

Global Dimensions

World College • EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.

Three MA-TESOL Students First to go to China

This spring, three graduate students in the Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) program will travel to China to teach English as a foreign language, participating in EMU's first cooperative exchange with the Tianjin Foreign Studies University through the Department of Foreign Languages and Bilingual Studies (FLABS). **Ruth Hayes**, **Catherine Marcos** and **Kris Wray** will spend six weeks student teaching in Tianjin, under the supervision of **Dr. Wendy Wang** (FLABS). In addition to teaching, Wang and her students will be engaged in professional activities, offering a series of workshops to local English language learners and teachers on issues ranging from American culture to current TESOL practice in the United States.

Dr. Betsy Morgan (department head, FLABS), who finalized and signed the exchange agreement during her visit to China in October 2002, will provide a cultural orientation session to prepare the students for the trip. The program is approved for two years, after which time its results will be assessed and evaluated.

The Tianjin Foreign Studies University is one of eight foreign studies universities in China, offering graduate and undergraduate courses across 28 programs in eight specialties relating to language and cultural studies. The university is also an official testing center for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). It is located in the center of the city, and features red and white brick colonial architecture. According to Morgan, the architectural diversity in Tianjin is incredible. "If you walk in any one direction, it seems as if you're walking from rural China to England to a cosmopolitan city over the course of a half an hour."



Above L-R: Kris Wray, Ruth Hayes, Dr. Wendy Wang and Catherine Marcos will travel to Tianjin, China in May 2003. Below L-R: Dr. Betsy Morgan and Dr. Linda Pritchard (dean, College of Arts and Sciences) tour Tiananmen Square outside of the Forbidden City.



Where is EMU Headed?

A focus of several articles in this newsletter is EMU's proposed partnerships with universities in Tianjin, China. But where is Tianjin, and why is this city so attractive to Eastern?

Tianjin lies 75 miles south of Beijing, perched on the Bohai Sea, beyond which lies the Pacific Ocean. The climate is similar to that of Michigan, with four distinct seasons. The city and its hinterlands are rich in mineral deposits, oil, natural gas and coal, which have contributed to Tianjin's industrial development over the past 600 years. Tianjin's major industries include electronics, machine assembly, textiles, metallurgy, cement, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and soda ash. International companies such as Motorola, Toyota, Novo Nordisk, Samsung, and LG, among others, have built production facilities in Tianjin.

The population of Tianjin, China's fourth largest city, is more than 11 million. The infrastructure is exceptional, with rail, highway, air and water transportation easily accessible and in relatively good condition. One of the first Chinese cities opened to the world, Tianjin is the largest bulk goods trading port in northern China. Tianjin's port can handle over 70 million tons per year, while the airport handles 128,000 tons of cargo annually. The total volume of trade in 1999 was \$12.6 billion USD, \$6.27 billion of which involved imports while \$6.33 billion was generated through exports. Tianjin is trying to position itself as *the* commercial and trading center in northern China.

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World College Hosts Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series

The World College is hosting a series of Brown Bag Lunch lectures to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information. It is a forum where faculty, staff and experts from the community can share their experiences abroad while networking with their peers. Please join us at the next scheduled lunches, beginning at noon:

APRIL 16 - Helen Aristar-Dry (English Language and Literature) presents "The Preservation of Endangered Languages at EMU." Aristar-Dry will discuss the development of the Electronic Metastructure for Endangered Languages Data (E-MELD) in the Faculty Room at McKenny Union.

May 16 - Gregg Barak (Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology) will present "Crime and Crime Control in an Age of Globalization" in the Tower Room at McKenny Union.

The World College plans on continuing these presentations in the fall. If you are interested in presenting, please contact the World College at 487.2424.

Director's Update

I was just reading through the article by John Rekstad on page nine of this issue of *Global Dimensions*, and could not help but draw some parallels with sights I saw while in Brazil recently. There, I also experienced similar poor habitations called "favelas," which consisted of housing made of scraps of wood, metal sheets and plastic. Just like the Romani neighborhoods in Bulgaria, these Brazilian shantytowns lacked basic utilities such as running water and electricity. Here, people also faced high unemployment, discrimination and an uncertain future because of illiteracy.

What a stark contrast these areas are compared to the well-to-do business and tourist areas! Take São Paulo for example, the third largest city in the world. With a population of 17 million, it has welcomed immigrants from all over the world. Therefore, it is the third largest Italian city in the world, the largest Japanese city, the third largest Lebanese city and largest Spanish and Portuguese cities outside those respective countries. Economically, politically and culturally it is the most important city in Brazil and the economic center of South America. The largest companies and banks are located there, as well as the world's 8th largest stock exchange. When Bill Clinton was president, he visited São Paulo and said that, "If Brazil is the country of the future, São Paulo is already the future."

A country of huge contrasts is what U.S. students encounter when they study in Brazil. While I was in there, I visited five universities, two of which were located in São Paulo. I met with a few dozen U.S. students who studied either at the University of São Paulo or the Catholic University of São Paulo. Few of these students had studied Portuguese before, but most of them had had two years of Spanish. After only five weeks of intensive Portuguese, these students were able to take a wide variety of courses, including social and hard sciences, in the Portuguese language. In addition, optional volunteer work and even internships were possible. This led me to think that if I were a student today and had already had a couple of years of Spanish, I would really want to learn Portuguese, not only to broaden my horizon, but to increase my employability and usefulness as well. In addition to the 160 million people who speak Portuguese in Brazil, there are another 20 million speaking the language in the former Portuguese colonies such as Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, the Cape Verde Islands, São Tomé and Príncipe.

There are many scholarships available for students who want to study a less commonly taught language in a non-western country. The Academic Programs Abroad at EMU can help our students find a program and the appropriate scholarships to apply for. As for you, my colleagues, I will be more than happy to connect you to any of my contacts in Rio, São Paulo and Salvador de Bahia if you are interested in pursuing research, teaching or would like to inquire about the possibility of some type of exchange.

Back here at home in the U.S., the only thing that is certain in life is change. Sometimes we don't notice it because it happens gradually. Sometimes it happens all at once, and now it is happening at the World College. At the end of April, both Anass Madh and Valerie McCarthy will leave as they graduate. They have both been



Margareta O'Connell

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of tremendous assistance in the office. Anass has been the contact person for our European business partners for three years. Valerie has been the editor of *Global Dimensions* and organized the monthly Brown Bag lectures, among other things. In addition, Drew Nazzaro, associate director of the World College, is returning to teaching in the Department of Geography and Geology.

They will be greatly missed by Marsha McDonald, our World College secretary and me. We have been a great team and enjoyed working with each other. Best wishes to Drew, Anass and Valerie in their new endeavors.

I wish you all a Bom Dia!

Margareta O'Connell
Director, World College

Internationalizing the Campus on a Shoestring Budget

By: **Margareta O'Connell**

As all of us are keenly aware of the budget crunch, it is now even more important to be creative and do more for less or nothing. This applies to the internationalization of the campus as well. But there are many ways in which we can be creative and use existing resources. Here are a baker's dozen ideas for internationalizing the campus on a shoestring budget:

1. Give a lecture in your department on an international topic.
2. Make reference to other cultures/countries in your lectures.
3. Attend some of the many events hosted by our international students.
4. Plan to attend events held during International Week in the fall.
5. Encourage students to attend an international event or lecture, or see an international film by awarding extra credit.
6. Invite international students to present on a topic related to their country or share information about beliefs, customs or education systems.
7. Host a discussion featuring an international faculty member or student.
8. Give a talk about the benefits of studying or working abroad.
9. If you are doing work abroad, tell your students about it.
10. Invite international students to participate in the classroom, especially in a foreign language class.
11. Have an ethnic pot-luck lunch in your department and learn something about where the food originated from and how it is related to traditions.
12. Invite an international student or an international faculty member to your home for dinner.
13. Volunteer to participate in the Office of International Students' (OIS) World Hospitality Program. The hospitality program matches international students with volunteers who are willing to practice conversation skills while learning about another culture. U.S. volunteers are encouraged to invite international students to social, cultural, community or sporting events, or even to family gatherings. Volunteers can also assist international students when they first arrive in the U.S., with regard to shopping, banking or informal tours. For more information, please visit the OIS web site at: dsa.emich.edu/ois or contact Susmita Saha at 734.487.3116 to volunteer!

Faculty and Staff Around the World



Leah Adams (Emeritus, Teacher Education) traveled to Oman for a UNESCO consultancy in early 2003.

Gary Banks (Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) traveled to Orillia, Canada in November 2002 to attend the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association.

Gregg Barak (Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology) was a guest of the Graduate Institute of Criminology at National Taipei University, Taiwan, from Oct. 19-27, 2002. During his visit, Barak presented his paper, "Crime and Crime Control in an Age of Globalization: Where Does Taiwan Reside?" at the conference on Criminology Theory and its Applications in 2002 in Taipei. Barak also participated in a question and answer session with doctoral students and faculty at Central Police University on global criminology and human rights, and toured various police and prison facilities while there.

Peter Bednekoff (Biology) attended the International Society for Behavioral Ecology Congress in Montréal, Quebec, July 7-12, 2002. He was sponsored in part by a travel grant from the World College.

Marcia Bombyk, Elvia Krajewski-Jaime and Irma Casanova (Social Work) traveled to Morelia, Mexico in spring 2002 to teach and administer the department's international program, "Community Practice in Mexico."

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Faculty and Staff Around the World

Jean Bush-Bacelis (Management) attended the TESOL Convention and the Association for Business Communication Caribbean/Central and South American Regional Conferences in Puerto Rico Nov. 20-25, 2002. She was partially funded by a World College travel grant.

Joanne Caniglia (Mathematics) traveled to Lusaka and Ndola in Zambia to meet with Dominican Sisters International to initiate a professional dialogue regarding the facilitation of a teaching network between our countries and the improvement of professional development in areas of economic need here and abroad. Caniglia was funded, in part, by a World College travel grant.

Liqun Cao (Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology) was invited to present a paper at the International Symposium on Community Policing, which was organized by the Ministry of Public Security, in the People's Republic of China Nov. 23-30, 2002. The trip was largely sponsored by the symposium organizer. Cao also received a travel grant for the World College.

Richard Douglass (Associated Health Professions) was invited to speak at the Parliamentarian Seminar by the Center for Social Policy Studies at the University of Ghana. He spoke about the high incidence of roadway mortality in Ghana, a subject he researched as a Senior Fulbright Scholar in Ghana. His travel Feb. 7-16, 2003, was partially funded by a World College travel grant.

Sam Fullerton (Marketing) was a visiting professor of marketing at the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand from January to July 2002. He taught marketing strategy, sponsorship and event marketing, international marketing and sports marketing during their summer and fall semesters. He was also an MBA program moderator at Potchefstroom University in South Africa.

A Life-Altering Experience in Morelia, Mexico

By: **Diana B. Krajewski**



Diana B. Krajewski

In spring 2002, I was one of the luckiest people in the world. I enrolled in the Department of Social Work's international program entitled "Community Practice in Mexico." This six-week program is designed for students of social work and other health and human service disciplines who are interested in doing community service with indigenous, impoverished populations in Morelia, Mexico.

The program was led by **Dr. Elvia Krajewski-Jaime, Dr. Marti Bombyk** and **Prof. Irma Casanova** (Social Work). Our experience started off in Mexico City. During our 2 ½ day visit to the largest city in the world, we toured pre-colonial, colonial and modern historical sites. We also did some big-time curio shopping!

After our short stay in Mexico City, we headed for Morelia and were hosted by Mexican families for the remaining six weeks of study. Upon arrival in our homestays, we met our "Home Parents" who, by the way, spoke little English. This was done purposely so that EMU students were forced to practice their Spanish language skills. These families take in one to three students at a time, providing three meals a day, a warm bed, lots of laughs and conversation about Mexican culture and traditions.

School began at EMU's partner school, Universidad Latina de America in Morelia, where we were immersed in Spanish language courses for two weeks. It was recommended that participating students have at least one year of college-level Spanish or two years of high school Spanish, since the average Morelian citizen does not speak English. I strongly endorse that recommendation. However, regardless of the students' varying levels of fluency, we all learned more than we thought possible in our short time in Mexico so we could communicate with our Mexican counterparts.

Afterward, feeling more comfortable with and less intimidated by the language, we moved on to serve in community agencies such as hospitals, nursing homes, a soup kitchen or other health and human service agencies. At the end of the day, we attended classes on social policy analysis, social work theory and social work practice. A main focus of these courses was the integration of theory and practice. These classes were conducted by Dr. Krajewski-Jaime, Dr. Bombyk and Professor Irma Casanova.

One of the most valuable parts of this experience was processing the events of the day by discussing our experience in the agency in which we served. At these sessions, we learned how to engage in conflict resolution and, more importantly, how to express and deal with our feelings. Optional courses, which could be taken in an independent studies format, included "Peoples and Cultures of Mexico" and "Women's Issues in Mexico."

Late evenings were left for homework, walks around town, visiting a night club that featured folkloric music and dances or simply bonding with host families. On weekends after class, we spent our time visiting rural villages, archaeological and historical sites, local museums, folklore events or simply absorbing Morelia's surrounding landscape. There was no time to feel homesick since we were kept extremely busy. This was a good thing!

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While in Morelia, I was one of five students placed at Morelia's Children's Hospital for low income families in the oncology unit. At first, it was very difficult to adapt to the shock of dealing with sick or dying children. Their parents often had no money to feed their families, let alone pay for medicines for their cancer-stricken children.

While providing services at the Children's Hospital, it was our job to comfort the children, to develop recreational activities for them, to assist the children's families in any way possible to make their situation more endurable, to assist the unit social workers in conducting psychosocial assessments and do home visits when needed.



EMU student Diana B. Krajewski with a patient and mother at Children's Hospital of Morelia, Mexico.
Photo courtesy of Diana Krajewski.

During our time at the hospital, we built strong bonds with the children and their families, as well as with the hospital social workers.

After spending six weeks in Mexico, our group had to leave. This was a poignant time. The program's termination was difficult to handle as we had become very attached not only to the children but to their families as well.

As a result, we did not want to leave. We hugged some of the mothers and cried together, others begged us not to leave, and our Mexican supervisors gave us "thank you" presents for our contributions to the hospital. While it would be cliché to say that this was a life-altering experience, it is difficult to find the words to capture its satisfying and joyful essence. However, one thing I can say for sure is that, with this experience, all of us underwent a positive, spiritual transformation while in Morelia, Mexico. I would not trade or change those six weeks of my life for anything in the world!

This program offers students a chance to earn up to 12 credit hours, help the indigenous, vulnerable Mexican community, experience a different culture first hand and learn what cultural competence in health and human services is all about.

For more information, contact Academic Programs Abroad programs.abroad@emich.edu (734.487.2424), Elvia Krajewski-Jaime elvia.krajewski-jaime@emich.edu (734.487.0372) or Irma Casanova iocasanova@yahoo.com.

Diana Krajewski is an EMU undergraduate student majoring in creative writing and minoring in political science.

Faculty and Staff Around the World

Sam Fullerton (Marketing) served as the MBA program moderator for marketing for Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education in South Africa, evaluating and regrading comprehensive exams to ensure that international standards of performance were met. He was conference and track chair for the Academy of Business Administration's International Conference in Warsaw, Poland in July 2002 and for their Global Business Trends Conference in San Jose, Costa Rica in December 2002. Fullerton has also published articles in the *Journal of Consumer Behavior: An International Journal* (UK) and the *Manual de Contabilidad y Auditoria* (Chile).

Diane Haslam (visiting lecturer, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) went to Singapore in December 2002 to organize and conduct a personal trainer course for the Federation of International Sports, Aerobics and Fitness (FISAF) in conjunction with Fitness Network, a local fitness facility. While there, she also discussed collaboration possibilities with Ngee Ann Polytechnic in Singapore where she used to work.

Ian Haslam (Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) traveled to the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada to research match analysis of professional soccer at the world level in May 2002. From June to July 2002, he went to Singapore to discuss potential collaboration agreements in sport pedagogy and sport management with Nanyang Technological University, collaboration agreements with Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Nanyang Polytechnic and the National Institute of Education of Singapore, and the possibility of an online undergraduate degree program in coaching soccer with the Singapore and Asian Football Associations.

College of Business to Establish MSHROD Program in China

Dr. Earl Potter (dean, College of Business) and **Dr. Hung-Lian Tang** (department head, Computer Information Systems) traveled to China in October 2002 to establish a working agreement with the Tianjin University of Commerce. While they initially explored partnering on an MBA program, the university in Tianjin could not get permission to do so from China's centralized government, which strictly controls the number of universities allowed to confer MBA degrees. Said Tang, "Only 56 universities in China are allowed to offer non-Chinese MBA degree programs jointly with international universities."

However, the College of Business's Master of Science in Human Resources and Organizational Development (MSHROD) serves a unique niche market with high demand. No such program is currently available in China. This course of study requires students to take business foundation courses, including economics, law, statistics, marketing, finance, accounting and information systems. The remaining courses, required and elective, are taught by management faculty and cover human resource management, benefits, compensation, organizational development and team-building, to name a few. Students must also complete a practicum or thesis project.



Earl Potter and wife Christine Marshall traverse a section of the Great Wall of China. Photo taken by Dr. Hung-Lian Tang.

legiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation standards dictate that at least 60 percent of the program's courses be taught by EMU tenured or tenure-track faculty.

The University of Commerce will meet EMU faculty at the airport and provide food, lodging, transportation and some sightseeing opportunities while they are in China. The cost to EMU is equivalent to that of online courses. Potter stated, "This extension of the MSHROD program in China will be a

self-supporting enterprise. It will also allow us to better serve those companies in our area that have subsidiaries or manufacturing facilities in China."

In order to acclimate the EMU faculty to the Chinese culture, a short advance trip will be arranged as funds become available. In the fall of 2003, those interested in teaching in China will travel to Tianjin to get a first-hand look at the University of Commerce. Said Potter, "We need to fully support our faculty with advance

cultural training so that their first experience in China is not that of being rushed from an unfamiliar airport to an unfamiliar classroom. It is vital for the faculty to feel a relative level of comfort within the culture before being thrust into a working environment."

"This ... self-supporting enterprise ... will allow us to better serve those companies in our area that have subsidiaries or manufacturing facilities in China."

- Earl Potter, dean, College of Business

Negotiations with the Tianjin University of Commerce were complicated by the difficulties that Chinese nationals face in acquiring student visas to the U.S. Potter and Tang then discussed sending EMU faculty to China to teach several of the courses. Thus far, 20 EMU professors have expressed an interest in the program, which would be run similarly to the MASCO program now in place. Faculty would travel to China for a 10-day stay, monitor student progress via e-mail for the following six weeks, then return for a second 10-day period to finish out the course. Association to Advance Col-

The Tianjin University of Commerce, established in 1980, has a mission and goals that complement those of EMU. The university focuses on business administration, international trade, economics, law, computer science, advanced vocational technology and engineering science. Its research institutes include the WTO Research Center, the Psychology Research Institute and the Modern Educational Technology Center. Officials there are moving quickly to make this vision a reality.

For more information about the Tianjin University of Commerce, please visit their Web site at: www.tjcu.edu.cn.

Tianjin Normal University Welcomes EMU Representatives

Four representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, accompanied by **Dr. Patrick Melia**, associate dean of the Graduate School, traveled to Tianjin, China to meet with officials from Tianjin Normal University. **Dr. Linda Pritchard** (dean, College of Arts and Sciences), **Dr. Raouf Hanna** (department head, Economics), **Dr. Betsy Morgan** (department head, Foreign Languages and Bilingual Studies) and **Dr. Yichun Xie** (Geography and Geology) discussed the establishment of dual degree programs in economics and geographic information systems/remote sensing in October 2002.

Tianjin Normal is an ideal partner due to its similar history, structure, goals and objectives. The university, founded in 1958, offers degrees in 50 specialties, conferring master's degrees in 25 programs, including a master of education. Tianjin Normal also offers four doctoral programs. It has art, politics, law, economics, literature, science, elementary education and physical education departments, among others, and employs 1,009 full-time professors.

A cooperation agreement with Tianjin Normal was signed during their visit. Details regarding the administration of the programs are still being worked out. The greatest hurdle to overcome is the Chinese nationals' inability to obtain visas to study in the U.S., necessitating instruction by EMU professors in China. Tianjin Normal is building new facilities to accommodate international faculty. Several EMU faculty members within the College of Arts and Sciences have expressed an interest in teaching in China.

EMU faculty who teach in China need to have international acumen. Hanna stated, "Cross-cultural training is very important. The faculty must be prepared, because many lack a basic awareness of what China is like. The faculty will not be able to simply duplicate what they do here, they must adapt their methods to their audience."

Tianjin (cont. from page 1)

Tianjin is home to a number of universities intent on developing international partnerships, particularly with universities in the United States. Because Chinese nationals face a long, complicated visa application process, with the blessing of the central government, Tianjin officials are building the necessary facilities and inviting international faculty to teach in China. According to Dr. Hung-Lian Tang (department head, Computer Information Systems), the winter term in Tianjin begins after the Chinese New Year in mid-February and continues until June. The fall term begins in late September and ends short of the new year. This schedule is complementary to EMU's, as classes would not have to be cancelled to support the venture.

Earl Potter, dean of the College of Business, stated that "the programs in China will be self-sustaining and will likely generate excess revenue for the university."

Source: english.enorth.com.cn

Faculty and Staff Around the World

Ellen Hoffman (Teacher Education, Educational Technology) traveled to Singapore in December 2002 to attend the Inter-national Conference on Asian Digital Libraries.

Giri Jogaratnam (Human, Environmental and Consumer Resources) is currently in Hong Kong, People's Republic of China, for a two-year period (August 2001-August 2003) on a professional leave of absence from EMU. During this time, he has been affiliated with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University as a visiting professor, where he has been teaching and conducting research on issues relating to business strategy in the hotel industry.

Chris Mayda (Geography and Geology) went to Newfoundland in May, June and August of 2002 to study resettlement in relation to the collapse of the fisheries. This research was funded by a Canadian Embassy Faculty Research Grant.

Tammy McCullough (Marketing) attended the Applied Business Research Conference March 19-22, 2003, in Acapulco, Mexico. She presented a paper titled, "What Skills do Small Retailers need to Succeed? Who knows best: Us or Them?" McCullough received a World College travel grant.

Mansoor Moaddel (Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology) arranged a conference in Egypt to discuss the results of a questionnaire sent out to survey the attitudes and value orientations of the Islamic publics in Algeria, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Morocco and Pakistan. The survey included questions regarding family ties, family values, interpersonal trust, gender relationships, government, democracy, economy, religion, national identity and the social attributes of the respondents. The conference took place Feb. 24-26, 2003. Moaddel received a travel grant from the World College.

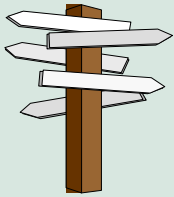


L-R: Raouf Hanna, Linda Pritchard, Betsy Morgan, Yichun Xie and Patrick Melia receive a warm welcome at Tianjin Normal. Photo courtesy of Raouf Hanna.

Faculty and Staff Around the World

Betsy Morgan (department head, Foreign Languages and Bilingual Studies) traveled to the People's Republic of China in October 2002. She met with officials from the Tianjin Foreign Studies University to finalize plans for EMU TESOL graduate students to teach English as a second language in spring of 2003.

Diana Pancioli (Art) spent February 2003 in London to research historical ceramics for a book that she is writing about the history of ceramics from 6000 B.C. to 1750 A.D. She was partially funded by a World College travel grant.



Earl Potter (dean, College of Business), **Badia Farah** (Finance and Computer Information Systems) and **Diana J. Wong** (Management) went to India in March 2003 to continue building international relationships between EMU and institutions of higher education in India. Potter spent six days speaking to students attending three college fairs in Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai with the Commercial Section of the U.S. embassy and consulates. He met with consulate staff to improve the visa process for students accepted by EMU. Farah facilitated the continuing development of the partnership between Osmania University and EMU for the masters of commerce in information systems by meeting with students, faculty and administrators and delivering a number of lectures and seminars. All three presented topics in a two-day conference related to Contemporary Trends in 21st Century Business, Three-Trends and the Hallmarks of IT Commerce.

Education in the Great White North

Teacher education students **Nicole DuVernay**, **Brad Lightfoot** and **Daniel Massey**, led by **Dr. Joe Bishop**, assistant professor of education, spent a day last December at Alison Park Public School in Cambridge, Ontario. The purpose of the trip was to allow the students to learn from a brief international experience focusing on the similarities and differences in education between Canada and the United States.

Arriving at the beginning of the school day, they observed the weekly Friday morning assembly, then paired up with a classroom teacher and observed and assisted in various classrooms. Bishop sat in on a meeting with the retiring principal as she provided information to the new principal to help him prepare to assume the leadership position in the school after the vacation period.



L-R: Professor Joe Bishop and EMU students Nicole DuVernay, Daniel Massey and Brad Lightfoot visit Alison Park Public School. Photo courtesy of Brad Lightfoot.

Although the EMU students began their experience wondering what differences could possibly exist between the United States and Canada, there were some interesting surprises in store for them. They were shocked that students were not provided with a hot lunch and were, in fact, encouraged to go home to eat during their 50-minute lunch period. DuVernay said that she was surprised by Canada's focus on literacy, reading and writing, noting that "here in the United States we seem to focus more on math and science." The students were also impressed by the fact that elementary students were taught a second language (French) beginning in first grade.

In sum, all had a great time, and were thankful to the Alison Park staff and students for making them feel so welcome. DuVernay said that "it was a great adventure," while Lightfoot "enjoyed the freedom of mobility and the warm reception" they received. Bishop stated that "every student in SOFD 328 should be strongly urged to take advantage of such opportunities." Bishop continues to work toward developing observational opportunities for EMU students in Canadian schools.

College of Education: International Notes

Sarayuth Poolsup successfully defended his dissertation, "Educational Politics in Thailand: A Case Study of the 1999 National Education Act," Feb. 25, 2003, earning an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

EMU will host the Comparative and International Education Society's (CIES) Mid-western Regional Conference in October 2003

Donald Staub (Office of Collaborative Education) and **David Anderson** (Leadership and Counseling) presented "Let's Play: Using Games to Connect Online and Face-to-Face Learning in Comparative and International Education Courses" at the annual conference of the Comparative and International Education Society in New Orleans in March 2003. **Joe Bishop** (Teacher Education) presented "Democracy Achieved? A Comparison of Secondary Student Definitions of Democracy in the Czech and Slovak Republics" at the same conference.

Bulgaria: A Different Perspective



John Rekstad

By: John Rekstad

As I look back on my first two years in Bulgaria as a Peace Corps volunteer, it is still so amazing to remember the welcoming feeling of being in Bulgaria. The people were so kind and the places so incredible that my words don't seem to do them much justice. One experience, which will stay dear to my heart, was a hike through the Rhadope Mountains. I hiked for about 80 km., and along the way, I saw some of the greatest natural and man-made wonders I have seen to date. Monasteries, the remains of an early Bulgarian fortress and a huge, stone bridge carved by generations of erosion are just a few of Bulgaria's wonders.

The summer is a glorious time to visit Bulgaria. Whether you are watching an opera in the ancient Roman Theater in Plovdiv or rummaging through the old Greek seaport towns of Sasopal and Nessabar, your experiences will be well worth the time. Traveling across the country, visiting any number of small mountain villages and taking in the customs, festivals and regional wines form memories that will last a lifetime.



There is, however, a facet of Bulgarian life that I had had very little exposure to during my first two years in the country. Prior to my most recent trip to Bulgaria in February 2003, the Romani (Gypsy) neighborhoods were areas that I, and most Bulgarians for that matter, had never visited. Almost all Roma live in extremely poor conditions. Many communi-

ties lack basic utilities and a clean, plumbed water supply. The houses fall below all standards for normal living conditions. High unemployment, discrimination and low education are ongoing problems that plague the Romani on a daily basis. My recent experiences visiting some of these neighborhood ghettos left me appalled. The sight of a whole population living in such uninhabitable conditions, while experiencing burning eyes and upset stomachs due to the constant burning of trash and soft coal, is a vision I will not soon forget.

Alleviating the economic plight of the Romani seems an impossible task. Steps must be taken to prevent discrimination against the Romani and improve the economic malaise surrounding this subset of the population. There must be a change in attitude and public policy to correct the social ills I witnessed. My most recent experience has opened my eyes to the problems that often go unnoticed by casual tourists. Bulgaria will always remain a magical destination for me, with all of its beauty, splendor and hospitable people, but the need to improve the quality of life of the Romani cannot be overlooked.

John Rekstad is an EMU graduate student studying economics, with a focus on international trade and development, who will graduate with an M.A. in April 2003. He received a small stipend from the World College to support his research of the Romani in Bulgaria.

Faculty and Staff Around the World

Earl Potter (dean, College of Business) and **Hung-Lian Tang** (Finance and Computer Information Systems) traveled to Tianjin, China, in October 2002 to meet with officials at the Tianjin University of Commerce to discuss a partnership agreement. While their initial intent was to establish a dual MBA partnership, due to restrictions imposed by the Chinese central government, they shifted their focus toward establishing EMU's Master of Science in Human Resources and Organizational Development (MSHROD) program overseas.

Linda Pritchard (dean, College of Arts and Sciences), **Raouf Hanna** (department head, Economics) and **Yichun Xie** (Geography and Geology) traveled to Tianjin, People's Republic of China, in October 2002 to meet with officials from Tianjin Normal University, Beijing Normal University, and the Beijing National Academy of Sciences to discuss partnership agreements with EMU. Dual degree programs in geographic information systems/remote sensing and economics are being evaluated.

Raymond Rosenfeld (Political Science) received a Graduate School Research Support Grant for his study, "Assessing Local Government Consolidation: The Case of Ottawa," 2003. In February, Rosenfeld traveled to Ottawa, Ontario to conduct follow-up interviews with locally elected officials, local government administrators, and citizen groups about the recent amalgamation of the local governments in the new City of Ottawa. He recently received a Fulbright Senior Specialists Grant from the United States Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs with the Council of International Exchange of Scholars. He will be a visiting professor of Public Administration and Public Policy at the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration – Presidential Administration, in Kiev, Ukraine, in April 2003.

Faculty and Staff Around the World

Harash Sachdev (Marketing) was partially funded by the World College to present a case titled “British Airways’ Dilemma” at the North American Case Research Association conference Oct. 3-5, 2002, in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Joanna Vecchiarelli Scott (Political Science) specializes in European political thought and culture, and has been focusing on the life and works of Hannah Arendt, a German, Jewish, social scientist refugee who fled to France in the 1930s and to America in 1941, and on the effect of emigration on avant-garde writers and artists. Her interest in European exiles took her to the Tate Gallery in London, England, in December 2002, to track down a hitherto little-known picture, “Pigeons for Hannah Arendt,” and to Kassel, Germany, for the international art exhibit, Documenta XI in July 2002, to search for pictorial studies of exile and displacement. She has also had a chapter, “On Exile: Hannah Arendt and Theodor Adorno in America,” accepted for publication in *Adorno*, a study of the work of Theodor Adorno to be published in 2003 by Suhrkamp Press in Germany.

Weidian Shen (Physics and Astronomy) spoke about his “Study of Mechanical and Tribological Properties of Materials, Coatings, and Layered Composites in Micro- and Nano-Scale with a Scanning Probe Microscope and Nano Indenter” at the Shanghai International Nanotechnology Symposium in July 2002. Afterwards, he visited Fudan University to discuss his research with professors there. He received a travel grant from the World College.

Donald Staub (Office of Collaborative Education) and **Joe Bishop** (Teacher Education) traveled to Windsor, Ontario Feb. 3, 2003 to meet with representatives from the Greater Essex County District School Board and lay the groundwork for future educational partnerships with Canadian schools.

Opportunities for Faculty and Administrators Abroad

Japan. EMU is a member of the Japan Center for Michigan Universities (JCMU). Faculty are eligible to apply for the JCMU Visiting Scholar Program. Scholars in this program live and research in Japan while teaching one undergraduate course. For application details, see JCMU’s Web site: www.isp.msu.edu/JCMU.

Scandinavia. The American-Scandinavian Foundation offers fellowships and grants to pursue research or study in one or more Scandinavian countries for up to one year. Awards are made in all fields. The application deadlines are generally in November of the year preceding the proposed research or study time. For up-to-date information see the Foundation’s Web site: www.amscan.org.

Canada. The Faculty Enrichment Program, supported by the Canadian Government, provides faculty members with opportunities to develop courses with substantial Canadian content. More information is available in the education section at www.canadianembassy.org, or call the Canadian Embassy at 202.682.1740.

Women’s International Science Collaboration. Grants are available to U.S. scientists to visit partner countries in order to establish research partnerships. The goal of the organization is to increase the participation of women in international research projects. For more info, visit: www.aaas.org/international/wiscnew.shtml.

Central/Eastern Europe and Eurasia. The International Research and Exchanges Board supports research in the humanities and policy research and development. Applicants must be able to speak the host country language sufficiently to conduct advanced-level research. Go to: www.irex.org/programs/iaro/index.htm.

Interesting Web Sites

For more information on Tianjin, China, and the various EMU partner universities discussed in this issue, please visit: english.enorth.com.cn/tianjin.

For information about travel in and around Tianjin, flights, visa requirements, customs specifications, embassies, consulates, tourist attractions and more, go to: www.travel.com.hk/china/tianjin.htm or www.chinaetravel.com/city/c002.html.

Interested in European higher education mobility trends? Go to: europa.eu.int.

Green Card holders MUST report new addresses to the INS within 10 days of moving. Form AR-11 can be found at: www.ins.usdoj.gov.

Direct links to 6,324 universities in 169 countries: geowww.uibk.ac.at/univ. Search Universities by discipline. 32,080 links available: www.edvisors.com.

International opportunities for scientists and engineers: www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf00138 or www.nsf.gov/sbe/int/int_tbl.htm.

Research fellowships in Japan: www.nsf.gov/sbe/int/int_postdocs.htm#postjap.

AWARE - American Workforce and Research and Education: www.nsf.gov/sbe/int/eap/start.htm#aware.

Women’s International Science Collaboration Program: www.nsf.gov/sbe/int/eap/start.htm#wisc.

Inexpensive international calls! See rates at: www.pt-1.com/101-6868_Rates_01.html

Travel Grants for Faculty and Staff

The World College at EMU offers grants ranging from \$250-\$1,000 for faculty and staff members traveling abroad. Instruction, research and service activities that will increase the international expertise of the faculty/staff member are eligible. Travel required to negotiate with potential partner universities to develop new, international courses or to assist in the publication of an article or book with international content is also supported. Applications for World College travel grants must be submitted by the following deadlines:

February 15
May 15
October 15

Since May 2002, the World College has awarded 30 travel grants totaling \$10,250 to the following faculty members:

Kristine Ajrouch (Sociology), **Leslie Atzmon** (Art), **James Berry** (College of Education), **Jean Bush-Bacelis** (Management), **Joanne Caniglia** (Mathematics), **Liqun Cao** (Sociology), **Kimberly Cole-Luevano** (Music), **Richard Douglass** (Associated Health Professions), **Badie Farah** (Finance and Computer Information Systems), **Elizabeth Francis-Connolly** (Associated Health Professions), **Veronica Grondona** (English Language and Literature), **Roy Johnston** (Art), **Steven Mardalj** (Computer Information Systems), **Tammy McCullough** (Marketing), **Mansoor Moaddel** (Sociology), **Diana Pancioli** (Art), **Dawn Percy** (Marketing), **Denise Pilato** (Interdisciplinary Technology), **Sushil Sachdev** (Marketing), **Weidian Shen** (Physics and Astronomy), **David Victor** (Management), **Wendy Wang** (Foreign Languages and Bilingual Studies), **Diana Wong** (Management), **Ronald Woods** (African American Studies), **Tsu-Yin Wu** (Nursing) and **Patricia Zimmer** (Communication and Theatre Arts). Some faculty members received more than one travel grant.

While there is no specific form to fill out, a one- to two-page application should include a trip itinerary, the rationale for the support request, a budget, and should be signed off by the department head. For more information, please visit the World College web site at: www.emich.edu/worldcollege/travel_grants.html

Travel Discounts for Faculty Members

Just as students can receive travel discounts using the International Student Identity Card, full-time teachers have access to similar benefits using the International Teacher Identity Card (ITIC). Cards purchased in the United States include up to \$25,000 in insurance benefits, can be used as calling cards to access an emergency help line, to make low-cost calls from more than 110 countries, to set up a free e-mail account or to send and receive faxes. The ITIC offers discounts at cultural sites, museums, shops, hotels, entertainment venues, sporting events and restaurants as well as commission-free currency exchange and a currency buy-back rate guarantee. To view some of the discounts available, please visit their Web site at: www.isic.org

To purchase an ITIC Card, call Council Travel 734.998.0200 or STA Travel 734.668.8550 in Ann Arbor. Academic Programs Abroad (103 Boone Hall) also has a limited supply of cards available for sale.

Faculty and Staff Around the World

Sue Stickel (Leadership and Counseling) attended the International Counseling Conference in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam from Dec. 26, 2002 to Jan. 3, 2003 where she participated in a panel on social justice issues in counseling.

Martha L. Tanicala (Nursing) traveled to Kampala, Uganda, from June 27 to Dec. 17, 2002 to develop educational materials and college courses in pediatric nursing for Mulago Hospital and Makerere University. She was sponsored by Health Volunteers Overseas-Nursing Overseas-Uganda, a non-governmental organization whose mission is to improve global health in developing countries through education.

Ronald Woods (African American Studies) attended the Oxford Round Table March 30 to April 4, 2003 in Oxford, England. The discussion centered around legislation and court decisions surrounding discrimination based on gender, race, religion, age and physical disability in the United States and the United Kingdom. Woods was partially sponsored by a World College travel grant.

Tsu-Yin Wu (Nursing) met with colleagues at the National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, Taiwan Dec. 22-30, 2002. While there, she also met with the research team developing a computer-based intervention program for adolescents.



EMU Offices That Assist International Students

International Admissions

Claudia Bean, Assistant Director
 Cecilia Barajas, Representative
 400 Pierce Hall
 Phone: 734.487.0205
www.emich.edu/public/admissions/admissions.html

Office for International Students

Paul Dean Webb, Director
 Esther Gunel, Assistant Director
 229 King Hall
 Phone: 734.487.3116
<http://dsa.emich.edu/ois>

English as a Second Language

Kim Wate, Advising Coordinator
 219 Alexander
 Phone: 734.487.0338
www.emich.edu/public/foreignlanguages/index.html

College of Business

Christie Montgomery, Assistant Dean
 Graduate Student Advising
 404 Owen
 Phone: 734.487.4444

Amelia Chan, Assistant Dean
 Undergraduate Student Advising
 401 Owen
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World College

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 103 Boone Hall
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 This issue of *Global Dimensions* was written and edited by Val McCarthy.

Announcements

Erratum

In the fall issue of *Global Dimensions*, Dr. Kevin Blake Gustavson was mistakenly identified as "Kevin Blake" on the list of Fulbright scholars.

Database

To contribute information to the international competency database, visit the World College Web site, under Special Projects, for a printable form at: www.emich.edu/worldcollege.

Information for Future Issues of *Global Dimensions*:

If you have a story or information that you would like us to consider for the next issue of *Global Dimensions*, please submit it by Sept. 19, 2003. You may submit a hard copy to 103 Boone Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, or e-mail: moconnel@emich.edu

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