

# International ACCENTS

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## Faculty International Activity Report

In June, **Linda Elrod** (Richard S. Righter Distinguished Professor of Law) presented on “Enforcing Domestic Violence Orders Across Country Borders” at the American BAR Association International Law Section program on *International Families: Money, Children and Long-Term Planning* held in Seattle, Washington June 19-21, 2014. Lawyers presenting and attending were from all over the United States, London, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan and Switzerland.

Supported by the Office of International Programs, **Dr. Shiao-Li Ding** (Music) visited Washburn University’s two sister schools, Zhejiang Normal University (ZJNU) and Zhejiang International Studies University (ZISU) in China during May 2014. During the week-long visit, she held rehearsal sessions with students and presented lecture-recitals in both schools. Twenty piano students collaborated with her in performance demonstrations, and about 150 teachers and students participated in lectures and discussions. While in China, Shiao-Li reunited with six Washburn alumnae who are now either teaching in public schools or enrolled in graduate programs.

In June 2014, **Zach Frank** (Allied Health) coordinated a faculty-led study abroad program with seven students from the School of Applied Studies. The students attended the *Eighth International Conference on Healthcare Systems and Global Business Issues*. Some of the students presented a paper titled “An International Comparison of Physical Therapy Education and Practice Patterns.” Dr. Frank also presented a paper titled, “Impact of Physical Therapy Staffing on Outcomes.” The conference was held in Grantham, England. The group got the opportunity to stay at Harlaxton Manor, which hosted the conference and was built in 1837. They stayed in the renovated servants’ quarters. While attending the conference the students developed a better understand-

ing of the issues facing healthcare not only in Europe but across the world. They toured the Nottingham Medical Center and talked with staff about quality improvement projects that were being implemented.

After the conference, the group traveled to London to experience British culture. They learned their way around the “tube” (only getting lost a couple of times), saw the sights of London, and ventured out of the city to see Stonehenge, Windsor Castle, and Bath. The students were able to interact with locals and get their opinions regarding access and availability of healthcare. After getting their fill of fish and chips, the group headed to Paris. They saw the landmarks of Paris, talked to locals about their healthcare system, and were even in Paris when the France soccer team played in the World Cup. (Definitely a unique experience.)

It was a great conference, an enlightening experience, and transformational in changing how the group now evaluates healthcare in our country.

**Dr. Timothy Fry** (Education) had the good fortune to spend two weeks in July of this year in China. He flew into Shanghai and spent two days exploring the city of 25 million people at the mouth of the Yangtze River. Shanghai's Bund Financial District with modern sky scrapers has appeared in the last 15 years from an area that was farmland just a few years ago and now overlooks the busiest port in the world. From Shanghai he caught a flight upstream to the historical city of Wuhan where Chairman Mao made many annual swims across the Yangtze. At Wuhan, Dr. Fry boarded a boat and for the next five days cruised upstream on the Yangtze. He went through the locks at the Three Gorges Dam, the largest dam in the world, took a land tour of the dam, and saw incredible scenery in the Three Gorges and Lesser Gorges areas. Arriving in the city of Chongqing, another city of 25 million plus, he saw Pandas at a small park zoo and had a brief tour of the city. From Chongqing, he flew into the old walled city of Xian. Xian was at various times the capital city of China under several different dynasties. Xian was the starting point of the silk road



traveling westward to the Middle East. The famed Terra Cotta Warriors are located near Xian. From Xian Dr. Fry flew to Beijing, the modern capital of China. In Beijing he got to tour Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. He also took a day trip outside of Beijing and climbed a very steep section of the 4,000 mile Great Wall of China. It was an incredible two weeks as he learned a great deal, met some great people and saw for himself that the amazing country once called the "Sleeping Giant" is definitely awake!

**Dr. Norma Juma** (School of Business) was invited to Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT) as a distinguished scholar for a period of three weeks during April 2014. She offered lectures to graduate students and held research seminars at Sino-Foreign Business Research Center and at BIT School of Management & Economics.

Dr. Juma received a major research grant from Washburn University to conduct a joined study in Spain and Kenya. This study explored how corporate entrepreneurs (Pikolinos, a shoe manufacturer in Spain) and the indigenous entrepreneurs (Maasai community in Kenya) are addressing societal level issues and building sustainable business models. She is scheduled to make a presentation on Oct/15/2014 at the International house. The same study has been submitted for the upcoming 2015 USASBE conference.

Dr. Juma was also awarded the Beatrice Scholarship for a research project titled 'Seeding Entrepreneurship with Microfinance'. She studied a job and business creation model, Hand in Hand (HiH) International, created by Percy Barnevik, a renowned Swedish business executive. HiH International consists of network partners in India, Southern Africa, Eastern Africa, Afghanistan, Sweden and the UK. A teaching case based on this study will be submitted to the 2015 John Molson MBA International Case Competition (ICC). Dr. Juma travelled to Kenya to meet with the CEO, Pauline Ngari and witnessed the execution of the model first hand.

**Sungkyu Kwak** (School of Business) visited Korea from May 17<sup>th</sup> through June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. The main

purpose of the trip was to present a paper, entitled "Insiders' R&D Manipulation Around Seasoned Equity Offerings (SEOs)," at the *Sixth Asia Pacific Business Research Conference* held from May 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> in Seoul, Korea. The presentation went well, and he received the best paper award of the conference.

In addition to attending the conference, Dr. Kwak made a site visit to Anyang University, South Korea, which is a part of the Magellan Program at Washburn University. There, he met Steven Ahn, the school's Director of International Programs, had a campus tour, and discussed ways to improve cooperation between Anyang and Washburn. He also met an old friend who is teaching at Kookmin University in Seoul, South Korea, and is in charge of seeking a new partner school in the US for Kookmin. They talked about a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Kookmin and Washburn's School of Business.

**Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer** (Education) participated in the following professional international activities:

During March and July, 2014, she coordinated two Oxford Round Tables (five day conferences) and presented two papers at each of the Oxford Round Tables at Oxford University, Oxford, U.K., as follows:

Coordinator. *The Oxford Round Table: Childhood Education and Issues*. Harris Manchester College. Oxford University. Oxford, UK. July 27-31, 2014. Twenty-three participants from the USA representing nine states. Fourteen papers and reflective discussions were presented at the Oxford Round Table. The focus of the Oxford Round Table was on the topic of perspectives and issues in education.

Coordinator. *The Oxford Round Table: Childhood Education*. Harris Manchester College. Oxford University. Oxford, UK. March 16-20, 2014. Thirty-eight participants from 14 different countries and 17 states within the USA. Twenty-nine papers and reflective discussions were presented at the Oxford Round Table. The focus of the Oxford Round Ta-

ble was on the topic of international childhood education.

“A Wish for my Grandchildren: The Essence of Childhood Education”. *The Oxford Round Table: Childhood Education*. Harris Manchester College, Oxford University. Oxford, England. March 20, 2014.

“Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Oxford”. *The Oxford Round Table: Childhood Education*. Harris Manchester College, Oxford University. March 18, 2014.

“What We Know About Childhood and Education for Young Children”. *The Oxford Round Table: Childhood Education*. Harris Manchester College, Oxford University. Oxford, England. March 16, 2014.

“A Wish for my Grandchildren: The Education of Young Children”. *The Oxford Round Table: Childhood Education*. Harris Manchester College, Oxford University. Oxford, England. March 16, 2014.

She gave two keynote addresses in Belize, Central America, as follows:

“A Passage through India and Nepal: From the Gathering of Street Children to a School in the Himalayas”. *The Belizean International Symposium on Education*. The University of Belize, Belmopan, Belize, Central America. January 3, 2014.

“Lewis Carroll’s “Alice”: A Legacy from Oxford, England”. *The Belizean International Symposium on Education*. Belize City, Belize, Central America. January 2, 2014.

**Lori Mcmillan** (Law) taught *International and Comparative Taxation* at the University of the West Indies, Cavehill, in Barbados to Washburn Law students and UWI law students. Highlights of the course included an International Tax conference hosted by the Central Bank of Barbados, where students had lunch with the Governor of the Central Bank.

**Dr. Sangyoub Park** (Sociology) took a group of four students to Chiba, Japan for a two-week summer study abroad program. The students had a great

opportunity learning about Japan and Japanese culture. They visited many interesting places including Shinto shrines and Kao Corporation and had a wide range of firsthand cultural experiences such as making Japanese sweets. Dr. Park also used his Sweet Sabbatical to conduct research on kimchi and a culture of leisure in South Korea. He will incorporate the findings in his fall course, *Sociology of East Asia*.



Dr. Park at the Mori Art Museum.

**Bill Rich** (School of Law) Last spring, in addition to coordinating Washburn’s participation in the State Department Grant supporting development of legal education in the Republic of Georgia. Dr. Rich also gave the following presentations at Free University of Tbilisi:

"Georgian Law on Prohibition of Discrimination," National Institute for Human Rights, Tbilisi, Georgia, May 22, 2014. This was the first academic discussion of a new Georgian law on discrimination based upon race, gender, religion or sexual orientation.

"When Regulations become Takings," National Center for Commercial Law, Commercial Law Week, Tbilisi, Georgia, May 21, 2014. A publication based upon this presentation is planned for the fall.

**Dr. Jim Smith** (Social Work) presented “The Relationship between Physical Illness and Emotions: An Exploratory Conceptualization of a Medical Relationship Model for Holistic Health and Wellness in Society”, at the *4th International Conference on Health, Wellness and Society*, University of British Columbia, Robison Square, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, March 14-15, 2014.

**Courtney Sullivan** (Modern Languages) After spending a half-day visiting cosmopolitan Toronto, Canada, Sullivan delivered a paper the following

day entitled "Colette Revisits the Courtesan Novel in Chéri and La Fin de Chéri," at the *Seventh Annual International Women in French Conference*. The University of Guelph in Ontario (one hour from Toronto) sponsored the conference from May 22- May 24, 2014.

**Roy Wohl** (Kinesiology) made a presentation entitled "Health Outcomes and Fitness Measures in Youth in a Rural School District in Kansas" at the *Fifth Annual International Conference on the Health Risks of Youth* in Nassau, Bahamas from January 1-4, 2014.

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## Dean's / Area Report

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### **School of Applied Studies** **Phyllis Berry, Interim Chair**

This past year, the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies has been very involved with International Students. In February, our Criminal Justice Student Association assisted the International Center of Topeka, Inc. (ICT) with their incredible India cultural celebration. In May, Dr. Phyllis Berry assumed the role as President of the ICT. The ICT's mission is to foster interest in international issues through educational, cultural and social programs in the service to the Washburn University campus and the Greater Topeka community. In June 2014, Washburn University's Criminal Justice & Legal Studies Department hosted 16 students and faculty from the University of the West of Scotland in an exchange focused on the American criminal justice system. Currently, Professor Tony Palbicke and Dr. Patricia Dahl are working on a study abroad program to take ten Washburn students to Scotland Summer 2015.

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

The School of Nursing continues to build, develop, and sustain international learning opportunities for both faculty and students. Here are some of the highlights of the travel activities by faculty members and students.

The 2014 spring semester was busy as the School of Nursing hosted faculty from Queens University (Northern Ireland), Mikkeli University of Applied Studies (Finland), and University of Szeged (Hungary) to complete the work on the original TransAtlantic Double Degree (TADD) program as well as dialogue about future joint educational opportunities. In 2014 the four-year TADD grant came to an end, with 46 students completing all of the requirements to receive two bachelor's degrees. This is an amazing accomplishment and could not have been completed without the hard work of Drs. Maryellen McBride, Cynthia Hornberger, and Ms. Louisa Schurig. To celebrate the completion of the TADD grant, faculty from all three European schools, Washburn, and TADD student alumni met in Savonlinna, Finland in June 2014.

The future of the TADD program has been reshaped from the findings of the original program. In the fall 2015 semester, the School of Nursing will continue to work with the Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences in Savonlinna, Finland, to continue the TADD program. Under the new TADD agreement, Washburn undergraduate nursing students will travel to Savonlinna for an entire academic year to complete the requirements for a second bachelor's degree. Washburn nursing faculty are working with nursing faculty from the University of Szeged on a possible joint MSN degree in the near future.

The 2014 spring semester brought together nursing faculty, students, and community individuals for a trip to Nicaragua to explore maternal/child health issues prominent in that Central American country. Under the leadership of Dr. Karen Fernengel, students and community-based nurses traveled to remote areas of Nicaragua with the assistance of the ProNica organization to help deliver pediatric and women's health care to impoverished indigent families.

In the 2013-2014 academic year, Drs. Debbie Isaacson and Jane Carpenter participated in the Enhanced Learning Quality Assessment (ELQA) grant with international partners from Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences (Finland), Kymenlaakso University of Applied Sciences (Finland) and University of the West Scotland (Scotland). The purpose of the pro-



ject was to benchmark common educational standards and rules/regulations between the four international nursing schools. A particular sub-focus of the project was to identify what quality management systems were used by the four schools to ensure an appropriate nursing education.

In January of 2014 Bobbe Mansfield traveled to Costa Rica in April as part of the C.A.M.P organization to evaluate the prospects of initiating study abroad opportunities for Washburn University faculty and students in Costa Rica. Currently, Dr. Mansfield, along with Lori Edwards, are planning to bring 18 undergraduate nursing students to Costa Rica in January, 2015.

For the second year in a row, the School of Nursing hosted nursing students from Fukuoka University, Japan, in March 2014. These students participated in classes and observed how nurses function in long-term care and hospital settings. In the fall of 2015, Dean Scheibmeir, Crystal Stevens, Susan Maendele, and Baili Zhang will travel to Fukuoka, Japan, to initiate a potential study abroad opportunity for nursing students in Japan in the 2015-2016 academic year.

### **College of Arts and Sciences** **Laura Stephenson, Dean**

The College of Arts and Sciences continues to support international study and programs. CAS faculty presented at international conferences in the Netherlands (Marguerite Perret, Art), China (Ye Wang, Art; Nan Sun, Computer Information Sciences; and Shiao-Li Ding, Music), Italy (MaryDorsey Wanless, Art; Diana Seitz, Music), United Kingdom (Judy McConnell-Farmer, Education), Iceland (John Paul, Sociology), Canada (Mike Russell, Psychology; Judy McConnell-Farmer, Education; Courtney Sullivan, Modern Language), and the Bahamas (Roy Wohl, Kinesiology). Our faculty also taught classes abroad in France (Roy Wohl and Ross Friesen, Kinesiology; Maria Stover, Mass Media), United Kingdom (Roy Wohl and Ross Friesen, Kinesiology), Belize (Judy McConnell-Farmer, Education), Northern Ireland (Karen Kapusta-Pofahl, Sociology) and Panama

(Georgina Tenny, Modern Languages). Students also studied abroad in Austria and France.

## **From the Desk of ...**

### **Kelly McClendon**

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

**Mission statement:** The Intensive English Program (IEP) offers a series of English classes designed to assist international students in need of improving their English skills before being accepted into a degree program of the University. It also assists area residents whose native language is not English, to improve their ability to interact in the community, on the job, and succeed in the academic setting.

**News:** The IEP is undergoing a self-study for a specialized accreditation in the field of ESL teaching. This accreditation is encouraging us to take a deep look at curriculum, outcomes, and assessment. The entire process is designed to improve and guide in fulfilling the mission statement above and serving students, which is our highest priority.

**Additions:** We welcomed two new adjunct instructors: Melanie Stuart-Campbell for spring 2014 and Matt Campbell for summer 2014. We also received a new group of short-term students from Chiba University of Science and Technology in Japan. These were in addition to two groups we have had before from Fukuoka University in Japan.

**Numbers:** Again, the IEP enrollment was up and the spring 2014 semester was the first time that there have been full classes at the lower level of the program.

### **Heidi Staerke**

#### **Coordinator of International Student Services**

One of the benefits to which our F-1 visa students are entitled is called Optional Practical Training. OPT offers students an invaluable opportunity to

gain practical experience in their field of study by working in the U.S. for one year.

Donald Sortonis, from the Philippines, graduated with his BSN in Nursing in August 2013 and recently shared about his own OPT experience:

*“I started with an excellent position at St. Francis on the telemetry unit. We took care of patients pre and post open heart surgery, stents, pacemakers, and a wide variety of heart conditions such as heart attack, heart failure, lethal dysrhythmias, and many other health conditions. It was such a rewarding opportunity. Not only did I learn tons of things but it raised my level of confidence in dealing with life-threatening situations. I am so proud and thankful...I appreciate everything you do for international students like me.”*

Our office would like to recognize and congratulate our Spring/Summer 2014 graduates:

- **Iffat Alrowaithy** (Saudi Arabia) - MBA
- **Jong-Tak Choi** (South Korea) - MBA
- **Bruce Kamanga** (South Africa) - MBA
- **Sherzod Kadirov** (Uzbekistan) - MBA
- **Xiaoyun Yu** (China) - MBA
  
- **Mohamed Al-Suwaidi** (United Arab Emirates) - BBA in Economics
- **Sulaiman Almaiman** (Saudi Arabia) - BHS in Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- **Matthew Beattie** (Ireland) – BSN in Nursing
- **Kinga Gaspar** (Hungary) – BSN in Nursing
- **Ezgi Gulec** (Turkey) - BA in Mass Media
- **Samir Haikal** (Brazil) – BBA in Finance and Economics
- **Pui Yue Yvonne Ho** (Hong Kong) - BSN in Nursing
- **Kaisa Huoponen** (Finland) - BSN in Nursing
- **Nayantara Joshi** (India) - BBA in Finance

- **Qiujie Li** (China) - BA in Mass Media
- **Yangfang Mao** (China) - BA in Mathematics
- **Sophie O'Neill** (Scotland) - BA in Mass Media
- **Jenni Taina** (Finland) – BSN in Nursing
- **Wang Pan** (China) - BA in Communications
- **Narongsak Saparam** (Thailand) - BBA in Finance and Economics
- **Moona Ylikoski** (Finland) – BSN in Nursing

We would especially like to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the following graduates who received Latin and departmental honors:

**Summa Cum Laude:** Matthew Beattie and Kinga Gaspar

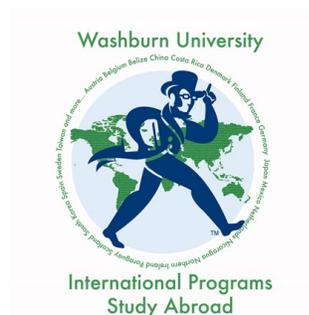
**Magna Cum Laude:** Pui Yue Yvonne Ho, Grace McDonald, Wang Pan

**Cum Laude:** Kaisa Huoponen, Yangfang Mao, Jenni Taina, Yafei Wang

**School of Business Scholar:** Moona Ylikoski

**Tina Williams**  
**Study Abroad Coordinator**

**New Study Abroad Logo:** The Study Abroad area has a new logo designed by Washburn Tech student Lean Joy Mahner. The design will be featured on WU Study Abroad promotional items including T-shirts, bags, luggage tags and more.





**14 Faculty-led programs in 2014:** Washburn University Faculty developed and led a record number of 14 programs abroad to a dozen different countries in 2014. As the number of programs and study abroad participants grows so does our commitment to provide quality services and resources. The Office of International Programs has developed a series of workshops to assist faculty with program development and the risk management of leading programs abroad. Topics covered in the workshops include Program Development & the Application Process, Health & Safety Plans: Medical Emergencies, Student Health Concerns & Safety Considerations, and Crisis Management for On-site Emergencies and Communication. The workshops will be offered to all faculty interested in developing and leading programs abroad.

**Winter Break:**

**Study Abroad In Belize –**

Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer

**Costa Rica: Service Learning –**

Dr. Randy Pembroke

**Finland: Nursing at Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences –** Dr. Annie Collins

**The India Experience –** Andy Vogel

**Nicaragua Service Experience—**

Dr. Richard Ellis

**Spring Break:**

**France: International Media Seminar –**

Dr. Maria Stover

**Exploring Health Care in Nicaragua –**

Dr. Karen Fernengel

**The Panama Adventure –** Prof. Georgina Tenny

**Summer:**

**Barbados Law Program –**

Professor Nancy Maxwell

**China: International Business and Entrepreneurship Experience –** Dr. Michael Stoica

**England & France: Sport Traditions and Cultural History of Europe –** Dr. Ross Friesen and Dr. Roy Wohl

**England & France: International Healthcare Systems & European Culture –** Dr. Zach Frank

**Northern Ireland: European Cultures and Societies –** Dr. Karen Kapusta-Pofahl

**Japan: Chiba University Summer School –** Dr. Sangyoub Park

**Scholarships & Programs:** The International Programs Scholarship Committee awarded 120 Scholarships to students participating in the above mentioned study abroad programs. In addition nine students were awarded scholarships for 2014-15 fall semester and/or academic year programs in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, and the Netherlands.

Students returning from study abroad programs will be offered a Study Abroad Re-Entry Workshop. This new workshop will be sponsored by the Office of International Programs and Career Services and will provide students with instructions on how to describe their international experience on their resume. Students will also learn how to identify and highlight transferrable skills and qualities that were developed during their time abroad and have the opportunity to participate in a mock interviews with Career Services staff.

To learn more about WU Study Abroad visit:  
<https://washburn.studioabroad.com>





## Andy Vogel International Student Recruitment and Retention Coordinator

Our second year of the Sakae Summer Institute was a great success! This past summer Washburn University hosted 12 Japanese students for a seven week program. Three of the 12 students enrolled at Washburn as full-time degree seeking students. Thanks to all of those that helped host, facilitated activities, and supported our program. International Programs is looking to expand this summer long university preparatory style program for students from the countries of Paraguay, China and Mexico next summer.

I had the opportunity to attend the International Education Fair sponsored by the Comite Paraguay Kansas Partners of the Americas in Asuncion Paraguay with Tina Williams (WU's Study Abroad Coordinator). We met 2,000 potential students and their parents over the weekend.

I'm also representing WU in Nepal and India this fall, visiting the United States Education Foundation in Kathmandu and New Delhi to inform their advisors about the opportunities for students at WU and Topeka.

Mark your calendars for the 2014 Celebration of Cultures on Friday, November 14th at 6:00 pm in White Concert Hall. This exciting event is put on by Washburn's International Club and Presidential Ambassadors for International Students.



**Students and Program Assistants from the 2014 Sakae Summer Institute.**

## Features

### Scotland Comparative Justice Program

**By Dr. Gerald Bayens**  
Associate Dean for School of Applied Studies  
Professor—Criminal Justice

In June 2014, Washburn University's Criminal Justice & Legal Studies Department hosted 16 students and faculty from the University of the West of Scotland in an exchange focused on the American criminal justice system. The students, all studying policing at their home university in Hamilton, Scotland, are part of a long-standing collaboration between the two universities. While here, the students learned alongside Washburn students, spending mornings in lectures and discussion and afternoons touring a variety of sites such as the Shawnee County Law Enforcement Center and Coroner's Office, the Topeka Correctional Facility, state courts, the Kansas Capitol and the Shawnee County Jail.

Washburn's criminal justice program began its partnership with the Center for Criminal Justice and Police Studies at the University of the West of Scotland in 2006. Since then, more than 75 Washburn students have traveled to Scotland. Many of them completing Washburn's unique International Transformational Experience as a result. In that time, more than 60 Scottish students have visited Washburn.

### International Students Place in Nall Speak Off

**By Stephen Doubledee**  
Speak-Off Coordinator  
Assistant Director Forensics/Lecturer  
Communication Studies

The Nall Speak Off was held by the Communication Department on April 2, 2014. Each semester, the top one to three speakers are selected from each Washburn University public speaking course to represent their respective classes in this competition. This semester's participants included international students as well as American students. The participants were:

Eric Preister, Danielle Snell, Taylor Balsmeier, Daniel Minton, Shujing Zhou, Yaofang Xiao, Bikky Sah, Olivia Evans, Charlotte Munoz, Willard Steinkuehler

Finalists for this semester's competition are listed below in their respective order of placing and with their respective topics:

- 1) Eric Preister – "Wind Power"
- 2) Yaofang Xiao-"The Bermuda Triangle"
- 3) Shujing Zhou-"Gestures"
- 4) Charollette Munoz- "Anxiety Disorder"
- 5) Danielle Snell-"Special Olympics"
- 6) Olivia Evans-"Raising Cattle"

## New International Scholars Join WU Faculty

### Andrew Verhoeckx, Visiting Art Lecturer

My story is very similar to many other young boys growing up in America except I was born roughly 3 miles from Detroit on the Canadian side of the border. Living at such a close proximity to the motor city one cannot be help but to be influenced from the car culture that has shaped our modern life. Attending car shows and cruise nights with your father from an early age I desired to own a car of my own but I wanted not an ordinary car, I wanted to have an old muscle car. I clearly remember while standing in line on the last day of school in grade six I was questioned on my future plans for my summer holiday. I replied that I will be working to save money to buy a car, my fellow students who stood around me all laughed and the teacher replied, but you are unable to drive why do you need a car. Well it didn't take long and my hard work paid off. After saving my money from doing odd jobs around the neighborhood such as cutting grass, shoveling snow, working as day labor in the corn fields and having a paper route I saved enough money to be able to start looking for my car by the age of sixteen. The manifestation of my prayer miraculously arrived as a neglected, abused and rotting Plymouth Cuda. After a few

years of disassembling and restoring each individual components the car was put back together as a restored show car.

As I searched for direction in my art there was one thing that fascinated me, it was the parallel between cars and humans and how remarkable it was in the way they functionally mimic each other. Take for example, the engine. It is the heart of the car-it breathes, pumps and brings out the personality of the car. Turning the ignition brings the car to life. I try to capture through my paintings the



overall sensual pleasure that I feel when viewing muscle cars. The way paint embraces the cast or forged steel. How oil can transform steel from cold and dead to lusciously wet, warm and soft as a living being. I want the viewer to feel the wet cast steel, to feel the warmth of the engine, to feel the rumble of the exhaust against their body. I want to generate life in my paintings. In doing so, the viewer can enter a new environment-one that they have never seen or experienced before.

Prior to joining Washburn, I worked for ten years from my studio in Toronto as a professional Artist in the discipline of painting. I obtained a BFA from the University of Windsor majoring in Lithography. Later I moved to Michigan to attend the prestigious Cranbrook Academy of Arts to obtain a MFA in painting.

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of International Programs

**Websites:**

<http://washburn.edu/ip>  
<http://washburn.studioabroad.com>

### **Marda Messay, French Language Lecturer**

I am originally from Ethiopia and immigrated to the US (Dayton, OH) when I was 12 years old. I majored in French and Spanish at University of Dayton and participated in two immersion programs: in Segovia, Spain and in Chicoutimi, Quebec in the summer of 2005. After receiving my BA in 2006, I spent an academic year in France studying at the Université François Rabelais in Tours before returning to the US and receiving my Master's from Bowling Green State University. I began my doctoral studies at Florida State University in 2009 and successfully defended my dissertation in Spring 2014 on the representations of the trauma of child soldiers in Sub-Saharan Francophone and African novels, films and Autobiographies. During my time at FSU, I taught Basic and advanced level French classes as well as African cinema/literature classes. I also had the opportunity to spend 3 months in the summer of 2011 as an intern for France-Terre d'Asile, a humanitarian organization that gives assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees in Saint Denis, France. My future research interests include further exploring the theme of trauma in literature and cinema and more importantly, the question of reconciliation and revenge when dealing with trauma and the importance of testimony in reconciliation and rebuilding a nation shattered by violence. I love to travel, to read, to watch movies and above all, to teach. I look forward to my time at Washburn University.



## **Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars**



From left: Vanessa Steinroetter (English), Deborah Altus (Human Services), Craig Martin (Law), and Kayla Waters (Human Services) were inducted into Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars, April 2014.



## Alumni Update

**Linyan Zhan (Orange)** studied at Washburn from 2009-2010 as an exchange student from ZJNU. She got her master's degree a year ago in Educational leadership at Pennsylvania State University and is now working at a public elementary school in China. She got married last year and just had a baby, a boy named Kevin. She always thinks of people at Washburn, Baili, Heidi, Andy and all the International office staff. She hopes that when Kevin is a little older, she can take him to visit Topeka and Washburn again.



**Haiting Cai (Grace)**, exchange student at WU for the fall of 2009, went on to earn her Bachelors of Science in Chemistry at Zhejiang Normal University in China in June 2011. She then received her Masters of Science in Organic Chemistry at the University of Science and Technology of China, and is currently teaching at the University of Toronto with a PhD in Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry.



**Sijia Xiang (Grace)** studied at WU from August 2008 - December 2008 as an exchange student from ZJNU. Graduated in 2010/06 with a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, she went to Kansas State University to pursue her PhD in Statistics, supervised by Dr. Weixin Yao. She graduated in 2014/05 and is now working in the School of Mathematics and Statistics, Zhejiang University of Finance and Economics as an instructor of Statistics.

**Shuyue Chen (Sharon)** graduated from WU as a Communication Majors in December 2013 and has been working at UPS in China since this past May. Her position is Public Affairs Officer and communicates with different logistic agencies, associations, and governments. Sharon likes her job and feels lucky to find a position that uses her interests and degree.





