each other.

Sinclair's founder, David Sinclair, came from the Thurso-Wick-John O'Groats region and will afford Sinclair the opportunity to further research his family's history. In even numbered years Sinclair will send three student leaders and two faculty members to North Highland to participate in classes, interact with student organizations, guest lecture and conduct research. The rich Sinclair history of the region will also be researched.

Two students, Kristina Milentis (Ohio community college student of the year) and Justin Rockwood (student government vice president), visited classes and student leaders on this visit.

When Kristina was asked what the most exciting part of the trip was for her, she replied "Being invited to their evening British Sign Language class. Being both a student and an instructor

of sign language, I was able to see first hand the differences between two different sign languages. It is one thing to read about the difference of sign language internationally, but to actually see a whole room of people conversing in another language was phenomenal! Now I can speak from personal experience about the differences of other languages around the world."

Justin stated that "he was surprised at the inertia of their student government. There appears to be an indifferent interest in student government sponsored programs."



Sinclair Castle

Following the visit to Scotland the Sinclair delegation spent a day in London before returning home. A trip such as this would not be complete without visiting some of the local cultural sites which included Loch Ness, Camster Carins, Sinclair Castle, John O'Groats, Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London to name a few.

Delegation leader Ned Sifferlen,

president emeritus, indicated, "It is important for the students to experience a unique and different education system and to touch and participate in

For first time travelers abroad it is a mind expanding experience. . . .

the local culture. For first time travelers abroad it is mind expanding experience and one of the most important experiences we provide with this type of opportunity."

Kristina summed it up best when she said, "Seeing two different countries and two different cultures in one trip was a great experience. Scotland is definitely laid back and friendly whereas London was very fast-paced and similar in many ways to New York."



Crowded Leicester Square



New Community Connections



Poltava Public Health delegation at AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Wausau

Northcentral Technical College (NTC), Wausau, Wisconsin, has been running the Community Connections program for eight years. Each year the college hosts three groups of professionals and business people from different parts of Ukraine.

The participants last year had diversity in terms of profession and geography.

Professionals of Poltava public health professionals (prevention and treatment of HIV and drug addiction) were the first to start their internships in Wausau. The participants gained useful information and improved their professional skills in the field of prevention, testing, and treatment of HIV and drug addiction. The Ukrainian specialists representing different organizations in the Poltava region visited AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, the Red Cross, resource centers for youth, and substitute therapy clinics, as well as community organizations, testing laboratories and special hospitals for HIV positive people and drug addicted patients.

Ten business people of companies both large and small represented Rivne and Volyn regions, from western Ukraine. For four weeks the participants interned with companies and

enterprises related to their business that varied from tourism, retail, oil to packaging, grocery and Internet providers.

The spring group focused on agriculture and came from the south of the country, Mykolayiv region. The farmers were interested to learn about new methods of growing soybeans and corn, traditional for Wisconsin kinds of agribusiness – dairy, cranberries and maple farming. The participants met with local

and state organizations and committees that both assist and advocates for farmers. In addition to the professional training, all the participants had a chance to learn more about American culture by visiting national holiday celebrations, local museums, galleries and sport competitions. In general the Ukrainian visitors and American hosts managed to develop very friendly and warm relations. It is hoped that the Poltava, Rivne, Volyn and Mykolayiv professionals will soon be able to host their American colleagues at home, and in turn, share their own successful experiences in Ukraine, as was the case when NTC organized a follow on to Ukraine to Dnipropetrovsk and Crimea.

The follow-on program has exceeded its expectations and has completely fulfilled its itinerary. The follow-on focused on the disability movement in Ukraine and the support of businesses, organizations and schools that work with people with disabilities. This was the first time a

special topic of the follow-on was fully presented by specialists of different levels that all contribute to the successful experiences of the disability movement in the U.S. The U.S. participants conducted more than 40 meetings, seminars, sessions and presentations in three Ukrainian communities. They met with 18 NTC's Community Connections alumni and six alumni that were hosted by other U.S. host organizations. In general, the participants covered the auditorium of about 2,000 people that included the colleagues, partners and friends of the alumni, parents and people with disabilities. All the U.S. participants experienced the Ukrainian culture through home stays. They were hosted by the alumni as well as by other community members. The communication between the U.S. and Ukrainian participants was successful thanks to the local interpreters that did a wonderful job. They contributed



Meeting with old friends in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine

greatly to the successful experience and the better understanding of the culture of Ukraine.

The follow-on was recorded by a local TV station. Two weeks later, a four-part series was presented to a northern and

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International Exchange Results In Educational Reform In Ukraine

A three-year international exchange program between the College of Lake County (CLC) in Grayslake, Illinois, and the Zaporizhzhie State Engineering Academy (ZSEA) in Ukraine, has resulted in major improvements in faculty development, administrative leadership and online instruction at ZSEA.

The program was initiated in 2001 after CLC received a federal grant from the U.S. Department of State to help the ZSEA, a major post-secondary institution in Ukraine, which has been struggling to reform its educational system since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. The ZSEA sought CLC's assistance in developing and implementing three specific goals: establish an institutional governance system, design a New Faculty Institute for training and professional development and develop online courses.

Exchange activities began in fall 2001 with a visit from the president and vice president of ZSEA to learn about CLC's governance system. A CLC administrator and a faculty member visited the ZSEA in spring 2002 to

observe and evaluate the ZSEA's already established governance system, which included the creation of faculty, staff and student senates.

Exchange activities continued in the second year of the grant, which focused on professional development for faculty, staff and administration. Faculty members and administrators from the ZSEA visited CLC in fall 2002 to learn about CLC's New Faculty Institute, a semester-long orientation program for newly hired faculty members. The program provides an opportunity for new faculty members to gain a better understanding of the community college system, meet and interact with faculty members from other disciplines, share teaching styles and network.

Three CLC teams, including the CLC



From left, Kiselev Egor, biometrics faculty, Polyakova Natalya, dean, Information Technology

president and faculty members, returned to the ZSEA between spring 2003 and fall 2003 to see the progress made in implementing a New Faculty Development program and a Teaching and Learning Center for professional development activities for faculty and administrators. CLC also developed a web page for the ZSEA to learn about the educational differences between Ukraine and the United States and understand CLC's educational setup, including academic programs, services, professional development activities, online instruction, admissions requirements and more.

Additionally, CLC started a mentoring program, partnering ZSEA faculty members with CLC faculty members, to provide technical training in Internet based instruction, the goal of the final year of the grant. The ZSEA faculty members visited CLC in January 2004 to observe online teaching methods, design and develop technology-based modules of instruction. The final exchange visit took place in March when a group of CLC faculty members visited Ukraine to evaluate hybrid courses the ZSEA faculty members had developed and provide additional online teaching training.

While CLC will continue working with the ZSEA, the grant will officially end in August. CLC has already applied for another federal grant to help the Crimean Institute of Humanities in Yalta.

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New Community Connections

central Wisconsin audience. They got a perspective on the program, the trip in general, the disability movement, education, medicine and business in Ukraine, as well as culture and traditions of the Ukrainian people.

At each place, the people would meet the U.S. participants with the warmest welcome. The U.S. participants felt welcomed, comfortable, taken care of and safe. The hospitality was unbelievably wonderful. All the individuals involved with this program reported having a rewarding experience!

The follow-on program proved the importance of continuing the Community Connections. The more participants take part in the program, the faster the process of democratization in Ukraine will happen. It is very important to seed the ideas of the free market among the ordinary population of Ukraine. With this, the understanding of the disability movement will go faster. The grassroots organizations are of great power in a democratic society, and it's vital for Ukrainian citizens to believe in their power.



Daytona Beach Community College Hosts Group of International Advisers

by Allison Ryan



From left, Nancee Bailey, Don Matthews, Tsegaye Kassa, Luc Fanou, Celine Ouziel, Nancy Leonard, Rohayma Rateb, Fazilat Khalilova, Ola Augustniak, and Judy Assad

board members from the Center for International Business Education.

The Educational Information and Resources Branch promotes the international exchange of students and scholars through a network of overseas educational information centers located in nearly every country of the world. More than four million prospective students contact these centers each year. The branch estimates that a majority of the more than 500,000 international students now studying in the U.S. contacted a branch affiliated center for information on U.S. study. These students contribute an estimated \$11 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The branch provides training programs for educational advisers, an annual supply of reference materials, and equipment on a prioritized basis.

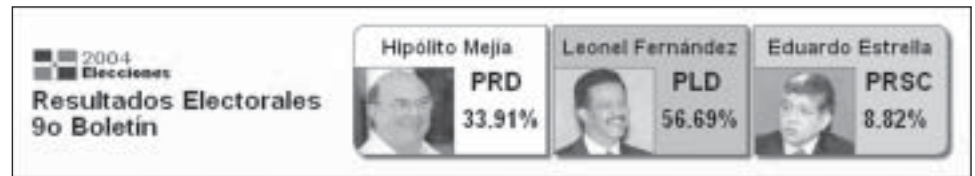
The college's office of International Affairs coordinated this activity. For additional information contact Don Matthews at (386) 506-3141.

Facilitated by the U.S. Department of State's Educational Information and Resources Branch, Daytona Beach Community College (DBCC), in conjunction with the Central Florida Consortium for Higher Education, was host to an international group of advisers from Education USA for the fourth time in as many years.

Six participants from Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Poland, Republic of Benin and Uzbekistan, were welcomed to the Daytona Beach Campus of DBCC on May 17, receiving presentations about higher education opportunities in the U.S., particularly in Central Florida.

Staying for a week at the Plaza Resort & Spa on the beach, the group had a full schedule of activities planned during their visit that included touring sister institutions such as Stetson University, University of Central Florida, Bethune-Cookman College and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. In addition they attended a reception at the college's Southeast Museum of Photography on May 19, attended by college faculty members and staff, representatives from other local colleges and universities and advisory

CCID Plenary Speaker Now President Elect of the Dominican Republic



Dr. Leonel Fernández, the featured speaker at the CCID 27th Annual Conference this past February in Orlando, won the presidential election in the Dominican Republic in May. Although there were numerous candidates in the election, three of the candidates represented the major parties including the current president, Hipólito Mejía. Fernández, a former president (1996-2000) and currently the CEO of the Global Foundation for

Democracy and Development, won the election as the standard bearer for the Liberation Democratic Party (PLD) with almost 57% of the vote in the final count, including overseas ballots cast in various parts of the world. Fernández won in the vast majority of provinces in the DR including the hometown of the current president. A delegation from Daytona Beach Community College will be attending his inauguration in August.



Northampton Community College Hosts French Students

Northampton Community College (NCC) located in Bethlehem, PA, hosted 19 students and three chaperones from the Lycee Jean Lurcat Business College in Paris, France, from April 7-April 14, 2004. The visit is part of a ten-year ongoing partnership between Lycee Jean Lurcat and Northampton Community College. The college's alternate visits between their schools with the visitors staying with student and staff host families. One-year NCC students travel to Paris, and the following year the Parisian students travel the Bethlehem. In addition to giving NCC students the opportunity to practice their French and the Jean Lurcat Students the opportunity to practice their English, over the years these visits have created wonderful memories and resulted in many lasting friendships.

While here the students spent three days in New York City, visited Washington D.C., toured Philadelphia, and

attended classes on Northampton's campus. They also found time for a trip to the Martin Guitar factory and got in some serious shopping time. Students from the Social Activities Club and French Club hosted the French students for a luncheon, and also accompanied them on many of their activities. On their last night here in Bethlehem, NCC hosted a farewell dinner for the French students and their host families at its student-run restaurant, Hampton Winds.



French students with their host families at Northampton Community College

Many Northampton students are now eagerly looking forward to traveling to Paris next spring to visit with their newfound friends.

Hinds Continues Sister College Partnerships *by Samantha Prim*



From left, Andrei Bogucharski, vice president and history professor; Nadezhda Kozlova, President of Peoples Friendship University- Sochi; Dr. Clyde Muse, president of Hinds Community College; and Andre Ponamarenko, PFU Language instructor.

Hinds Community College again played host this spring to faculty members and students from its sister colleges in Russia and England.

A delegation of faculty members from People's Friendship University (PFU) at Sochi, Russia, was led by PFU President Nadezhda Kozlova, who had previously been a guest of the Raymond Campus in April 1998. Also returning to Hinds with Kozlova was PFU Language Instructor Andre Ponamarenko, who served the Raymond Campus as a visiting Russian language teacher during the 2003 spring semester. They were accompanied by PFU vice president and history professor Andrei Bogucharski.

In addition to touring the college, the group made a short presentation at a

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Distance No Deterrent to Faculty Exchange Aussies



Geraldine Jeffery in her office at Green River Community College

Some 15,000 kilometres (9,000 miles) separate Perth, Western Australia – known as the most isolated capital city in the world – and the thickly forested region of Green River in Washington State, U.S.A.

Geraldine Jeffery, a lecturer in Information Technology at Perth's Central TAFE College, made the long journey to Green River in January 2003 to take part in a faculty exchange. She found many similarities between the two communities, despite the immense distance between them.

She was the first lecturer from Perth to participate in the faculty exchange program, one of the initiatives of the Australian American Education Alliance (AAEA), launched last year by Western Australian Education and Training Minister, Alan Carpenter.

Western Australia is participating in the AAEA through its international division, TAFE International Western Australia.

Geraldine was attracted by the promise of a breathtaking natural environment, close proximity to ski

fields, and the opportunity to experience a teaching environment in a different country.

"I found that the course content within the Information Technology study area was similar. Like our U.S. colleagues, Australians need to stay in top of the latest technological knowledge and developments," said Geraldine.

She said that the professional culture at Green River Community College had many similarities with that of Central TAFE, with some key differences.

"The curriculum is strongly driven by local industry, unlike Australia which has a National Training Framework," said Geraldine.

"Lecturers were assigned fewer teaching hours at Green River – around 15, compared to 22 at Central

I was very interested to see how the Australian National Training and Qualification Framework operates, and the strong commitment of Australia to this system

TAFE. However, they were also required to take part in more committee work – a role that is fulfilled by college management in our system."

Jeffery noted a high level of commitment amongst students.

"Tuition costs in the U.S. are generally higher than those in Australia, and students are conscious of achieving a good return on their

education investment," She said.

"Many of the more mature students had been made redundant by the Boeing Corporation and were on scholarships. They, too, had a lot at stake and were determined to succeed in their studies."

Another lecturer from Central TAFE, Mark Zorbas, sought an exchange opportunity in Canada and found his "perfect match" in Doug Nakano, a lecturer in Business and Computing from the College of the Rockies near Cranbrook, British Columbia.

Doug traveled to Perth with his wife and 19-year-old daughter, took over Mark's house, car and job, and completed his six-month exchange. Like Geraldine, he found many similarities in the professional environment, although the uniquely Australian Competency-Based Training (CBT) system was a new experience for him.

"I was very interested to see how the Australian National Training and Qualification Framework operates, and the strong commitment of Australia to this system.

"It is very different from anything we have in Canada, and I can see possibilities for adoption of some of the elements of the Australian system, particularly in the trades areas."

Doug and Geraldine, both "pioneers" of the faculty exchange program, say the experience of lecturing overseas was rewarding professionally and personally.

"After 25 years of lecturing in Canada, this was an eye-opening experience and I have expanded my own knowledge and insight," said Doug.

"Not only that, 2004 will be remembered as the year that we escaped the Canadian winter and returned on time for the Canadian summer."



Eastern Iowa Gives Kosovo Mayors Inside Look At Local Government

Eastern Iowa Community College District (EICCD), in cooperation with Georgetown University, provided a delegation of ten newly elected Kosovo mayors a one-month experience on the workings of local government in the United States. The delegation arrived in Washington, D.C., where they studied the theory of U.S. local government, then traveled to Eastern Iowa. The Quad Cities metropolitan area, which encompasses two states and 21 cities, became a living laboratory allowing the Kosovo leaders to experience, explore, probe, and learn about models of local governance. The mayors were challenged by EICCD facilitators to evaluate the relevance of the U.S. models of local governance to the Kosovo experience and to develop a Civic Action Plan for

implementation upon their return to Kosovo. The group held more than 30 business meetings during their stay and experienced a variety of cultural activities.

Kosovo, part of the former Yugoslavia, is currently under United Nations administration after a 1990s war between Serbs and ethnic Albanians. The U.S. Department of State, who sponsored the delegation, is



Kosovo mayors develop Civic Action Plans during a work session at EICCD

assisting in the development of a democratic society.

In the final day of the visit, Skender Zogaj, a political exile for many years and currently mayor of Fushe, expressed with passion his belief that each of the mayors “have learned many, many things about partnerships, about government, and about democracy that we will take back and adopt to build a free and stable Kosovo.”

Ismet Beqiri, mayor of the capital city of Pristina, added his sentiments, “Thank you, Quad Cities, thank you Iowa, and thank you to the United States of America – you have been a guide and true friend during a very difficult period for Kosovo.” These sentiments received the approving nods of Gani Sylaj, who was a political prisoner for 14 years; of Sali Asllanaj, who unexpectedly became mayor of Suha Reka following the murder of the mayor-elect one day after the election; and of Esad Haxhijaha, who was arrested, imprisoned and was wounded, but survived the Dubrava prison massacre in 1999.

EICCD and Georgetown University will soon be sending representatives to Kosovo to conduct a follow-up workshop.

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Hinds Continues Sister College Partnerships

meeting with HCC President Dr. Clyde Muse and the HCC board of trustees. At the meeting discussions centered on agreements for the two colleges to continue their sister college relationship with further faculty and student exchanges.

The group hosted by Hinds in April was from HCC's sister college, Bridgwater College of Bridgwater, England, and consisted of 16 students and two faculty members from the school's automotive program. The students visited all of HCC's automotive programs, and did a bit of sightseeing in the region as well. They took in points of interest in Jackson, Vicksburg, and New Orleans and enjoyed such attractions as ball games, river canoeing, mall shopping, and other tourist treats.

They also inspected the Nissan-North America Training Center in Canton, according to Adam Murray, director of HCC's Small Business Development Center and International Trade Center, who planned and oversaw the details of both sister college visits.

Jonathan Gill, section leader of the Bridgwater Automotive program, and Jason Kilduff, program instructor, followed up their trip to the U.S.A. with letters to Murray praising the time and effort that went into organizing their itinerary.

Gill said, “Thanks again for all your time and effort – everyone loved the trip and everything that you organized; it was a wonderful experience.” Kilduff said, “Thank you again for all your time and efforts for our trip. We all had a wonderful time, which was due to your planning and organization.”



Kirkwood Celebrates 12th Annual Diversity Day



Gayle Glick directed this year's cast in the International Cinderella Series

Between the sounds of the music and theater, throngs of visitors had no doubt about Kirkwood Community College's activities on May 4. The college's International Studies department hosted the 12th Annual International Student Diversity Day celebration.

Events included a wide array of displays organized by the international

students, representing over 100 countries. The student's also encouraged visitors to "watch and learn" dances from world cultures and learn more about their native lands. Henna painting was also offered, as it has a history of being a very popular activity. A multi-ethnic fashion show took place in Kirkwood's student-operated gourmet restaurant, the Class Act.

On Diversity Day the restaurant broke the record in number of people served, and had a wait-list for reservations.

Many of the area schools attended and each school bus was met by International students, selected as ambassadors for this special day. More than 400 school children were issued a "pass-

port," with a special passport holder. During their visit they "traveled" to five of the seven continents, meeting real live people from around the world who happily stamped the passport with their signature and home country.

One of the highlights of the day was a stage presentation of the "Mexican Cinderella" story. This was the fourth in Kirkwood's International Cinderella Series, and was directed by Gayle Glick, with Laurie Driscoll as assistant director. Kirkwood students from 20 different countries acted out the familiar children's story with aspects unique to the Hispanic culture and traditions. The story was brought to life with colorful costumes, music and special effects.

International Studies Director Connie Mays said the program was a big hit with Kirkwood's students from around the world and the visitors alike. She commented, "We enjoy making people aware of all the nations that are represented at Kirkwood Community College. For the area school children that visit, it's a rare opportunity for them to see, hear and take part in a true international celebration."