

# Washburn International

## *Accents*

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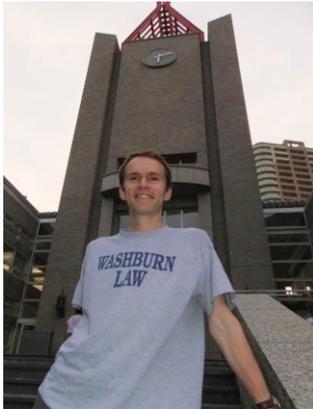
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# Faculty International Activity Report



Professor **Alex Glashausser** (Law) was a Visiting Scholar at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, where he participated in seminars and helped teach courses about American law.

From May 14th-18th, Professor **Michael Hunter Schwartz** (School of Law) conducted a week-long course design workshop for Iranian and Turkish Law Professors in Istanbul, Turkey. He also conducted a week-long (May 21-25) course design workshop for Georgian law professors in Tbilisi, Georgia (part of a year-long "Train-the-Trainers" curriculum designed and taught by Schwartz).

Professor **Dmitri Nizovtsev** (Business) presented a paper entitled "Game-theoretic Analysis of Strategic Export Pricing in the Presence of Anti-dumping Practices" at the Sixth International Conference on Game Theory and Management in St. Petersburg, Russia, on June 28, 2012. This research project was co-authored with Prof. A. Skiba from the University of Wyoming and supported by the Washburn Beatrice Research Grant.

On May 31 and June 1, 2012, Professor **Vanessa Steinroetter** (English) co-directed a translation session and presented a paper on "Whitman's German Reception and the Idea of an American

Landscape" at the Fifth International Whitman Week Seminar and Symposium, hosted by the University of Szczecin in Pobierowo, Poland.

Professor **Mark Peterson** (Political Science), under the guidance and direction of Dr. Robert Beatty, assisted in guiding, corraling, and instructing 19 Washburn students during a 10 day learning adventure in Cuba during the month of June. The group visited many sites during their stay which was based at the Martin Luther King Center located in the Marianao district of Havana. Students had encounters and discussions with individuals including writers, artists, academics, an American embassy staff person, a community physician, elementary school students and their instructors, shop owners, retired revolutionaries and the oldest living Cuban former American major league baseball player.

Professor **Marydorsey Wanless** (Art) traveled and photographed for six weeks in the Adriatic regions of Europe, and spent two weeks making art at the BAU Artist Residency Program in Otranto, Italy.

Dr. **Bob Beatty** (Political Science) spent 10 days in May in Israel as a fellow with the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, studying responses to international terrorism. In June he was the co-faculty leader of the Washburn study abroad program in Cuba, supervising 19 Washburn students for 12 days as they studied Cuban politics, economics, and culture. Finally, in July Dr. Beatty spent eight days in Taiwan as part of the Senior Scholars Delegation hosted by the Foreign Ministry of Taiwan.

Professor **Marilyn Masterson** (Nursing) toured Italy with the Flint Hills Masterworks Chorale June 14 - 27, 2012. Cities toured included Venice, Florence, San Gimignano, Perugia, Assisi, and Rome. The group sang the mass in St. Mark's Basilica (Venice), St. Mark's Cathedral (Florence), and St. Peter's Basilica (Vatican in Rome) and a concert at St. Francis of Assisi. Dr. Masterson had soprano solos in the mass presented

in Venice and the concert in Assisi. The choir was very privileged to sing for the Sunday noon mass in the Vatican.

Professors **Aida Alaka** and **Tonya Kowalski** (Law) held a workshop on legal analysis and writing pedagogy at Free University of Tbilisi in Tbilisi, Georgia, June 11-15. This “train the trainers” workshop was funded by a USAID grant awarded to Washburn Law School to assist in developing legal education and the rule of law in the post-Soviet Republic of Georgia. Washburn and Free University of Tbilisi Law Schools are partner institutions under the USAID program.

**Dr. Tom Schmiedeler's** (Political Science) “Sweet Sabbatical” focused on three topics related to the *Geography of Europe*, a course he teaches every third semester at Washburn. The first involved tracing the route of his father during World War II who was a member of Troop B of the 88<sup>th</sup> Reconnaissance Division. The route was primarily from Limburg, Netherlands, through the northern Ruhr District and into former East Germany. A second part of the sabbatical was Town and Country of Lowland Scotland in which he did a comparative study of Glasgow and Edinburgh and explored the Borders Region. A third part of his study was “Rural Landscapes of Southern France” in which he explored the geography of the Camargue, the delta region of the Rhone River, and Landes, a region of the Aquitaine Basin whose early 19th century cultural ecology of shepherds, sheep and dunes was destroyed by the introduction of pine forests and spas. Transformations of this landscape continue with evolving agri-business operations. Dr. Schmiedeler will be presenting a brown bag lecture at the International House on one of the above topics in the spring semester.

In June, **Zach Frank** (School of Applied Sciences) traveled to Savonlinna, Finland to meet with representatives from Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences. Washburn will begin sending

PTA students to Mikkeli University this spring for clinical rotations.

Professor **Lisa Sharp Ellis** (Chemistry) spent six weeks in Rome, Italy on a “Sweet Sabbatical”. She spent her time touring the sites and attended cooking classes to learn about Italian food. She will incorporate some of the recipes and techniques that she learned in her spring course, *Chemistry of Food and Cooking*.

Professor **Miguel González-Abellás** (Modern Languages) spent both June and July in Paraguay, thanks to a “Sweet Sabbatical”. Among other activities, he attended Asuncion’s International Book Fair, and visited the Jesuit ruins in the southeastern part of the country and the Mennonite colonies on the Chaco region to compile materials for his SP326 class, *Civilization of Latin America*. As a plus, he had a first-hand experience on the impeachment process of Paraguayan President, Mr. Fernando Lugo, which took place at the end of June; he also visited UNIDA, a local private university, to explore the possibilities of an exchange program with Washburn.



*Miguel at the ruins of Trinidad del Paraná in Southern Paraguay.*

**Linda D. Elrod** (School of Law) and Richard S. Righter, Distinguished Professor of Law, attended the *ABA International Law Section Conference entitled International Families: Money, Children and Long Term Planning* in Washington D.C., May 24-26, 2012. The 75 invited participants and speakers came from several Canadian provinces, France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, as well as the United States.

In addition, Prof. Elrod resented a paper on "Searching for the Best Interest of the Child in Relocation Cases: The ABA Model Relocation Act," at the *International Society of Family Law Regional Conference and Midwest Family Law Consortium*, June 14-17, 2012, at the University of Iowa in Ames, Iowa. In addition to Americans, there were scholars from Australia, Canada, France, Israel, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, and Spain.

She also attended activities and read a poem at the *Gerard Manley Hopkins 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival* in Newbridge, Ireland, July 20-24, 2012. President Jerry Farley received the Hopkins award for supporting faculty, staff and students participating in the Hopkins Festival. Other Washburn personnel attending were **John Hunter** (Theatre) who conducted a class for the youth program and read a poem; **Ed Navonne** (Emeritus) who showed his art work and conducted a workshop; and **Jim Kelly**, (KTWU) who participated in the conference and took pictures.

Lastly, Prof. Elrod vacationed with Washburn alumni and the WU basketball team on the Alumni Association's Baltic trip to Stockholm, Sweden; Helsinki, Finland; St. Petersburg, Russia; Tallin, Estonia; and Copenhagen, Denmark. In Copenhagen, she reconnected with friends met on Washburn's Semester in Copenhagen program in 1967.

**Carol Yoho** (Art) packed over 950 photos onto six web pages of thumbnails linked to a slide show of her trip to Greece over spring break, March 2012.

Carol traveled with a variety of Washburn's kinesiology and art faculty/students. They focused on ancient and modern Olympic Games and the role art plays in the Olympics. She has recently added three high resolution videos segments of Greek sights and sounds to the mix, and invites visitors to her online travel show:

<http://www.washburn.edu/cas/art/cyoho/archive/ForeignTravel/greece/>

**Tony Silvestri** (Lecturer, History) spoke this June at LSO St. Luke's in London along with composer Eric Whitacre at an event entitled "Soaring Leap", a master class for choral singers, conductors and composers.

**Mary Ann Wittman** (Lecturer, Intensive English) published her third children's book: "Clemmie and the Mail Man" in May of 2012. This is the second book in her *Dog Tales* series about real dogs and their adventures. She also continued presentations to civic organizations, including the Sertoma Club and the Topeka Literacy Council, on her research in Drop-Out Prevention.

Professor **Bill Roach** (School of Business) wrote a paper with Ben Nelson, the Chief Information Officer for SRS, on globalizing the teaching of statistical process control. The paper, "Globalizing Statistical Process Control and Restoring Shewhart's Methodology", is available as a School of Business Working Paper and has been submitted to a journal.

**Nancy G. Maxwell** (School of Law) was in Barbados May 16-June 3 to set up and administer the law school's Summer Law Program in Barbados.

**Dr. Pamela J. Schmidt** (Accounting) presented her research entitled "Acquiring ERP Business Process Knowledge: A Network Structure Analysis" at the *International Hawaii Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) Conference* held in Maui, Hawaii in January 2012.

Professor **Judith Lynne McConnell-Farmer** (Education) presented a Keynote Address entitled “Reflections and Applications: Piaget and Kohlberg, a Relationship to Philosophy for Children” at the *First Annual Student Learning Conference* at Saint Xavier’s School, Kathmandu, Nepal July 21, 2012. She presented two workshops in Lalitpur, Nepal entitled “Preschool Literacy: Strategies and Techniques for Creative Instruction” and “Integrating Learning and Literacy in the Preschool Curriculum” at the Madhyamik Vidyalaya School, Lalitpur, July 25 and 26, 2012. She coordinated two *Oxford Round Tables (ORT)*, five day international conferences at Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, Oxford, England. The first *ORT*, July 29-August 2, 2012 focused on *Childhood Education* where she presented a paper on July 29, 2012, entitled “The Changing Face of Childhood” and another paper on August 2, entitled “A Wish for my Grandson: Childhood and Beyond”. The second *ORT* focused on *Women in History, an Interdisciplinary Perspective* where she presented a paper on August 5, 2012, entitled “Women in History, an Interdisciplinary Perspective” and another paper on August 9, 2012, entitled, “A Wish for my Granddaughter: A History of Determined and Skilled Women”.

Professor **Craig Martin** (School of Law) travelled to Sarajevo, Bosnia, in February to provide training in oral advocacy and human rights law to a moot court team preparing for the *Munro E. Price International Media Law Moot* at Oxford. The training was funded through a grant from USAID, and coordinated by the University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School for Communication. While in Bosnia, Professor Martin also gave a talk on the tension between hate speech and freedom of expression to students and faculty members from the faculties of law and journalism at the University of Tuzla. Professor Martin also spoke in April to a panel at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington D.C., on the issues surrounding possible amendment of the war renouncing provisions of the Constitution of Japan,

the proceeds of which have now been published in a short monograph. He later travelled to Honolulu, Hawaii, to present a paper on Japanese constitutional law at the *Annual Law & Society Conference* in June.

Professor **Rob Weigand** (School of Business) taught a seminar on Financial Markets Trading Strategies in the Executive MBA program of the International School of Management in Paris in May, 2012.

**Sangyoub Park** (Sociology) spent approximately two months in South Korea on a summer “Sweet Sabbatical”. He examined recent demographic trends including the growing number of aging population and immigrants in Korea.

From May 4th to May 25th, 2012 Dr. **Robert Boncella** (School of Business), presented a lecture series on Global Information Systems to IBA students of Wuhan University Science & Technology in Wuhan, China. In addition he was reappointed for another three years as guest professor in the Wuhan University School of Management.

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## *Area Reports*

### **School of Business**

#### **Russ Smith, Associate Dean**

This year the School of Business continued to strengthen partnerships and relationships previously reported in Romania and China. In Romania, in March 2012 the School signed a wide-ranging “Memorandum of Understanding” with Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (ULBS). This follows on the signing of a similar agreement with Lower Danube University of Galati (ULDG) last fall. Dean David Sollars and Professors Michael Stoica and Liviu Florea visited both universities in June 2011. Both agreements result

from Professor Florea's activities in Romania as part of his Rotary exchange fellowship and his subsequent summer "Sweet Sabbatical". The ULDG report on its activities with us appears as section two of its most recent international activities report, which can be found as section two of

<http://www.feaa.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/despre-feaa/bilantul-activitatii-pentru-perioada-2008-2012>

(To view a rough translation of the web page, open the page: [translate.google.com](http://translate.google.com) and then copy and paste the above link into the translate box and then press enter.) Most recently, in August Dr. Anca Gata, Vice President for International Relations and Student Life and Professor of French at Lower Danube University, visited the Washburn University for a week and met with faculty and administrators across campus and in the School of Business.

In China, the new development in the School of Business's relationship with the School of Management at Wuhan University of Science and Technology (WUST) is the first-ever study tour of the United States by a class of students in the WUST Executive MBA program in early April. In addition to their three days in Topeka, the class visited New York, Washington, D.C., and San Francisco, as well as Kansas City, Missouri and Lawrence, Kansas. In Topeka, the visit included the Kansas Department of Commerce and the Topeka Chamber of Commerce, as well as their programming at Washburn University. At Washburn, the group's programming was organized by Washburn's MBA Director Bob Boncella. Associate Dean Russ Smith accompanied the group for a portion of its visit in Washington, D.C.

Ongoing faculty and student exchange activities included the sixth visiting scholar from WUST, Professor Yong "Sophia" Zhou from the organizational behavior and human resources area. Professor Zhou was at Washburn from mid-February through mid-May observing teaching and pursuing her research and

professional development activities. In the undergraduate X+Y program for WUST students seeking the Washburn BBA degree, there are two students in the third and final year, two students in the second year, and five newly arrived candidates. The current first-year cohort is the first recruited under the articulation agreement signed in July 2011. In May 2012, for the sixth year, Professor Michael Stoica's BU 406 *International Business and Entrepreneurial Experience* class visited a number of cities in China before completing their firm-based research projects with their Chinese student partners at WUST.

## **College of Arts and Sciences**

**Gordon McQuere, Dean**

A highlight of international activity for the College of Arts and Sciences this past summer was the ten-day study trip to Cuba for 19 students led by Dr. Bob Beatty and Dr. Mark Peterson of the Department of Political Science. As a part of the experience, each student was required to complete an International Washburn Transformational Experience project related to Cuba, in some area such as culture, politics, or history. Students report that the experience was indeed transformational. On the value to the students, Dr. Beatty remarks that Cuba was an especially informative country to study because of the extreme political and economic systemic differences between it and the United States.

In all, seven College faculty members traveled abroad on "Sweet Sabbaticals" last summer. Destinations varied widely and included Paraguay, Central America, China, East Asia, and several destinations in Europe.

## **School of Law**

**Nancy Maxwell, Director**

**International Legal Programs**

The Law School's *Summer Law Program* in Barbados finished its third year on the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies

(UWI), in St. Michael's Parish, Barbados. The program began on May 28 with a "Land and Sea Tour"; students took 4-wheel vehicles to the eastern part of the island, going through sugar cane fields and viewing the breath-taking Atlantic coastline. The students then transferred to a catamaran for a traditional Barbadian lunch and an afternoon sailing along the famous Platinum Coast of the Caribbean Sea and swimming with the sea turtles. The next day the students began the first three-week course, *Global Intellectual Property Enforcement Law*, which was team-taught by Washburn Associate Professor Patricia Judd and UWI law faculty member Dr. Eddy Ventôse. The second course, *Comparative and International Taxation Law*, was team-taught by Washburn Associate Professor Lori McMillan and Mr. Trevor Carmichael, an imminent Caribbean tax attorney. One of the enriching features of the law school's Summer Law Program in Barbados is the addition of law students from the UWI. This summer's program included four UWI students, all of whom had earned their Bachelor's of Law Degree and will be attending their practical training schools in Trinidad or Jamaica this fall.

This past academic year Washburn School of Law sent four students as foreign exchange students to the Faculty of Law, Maastricht University, in the Netherlands. Dustin Cook and Hannah Schroller were enrolled as exchange students for the fall semester; Jerry Johnson was enrolled in the spring semester, while Robert Fitzgerald spent the full academic year in the Netherlands, earning a Maastricht Masters of Law degree simultaneously with his Washburn Juris Doctor degree.

The law school also welcomed three law students from the Maastricht University. Two students attended the law school in the fall, Luke van de Laar and Lucas Brück and one student, Laurie Bertholet, was enrolled in the spring semester.

## **School of Nursing** **Monica Scheibmeir, Dean**

In the spring of 2012, the School of Nursing hosted two faculty from the Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences, Finland, and three faculty from the University of Szeged, Hungary. The discipline areas shared were in Evidence Based Practice, Nursing Leadership, and Nursing Ethics.

In addition, we have nine Washburn students participating in the TransAtlantic Double Degree (TADD) in Nursing for the 2012-2013 academic year. These students will study in three European countries and complete an additional baccalaureate degree. The students complete course work in Finland, Hungary, and/or Northern Ireland. As well, the School of Nursing welcomed 10 TADD students from these three countries.

As part of our Direct Exchange program, the School of Nursing has five students who will complete their Community/Public Health practicum at the Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences in Savonlinna, Finland.

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## *From the Desk of ...*

### **Bassima Schbley** **President of International Center of Topeka, Inc. (ICT)**

This year the ICT Board went overboard to demonstrate its commitment to the international students at Washburn University and to the Topeka community. Aside from the usual welcome meals, ESL tutoring and other support, we were able to take thirty international students to visit the Tulip Festival in Wamego and tour a buffalo ranch. Words cannot describe the happiness and joy on the face of every single student. For most, this was an experience of a lifetime.

Another major highlight was our annual cultural event titled “Japan: The Cherry Blossom Land”. Again, thanks to all the board members and the leadership of Dr. Phyllis Berry for making this event a huge success. Over 300 students and Topeka citizens attended. This cultural celebration included presentations from two professors from the Washburn Law School on the Japanese constitution and education system; a presentation of Japanese archery and dance; sampling of foods from different regions in Japan; doll exhibit; Japanese songs; and a video of the earthquake, tsunami and recovery process. This event was also made possible with the help and support of many people including the local Hyvee grocery store.

The ICT Board is planning another cultural event for spring 2013. We are considering the following countries: Indonesia, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, or other countries in Central or South America.

The number of international students continues to grow each year. During the coming academic year, there will be over 200 new and returning international students and about 170 study abroad students. Participation in each of these programs is in large part related to the ongoing commitment of the university administration and the staff of International Programs; they continue to reach out to countries throughout the world.

### **Kelly McClendon** **Lecturer/Coordinator, Intensive English Program**

The spring semester of this year was one of great diversity in our Intensive English Program. Students from 11 countries certainly made for authentic use of their language skills during classes. I was particularly impressed with the way the students of that semester formed a cohesive group and did many activities together outside of class. I saw them studying or talking as a group in the library as I strolled through, and I learned through their writings of their other successes as a group. Additionally, I want to announce the success of the

Fukuoka University exchange group class that was taught in March. This group really goes through an accelerated intensive English course and a whirlwind sightseeing tour. Many of our current WU students look forward to meeting the Fukuoka group each year. Adjuncts during the spring were Mary Ann Wittman, Meg Atwood, Don Field, and Tom Kennedy with Bobbie Anderson and Don Field teaching the Fukuoka group. As we look toward the future, we are anticipating great changes for the fall including a larger staff and student body. As always, this is an exciting place to be on campus.

### **Heidi Staerkel** **Coordinator of International Student Services**

In early May, I had the wonderful opportunity to travel to Asunción, Paraguay, with Dr. Chris Kelts, Director of Orchestras at Washburn, to strengthen Washburn’s connection with the Comité-Paraguay Kansas, a member of the Partners of the Americas. Washburn is one of eight participating Kansas universities within this exchange agreement.

While there, Dr. Kelts and I visited the American School of Asunción (ASA), the International School (Inter), the National Conservatory of Asunción, the Liberty School, the School of Arts at the National University, the School of Music at UniNorte, and Clave de Sol Conservatory. We were warmly received by the members of the Comité-Paraguay Kansas and enjoyed sharing information about Washburn with interested Paraguayan students. During spring 2012, we had 19 students studying at Washburn through this exchange agreement, and we hope that many more will choose to study at Washburn as a result of this recent visit!

Our office would like to recognize and congratulate our Spring/Summer 2012 graduates:

- Carolina Blair Gomez (Colombia) - MA in Clinical Psychology
- Xi Cao (China) - MBA

- Mariela Flores Barquero (Costa Rica) - BM in Instrumental Performance
- Teng Ge (China) - BA in Sociology
- Lin Huang (China) - JD in Law
- Shuang Jiang (China) - BA in Mathematics/Actuarial Science
- Xin Jiang (China) - BBA in Accounting and Finance
- Valeriya Kanaeva (Tajikistan) - BM in Piano
- Robert Kinyua (Kenya) - MBA
- Antonia Kirui (Kenya) - BSN in Nursing
- Trang Le Nguyen (Vietnam) - MBA
- Lynton Macharia (Kenya) - BSN in Nursing
- Leticia Perez (Paraguay) - BA in Psychology
- Xuejing Ran (China) - BA in Mass Media
- Jacki Tipping (Canada) - BA in Sociology
- Jimena Vallejos Barriocanal (Paraguay) - BSW in Social Work
- Lei Zhao (China) - JD in Law

We would especially like to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of those Spring/Summer 2012 graduates who received Latin and/or departmental honors:

- Jimena Vallejos Barriocanal – Summa Cum Laude, Social Work Honors, and Sibberson Award Finalist
- Xin Jiang – Summa Cum Laude, School of Business Scholar and Sibberson Award Finalist
- Leticia Perez – Summa Cum Laude and Psychology Honors
- Shuang Jiang – Magna Cum Laude and Mathematics & Statistics Honors
- Mariela Flores Barquero – Magna Cum Laude and Music Honors
- Valeriya Kanaeva – Magna Cum Laude and Music Honors
- Antonia Kirui – Magna Cum Laude and School of Nursing Honors

- Lynton Macharia – Cum Laude
- Teng Ge – Sociology and Anthropology Honors

## **Tina Williams**

### **Study Abroad Coordinator**

Washburn welcomes The University of Santiago de Compostela in Spain as the newest direct exchange partner. The University is located in the medieval city of Santiago de Compostela in region of Galicia, in the northern Spain. It has over 500 years of history and is recognized for International Excellence. Washburn students have over 25 direct exchange program options to choose from. ¡Bienvenidos Universidad de Santiago de Compostela!



*University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.*

The International Programs Scholarship Committee awarded Scholarships to 79 students participating in study abroad programs in over a dozen different countries during the summer and fall of the last academic year. Programs range in length from one week to an academic year. Included were the following Faculty-led Transformational Experiences:

- China: International Business and Entrepreneurship Experience – Dr. Michael Stoica
- Cuba: Modern Cuba – Dr. Bob Beatty

In addition, 22 students will spend their fall semester or a portion of the semester studying in

one of the following countries: Belgium, China, Finland, France, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, and Nicaragua. Twelve Washburn students will spend the academic year abroad in Costa Rica, Finland, Ireland, Hungary, Nicaragua, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Visit [www.washburn.edu/iip](http://www.washburn.edu/iip) to learn more about WU study abroad opportunities.

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## *Features*

### **President Farley Honored with 2012 Hopkins Award by John Hunter**



*Desmond Egan and President Farley. Photo/JH*

The Gerard Manley Hopkins International Poetry Festival presented Dr. Jerry Farley with the prestigious Hopkins Award in recognition of his leadership and support of the Hopkins Festival over the last 15 years. The award was presented on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, at a banquet held on campus at the University of Ireland, Maynooth and attended by over 100 poets, artists, politicians and literary scholars,

During Dr Farley's introduction presented by

Theatre Professor John Hunter, it was pointed out that Washburn University has sent more faculty, students, staff and friends from the Topeka community to this summer event than any other University world-wide. Participants have included: the late Professor Bill Langdon, Professor Emeritus Edward Navone, and Marydorsey Wanless, Dr. Karen Ray, Professor John Hunter, Jim Kelly with KTWU, Tess Wilson, a student involved in our Irish exchange program with the University of Ireland at Maynooth. Dr. Farley signed the exchange agreement with Maynooth University in 2000. The University Library at Maynooth houses a magnificent world-bible collection that now includes a copy of the 3-volume set of the Washburn College Bible in recognition of our partnership.

The Hopkins Festival was celebrating 25 years as an organization and is listed as one of the finest poetry festivals held in Ireland. The international poet Desmond Egan is the Artist Head of the Festival. Desmond has been coming to Topeka and presenting his poetry every year for the last 20 years. He has lectured in numerous classes at the University, presented in the International House, the Mulvane Art Center, and at various sites around Topeka.

In addition to the scholarly presentations on Hopkins poetry, the summer festival offers a youth program attended this year by over 40 teenage students from around Ireland who came to Newbridge College for this event. Professor Hunter presented a lecture to these students on "Leadership – Becoming a Community Arts Activist."

### **Wuhan University of Science & Technology MBA Delegation Visit by Bob Boncella**

From Sunday April 8th to Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Washburn University School of Business along with the International House hosted a three day

visit for five MBA students and two MBA faculty from the Executive MBA Program of the Wuhan University of Science & Technology.

The Sunday's events included a tour of the Nelson-Atkins museum in Kansas City, dinner in Lawrence, KS and dessert/tour of Professor Bob Boncella's home in Lawrence.

Monday's events started with an early morning visit to the Kansas Department of Commerce which included a presentation on Kansas business and industry. The program was facilitated by Ms. April Chiang of the Department of Commerce. Following this presentation was a late morning visit to the Topeka Chamber of Commerce and then a tour of the construction site of the new Mars facility under construction in south Topeka. This was followed by a lunch and tour of Washburn campus. The delegation spent the afternoon resting or shopping for those who had an interest. Monday evening was spent enjoying each other's company and culture while having a relaxing dinner at the Blue Moose.

Tuesday morning was used for late minute shopping by members of the WUST delegation before traveling to Kansas City for an early afternoon departure from KCI.

Although this was a brief visit much was learned and it has set the stage for the possibility of a longer and more academic visit in the future. Currently we are discussing with the Executive MBA program of WUST what would be required for a longer stay and what type of academic activities would be meaningful for their students visiting in the future.

### **Japan: The Cherry Blossom Land by Phyllis Berry**

On March 2, 2012, The International Center of Topeka, Inc. hosted "Japan: The Cherry Blossom Land" event. This event drew over 300

participants from the Topeka community. We were honored to have the visiting students from Fukuoka, Japan as our special guests. The public enjoyed authentic Japanese food, learned about Japanese cultural celebrations, and its peace constitution. The public was also treated to displays of origami and Japanese art. Other highlights included Japanese dance and archery. It was a fun evening filled with various educational and cultural demonstrations.



*Art craft display during the Japanese event. Photo/CB*

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## ***New International Scholars Join WU Faculty***

**Reza Espahbodi, Ph.D., CPA**, is an accomplished professional whose grounding in accounting, finance and operations management has assisted several institutions of higher learning and small to medium sized companies grow and improve business and operating processes. He is a leader who believes that success grows from a clear vision grounded in solid operational planning implemented by motivated people.

Reza has joined Washburn University as Dibble Professor of Accounting in August 2012. Prior to joining Washburn, Reza taught at several universities, including



Alabama, Florida International, Indiana – South Bend, Massachusetts - Boston, and Suffolk. He also taught at Georgetown in the summer of 1983 and at Harvard during summers of 1988-1996. Reza developed and instructed executive training programs for a Fortune 500 company, Deere and Company, and for various banks and chemical industry executives in Russia. He served as a consultant to Price Waterhouse, developing an economic model to predict the likelihood of an airline going bankrupt. He also served as a consultant to various small to medium-sized (foreign and domestic) businesses, developing information systems and databases for them to compete in their local markets.

Originally from Iran, Reza came to the United States to pursue graduate studies in accounting. He earned his MBA degree from George Washington University, and his PhD from the University of Alabama. Reza has planned and implemented various collaborative programs between Indiana, Purdue and Iowa in the US and several universities in Iran and Turkey. He also taught a course in mergers and acquisitions in the Executive MBA program at Sabanci University in the summer of 2009 and made presentations at international conferences.

Reza has authored many articles, which have been published in the leading journals in Accounting and Finance. He has worked with the former Chancellor at IU South Bend on the development of strategic planning initiatives, cost control, and management of the University.

Professor **Frédéric Sourgens'** teaching and scholarship focuses on international dispute resolution, with a particular emphasis on resolution of disputes involving political risk. Freddy has published numerous articles on international arbitration and serves as editor for the Oxford University Press, reporter of investor-state arbitral decisions.

Prior to joining Washburn Law, Professor Sourgens practiced international arbitration in the Washington, D.C. office of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, the Houston office of Fulbright & Jaworski, and worked as counsel in ICSID, UNCITRAL, ICC and LCIA arbitrations



representing diverse clients such as Yukos Oil Company, Fraport AG, the Government of Mongolia, and U.S. private equity and financial services companies. While in Washington, D.C., he was an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center and, in 2010, received the Georgetown University Law Center Council of Barristers Inaugural Alternative Dispute Resolution Award for Coaching Excellence.

Professor Sourgens is fluent in German, French, Italian and Norwegian. He is a graduate of the United World College of the Adriatic in Duino, Italy. Professor Sourgens holds a *candidatus magisterii* degree in Classics (Latin and Philosophy) from the University of Oslo and a Master of Arts in Political Philosophy (The Idea of Toleration) from the University of York (UK). He received his J.D. cum laude from Tulane University Law School.

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**Takrima Sadikot, Ph.D.**, joined Washburn University as an Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology in August 2012. Prior to joining Washburn, Takrima was a post-doctoral scholar at the Kansas University Medical Center and her research mainly focused on the development of therapeutic compounds for the treatment of cancer. Takrima came to the United States in 2004 from Mumbai, India to pursue graduate studies in molecular biology and biochemistry. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Missouri, Kansas City in 2010. During graduate school, Takrima carried out research in the field of muscle biology focusing on the study of muscle protein that is implicated in limb-girdle muscular dystrophy. Takrima hopes to bring and carry forward this research at Washburn University.



## *New Staff at the Office of International Programs*



*From Left to Right: Sally Bender, Mary Ann Wittman, Andy Vogel. Photo/BZ*

**Andrew Vogel**, Coordinator of Recruitment & Retention, is happy to return to Topeka, his hometown, after spending five years living and working in China. He is moving into the OIP after a two year stint as Assistant Principal at Beijing Huijia (IB) Private School. Before that he spent three years teaching English at Zhejiang Normal University and manning the Washburn University Office there. When not at the OIP, Andy enjoys biking, canning, gardening, sewing, foraging, camping, going to garage sales, and reading.

**Mary Ann Wittman**, Lecturer of Intensive English, holds a B.A. in Sociology from Kansas State University, and an MEd. in Adult Education/TESL from Colorado State University. She has also completed post-grad work at KU, Ottawa University, and Wichita State. Her career in Teaching English as a Second Language began in Izmir, Turkey where she lived for two years and taught English at the

Turkish-American Association. From 1982-1993 she was an Academic Advisor at Washburn University. She taught ESL, TESL Methodology and Freshman & Junior Composition as an adjunct professor from 1982 until the spring of 2012.

**Sally Bender**, Secretary for International Programs and WTE (Creative & Scholarly), moved to Topeka from White Bear Lake, MN three years ago and loves her new job at Washburn University. Sally was born and raised in Wisconsin and attended Concordia University – St. Paul, Minnesota where she earned a BA in church music. She has three teenage daughters and her husband is a Lutheran minister. Sally enjoys old movies, museums, reading, history, sewing, and music.

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## *Congratulations!*

### **International Scholars**



*From Left to Right: Bill Rich, Tina Williams, Annie Collins, Phyllis Berry, Caroline Szafran, and Jim Smith were inducted April 2012 into Phi Beta Delta - Honor Society for International Scholars. Photo/BZ*

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### **The following individuals were awarded 2012 Sweet Summer Sabbaticals:**

Alan Bearman  
Miguel Gonzalez-Abellas  
Norma Juma  
Mark Kaufman  
Sangyoub Park  
Keith Rocci  
Tracy Routsong  
Tom Schmiedler  
Lisa Sharp Elles  
Sharon Sullivan  
Nan Sun  
Marydorsej Wanless

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## *Bods on the Move: International Alum Profiles*

**Xueting FU (Sherry)** who spent a semester at Washburn University and later graduated from Zhejiang Normal University is now in the UK and will finish her postgraduate degree in September. She also landed her dream internship as a translator for the United Nations!

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**Xu Ping** was at WU from August, 2010 to May, 2011. She graduated from ZJNU and in August started a new position at Chisong Primary School in Jinhua, Zhejiang as an English teacher which was her dream job! The leaders in her school like to introduce her in this way, "This is Xu Ping. She graduated from ZJNU, and has been to the U.S.A. for one year." She stated "I feel so confident when I hear that. The experience in the United States is my most precious treasure!"

**Wang Yi (Joy)** began teaching at Xinxing Middle School in Quzhou City, Zhejiang Province. She teaches music and was awarded the “Golden Prize” for her outstanding teaching. She was most recently the English Host for the event *Confucius 2563 Year-old-Birth Night* which had people from all over the world in attendance.

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After a semester at Washburn University and having also graduated from Zhejiang Normal University, **Sijia Xiang (Grace)** came back to Kansas and entered the Department of Statistics at Kansas State University. She has recently received her Master's degree in Statistics last spring, and is now working towards her Ph.D. in Statistics.



*Xiang Sijia*

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**Tingting Xu** has graduated from Zhejiang Normal University (ZJNU) in the summer of 2011. Instead of working as a high school teacher in her hometown, she has chosen to continue studying English literature as a graduate student in ZJNU. She feels that the literature and writing classes in WU helped her immensely in the new stage of study, especially in the course of *American Ethnic Literature*, which is now her main research interest.

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**Bichun Xu (Grace)** has been offered a place in the program of MA in English (Literary Studies) by the Chinese University of Hong Kong and will be

learning and living in Hong Kong soon. She graduated from ZJNU this June and attended Washburn as an exchange student in the academic year of 2010-2011. Currently she teaches TOEFL and IELTS at a local language institution and will finish her work by the end of this summer.

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**Liwei Zhou (Livia)** studied at Washburn from 2009-2010 as an exchange student from ZJNU. She graduated a year ago in Early Education and is now working in a public kindergarten. This summer she solo traveled to Indonesia. She is now considering working or volunteering for a non-governmental organization (NGO) for peace or environmental protection, as public service is her passion.