

**CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS  
ANNUAL REPORT, AY2009-2010  
June 2010**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Center for International Studies is the lead unit in designing and implementing the campus' international education agenda. The Center supports academic and other programs designed to internationalize the campus and insure that students graduate with the international competence they will need to function in a world that is increasingly globalized. In addition, the Center conducts programs to internationalize the community by sharing university resources and expertise and cooperates through partnerships with organizations that enhance the region's cultural life and contribute to economic development of the region. The Center's Office of International Student and Scholar Services coordinates and provides services for international students and scholars including recruiting, admissions, immigration, orientation, taxation issues, and non-academic advising.

A unifying element in Center activities is to promote understanding of other peoples and cultures through international and multicultural programming.

Some of the Center efforts are highlighted below but more complete details are provided on the Center website: [www.cfis-umsl.com](http://www.cfis-umsl.com)

A list of Center staff is provided in Appendix A.

## **RESEARCH**

The promotion of faculty research in international, cross-cultural, and comparative studies remains a top priority of the Center. Faculty members committed to international research and internationalizing the campus are the foundation of our efforts.

### **Endowed International Professorships**

The Center Director led campus efforts seeking funds for endowed international professorships and the Center now houses six endowed professorships.

- The E. Desmond Lee Professorship of African and African American Studies. Adeniyi Coker, Professor of Theater.
- The Dr. Y.S. Tsiang Professorship of Chinese Studies. Hung-Gay Fung, Professor of Finance.
- The Dr. Allen B. and Mrs. Helen S. Shopmaker Professorship for Education in Cooperation with Springboard to Learning. E. Wendy Saul, Professor of Education.
- The Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professorship of Greek Studies. Michael Cosmopoulos, Professor of Archaeology.
- The Smurfit-Stone Professorship of Irish Studies. Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, Professor of Music (resigned September 1, 2009), and Eamonn Wall, Professor of English.
- The Eiichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professorship in Japanese Studies. Allan W. Bird, Professor of Management. (Resigned August 15, 2009.) Laura Miller will assume the Professorship on August 15, 2010 and serve as a Professor of Anthropology.

Each of these professorships in international studies has a special mandate to work with the local community in developing and conducting programs. For example, the Greek studies and Irish studies professors consult regularly with members of the local communities in selecting speakers and performers who would be of interest. The Chinese studies professor is active in local organizations of Chinese Americans and develops some programs in cooperation with those groups. The international education professor has a special mandate to work with Springboard to design and conduct programs about other cultures, the arts, humanities, math, and science in K-12 schools, especially in districts with economically disadvantaged students.

Special accomplishments this year include:

#### African and African American Studies-Professor Coker

- Authored a play, "Preemptive", which has been picked up by SIU-Carbondale's Theatre Department for special performances at the Shaw Theatre in London, England, as well as a tour of Europe, Africa, and the West Indies in summer 2010.
- Awarded the 2009 Excellence in Education Award by the *Saint Louis American*.

#### Chinese Studies-Professor Fung

- Recognized as being one of the most prolific publishers of articles in top finance journals.
- Recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research.

#### Education-Professor Saul

- Served as Editor-in-Chief of *Thinking Classroom: An International Journal of Reading, Writing and Critical Reflection*.
- Served as co-principal investigator of a \$1.6 million grant from the National Science Foundation entitled "Science Literacy through Science Journalism."

#### Greek Studies-Professor Cosmopoulos

- Continued work on his grant of \$200,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support his project entitled "Emergence of States and Complex Societies in Greece." [An archaeological dig in Iklaina, Greece.]
- Received a grant of \$22,500 from the National Geographic Society to support his excavations at Iklaina.

#### Irish Studies-Professor Wall

- Served as International Representative on the Executive Board of the American Conference for Irish Studies, the largest organization devoted to Irish Studies worldwide.
- Published two poems: "Bilingual Day Tripper" and "A Winter Caller" in *Salamander*.

### **Center Fellows**

The Center Fellows program annually provided 25-40 faculty with \$2000-\$4000 for research project support. The program was suspended in AY 2009-10 because of UM limitations on the use of travel funds and because of budget reductions.

### **Tri-Lateral Exhibition and Symposia**

Since 2000 the Center has been a partner of the Shibusawa Ei'ichi Memorial Foundation, Tokyo, in presenting research seminars and other programs focusing on Japanese studies. The partnership has raised the international profile of UMSL as an important institution in shaping

discussion of significant issues in Japanese studies and U.S.-Japan relations. For the last two years the main focus has been on developing and presenting a trilateral series of exhibitions and research symposia on entrepreneurship in Japan, China, and the U. S. Last year an exhibition and symposium was held in Japan. This year's activities include *Modernization in China, Japan, and America, 1850-1930: A Study of Three Cities*. Exhibition and Symposium in Nantong – September 22-23, 2009 and in St. Louis – October 10, 2009-February 28, 2010. Also sponsored by: Nantong Museum, China, Shibusawa Ei'ichi Memorial Foundation and Museum, Japan, and the St. Louis Mercantile Library.

### **Lentz Post-Doctoral Fellow in Peace and Conflict Research**

For ten years the Center housed a post-doctoral Fellow in peace and conflict resolution research supported by a private organization in St. Louis, the Lentz Peace Research Association. In addition, the fellow taught two courses in political science.

The fellowship was suspended in AY2009-10 because of budget reductions.

### **Journals**

Since late 2003, the Center has housed, with the Chinese studies professorship, two academic journals: *Chinese Economy*, which is published by M.E. Sharpe, and *China and the World Economy*, which is published by the Chinese Academy of the Social Sciences. Dr. Hung-Gay Fung is the editor of both journals.

In 2004, we began hosting the *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies* now published by Francis & Taylor. The journal is edited by Dr. Uma Segal, Professor of Social Work. Dr. Joyce Marie Mushaben, Professor of Political Science, serves as the book review editor. Richard T. Middleton IV, Associate Professor of Political Science, serves on the editorial board.

Again this year, the Center provided financial support for the *Theory and Society* journal which is housed in the Center for the Humanities.

## **EXTERNAL FUNDS**

### **Grants and Contracts**

CIS faculty and staff applied for at least thirteen external grants and contracts requesting approximately \$920,000. Three were awarded for approximately \$47,000 and several proposals are still under review. In addition, at least eleven on-going projects totaling over \$5 million continued during this academic year.

### **Gifts**

The Center received gifts totaling more than \$176,000. Most of these gifts are earmarked for study abroad scholarships, the cultural centers, and German and Greek language instruction.

In addition, one long-time supporter of Greek studies programs has made a planned gift which will establish another endowed professorship in the Center: Byzantine and Orthodox Studies.

### **Fee for Service Programs**

The Center conducted fee-for-service programs which generated approximately \$262,000. Included were the Intensive English Language Institute, Moscow (Russia) School of Political Studies seminar, Rikkyo University (Japan) business English program, and Seoul (Korea) Ministry of Education teachers of English program.

### **Endowed Professorships**

The endowed professorships generate annual endowment distributions, state matches, and investment income which support research activities of the professors and other Center activities. As of May 31, 2009, these accounts and the state matches generated about \$367,000.

### **Other Endowed Programs and Scholarships**

Other endowed programs and scholarships generated about \$48,500, as of May 31, 2010.

### **Student Fee Revenue**

In the fall 2009 semester there were 594 visa-holding international students attending UMSL and in spring 2010 there were 567 visa-holding international students. In most cases, these students are required to be full-time students. Student fee income generated by international students for tuition, non-resident fees, other fees, room, board, etc. is deposited in campus general revenue accounts.

## **STUDENT LEARNING**

### **Action Plan Items**

The Center's most recent Academic Review (2004) and the campus Action Plan include specific recommendations/goals for the Center and the Office of International Student and Scholar Services in two areas: study abroad and international students. We have continued to focus on these Action Plan items and are continuing to make steady progress in achieving these goals.

### **Study Abroad**

The Action Plan's first priority is to "Enhance the quality and delivery of undergraduate and graduate/professional education." In meeting that priority, one of the goals is to strengthen academic programs by increasing study abroad participation.

In AY 2003-2004, the year of the Five-Year review, 111 studied abroad including 21 in semester or year-abroad programs and 90 in summer and intersession programs.

In AY 2009-2010, 211 studied abroad including 72 in semester or year-abroad programs and 139 in summer and intersession programs.

Current offerings include 75 study abroad programs in more than 40 countries plus special summer and intersession programs.

In an effort to expand participation in study abroad programs, we have developed additional programs, especially faculty-led ones, during the intersession and the summer. In Summer 2009, programs were offered in England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, and two in South Africa. (One South African program was cancelled owing to low enrollment.) Faculty-led intersession language programs in Costa Rica and Guyana were offered. Summer programs in Dominican Republic, Greece, Ireland, Japan, South Africa, and Spain were developed for Summer 2010. (The South African program was cancelled owing to low enrollment.

Also, to make it easier for students to participate in study abroad, the Center opened a **Passport Application Acceptance Facility** on campus. Center staff assists student, faculty,

staff, and the general public in submitting their passport applications to the U.S. State Department for processing. Passport photos can also be taken in our office.

The Center is an Official Issuing Office for the International Student Identity Card (ISIC). ISIC is accepted internationally as proof of current student status. The cards also provide students with some insurance, an emergency help line, and discounts on travel and services in over 100 countries. In FY10, the Center issued 47 cards.

### **International Students**

The Action Plan's second priority is to: "Recruit and retain an outstanding and diverse undergraduate student body." In meeting that priority, one of the goals is to increase on-campus enrollment by annually increasing the number of international students."

The recruitment and retention of international students is the responsibility of the Center's Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS).

The Annual Report for ISSS discusses the efforts to recruit and retain international students plus information on other ISSS services and activities. (See Appendix B.)

Note that prior to the establishment of the Office of International Student and Scholar Services, the campus had no office with a priority for recruiting and servicing international students and scholars. In a little more than seven years, the number of international students, including permanent residents and non-resident aliens, increased by nearly 300 percent.

In the Fall 2009 semester, despite large fee increases, international concerns, and immigration difficulties, there were 594 visa-holding international students attending UMSL, plus 360 permanent residents. Together these total 954 and they represent more than 100 countries. China was the country providing the largest number of international students: 134.

In the Spring 2010 semester, there were 567 visa-holding international students attending UMSL, plus 369 permanent residents. Together these total 936 and they represent more than 100 countries. Again, China was the country providing the largest number of international students: 146.

### **Exchange Students**

Through relationships with 27 partner institutions, UMSL hosted 51 exchange students including 17 for the full academic year, 21 for fall 2009 only, 12 for spring 2010 only, and 1 for spring 2010 and fall 2010.

52 UMSL students were hosted at 24 foreign partner institutions including 12 for the full academic year, 10 for fall 2009, 20 for spring 2010, and 10 for summer 2010.

### **Visiting International Students**

Through other special programs the Center brought approximately 100 international students to campus for short-term training and educational programs. Enrollment figures:

- Intensive English Language Institute – 20
- Kuwait summer program - 9
- Moscow (Russia) School of Political Studies seminar - 25
- Nanjing University (China) business doctoral students program – 5
- Rikkyo University (Japan) business English program - 32
- Seoul (Korea) Ministry of Education teachers of English program - 9

In addition, the ELS Language Center on campus brought approximately 250 international students to campus for English language training. Thirty ELS students have subsequently enrolled at UMSL this year. Since 2006, 99 ELS graduates have enrolled at UMSL.

### **International Studies Certificates**

Currently, the Center administers seven undergraduate international studies certificates: Africana studies (including two options: African studies and African Diaspora studies), East Asian studies, European studies, Greek studies, international business, international studies, and Latin American studies.

This year, the Center convened a faculty-working group to review the certificate requirements. Five of the certificates were revised and the revisions have been approved by the UMSL Faculty Senate. The other certificates are being revised this summer.

The Graduate Certificate in International Studies is an 18 credit hour program of study featuring advanced, multi-disciplinary course work designed for individuals, including teachers and other professionals, who wish to expand their knowledge and understanding of international and cross-cultural affairs. The certificate is sponsored by the Center and the departments of Economics, History, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and Political Science.

### **Foreign Language Instruction**

The Center provides significant financial support for language instruction to insure that a greater variety of foreign language offerings are available to UMSL student.

- German and Modern Greek. The Center pays, from gift funds, all of the salary and benefits of an assistant teaching professor of German and the lecturer in Modern Greek.
- Chinese and Japanese. The Center pays 50 percent of the salary and benefits of the lecturer of Chinese. An associate teaching professor of Japanese, who also serves as Director of the Language Center, also receives nearly 40 percent salary and benefits from the Center.

### **Student Leadership Development**

The Center supports a number of special activities as part of its efforts to develop student leadership and recognize outstanding student achievement. The Center sends an undergraduate student delegate to the prestigious US Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference in Annapolis and a number of students to the Model European Union in Indianapolis. In addition, the Center administers campus participation in three national scholarship programs for study abroad the Student Fulbright program, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, and the National Security Education Program which awards the Boren Scholarships.

- Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference in Annapolis, Maryland. April 5-9, 2010. The conference focused on "National Security Beyond the Horizon: Changing Threats in a Changing World." Michael T. Siebel, an undergraduate student majoring in political science, served as the UMSL delegate. Siebel participated on the panel on "Climate Change and Global Poverty."
- Model European Union in Indianapolis, April 15-17, 2010. UMSL sent two delegations of seven students each. One team represented the United Kingdom and one represented Portugal. Ben Chambers, representing the UK Environmental Minister won second place. Bridget Member-Mener of the Portugal team won second place for Directors-General. Grant Durant won third place for Portugal Commission President. Sponsored by: College of

Business Administration, Honors College, CIS, Political Science Department, and Student Activities. Faculty Leaders: Elizabeth Vining and Joyce Marie Mushaben.

- Student Fulbright Program, administered by the Center, encourages students to apply for support for teaching or conducting research abroad. In October 2009, one student applied for a Fulbright research award in Germany; Laura McCarty, a senior majoring in anthropology, received funding for AY 2010-11 for her project to produce 3-D images of Neanderthal skulls and bones at the University of Tübingen, Germany. Another student applied for a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Colombia; that application was not funded.
- Gilman Scholarship Program, funded by the U.S. Department of State, offers grants to undergraduate students of limited financial means to study abroad. Two UMSL students received awards for AY 2010-11. 1) Zachariah Crow, a junior majoring in Liberal Studies (anthropology minor), will study at California State University's Monterey Bay Extended Education Program in India. 2) Dominique Williams, a senior majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice (Spanish minor), will study Intensive Arabic language and culture studies at American University in Cairo, Egypt.
- Boren Scholarships, funded by the US Department of Defense, support students in countries and languages critical to the U. S. For 2010-11, 138 awards were offered. Kayla Strauss, a senior in interdisciplinary studies, received funding to study Japanese language and culture, at Kansai University, Japan.

In addition, the Center sponsored three contests this year which recognized student achievement and offered prizes.

- National Sculpture Contest, German Embassy's *Freedom Without Walls* Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall. Fall 2009. Two UMSL art education majors, Kristen Franke and Matt Grant placed second in this national art contest for their sculpture, "Light Beyond the Wall." They earned a trip to the German Unity Celebration, German Embassy in Washington, D.C., October 3, 2010. The project was underwritten by the German Culture Center, UMSL, with funding from the German Information Service, Washington, D.C.
- *United Nations Day: A World Holiday*. Scholarship Contests for best student artwork, essay, and website design. October 24, 2009. Contest winners: Art Contest: First Place, Chatchawan Wongwattanakit; Second Place, Rebecca Lee; and Third Place, Andrea Rogier. Essay Contest: First Place, Ashley Ray; Second Place, Hiromi Kasuga; and Third Place, Alexander Smith. Webpage Contest: First Place, Ron Lavender and Kshiti Vaidya; and Second Place: Sophon Kaeohip. Also sponsored by: United Nations Association-St. Louis.
- 2010 International Photo Contest. Deadline: March 9, 2010. Contest winners: First Place: Faisal Pervaiz, "True Economics." (photographed in Rawalpindi, Pakistan); Second Place: Amanda Finley, "The Vale Man Door." (photographed in Narocivi, Nayan, Fiji); and Third Place: Karolina Migdalska, "Kitty in the City." (photographed in Cadiz, Spain). Seventeen other photos received Honorable Mention.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

### **International Performing Arts Series**

The International Performing Arts Series, supported by the endowed international professorships, brings at least 5 internationally recognized performance groups to campus each year. The eleventh season began in Fall 2009 and is one of the major performance niches for the Touhill Performing Arts Center. The series celebrates the cultural diversity of St. Louis and

introduces campus and community audiences to less well-known artistic traditions especially those that represent and illuminate performing arts of the countries and/or cultures of the endowed professorships. In AY2009-2010, six performances were presented with support from the E. Desmond Lee Global Ethnic Collaborative, Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, and the Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis.

- *Chinese Opera Sampler. A mix of dance and music performed by masters of the Chinese operatic arts.* September 26, 2009. Also presented by: Dr. Y. S. Tsiang Professorship in Chinese Studies and the St. Louis Chinese Association.
- *Thai Classical Music and Dance. The performance takes the audience through the history, folklore, and geography of Thailand.* October 30 and 31, 2009. Also presented by: Centene Corporation.
- *Greek Songs of Love and Passion. Lina Orfanos and The Poetica Ensemble. Featuring the Songs of Mikis Theodorakis and Manos Hadzidakis.* November 7, 2009. Also presented by: Karakas Family Foundation Alliance for the Advancement of Hellenic Studies and the Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professorship in Greek Studies.
- *Kuniko Yamamoto: Magical Mask, Mime, and Music of Japan.* January 22 and 23, 2010. Also presented by: Ei'ichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professorship in Japanese Studies.
- *The McGee Band and Professor David Wilson. Featuring traditional-style music and readings from speeches, letters and poetry of Thomas D'Arcy McGee.* February 13, 2010. Also presented by: Smurfit-Stone Professorship in Irish Studies.
- *Bassekou Kouyate and Ngoni Ba.* April 7, 2010. Also presented by: E. Desmond Lee Professorship in African/African American Studies.

### **Conferences, Speakers and Programs**

The Center regularly sponsors other conferences, speakers, and programs to promote campus and community interest in international affairs and other cultures. In AY 2009-2010, we sponsored, or co-sponsored, nearly 50 programs, most of them on-campus.

The regular series include the following:

- Colloquium Series of the Joint Center for East Asian Studies
- African and African American Studies Lecture Series
- Dr. Edwin H. Fedder Annual Lecture in Foreign and International Affairs
- Moog Family Lecture in Mexican Culture
- Sam E. Nakis Memorial Lecture in Greek Culture
- Catherine Pelican Memorial Lecture in Greek Culture

Among the special programs presented this year:

*Africa World Documentary Film Festival.* Sponsored by: E. Desmond Lee Professorship in African/African American Studies, the Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Studies, College of Fine Arts and Communication, Missouri Historical Society, Bermuda International Film Festival, and E.B.C.C.I. Cinemateque. This year was the Third Annual Festival. (One of the films from Zimbabwe, "Music by Prudence," directed by Roger Ross Williams, was subsequently awarded an Academy Award for Best Documentary-Short Subject.) Films were shown in three venues:

- Missouri History Museum, St. Louis. February 4-7, 2010.
- The E.B.C.C.I. Cinemateque, Cavehill, Barbados. February 18-21, 2010.
- Bermuda International Film Fest, Hamilton, Bermuda. March 19-25, 2010.

*Second Annual E. Desmond Lee Playwriting Competition.* Deadline: April 30, 2010.

Plays are solicited in three categories: Full-length play, one act play, and ten-minute play. Winners will be announced in October 2010. Also sponsored by Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Studies, College of Fine Arts and Communication.

*“Eyes on China: A year of teaching creative writing at Fudan University, Shanghai.”* Ridley Pearson, Novelist. November 9, 2009. Also sponsored by the Master of Fine Arts Creative Writing Program, UMSL.

*Freedom without Walls. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall.* UMSL was selected to participate in the “Freedom without Walls” celebration sponsored by the German Embassy in Washington, DC. Events at UMSL included:

- Video Competition for St. Louis area high school and university students.
- Teaching about Berlin and the Wall. A workshop for German teachers. Siggi Piwek, Presenter. In cooperation with Goethe Institut Chicago. October 30, 2009.
- “Icons of a Border Installation.” Special exhibition on the Berlin Wall. Gallery Visio. Presented in cooperation with Goethe Institut Chicago. October 30-November 18, 2009.
- “Berlin in Music.” A concert celebrating Berlin. Featuring special performances by Arianna String Quartet, UMSL Comedian Harmonists, UMSL Chamber Ensemble, Paula Kasica, Flute. J.C. Penney Auditorium. November 8, 2009.
- “Ich bin (ein) Berliner.” Reception/party following the concert. November 8, 2009.
- Opening Program. Showing of documentary film: “Freedom Without Walls.” Panel discussion with German students. Special musical numbers. Prize-winning short videos from the competition. J.C. Penney Auditorium.
- Symbolic “Opening of the Wall.” Speeches, music, and a dramatic breaking-down of the “Wall.” Presented by the German Culture Center and the Theatre, Dance and Media Studies Department. Near the Wayne Goode Statue by MSC. November 9, 2009.
- “Be Careful what you Pray for: The Search for Unity in Unified Germany.” Lecture. Dr. Joyce Marie Mushaben. MSC. November 9, 2009.
- Wall Art in the UMSL Student Sculpture Garden. Prize winning sculptures on the theme “Freedom Without Walls.” Official Opening and Reception. November 12, 2009.
- “Berlin in Film.” Museum Room, Pierre Laclède Honors College.
  - “Berlin Schoenhauser Corner.” November 12, 2009.
  - “Sonnenallee.” (Sun Alley). November 16, 2009.
  - “Rhythm is it!” November 18, 2009.

*Frühstückskonzert. “Breakfast Concert.”* Benefit Concert by the Northwinds Concert Band for the German School Association. German Cultural Society, St. Louis. March 13, 2010. Presented by the German Culture Center.

*Cities and Global Challenges. A lecture celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the St. Louis-Stuttgart Sister Cities Program.* Wolfgang Schuster, Lord Mayor of Stuttgart, Germany. April 16, 2010. Presented by the German Culture Center in collaboration with the Public Policy Research Center.

*Introducing the German Language Diploma. Workshop for German Language Teachers.* Gert Wilhelm, Language Consultant, Central Agency of Foreign Schools Abroad. April 30, 2010. Presented by: Central Agency of Foreign Schools Abroad, Goethe-Institut, and German Culture Center.

*Annual Sam Nakis Memorial Lecture in Greek Culture.* Iason Athanasiadis, Writer, Photographer and Television Producer. “After the Deluge, Revival?” 21<sup>st</sup> Century Hellenism in the Greater Middle East. A Photographic Tour of Greeks in the Middle East. October 11, 2009.

*A Balkan Trilogy.* Petar Milich, University College, Washington University.

- “Byzantium and the Slavs: Who are the Modern Slavs?” November 4, 2009.
- “The Fall of Rome: Enduring Myths and Underlying Realities.” December 2, 2009.
- “Kosovo Showdown: How the United States and Russia almost came to blows over the Balkans.” January 20, 2010.

*The Catharine Pelican Annual Memorial Lecture in Greek Studies.* Colin Wells, Writer and Independent Scholar. “The Culture War That Saved Civilization: Mystics vs. Humanists in 14<sup>th</sup> Century Byzantium.” April 11, 2010.

*Irish American Voices—Poetry.* Featuring the poetry of Kathryn Kirkpatrick and David Lloyd. Kirkpatrick is Professor of English at Appalachian State University. Lloyd is Director, Creative Writing Program, LeMoyne College. November 12, 2009.

Timothy J. White, Professor of Political Science, Xavier University. “Celtic Collapse or Correction?” February 25, 2010.

*Shodo and Sumie: Japanese Aesthetic Sense Through Zen Buddhism.* July 20, 22, 24, 27, 29, 31, 2009. A special Summer course on calligraphy and Buddhism. Sponsored by the Japan America Society of St. Louis and the Center for International Studies.

*Anime at UMSL.* Postmodern Japan comes to St. Louis. A conference on Japan. October 3, 2009. Sponsored by Japan America Society of St. Louis and Center for International Studies.

*Dr. Edwin Fedder Annual Lecture in Foreign and International Affairs.* John Mueller, The Woody Hayes Chair of National Security Studies, Mershon Center, and Professor of Political Science, The Ohio State University. “Nuclear Alarmism from Hiroshima to Al Qaeda.” November 11, 2009.

Pierre Vimont, Ambassador of France to the United States. “Franco-American Cooperation in the Middle East.” Opening Event for the 2010 St. Louis French Festival. February 24, 2010. Additional sponsor: Alliance Francaise de St. Louis.

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

The Center for International Studies has forged strong partnerships with individuals and organizations in the area to develop and deliver programs to enrich and improve cultural, educational and economic life in the community.

Some partnerships are mentioned below but information on other partners is available on the Center’s website: [www.cfis-umsl.com](http://www.cfis-umsl.com)

### **International Affairs Advisory Committee**

This committee of community leaders and officials works with and advises the Chancellor and Center Director on internationalization efforts. Committee members have been generous in providing students with scholarships and internship opportunities. These efforts are especially

critical as more students study abroad and as we enroll more students in the International MBA program and seek internship placements for the students.

The Committee meets twice each year. At each meeting the Chancellor provides an update on campus enrollment, achievements, and the development campaign. At the October 2009 meeting, the Committee also viewed the exhibition in the Mercantile Library on *Modernization in China, Japan, and America*. At the April 2010 meeting, the Committee was introduced to two study abroad scholarship recipients, given an update on activities of the German Culture Center and viewed a photo exhibit from Stuttgart, Germany which was displayed on campus as part of the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the St. Louis-Stuttgart Sister City relationship.

### **International Studies Resource Library**

For more than 30 years, the Center's International Studies Resource Library has helped introduce students in the St. Louis region to the world's cultural diversity, global issues, and ecological interdependence, by bringing an international perspective to studies across the curriculum. The library loans innovative materials (K-college) to faculty on campus who teach international courses, UMSL students, especially education majors, and pre-collegiate educators throughout Missouri. Special classes introduce pre-service UMSL education majors to the Library and innovative methods for teaching about world cultures. Among the Library's most heavily utilized resources are videos, curriculum units, and "cultural artifact kits" which give students hands-on examples of items of everyday life, cultural and educational materials from other countries. For more information, see:

[http://www.umsl.edu/services/cis/resource\\_library/index.html](http://www.umsl.edu/services/cis/resource_library/index.html)

In fall 2007, the International Studies Resource Library became a satellite location for educational resources of the St. Louis Art Museum including "touch kits" (e.g., Ancient Egypt, Art of the Americas, and Masks) and curriculum packets (e.g., Africa, American folk art, and Native America). Partners: St. Louis Art Museum and Springboard.

### **German Culture Center**

The closing of the Goethe Institut in St. Louis created a void for persons in the community with a primary interest in Germany. The CIS opened the German Culture Center (GCC) in March 1999 as the successor to the Goethe Institut. The GCC conducts programs and loans materials to promote interest in German language and culture.

The GCC is funded cooperatively by the University, the Goethe Institut, and private and corporate donations. Also, the GCC is supported financially by the German-American Heritage Society (St. Louis), and the St. Louis Stuttgart Sister Cities Committee. For more information, see: [www.germanculturecenter.org](http://www.germanculturecenter.org)

### **The Nicholas and Theodora Matsakis Hellenic Culture Center**

The Greek Culture Center opened in November 2005. Thanks to the generosity of donors from the community, the Center was officially named in honor of Nicholas and Theodora Matsakis, two prominent members of the local Greek American community. The Center features permanent displays and replicas of Greek statuary, art, archaeological objects, and features special exhibits. Also, it has a collection of books about Greece and Hellenic culture and provides services similar to the German Culture Center. Partners in the community include Hellenic Cultural Foundation (St. Louis), Hellenic Spirit Foundation (St. Louis), and the Karakas Family Foundation for the Advancement of Hellenic Studies. For more information, see:

[http://www.umsl.edu/services/cis/greekcc/greekcc\\_home.html](http://www.umsl.edu/services/cis/greekcc/greekcc_home.html)

## **Joint Center for East Asian Studies of University of Missouri-St. Louis and Washington University**

The Joint Center for East Asian Studies was established in 1991 by the universities to combine the resources of an independent private university known for its programs in East Asian humanities and law, with those of a public university that has strengths in social sciences and business.

The Joint Center makes available to each campus the curricular strengths of the other by encouraging students to enroll in courses available on the other campus, by encouraging faculty and student interaction through a joint colloquium series, and by coordinating outreach efforts to the broader educational, business and legal communities.

Through the Joint Center the teaching of Chinese and Japanese language was begun on campus. Now UMSL students may take at least the first four courses of each language on our campus and through a cooperative agreement may continue more advanced studies in Chinese and Japanese on the Washington University campus.

## **Springboard**

Springboard offers arts, humanities, math and science programs to schools and community groups throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area, Eastern Missouri, and the Metro East region of Illinois. Springboard offerings emphasize “hands-on” and “minds-on” activities that are aligned with state and national education standards. Springboard staff members also work closely with classroom teachers, helping them to grow professionally.

Dr. E. Wendy Saul, the Center’s Dr. Allen B. and Mrs. Helen S. Shopmaker Professor of Education in Collaboration with Springboard to Learning, works closely with Springboard in planning and delivering programs to teachers and schools. For more information, see: [www.springboardstl.org](http://www.springboardstl.org)

## **Japan America Society of St. Louis (JAS)**

JAS is an organization that promotes interest in and education about Japan and U.S.-Japan relations. Since October 2002, the Center has been the home of JAS and has provided administrative support and programmatic activities for the organization. JAS is a non-profit, non-political organization comprised of people of both American and Japanese heritage. The society was founded in 1967 and is a member of the National Association of Japan America Societies, Washington, D.C. For more information, see: [www.us-japan.org/jasstl](http://www.us-japan.org/jasstl). Events included:

- *Shodo and Sumie: Japanese Aesthetic Sense Through Zen Buddhism*. July 20, 22, 24, 27, 29, 31, 2009. A special Summer course on calligraphy and Buddhism. Sponsored by the Japan America Society of St. Louis and the Center for International Studies.
- *Beer and Yakitori at Seki’s*. A tasting of Japanese beer and food at Seki’s Restaurant, University City. August 18, 2009. Sponsored by Japan America Society of St. Louis.
- *Anime at UMSL*. Postmodern Japan comes to St. Louis. A conference on Japan. October 3, 2009. Sponsored by Japan America Society of St. Louis and Center for International Studies.
- Japanese Speech Meet. University Level Japanese Speech Contest. UMSL April 3, 2010. Hosted by Japan America Society of St. Louis.

## **St. Louis Regional International Partnership**

This partnership is an alliance of internationally-focused organizations in the region which support efforts to increase international trade, education, cultural exchanges, and world understanding to improve the social, cultural and economic well-being of the St. Louis region. Partners include: Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis, Maryville University International Program, Missouri District Export Council, Saint Louis University-Boeing Institute of International Business, St. Louis Community College, St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville-International Trade Center, State of Missouri-Department of Economic Development, Traffic Club of St. Louis, U.S. Export Assistance Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis-Center for International Studies, Washington University in St. Louis, Webster University-Center for International Education, World Affairs Council of St. Louis, and World Trade Center Saint Louis.

### **Missouri Africa Program**

This consortium offers a Fall semester abroad program at the University of Ghana-Legon. Coordinated by: Center for International Studies, UM-St. Louis. Other members: Truman State University and University of Central Missouri.

### **Missouri London Program and Internship in London Program**

Offered by the Missouri Consortium for International Programs and Studies. The programs are offered during the Fall, Winter and Summer semesters. Members include: Missouri Southern State University, Missouri State University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Missouri Western State University, Northwest Missouri State University, Southeast Missouri State University, Truman State University, University of Central Missouri, UM-Columbia, UM-Kansas City, and UM-St. Louis.

### **Missouri Greece Program**

Offered by Missouri Consortium for International Programs and Studies. Partners: Missouri Southern State University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Southeast Missouri State University, and Truman State University, University of Central Missouri, UM-Kansas City, and UM-St. Louis.

### **MAUI-Utrecht Student Exchange Network**

This is a consortium of U.S. and European universities which collaborate on student exchange. The Center coordinates placements for the U.S. universities: Baylor University, Kansas State University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Oklahoma State University, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Texas Tech University, University of Kansas, UM-Columbia, UM-Kansas City, UM-St. Louis, University of Nebraska at Kearney, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, University of Nebraska at Omaha, and University of Oklahoma. In addition, there are 29 European partner universities.

### **University of Missouri-South African Education Program (UMSAEP)**

Since 1986, this collaboration of the UM System and the four campuses has supported collaborative projects with the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. The Center Director coordinates the program for UMSL and serves as the Chair of the UMSAEP Committee.

### **Partners in the Gulf Region**

The Center has coordinated efforts to provide assistance and support to two developing private universities in the Gulf region, the Modern College of Business and Science (MCBS) in Oman, and the Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) in Kuwait. The Center leads the

campus effort to provide technical assistance to the two institutions, both academic and non-academic, and to evaluate their efforts to insure quality control.

Modern College of Business and Science opened in 1996 and offers A.A. degrees in business, information technology, and computer science and B.S. degrees in business, computer science and economics. MCBS also offers an intensive English as a Second Language Program. See: [www.mcbs.edu.om](http://www.mcbs.edu.om)

Gulf University for Science and Technology opened in Fall 2002 with approximately 500 students and now enrolls approximately 2,600 students. We are developing some courses in business, computer science, economics and nursing to offer for GUST. We are also assisting GUST in developing its first graduate program, the MBA, and two new undergraduate programs: logistics and management, and architecture/environmental relations. See: [www.gust.edu.kw](http://www.gust.edu.kw)

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Center for International Studies has forged strong partnerships with individuals and organizations in the area to develop and deliver programs to enrich and improve the economic life in the community.

Among the special programs this year were the following:

*Japan Robot Night.* Featuring a lecture on “PARO the Seal Robot: Improving and Enriching Human Lives through Robot Technology: by Takanori Shibata, Senior Research Scientist, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, and the inventor of PARO, and a presentation on service robotics trends in Japan by Yasushi Sumitani, Director of Technology, JETRO Chicago. October 15, 2009. Sponsored by: Japan America Society of St. Louis in cooperation with Center for International Studies, UMSL, the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association and JETRO Chicago (Japan External Trade Organization).

*Shall We Travel By Train? The Shinkansen or Bullet Trains.* Featuring Professor Naoyuki Agawa, Vice President, International Affairs, Keio University. March 1, 2010. Sponsored by: The Japan Foundation, Consulate General of Japan in Chicago, Japan America Society of St. Louis, Regional Chamber and Growth Association St. Louis, St. Louis Mercantile Library, Center for Transportation Studies, and Center for International Studies.

*International Trade Night 2010.* Featuring as Keynote Speaker: Murray L. Weidenbaum. The Cedars at St. Raymonds. May 13, 2010. Sponsored by the St. Louis Regional International Partnership. Partners include: Boeing Institute of International Business at Saint Louis University; Center for International Education, Webster University; Center for International Studies, UMSL; Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis; International Trade Center, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville; Missouri Department of Economic Development, Business and Community Services; Missouri District Export Council; Traffic Club of St. Louis; Tri-City Regional Port District; U.S. Export Assistance Center, St. Louis, and World Trade Center St. Louis.

*Chancellor's Certificate in International Trade.* This non-credit certificate has been developed in cooperation with the World Trade Center Saint Louis and classes are held at the World Trade Center. This certificate offers professional education to the growing number of persons in the

region actively engaged in international trade. Students are required to complete four core courses plus some electives. See: [www.worldtradecenter-stl.com](http://www.worldtradecenter-stl.com)

## **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

### **Plans for the Next Five Years**

First of all, the Center and ISSS will continue to focus efforts on the activities included in the campus Action Plan: increasing study abroad program participation and increasing the number of international students on campus.

Other objectives for the next few years include the following.

### **Scholarships for Study Abroad**

While many of our study abroad and exchange programs are reasonably priced, they are still too expensive for many of our students who must work to cover the costs of their education. Despite increases in programs costs and a large increase in numbers of participants in study abroad and exchange programs, the amount of university funds available for scholarships has remained at the same level, \$40,000, for more than ten years. The Center seeks additional funds of \$100,000 annually to provide additional scholarships to enable more students to study abroad. The Center is also working with its advisory committee and University Relations to raise other scholarship funds from private sources.

### **Internationalization Task Force**

The Center proposes the establishment of an internationalization task force to create an integrated plan for the further internationalization of the campus. Among other issues, the Task Force would discuss the role of international and global studies courses in the curriculum, the role of study abroad in the curriculum, the role of international activities in the tenure process, and the role of international students within the university.

### **Underwriting the International Performing Arts (IPA) Series**

The IPA series, which brings at least five performance groups to campus each year, celebrates the cultural diversity of St. Louis and introduces campus and community audiences to less well-known artistic traditions. It is one element in the CIS plan to provide a range of international experiences for our students, especially those who are not able to participate in a study or work abroad program. We seek gift funds to underwrite the cost of organizing and presenting the IPA.

### **Operating Funds for the German Culture Center (GCC)**

The German Culture Center at UMSL opened in March 1999 as the successor to the Goethe Institut St. Louis and conducts programs and loans materials to promote interest in German language and culture. In addition, the GCC provides services for UMSL students, local teachers of German language, and to members of the community with an interest in Germany. We seek gift funds for annual operating costs and/or an endowment to support the annual operating costs.

### **Endowment for the Matsakis Hellenic Culture Center**

In November 2005 we established the Greek Culture Center on campus to provide meeting space, exhibition space and a reading room. The center was subsequently named the Matsakis Hellenic Culture Center in honor of two distinguished members of the local Greek-American community. We seek funds to create a larger endowment to support the activities of the Center. Fundraising efforts are ongoing.

### **Iklaina Archaeological Project**

The Iklaina Archaeological Project provides a rich opportunity for UMSL to take the lead in cutting-edge archaeological research. The primary research agenda for this project is to study the emergence of federalism and the federal system of government in the western world. The project will investigate the origins and organization of the first known federal state, during the late Bronze Age (1600-1100 B.C.) in the state of Pylos in southwest Greece.

This pioneering research project, with excellent public relations value, has been going through a “survey” stage for several years, involving many UMSL students and countless community enthusiasts and amateur archaeologists. We will continue to involve students and community participants as we move forward to the “excavation” stage. We continue to seek funds to purchase additional property adjacent to the current site and operating funds to excavate the site.

Of course, the Center continues to review changing conditions and revises its plans to adjust to challenges and opportunities. The Center has been a good steward of its resources and has done an excellent job of cooperating with other units and partnering with other organizations in the community to maximize the impact of the resources provided by the university, and when opportunities exist, to leverage additional resources from others. The Center has given and continues to give the university a substantial return on its investment and has developed a number of programs that will continue to benefit students and the university far into the future.

### **SUMMARY STATEMENT**

The Center for International Studies is the lead unit in designing the university’s international education agenda and supports a wide range of academic and other programs designed to internationalize the campus and the community to insure that students and citizens develop the international competence they will need to function and work in a world that is increasingly globalized.

Over the last forty-two years the Center has accomplished much to better educate students by internationalizing the curriculum and faculty and by developing a strong foundation of strong international programs on campus. The Center also has been successful in cooperating with other units and organizations to more efficiently and effectively combine our resources through partnerships with many ethnic and international organizations in the community that enhance the region’s cultural life and contribute to economic development of the region and the State of Missouri.

### **APPENDIX A**

**CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
STAFF, AY 2009-2010**

**Director:**

Joel Glassman. Ph.D., Political Science. University of Michigan. Associate Provost, Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Political Science.

**Staff:**

Ephrem M. Andemariam. M.A, International Affairs, Washington University in St. Louis. Editorial Assistant II for the *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*, and Assistant, E. Desmond Lee Professorship in African and African American Studies.

Robert A. Baumann. M.A., Political Science (International Relations), University of Missouri-St. Louis. Assistant Director for Research and Administration.

Jenny Bazzetta. M.A., East Asian Studies, Washington University in St. Louis. Study Abroad Coordinator.

Milton R. Blood. Ph.D., Industrial Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Academic Development and Cooperation Specialist.

Paul R. Ell. B.A., English, Truman State University. Coordinator, Programs and Special Events.

Jerol B. Enoch. M.A., English as a Second Language, Memphis State University. International Program Coordinator.

Stephen George. B.S., Geology, University of Missouri-Columbia. Director of Development, St. Louis Mercantile Library and Center for International Studies.

Patricia J. Knapp. Administrative Secretary.

Carrie A. Lutsch. M.B.A., Webster University, Austria. International Exchange Coordinator.

Larry A. Marsh. M.A., German, University of New Hampshire. Coordinator, German Culture Center.

Yoshiaki Shibusawa. B.A., International Economics and English, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (Japan). Development Officer.

Rena A. Smith. B.A., Psychology, Antioch College. Manager, Business and Fiscal Operations.

Terry G. Williams. M.A., Communication/Theatre, Saint Louis University. Senior Coordinator, E. Desmond Lee Global Ethnic Collaborative.

Traci L. Wilson. M.A., Political Science (International Relations), University of Missouri-St. Louis. Study Abroad Coordinator.

**Graduate Student Assistants:**

Ahmed M.A. Almantani. Graduate Teaching Assistant for Special English as a Second Language Program. .

Shuang Gao. Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Hung-Gay Fung.

Sujin Kim. Graduate Research Assistant for CIS Resource Library.

Glenda M. McCarty. Graduate Research Assistant for CIS Resource Library.

Inda L. Schaenen. Graduate Research Assistant for CIS Resource Library.

Ju Yang. Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Hung-Gay Fung.

**Undergraduate Student Assistants:**

Dale K. Downs. Student Assistant for Study Abroad.

Laura Eckhardt. Student Assistant for the German Culture Center.

Philipp J. Grunhage. Student Assistant for the German Culture Center.

Nadine I. Henseler. Student Assistant for the German Culture Center.

Hiromi Kasuga. Student Assistant for Japan America Society of St. Louis.

Stephanie A. Kazanas. Student Assistant for the Matsakis Greek Culture Center.

Claudio Mermelstein. Student Assistant for Dr. Adeniyi Coker.

Chelsea N. Miller. Student Assistant for Study Abroad.

**APPENDIX B**

**OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS  
ANNUAL REPORT, AY 2009-2010**

**June 2010**

## **Mission and Overview**

The Office of International Student Services was established in May 1996 as a separate unit reporting to the Director of the Center for International Studies. The office was established to help the campus achieve its goals to enhance internationalization and expand diversity of the student body.

The name was changed to the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) in 2003 to better reflect the scope of its responsibilities in providing immigration and taxation services for the entire campus regarding non-resident alien faculty and visiting researchers.

ISSS provides and coordinates services for undergraduate and graduate international students and scholars, including admissions, visa and immigration matters, information requests, credentials and transfer credit evaluation, health insurance, optional practical training (coursework-related employment), assistance from VITA volunteers with preparing non-resident alien income tax returns, non-academic advising, initial campus arrival, orientation, social activities, and referrals to other campus academic and non-academic departments. In cooperation with other units, the office provides assistance with initial arrival and settling-in and encourages international students and scholars to participate in campus life, including international student organizations, and other campus and community activities.

For additional information see the ISSS website: <http://www.umsl.edu/~intelstu/>.

## **Staff**

Joel Glassman, Ph.D., Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Director, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, and Associate Professor of Political Science.

Houssein Al-Eidan. Student Assistant-Clerical. (March 2010).

Annette M. Burris, B.A., French and B.A., Spanish, Saint Louis University. International Admissions Officer/International Student Advisor.

Sandra J. Crawshaw, B.G.S., University of Missouri-St. Louis. Non-Resident Alien Tax Specialist.

Ann G. Ernst, B.A., French, University of Missouri-St. Louis. Academic Advisor.

Lee T. Hasegawa, B.A., Anthropology, University of Missouri-St. Louis. Office Support Staff II.

Tedan Hu. Student Assistant-Clerical.

Patricia J. Knapp. Administrative Secretary.

Hongjin Li. Student Assistant-Clerical. (through March 2010).

Ekaterina Loginicheva. Student Assistant-Clerical.

Varuni Mallikaarachchi. Student Assistant-Clerical. (through January 2010).

Renae A. Smith, B.A. Psychology, Antioch College. Manager, Business and Fiscal Operations.

Christopher Sullivan, M.A., European Studies, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) and M.Ed., Counseling, University of Missouri-St. Louis. Assistant Director and International Student and Scholar Advisor.

Leonard Trudo, M.I.M., International Management, American Graduate School of International Management. International Admissions Officer.

Shao-Wei Wang, B.A., Applied English, Ming Chuan University (Taiwan). International Student and Scholar Advisor.

### **International Student Recruitment and Retention**

The campus Action Plan includes a specific recommendation/goal for ISSS. The Action Plan's second priority is to "Recruit and retain an outstanding and diverse undergraduate student body." In meeting that priority, one of the goals is to increase on-campus enrollment by annually increasing the number of international students.

Prior to the establishment of ISSS, the campus had no office with a priority for recruiting and providing services to international students and scholars. In a little more than six years, the number of international students, including non-resident aliens and permanent residents, increased by nearly 300 percent.

### **Recruitment**

In the Fall 2009 semester, despite large fee increases, international concerns, and immigration difficulties, there were 594 visa-holding international students attending UMSL, plus 360 permanent residents. Together these total 954 and they represent more than 100 countries. China was the country providing the largest number of international students: 134. India was second with 129.

In the Spring 2010 semester, there were 567 visa-holding international students attending UMSL, plus 369 permanent residents. Together these totaled 936 and they represented more than 100 countries. Again, China was the country providing the largest number of international students: 146. India was second with 119.

It should be noted that most visa-holding international students are required to be full-time students.

Student fee income generated by international students for tuition, non-resident fees, other fees, room, meals, etc. is deposited in campus general revenue accounts.

ISSS pursues a multi-faceted recruiting strategy that is re-evaluated each year in light of our recruiting success and budgetary constraints.

To recruit more international students, ISSS staff attend college informational fairs abroad,

especially in Asia, develop partnerships with foreign universities and high schools, promote UMSL 2 + 2 programs with partner universities, maintain a relationship with ELS Language Centers which operates a language training center on campus, and prepare recruiting materials including a viewbook and website.

More specifically, our recruitment strategies include the following:

- Targeting the Chinese market as the primary growth market for international undergraduate and graduate students
- Partnering with Study America for placement of Korean students at UMSL
- Concentrating on cultivating relations with educational representatives in China and Korea through the ELS Language Centers Network
- Becoming a member of ELS American Educational Centers and thereby working to increase our name recognition and recruiting efforts in China and Vietnam
- Establishing a 2 + 2 program with Eastern Asia University in Bangkok, Thailand
- Implementing the 2 + 2 agreement with the University of Economics and Finance in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. CIS is helping them develop their curriculum.
- Establishing and implementing the 2 + 2 agreement with Northeast Normal University, China (17 students from NENU arrived on campus to begin their studies under the new articulation agreement developed in 2009.)
- Partnering with ELS Language Centers in agent and student fairs in Turkey in an attempt to open the Turkish market, the 7<sup>th</sup> largest market for sending students to the USA
- Participating in International Educational Fair in Beijing, China. (From this event, we are expecting six full-paying students – 4 undergraduate and 2 graduate – to enroll for the FS2010 semester.)
- Joining with Students USA and Uihak Hub in marketing seminars in Daejeon, Daegu, Kwangju, and Seoul, Korea to promote student interest in UMSL
- Participating in the Iraqi Educational Initiative (IEI) which aims to place 20,000 students in the US in the next few years and which is funded by Iraq and the U.S. with a budget of \$1 billion.

Our strategies include partnerships with schools, universities, and other foreign partners to identify students who wish to attend UMSL, participation in educational fairs and information sessions abroad, listings in key guides to studying in the USA, and collaboration with the ELS Language Center on campus which offers intensive language instruction that prepares students for college admission or for their career. This AY approximately 250 students enrolled in the ELS Center on campus. Already 99 ELS graduates have enrolled at UMSL and these are students that probably would not have otherwise learned about UMSL or have been reached by our usual recruiting efforts. (ELS Language Centers, based in Princeton, New Jersey, operates language centers in 29 states and in 12 foreign countries).

This academic year a staff member made four recruiting trips abroad. The Fall trips included visits to educational fairs and information sessions in China, Turkey, and Vietnam. The Spring trips included stops in China and Korea.

A staff member also made a presentation to people at the International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis about applying to colleges and universities in the U.S.A.

### **Incentive Scholarships for International Students**

In recent years, recruiting undergraduate international students has become even more difficult since it is more costly to attend UM-St. Louis than most of the public universities in neighboring

states and because we offer so few scholarships to beginning international students. Unlike many other universities, we have no general pool of funds to assist in recruiting international students.

Beginning FY 2011, we will introduce a new program of incentive scholarships, for international students. This program will provide small scholarships to encourage international students to enroll at UMSL. Hopefully, these incentive scholarships will encourage the growth of international enrollments at UMSL, while containing the growth of the scholarship budget.

## **Retention**

Retaining current international students is another important strategy for increasing enrollment. Retention efforts are aimed at providing a more hospitable and welcoming environment for international students allowing them greater opportunities to excel in their studies. Retention efforts include the following:

- Before arrival, providing new international students with information and guidance on making a smooth transition
- Conducting a weeklong orientation program to give additional information and assistance for success on campus and adapting to life in St. Louis and the U.S.A.
- Providing information on the academic programs available on campus and assisting in the transfer credit process for coursework completed outside the U.S.A.
- Increasing cooperation with the Office of Student Life, especially with diversity and outreach activities
- Increasing cooperation with the Center for Student Success to provide information and increased awareness of academic support programs
- Increasing cooperation with Career Services to assist international students in identifying relevant internships and job opportunities through workshops and outreach
- Continuing the collaboration with Student Health, Wellness, and Counseling to provide personal counseling to international students to assist with their transition to living and studying in the U.S.A.
- Continuing the expansion of international student organization activities to promote increased intercultural learning opportunities like International Week, cultural activities and performances, and international dinners (including Hello Vietnam, China Night, Korean Night, and Japan Night)

Special efforts were made in 2009-2010 to assist students from Saudi Arabia when there was evidence they would benefit from remedial assistance in math and basic English. CIS brought together the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Center for Student Success and the English as a Second Language faculty to create classes designed to meet the needs of the Saudi students. This has improved our retention of students from Saudi Arabia.

## **Admissions and Credential Evaluation**

ISSS staff members are responsible for processing applications for admission for all international undergraduate and graduate applicants. ISSS staff admit qualified undergraduate students. Graduate applications are checked and processed and sent to departments or programs for their review. ISSS staff members also evaluate foreign credentials and assist

departments and programs in determining whether coursework taken abroad may be transferred for credit at UMSL.

- Undergraduate and Graduate applications received and processed: 985
- Undergraduate and Graduate applicants admitted: 412
- Credentials evaluated for 87 students regarding 1930 credit hours.

### **Immigration Documents and Compliance for Students and Scholars**

ISSS is responsible for issuing visa and immigration documents for admitted students and international scholars who are teaching or working as researchers on campus. ISSS provides assistance to campus units seeking to host visiting exchange visitors and scholars by preparing the immigration documents visitors need to obtain a visa to enter the U.S.A.

In addition, ISSS assists units in obtaining government approval for hiring foreign nationals and assists tenure-track and tenured permanent faculty in preparing applications for permanent residency in the U.S.A.

- F-1 student visa documents issued: 306
- J-1 exchange student visa documents issued: 104
- H1-B applications processed (offer of employment to foreign nationals): 4
- Visiting faculty and post-doc visa documents issued: 16
- Permanent residency applications processed: 3

ISSS is required to regularly report to the government on the status of students and scholars through the computerized Student and Exchange Visitor System (SEVIS). Included are such items as full-time status, local address, confirmation of enrollment, etc.

Since U.S. government rules and regulations are constantly changing, it is an effort to keep UMSL in compliance and maintain our eligibility for issuing visa documents for students and scholars.

### **International Student Orientation**

During the Fall and Winter semesters, ISSS conducts a comprehensive orientation program for new international students. The orientation program spans several days and includes a campus tour, a shopping trip to buy groceries and basic apartment items, an introduction to St. Louis, and some social activities. It also includes the English language placement exam and information on academic success, staying healthy, campus safety, adapting to life in another culture, using technology services, academic support on campus, paying fees, registration, advising, and immigration and tax compliance. A condensed orientation program is conducted in the summer.

Students who are unable to attend the formal orientation program are provided individualized orientation and for late-arriving students during the fall and spring semesters.

### **Health Insurance**

UMSL mandates that all students in F-1 or J-1 immigration status have health insurance in compliance with the requirements established by the U.S. Department of State. Students whose visa documents were issued by UMSL are automatically enrolled in the insurance but waivers may be granted to students in special circumstances.

ISSS manages enrollment of international students in the health insurance plan and provides assistance to students filing claims through the insurance plan.

Total AY 2009-2010 plan enrollment is 791 students.

Fall 2009 – 404 students

Spring 2010 – 387 students

### **Optional Practical Training (OPT)**

An ISSS staff member conducts OPT information sessions to inform students about the rules and regulations that must be followed to obtain government permission to pursue practical training/employment that is a direct application of the student's coursework and/or research in the student's field of study. In addition, the ISSS staff member assists students in completing the applications to obtain government approval for the training.

- Number of OPT information sessions offered: 12
- Number of students applying for practical training: 97

### **Non-Resident Alien Tax Information and Compliance**

The non-resident alien tax specialist is responsible for advising all campus academic and administrative offices about tax implications and compliance issues concerned with hiring non-resident aliens (NRAs) or paying funds to or on behalf of NRAs.

#### Vouchers reviewed

- Accounting Services: 75-100
- H.R. and Payroll (honoraria, awards, performer fees): approximately 100
- Cashiers' Office (scholarship/fellowship awards): approximately 1500

#### Hiring/Employment

- New employees (meet with and complete hiring paperwork including I-9 form. Enter new employee information into DHS E-Verify System): approx. 80
- Monitor work authorization expiration dates and maintain panel in UM HR database for approx. 200 employees
- Monitor the FICA expiration date and maintain database for approx. 200 employees. Notify non-student employees of upcoming expiration date and explain tax code.

#### Training sessions conducted

- Working in the US and US income taxes (for new student orientation): 2 sessions/year
- Academic training orientation for IMBA (International MBA) students: 1-2 sessions/year

#### VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Tax return assistance

- Approximately 300 income tax returns were prepared through VITA workshops and/or in-office appointments. [Beginning with tax year 2007, the tax specialist began preparing tax returns for resident alien students and scholars claiming an income tax treaty exemption.]
- 6 VITA sessions for completing tax returns were offered in Spring 2010 and staffed by VITA volunteers trained by the NRA tax specialist.

#### Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)

- Assist foreign nationals who are visiting campus for business purposes in filing Form W-7 to apply for an ITIN so they can comply with tax withholding and reporting requirements.

### **Summary**

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services was established as part of campus efforts to enhance internationalization of the university and to expand diversity of the student body. ISSS has been successful in helping UMSL achieve a goal in the campus Action Plan to “recruit and retain an outstanding and diverse undergraduate student body” by increasing the number of international students enrolling in on-campus programs.

In Fall 2009, there were 594 visa-holding international students attending UMSL plus 360 permanent residents. The 954 students represent more than 100 countries. In Spring 2010, 567 visa-holding international students were attending UMSL plus 369 permanent residents. These 936 students contribute much to the diversity of the campus and to campus revenue.

ISSS also provides services for international scholars teaching, conducting research, or visiting campus for short-term projects or programs. In addition, ISSS provides assistance campus-wide to departments about tax implications and employment compliance issues for non-resident aliens or paying funds to non-resident aliens.