

Washburn International

Accents

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Faculty International Activity Report

Lori McMillan (School of Law) presented "An Empirical Examination of the Canadian Noncharitable Nonprofit Subsector" at *The Carter Commission 50 Years Later: A Time for Reflection and Reform Conference*, hosted by Dalhousie University School of Law, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on September 29, 2012.

Dr. Bob Beatty and Dr. Mark Peterson (Political Science) traveled to Paraguay from December 16 - December 23, 2012 as part of the *Presidential Agenda Project* sponsored by the Paraguayan nongovernmental organization Centro de Información y Recursos para el Desarrollo (CIRD) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). While there, Beatty and Peterson conducted workshops and seminars on topics such as election processes, presidential debates, and building effective public policy in a democracy.



From left: Dr. Peterson, Fernando Lugo, former President of Paraguay (2009-2012), Dr. Beatty, Professor Gwyn Mellinger of Baker, and Professor Michael Smith of Emporia State. Photo BB

October 25-29th **Dr. Michael Stoica and Dr. Bob Boncella** (School of Business) traveled to Galati, Romania and presented research on October 26 regarding "Internet-based Internationalization: Modes and Configurations for Teaching Business Curricula" at the plenary session of the *XIIIth Annual International Conference: Risk in Contemporary Economy* held at the University of Galati.

Lee Boyd (Biology) attended the *International Wild Equid Conference* in Vienna, Austria, September 18-22, 2012. She presented a paper entitled "Juvenile Dispersal of Takhi (*Equus ferus przewalskii*) from Their Natal Harems in Hustai National Park, Mongolia". The trip also included an excursion to Neusiedl Lake National Park, a tour of the Spanish Riding School, the Albertina, Kunsthistorisches Museum, and Natural History museums.

Zach Frank (Allied Health - Physical Therapy) traveled to Jaipur, India with Washburn students Alayna Nigus and Hannah Boos who both presented papers at *The Seventh International Conference on Healthcare Systems and Global Business Issues*. The conference was very informative and Alayna and Hannah represented Washburn very well amongst the presenters from all over the world. Cultural outings for the international delegates included playing elephant polo, touring historic forts, and a visit to the Taj Mahal.

Professor Judith Lynne McConnell-Farmer (Education) 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 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, titled "Women in History, an Interdisciplinary Perspective" and another paper on August 9, 2012, titled, "A Wish for my Granddaughter: A History of Determined and Skilled Women". She directed the *Study Abroad in Belize Program*, Belize, sponsored by the Department of Education from December 28, 2012 through January 8, 2013. Nineteen Washburn University students tutored children and volunteered in four public and one private orphanage in Belize. They also attended and presented poster sessions at the *Belizean International Symposium in Education*, a three day conference in Belize City for international educators. The study abroad program was held in Belize City, Ladyville, Belmopan and Caye Calker, Belize, Central America. At the *Belizean International Symposium on Education*, on January 2, 2013, she presented a paper titled, "Challenge in the Himalayas: Preschool Education and Teacher Training in Kathmandu, Nepal".

Area Report

School of Business

Russell E. Smith, Associate Dean

During Fall 2012, the School of Business international program development activity tilted toward Europe. In particular, the tilt was toward Romania, but also included the long-term Magellan Exchange partnership in Western Europe. In the last week of August, the new relationship with Lower Danube University (ULDG) in Galati, Romania, moved forward with the visit to the Washburn campus by Dr. Anca Gata, Vice President for International Relations. This was the first vice-presidential level exchange between the two universities. During her four days getting to know the Washburn campus, Dr. Gata's schedule included meetings with President Jerry Farley; Vice President Randy Pembroke; Cindy Hornberger, Special Assistant to the President; Alan Bearman, Dean of Libraries; Monica Scheibmeier, Dean of the School of Nursing; Gordon McQuere, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Michael McGuire, Dean of the Honors Program; and Baili Zhang, Director of International Programs, and his staff, as well as representatives of the history, mass media, foreign languages, political science, and sociology/anthropology departments. In the School of Business, Dr. Gata met with Dean David Sollars, Associate Dean Russell Smith, MBA Director Bob Boncella, the International Education Task Force, and the area faculty in accounting, economics, finance, management, and marketing.



Dr. Anca Gata (right), Vice President for International Relations of Lower Danube University in Galati, Romania, visiting with President Farley with Andy Vogel (center). Photo/BZ

Later in the semester, School of Business faculty members Michael Stoica and Bob Boncella visited ULDG to attend the *Thirteenth Annual International*

Conference on Risk in Contemporary Economy, October 26-27, 2012. At the conference they presented, as plenary speakers, the paper "Internet-based Internationalization: Modes and Configurations for Teaching Business Curricula," co-authored with Russell Smith.

This year's annual *Magellan Exchange Coordinators Conference*, held September 30-October 2, 2012, in Louisville, Kentucky and sponsored by Eastern Kentucky University and Morehead State University, was attended by School of Business faculty member Dmitri Nizovtsev, Washburn Study Abroad Coordinator Tina Williams, and School of Business Associate Dean Russ Smith. In his capacity as Magellan Exchange advisory committee member, Russ Smith served as a break-out discussion chair and reporter for a discussion regarding improving U.S. student participation and attracting U.S. students, as well as barriers to and strategies for improving overall faculty presentation. Discussion was based on a member survey that addressed outbound student participation (e.g., barriers to participation, best practices for recruiting, required international experiences). Conference participants were grouped based upon geographic region, with an advisory committee member of the opposite region serving as chairperson. This fall the School of Business hosted six one-semester undergraduate exchange students from Magellan partners, including three students from Fachhochschule Aachen in Germany, two students from the University of Liege in Belgium, and one student from ESC Rennes in France, as well as two business students from the Fachhochschule Osnabrueck and one student from the University of Osnabrueck.

Looking west across the Pacific, the School of Business's partnership with the School of Management at the Wuhan University of Science and Technology (WUST) remained strong and growing. In the area of faculty exchange, the School welcomed its seventh visiting scholar, Prof. Ya-Qiong Pan, a finance and economics professor from the Department of Marketing, who attended finance and economics classes to observe teaching methods and also participated in research team meetings. Her other activities included a meeting with Mr. Richard Liedtke, Washburn's Dean of Enrollment Management, to learn about maintenance of transcripts and student records in the United States and how international transfer credits fit in to the system. In the student area, the School

welcomed ten new WUST students, four of whom are expected to remain as degree-seeking students. Three will pursue the Washburn Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) under the X+Y Transfer Agreement. The fourth, a previous undergraduate exchange student, has graduated in China and is returning to earn the MBA degree. In addition, another 20 students from other universities in China are visiting students in the School of Business.

College of Arts and Sciences

Guest Columnist

Dr. Judith Lynne McConnell-Farmer
Professor - Department of Education

University students seldom have an opportunity to participate in an event that has the capacity to affirmatively shape the rest of their lives. Washburn University offers such an opportunity in its student study abroad programs. The Study Abroad in Belize Program sponsored by the Department of Education can be that type of transformational experience. When the students immerse themselves in the society and culture of Belize, they have the ability to experience their own lives from a perspective they never imagined. Many times the transition is not easy and can be emotionally disquieting. Poverty, children in dire need, barely sustainable living conditions and hunger are daily heart-wrenching realities in developing countries. By understanding and learning to empathize with the people they meet in Belize, our students acquire a dedication to the principle that by helping others we learn to help ourselves.

The Study Abroad in Belize Program has been offered yearly since 2010. I am currently enrolling students for our next program which is scheduled for December 29, 2013 to January 10, 2014. While in Belize our nineteen students volunteer in various capacities and tutor children living in orphanages. They also present at the poster session of the *Belizean International Symposium on Education*, a three-day professional gathering. During the symposium our students listen to papers delivered by international scholars and practitioners. Many of the reflections of our students who participated in the most recent program, December 28, 2012 to January 8, 2013 are revealing. When I initiated the Study Abroad in Belize Program I hoped that it would be beneficial to our students and the communities in Belize where our students volunteer. To better portray the transformational

power of students' studying abroad I am including some of the many anecdotal reflections of our students. In the words of Washburn University students who went to Belize:

- *We came here to leave an impact on the children, but what these children will never know is that they left such a greater impact on us.*
- *I was completely transformed by the orphanages; however, experiencing the culture was also transformational. I am so happy to say that this experience changed my life.*
- *In America we take so much for granted. Like when we first got to our hotel we were all freaking out and mad that we didn't have Wi-Fi, and the children there don't even have families or a mom and dad to kiss them good night every night. At this point it really hit me that poverty is real, that children do grow up without families. It just made me realize I take so much for granted in life.*
- *When people ask me how my experience was, it's so hard to sum that up in one short sentence. I tell people that this trip to Belize was life changing and that you can only understand the things I tell you if you went there and experienced it yourself.*
- *My experience in Belize was more than I ever imagined it would be. It transformed the way I thought, behaved, and even the way that I respect my friends who are minorities at home in Kansas. I had never before seen the poverty that I witnessed in Belize; my heart broke when I learned there were many families that were lucky to own a plywood shack. Most of all I realized how much I took for granted. I learned a lot about myself while I was growing in Belize, I cannot wait to help more people, even if it is just in my own community I want to make a difference. My adventure abroad, in Belize, transformed me.*
- *Altogether, this experience was absolutely amazing. I never knew that this whole trip could change me in so many different ways. Also, I have found out a lot about myself because I have never had time to reflect back on my life and see how blessed I have been. All I want to do now is help out other people that are in need and donate to help orphanages with their cost. Most of all, I want to adopt a child in need. I am extremely blessed and*

honored to go on this trip. It was a fantastic experience.

- *On this trip I found myself. I learned who I am and who I have the potential to be. Before the end of our trip I had decided that, God willing, I would be returning next year. Our motto for this trip was "YOBO": You Only Belize Once! However in my case, I hope it will be YOBT, You Only Belize Twice!*
- *If I could just sum up this experience in one word it would be a 'blessing'. Maria, our Mayan temple guide at Altun Ha, said that rain was a blessing. It rained every day we were in Belize.*

It is an honor to have developed and to direct our Study Abroad in Belize Program. Our students went, they saw, they felt and were transformed.

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## *From the Desk of...*

### **Bassima Schbley**

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

What a difference a year makes! Although experts say that the world economy is in trouble and the travel industry is down, we are seeing a continued increase in interested International Students wanting to study or visit Washburn University.

The ICT board is involved on a regular basis in one activity or another involving the international student body at Washburn University. We have hosted many welcome dinners and brunches, and continue to notice a steady increase in attendance of these events from the international students. It is very hard to describe the excitement that breaks out when so many students from several cultures get together. These opportunities are full of education and awareness about various cultures. This year many cultures are represented through the Office of International Programs including Saudi Arabia, Japan, China, Paraguay, the Netherlands, Germany, Finland, France, United Kingdom, Columbia, and Belgium. All of the ICT board members deserve a special thank you and recognition. They have all worked very hard to ensure that every event has been a great success.

Dr. Phyllis Berry has agreed for the second time to lead a cultural celebration. Last year, she led the culture celebration of Japan and it was a huge success; over 350 community members attended the event. This year, on Friday, March 8, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. we celebrated the cultures of Paraguay. Approximately 350 members from the Topeka community and the Washburn campus attended the event. The ICT members, under the direction of Dr. Phyllis Berry, worked hard to make sure this event ran smoothly and with the highest quality possible. The goal of the event was to educate people about the cultures in Paraguay in a variety of different ways. Some of the information was educational and delivered by professors, students, and natives of Paraguay.

On April 13, we will be inviting the International Students to sign up for a rural outing in Kansas, which includes visiting the Tulip Festival in Wamego and a local Buffalo Ranch.

ICT Board Members look forward to hearing feedback from the community. Please let us know if you have any ideas about any other events we could organize.

### **Heidi Staerkel**

**Coordinator of International Student Services**

In August, 125 new and transfer international students became Ichabods, calling Washburn their new home. This was a 25% increase over Fall 2011, which was the largest Fall class of new and transfer international students in recent memory. The two largest student groups in the Fall were from China and Saudi Arabia; we also welcomed students from Anguilla, Morocco, Hungary, Ireland, Finland, and Colombia, among several other countries.

During the Winter Break, twelve of our exchange students from China went on a community service trip to New Orleans to help with the continued efforts to rebuild the city. Qin Lu was one of the participants, and shared the following about her experience:

*At the end of my winter break, I went to New Orleans with our Washburn volunteer team. I heard about the Katrina disaster when I was a middle school student. I felt so sorry that some families there are still struggling to get back into their homes now. It is hard*

*to imagine how Hurricane Katrina shattered New Orleans.*

*During the ten days' volunteer trip, we did a lot to help rebuild their houses, including hanging insulation and drywall, mudding and painting the walls. Although I was very tired after ten days' work, indeed, it gave me a lot of happiness.*

*I am so glad I did this. It was really a great experience in my life.*

The other exchange students who participated in this community service trip were: Yu Shen, Xueting Li, Qianhui Zhang, Rui Yu, Ni Zhu, Haonan Xu, Bingqian Lin, Cong Zhao, Zhongbo Wen, Tingyi Zhu and Wenru Wang.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate our Fall 2012 graduates:

- Rizki Aljupri (Indonesia) - BBA in Management and Finance
- Khaloud Alsaïd (Saudi Arabia) - MBA
- Solmer Alvarez Gutierrez (Colombia) - BM in Instrumental Performance
- Andryana Campbell (Indonesia) - BBA in Management
- Lo-Cheung Cheng (Hong Kong) - BBA in Economics and Finance
- Yik ka Chu (Hong Kong) - BBA in Finance
- Ezgi Gulec (Turkey) - AA in Humanities
- Won Jun Lee (South Korea) - JD in Law
- Giuliano Montanaro Ochoa (Paraguay) - BA in Economics
- Jonathan Panqueva Cardenas (Colombia) - BA in Kinesiology

## **Kelly McClendon**

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

The first word that comes to mind to describe the Intensive English Program in the fall of 2012 is booming. We grew in student numbers by about 25 percent over last spring. Thankfully, the team of instructors was able to accommodate these numbers because of the new addition to our team, Mary Ann Wittman. After being a part time adjunct for many years, she joined us as a full time faculty member in August and is very enthusiastic about her students and her job. This addition has allowed us to offer more

classes at a convenient time for the students. This was just in time for an increased number of sections of language classes in the fall. As our numbers increase, so does the diversity. Just imagine teaching a roomful of students from Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Colombia, China, South Korea, and Tajikistan, and those are not even all of the countries represented. The Intensive English instruction team in the fall also included the adjunct instructors Meg Atwood, Roger Laubengayer, Don Field, Travis Lamb, and Larry McFall. These instructors have not only been teaching English language skills required for college courses, but also valuable cultural knowledge to ensure the students' successful adjustment to American college life.

## **Tina Williams**

### **Study Abroad Coordinator & Washburn**

#### **Transformational Experience: International Education**

Congratulations to the Winners of the 2012 Study Abroad Photos Essay Contest! Please read about the winners in the "Featured" section of this newsletter.

The International Programs Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships to 77 students participating in study abroad programs in over a dozen different countries during the summer & fall of 2012. Programs ranged in length from 2 weeks to an academic year. 38 students received scholarships for spring 2013 programs. Included were the following Faculty-Led Washburn Transformational Experiences:

- Belize: Study Abroad in Central America – Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer
- Barbados: Law Program – Nancy Maxwell
- China: International Business and Entrepreneurship – Dr. Michael Stoica
- Modern Cuba – Dr. Bob Beatty & Dr. Mark Peterson
- Costa Rica: Service Learning Habitat for Humanity – Dr. Randy Pembroke
- Nicaragua: Service Learning – Dr. Richard Ellis

Students interested in participating in study abroad may begin the exploration process now by visiting a Study Abroad Advisor in the Office of International Programs. To find out more about WU study abroad opportunities visit: [www.washburn.edu/iip](http://www.washburn.edu/iip).

# Features

## The Georgia Connection

By Bill Rich - School of Law

Washburn Faculty participates each month in a video conference with faculty from Free University of Tbilisi to coordinate activities designed to enhance legal education in the Republic of Georgia. Members of the Washburn Georgia Committee include Professors Michael Schwartz, Patricia Judd, Tonya Kowalski, Janet Thompson-Jackson, John Christensen and Bill Rich. Associate Dean Aida Alaka also regularly participates in the video conferences.

Faculty visits to the Republic of Georgia and collaborative work with law faculty in that country that took place between August 1, 2012 and January 13, 2013 also included the following:

Washburn University School of Law professors Tonya Kowalski and Joseph Mastrosimone conducted a Legal Writing and Analysis Workshop at Free University of Tbilisi on October 8-10, 2012. This workshop followed two previous legal writing and analysis workshops conducted by Washburn Law at Free University in March and June of the same year by Aida Alaka and/or Tonya Kowalski.

Professor John Christensen, director of the Washburn Law Library, traveled to Tbilisi Nov 9-16 to participate with a team of two other law librarians in beginning work on a Judicial Independence and Legal Empowerment Project (JILEP) to improve Georgian law libraries.

Professors Rory Bahadur and Michael Hunter Schwartz visited Georgia in December 2012 for a continuation of the Train-the-Trainer Project. All of these trainings have been conducted at Free University of Tbilisi. Between 10 and 15 Georgian law teachers have attended each of the sessions offered.

Members of the Free University faculty identified constitutional issues of current interest in the Republic of Georgia, and teams of Washburn students working with Professors Jeff Jackson and Craig Martin drafted memoranda addressing treatment of analogous cases within the United States. Those memoranda will be shared with students in the Free University

Constitutional Law Clinic, and discussed during a video conference involving students from both schools.

On December 13, 2012, Washburn Professor Patricia Judd delivered an open lecture entitled “Battle of the Giants: The *Apple v. Samsung* Cases and What They Mean for Intellectual Property Law,” as part of the series of open lectures on commercial law sponsored by the Georgian National Center for Commercial Law.

Preparations for publication of the first *Georgian Journal of Commercial Law* included a contribution from Washburn faculty member Amy Westbrook, who was able this autumn to finalize clearance for translation of an appropriate article for the *Journal*.

In November, Professor Janet Thompson Jackson held a video conference with her Free University counterparts to discuss various issues they were experiencing in development of a commercial law clinical program. Those issues included insurance coverage, service agreements, client interviews, and client dishonesty. Professor Jackson will visit Free University in May as an element of her Washburn spring sabbatical project.

## International Bods on Bikes

By Andy Vogel



*International students enjoying the bike-share program.*

Washburn University’s very own bike-share program, Bods on Bikes, has seen enormous enthusiasm at the start of the 2013 spring semester. At the end of the 2012 fall semester, the program had a total of 14 bicycles, five of which were donated by the Topeka

Cycle Community Project (TCCP) group located in downtown Topeka, and the others were graciously donated from the professors and community of Washburn University. The OIP has invested in locks and helmets for the students, and future plans include a bicycle maintenance/safety seminar in conjunction with the TCCP for International students as well as some spring rides to local areas of interest in and around Topeka. The OIP wishes to thank all those who donated bicycles; the International students are delighted to have access to safe, reliable, familiar transportation around the capitol city. The OIP hopes to continue to help International students become more mobile, healthier, and happier through a more convenient and economical way that promotes sustainability. If you would like to donate a bicycle, please contact Andy Vogel, Coordinator of International Student Recruitment and Retention, at [andy.vogel@washburn.edu](mailto:andy.vogel@washburn.edu).

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Congratulations!

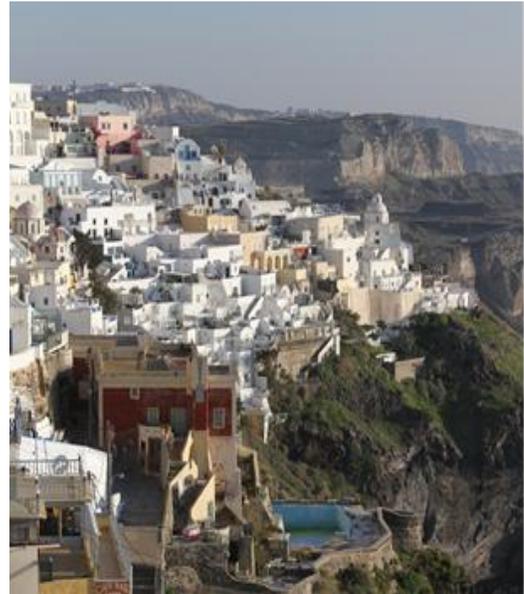
2012 Photo Essay Contest Winners By Tina Williams

Catelyn H. Kostbar's photo essay entitled "Following My Heart and Falling in Love" was awarded First Place. Catelyn, a third year Law student, participated in a Law School Consortium program in London, England during the spring semester of 2012. Catelyn received a cash prize of \$100.



Catelyn Kostbar overlooking the Grand Canal and sunset in Venice, Italy. Photo by Catelyn Kostbar.

Stefanie Stuever, a Junior Fine Arts Major, was awarded Second Place and \$75.00 for her photo essay entitled "Encountering Art History" about her Spring Break 2012 WU Faculty-led program in Greece.



A view of the brightly colored city of Santorini built into the steep cliffs of the island. Photo by Stefanie Stuever.

Third place and \$50.00 was awarded to **Anna Frantz**, Senior English Major, for her photo essay entitled "Ya Betta Belize It" about her winter break 2012 WU Faculty-led program in Belize.



Anna Frantz and her roommates on the beach of Caye Caulker Island off the coast of Belize. Photo by Anna Frantz

Honorable Mention:

Rachel Klaus, Junior Psychology Major, "Respecting Grandpa", WU Faculty-led Program: International Mass Media Seminar in France, Spring Break 2012.

Kris Roberts, Senior Art History Major, "Tot de Volgende Keer / Until the Next Time", WU Direct Exchange: Provincial Hodgeschool Limburg in Belgium, Spring 2012.

Jingjing Wu, Senior Business: Accounting Major, "C'est La Vie", WU Direct Exchange: ESC Rennes School of Business Program in France, Summer 2012.

Visit the Office of International Programs website: www.washburn.edu/iip to view the complete winning photo essays.

2012-2013 Scholarship Fund Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded various scholarships

Max Bickford Rotary International Education Scholarship Fund: Yuan Chen and Jongtak Choi.

John M. Duggan Memorial Scholarship Fund: Isabella Gichiri

International Center of Topeka / William O. Wagnon Jr. Scholarship Fund: Pascal Laucht and Zhenyu Li.

International Center of Topeka / Betty Jo "Bo" Sheafor Fund: Jing Wang.

International Center of Topeka / William Langdon Fund: Yunhai Chen, Jianhao Hu, and Won J. Kim.

William H. Guild International Program Fund: Hamad Nooh and Xiliang Shi.

Sturm/Workman Family International Fund: Yaqi Tang.

Dr. David C. Thurston Memorial Scholarship Fund: Oleksiy Voskobojev.

Stanley Curyea Memorial: Yafei Wang and Anqi Zhang.

Mildred I. Pfuetze International Student Scholarship Fund: Tyson Nernberg.

Hula International Student Fund: Narongsak Saparam and Junchi Zhou.

Rotary International-Topeka Downtown Francine Hines Memorial Scholarship: Yangfang Mao, Marta Godoy Gamarra, and Arkadiusz Kozaczuk.

Lauranna Russell Clothier International Program Scholarship Fund: Solmer Alvarez, Marta Godoy Gamarra, Arkadiusz Kozaczuk, Yangfang Mao, Wei Pi, Binbin Wu, Jingjing Wu, Boaz Daniel, Sherzod Kadirov, and Zheng Dong.

The Fall 2012 Nall Speak Off

This past November the Communication Department held the Fall Nall Speak Off Contest. Each semester the top three speakers are selected from each Washburn University public speaking course to represent their respective classes in this competition. This semester's participants were: Sarah Watts, Kristin Onions, Xinhui Du, Jillian Kincaid, Anthony Tinoco, Nathan Edgar, Xin Ding, Erin Finely, Ashley Williams, and Maribeth Emmet.

Two international students, Xinhui Du (China) and Xin Ding (China) placed second and sixth respectively.



*Xinhui Du – 2nd Place Winner
Photo by Andy Vogel*



*Xin Ding – 6th Place Winner
Photo by Andy Vogel*



In Memorandum

Donna T. Love, 90, of Topeka, passed away Dec.1, 2012. She was born Jan. 4, 1922 an only child, to Roy and Shirley (Hannah) Testerman at Topeka, KS. She is survived by her son, Todd Love, of Topeka, his wife Michele and their children Kegan and Alair, and her daughter, Amy Love of Edmond, OK. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ed Love, in 1998.

She graduated from Washburn University with a degree in Psychology in 1943 and pursued her graduate studies at Columbia University. She finished her MSW at Washington University in 1946. She was working at the children's division of Menninger's in 1956 when she was recruited to teach Washburn's first social case work course which was offered through the sociology department. Soon the one course grew into a bachelor's degree. Because of her effort, Washburn's Department of Social work was in the first group of undergraduate schools of social work in the nation to be accredited by the Council of Social Work Education. She developed a master's in social work degree that was approved in 1993. Washburn began its MSW program in 1995.

For many years, she took Washburn students to Cambridge International Summer School in England. She experienced summer sabbaticals to Germany, London, and Switzerland to study social programs. She was still teaching at age 86 after retiring more than once. Donna was the Chair of the Washburn Department of Social Work until April of 1992. She then became Professor Emeritus.