



# Washburn

# International *Accents*

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# Faculty International Activity Report

**Dr. Kim Morse** presented "The Divine Only Speaks Spanish: Centralization and Contestation in Bourbon Venezuela" at the Ninth International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities on June 8 in Granada, Spain. The paper incorporated research begun during a Sweet Sabbatical to the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, Spain in the summer of 2010.

**Dr. Rachel Goossen** presented a sabbatical research paper, "'Ain't Gonna Study War No More': American Protests Against War Toys" at the international, interdisciplinary conference "Mapping the Landscapes of Childhood" held at Lethbridge University in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, in May 2011.

**Dr. Norma Juma** attended the 12th International Academy of African Business and Development (IAABD) conference, May 17-20, Edmonton, Canada. She co-authored a paper titled 'Integrating Scientific with Indigenous Knowledge: Towards a conceptual framework of the innovation process of indigenous entrepreneurs'. The paper won the best paper award for track 6: Entrepreneurship Small Business and the Informal Sector, as well as the overall best conference paper. Dr. Juma also attended the International Family Enterprise Research Academy (IFERA) conference, held on June 28 – July 1, 2011 in Sicily, Italy. She presented a paper titled 'succession in minority family-owned businesses'.

**Dr. Bob Beatty** received an international education travel grant to attend a one-week seminar in Cuba on Cuban history, sport, and culture in February, 2011. I attended lectures and events in Havana and Santiago de Cuba.

**Dr. Gary Baker and Mary Dorsey Wanless** traveled to the South Pacific this summer. We

spent 2 weeks in the Cook Islands, the first on Rorotonga and the second on Aitutaki.

**Professor Lori McMillan** presented a paper on May 9, 2011, entitled "Honest Services Update: Directors' Liability Concerns after Skilling and Black" at a conference in Toronto, sponsored by Osgoode Hall Law School and the GLSA of Osgoode Hall.

**Professor Jeffrey D. Jackson** taught Comparative Legal Systems: Constitutional Law to a class composed of Washburn Law School students and law students from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados. The class lasted from June 14-30, and was in conjunction with Washburn Law School's Summer Abroad Program.

**Dr. Karen Kapusta-Pofahl** led a travel course to Prague, Czech Republic, in May with the assistance of Dr. Sharla Blank. The course included pre-trip meetings on Czech history, society, culture, and language, along with 8 days of travel abroad. Students attended workshops on topics such as gender, migration, politics, art, and language, along with guided tours of historical sites. Students also had the opportunity to sample local cuisine and converse with members of the host country population.

**Professor Craig Martin** spent a couple of weeks at Osaka University Graduate School of Law and Politics in August, teaching an intensive course on Anglo-American constitutional law to a class of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as conducting research in Japanese constitutional law for my own comparative constitutional law scholarship. Martin is an alumni of Osaka University, having done his LL.M. there in the early 1990s, and he goes back frequently to teach classes such as the one he taught this summer.

**Dr. Judith McConnell-Farmer**, Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Education, coordinated three Oxford Round Tables (5 day conferences) between March and July, 2011, and

presented two papers at each of the Oxford Round Tables at Oxford University, Oxford, U.K. The themes of the Oxford Round Tables include "Women's History" at Mansfield College and Harris Manchester College, "Women in the Academy, Progress and Prospects" at Harris Manchester College, and "Children's Literature, Allusions to Culture, Religion and Philosophy" at Harris Manchester College. In addition, on May 12, 2011, she co-presented a paper titled, "Assessing a Transformational Experience in Belize, Central America", at The University of Windsor-Oakland University Fifth Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning, at The University of Windsor, Windsor-Ontario, Canada.

**Dr. Tom Prasch**, between late May and the end of June, presented a paper at the Mediterranean Studies conference in Corfu, and then commenced a tour of Greek islands (Corfu, Crete, Rhodes, Simi, Kos), with side-trips to Albania (to see the classical ruins at Butrint) and Athens (avoiding teargas, to see the new Acropolis Museum). Then to Turkey: Bodrum, Ephesus, Istanbul (awed by the dazzling tile work, the scents of the spice bazaar). And, framing it all, a bit of England: London (museums and theatre), Salisbury (and Stonehenge, while the silly Druids celebrated a late solstice), Oxford (more museums, of course).

**Professor Ye Wang** was on Summer Sweet Sabbatical between May 18 and July 20 in China. He mainly stayed in Chengdu, Capital of Sichuan Province, studying ink painting under two master ink painters Tang Yunming and Su Maolong. He enjoyed the experience and made a lot of new paintings, some of which were on display in the Art Building.

From May 6th until May 29th, 2011, **Dr. Robert Boncella**, Professor of Information Systems & MBA Director of School of Business, as a Guest Professor in the School of Management of Wuhan University of Science and Technology, presented two sets of lectures: "*Global Information Systems and Global Supply Chains*" and "*Business*

*Research Methods: Overview and a Case Study Using the Positivist Scientific Method.*"

In addition, from May 29<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> Dr. Boncella was invited to be a guest lecturer at Nankai University in Tianjin China. He presented two lectures: "*That Was Then; This Is Now*", a comparison of the preconditions of the "Dot Com Bubble" of the late 1990s and the flurry of and perhaps overpricing of IPOs of Internet companies in China during the late 2010 and early 2011, and "*The MBA Degree*", a presentation of the history, purpose, and utility of the MBA degree.

In April, **Nancy G. Maxwell**, Professor of Law and Director of International Legal Programs, hosted Professor Rose-Marie Antoine from the University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, as the Visiting International Scholar at the School of Law. As part of her duties as visiting scholar, Professor Antoine gave a public lecture on Human Rights in the Caribbean and provided an introductory lecture on the Caribbean Commonwealth Legal System for law students enrolled in the Summer Law Program in Barbados. In May and June, Professor Maxwell was on-site at the UWI Faculty of Law in Barbados, providing administrative support for the Washburn Summer Law Program in Barbados. During that time, Law School Dean, Thomas Romig, and his wife, Pam, visited the summer program in Barbados, meeting with Dean Velma Newton of the members of the Faculty of Law, UWI, as well as touring the Barbados Parliament with Dean Newton, who also serves as a Senator of the Parliament.

I also have attached the blurb for the law school on our summer program, in case you didn't receive it.

**Dr. Liviu Florea** received a Sweet Sabbatical and travelled in Romania with the objective of identifying academic and business institutions who are interested in collaborating with Washburn. They included Lower Danube University in Galati, and Lucian Blaga University in Sibiu. He also visited several non-academic institutions, including the Romanian Chamber of Commerce

and Industry (RCCI), Romanian Business School (RBS), the educational branch for RCCI, and the Court of International Commercial Arbitration, in Bucharest (CICA). Top administrators from these institutions expressed their strong interest in collaborating with Washburn for developing training programs and providing specific law and business short-term courses for members of these Romanian institutions. In addition, he made contacts with representatives of several other Romanian academic institutions, in Brasov, Iasi, Timisoara and other cities, who seem interested in pursuing academic projects with Washburn.

Every spring since 2007, **Dr. Michael Stoica**'s students in BU 406 International Business and Entrepreneurial Experience class have partnered with WUST students in doing consultancy-style internships based on Chinese companies in Wuhan. After two months of preparatory work over the Internet via Skype and other social media tools, the classes visit Wuhan for ten days in May to meet their colleagues in person, finish the projects, and present the results. So far about 40 U.S.-based students and over 70 Chinese students have participated. Every spring semester since 2009, he teaches a course on Entrepreneurship to WUST students (starts in March and ends in June). The course is taught over Skype for two months, and in China, in Wuhan, for ten days. In addition, Stoica participated in the International Business Conference in Barcelona, June 5-8, 2011 with the paper "Wireless Business and the Impact On Firm Performance: The Strategic Move To Adopt A New Technology", which was accepted for publication in the "International Journal of Management & Information Systems".

During his visit to China from mid-May to mid-June 2011, **Dr. Xiaofeng (Sheldon) Peng** taught a short-term MBA as an instructor at Nankai University, attended five doctoral defenses as an external adviser, and arranged our MBA Director Dr. Bob Boncella to visit Nankai University Business School. In the meantime he accompanied

Washburn President Dr. Jerry Farley and International Program Director Baili Zhang to visit two top Chinese universities - Nankai University and Lanzhou University and two Chinese high schools.

**Linda Elrod** was a Fulbright Senior Specialist Linda Elrod, Director of the Washburn Law School Children and Family Law Center, was selected as a Fulbright Senior Specialist and invited to the Dublin Institute of Technology from January 30 - February 19. She helped the law school consider developing some interdisciplinary programs, explored setting up a center, and met with various faculty, administrators and staff. She spoke on "The U.S. View on Relocation of Children" at a Child/Family Law Seminar on Contemporary Issues in Family Law sponsored by the Dublin Institute of Technology and Fulbright, Ireland (150 attended). In addition, she made presentations on "Children Who Witness Domestic Violence" (Victimology class); "Evolution of Custody Law in the United States" (Family Law two hour class); and "Risk Factors for Abducted Children: Preventing Child Abduction" (Risk and Resiliency class). She also participated in the 14th World Conference of the International Society of Family Law, "Solidarity Between Generations," in Lyon, France, July 18-26, 2011 with two hundred family law professors, judges and lawyers from fifty countries.



Gala dinner in the Musee des Beaux Arts . photo/Elrod

# Area Report

## School of Business

by Russell E. Smith, Associate Dean

In July the relationship between the Washburn School of Business and School of Management at the Wuhan University of Science and Technology (WUST) in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China moved to a new, higher level with the signing of a bachelor-level articulation and course transfer agreement. Signed by the two university presidents, Dr. Jerry Farley of Washburn and Dr. Jianyi Kong of WUST, and the two business deans, Dr. David Sollars of Washburn and Dr. Kailing Pan of WUST, the agreement will facilitate the earning of Washburn's Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree by students at the WUST School of Management, especially in the international business administration program, by regularizing the transfer and recognition of WUST coursework by Washburn University to meet Washburn degree and program requirements.

After two years of study at WUST, the students will study for up to three years more at Washburn between intensive English, general education, and business courses. At present three WUST students are Washburn degree-seeking students under the program, while six more are in their first year of intensive English at Washburn. Although not a program requirement, the students are allowed to earn degrees at both universities, making this a dual-degree program. The articulation agreement for degree-seeking students is the culmination of five years of effort by the faculty and administration of both universities, the idea having come out of the first School of Business-sponsored delegation to WUST in October 2006.

The development of the articulation agreement was based on a strong foundation of faculty, student, and administration collaboration and exchange beginning in 2005. Every spring since 2007, students in Professor Michael Stoica's BU 406

International Business and Entrepreneurial Experience class have partnered with WUST students in doing consultancy-style internships based on Chinese companies in Wuhan. After two months of preparatory work over the Internet, the classes visit Wuhan for ten days in May to meet their colleagues in person, finish the projects, and present the results at a university event. So far about 40 U.S.-based students and 70 Chinese students have participated.

In the faculty area, every May since 2007 Washburn MBA Director Professor Bob Boncella has given sets of lectures for undergraduate students and for graduate students and faculty at WUST. Also critical in the development of the articulation agreement has been the flow of visiting scholars from WUST, the fourth of which was Prof. Qiong Shao from the International School. Professor Shao was at the School of Business for three months in the spring 2011 semester observing teaching methods and pursuing her own scholarship. Similarly, another element providing foundation has been several administrative visits in both directions. Most recently, Associate Dean Russ Smith visited WUST in late March and after consultations prepared the final draft of the articulation agreement, which was initialed at the time. He was also able to participate in a Magellan Exchange delegation visit to new partner school, Anyang University in Anyang near Seoul, South Korea, in early April.

Possible partnerships in Romania were explored in late June when School of Business Dean David Sollars and Professors Michael Stoica and Liviu Florea visited several institutions in Romania to explore possible collaborative relationships. First, in June 23-25, 2011 they visited Lower Danube University in Galati at the invitation of Dean Costel Nistor and Associate Dean Edit Lukacs of the School of Economics and Business Administration. Second, in June 26-28, the group was at Lucian Blaga University in Sibiu and visited the School of Economic Science, meeting with Rodica Miclea, Vice-President for International

Relations; Dan Maniu Duse, Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Sorin Burnete, Associate Dean of the School of Economic Sciences; and Aurel Pavel, Associate Dean of the School of Theology. On June 29 in Bucharest, visits included the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), Romanian Business School (RBS), the educational branch for RCCI, the Court of International Commercial Arbitration (CICA), and the engineering school at Politehnica University of Bucharest.

Demonstrating global thinking from their observation post at Washburn University, Professors Bill Roach and Tom Clevenger finished their paper “*A Cost Model for Offshore Outsourcing: Total Landed Cost Models (TLCM)*,” soon to be published in the Operations Management Education Review. The paper uses a cost accounting model that takes into account all costs to calculate the cost advantage of any given offshore location and concludes that correct consideration of all costs would make offshore locations less attractive as sites for production.

Norma Juma, Bob Boncella, Michael Stoica, Liviu Florea, and Sheldon Peng, among others, were also very active internationally in various areas. Please refer to the “Faculty International Activity Report” section for details.

## **Mabee Library**

Provided by Lori R. Fenton

Mabee Library is pleased to announce that it now offers the Mango Languages online language-learning system to the Washburn community.

Mango is free for all Washburn and Washburn Institute of Technology students, faculty and staff, and offers a fast and convenient solution for our community’s increasing language-learning needs. Each lesson combines real life situations and audio from native speakers with simple, clear

instructions. The courses are presented with an appreciation for cultural nuance and real-world application that integrates components of vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar and culture. Users learn actual *conversation*, breaking down complex conversational elements within an audio-visual framework that allows the user to draw important connections between pieces of information they have already learned.

Mango is available in two versions. One is Mango Complete, a 100-lesson course that is designed to provide a deep understanding of a language and its culture. It is available in 31 foreign language and 14 ESL courses. The second is Mango Basic, which teaches everyday greetings, gratitude, goodbyes and helpful phrases in a short period of time and is designed to appeal to a beginner in a new language. The courses, which require only two to five hours of time to complete, are currently available in 34 foreign languages and 15 English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.

"We are thrilled to add our library to the growing list of libraries across the country who have added Mango to their resources," said Dr. Alan Bearman, Dean of Libraries. "Some students need to learn a second language as part of their coursework, others for business or travel reasons. Some people just want to because they think it would be interesting. No matter the reason, learning the language should be fun. With Mango, it definitely is."

To learn more about Mango and get a preview of what the program has to offer, stop by the library and we will give you an introduction. You can access Mango via the library website at <http://0-libraries.mangolanguages.com.topekalibraries.info/washburn/start> .

For more information, contact Mabee Library at (785) 670-1483.

## **School of Nursing** by Maryellen McBride

The School of Nursing faculty said good-bye to our first group of five European Trans Atlantic Dual Degree (TADD) students. They returned to their home universities to complete their studies after spending Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters taking nursing, language, and sociology classes.

Bryce Scott and Candace Coleman experienced mental health nursing in Belfast, NI through an exchange with Queens University of Belfast during the Spring 2011 semester. Their student counterparts, Aneta Drabarek and Sinead Forde, came to Washburn for six weeks for a mental health nursing clinical experience. During June we hosted six nursing faculty; two from Queens University Belfast, two from Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences in Savonlinna, Finland, and two from University of Szeged, Hungary. Washburn nursing faculty worked with our European partners to refine the curriculum of the TADD program.

During the summer of 2011 we prepared six Washburn nursing students for their year of nursing study abroad. Three students will go to Belfast, NI and on to Szeged, Hungary. Three students will go to Mikkeli University in Savonlinna, Finland and on to Szeged, Hungary. In August, six European nursing students started their year of study abroad at Washburn. Three students are from Hungary, two are from Belfast, NI, and one from Savonlinna, Finland. They are eager learners

Two Washburn senior nursing students will experience community health nursing in Savonlinna, Finland this September and then return to Washburn to complete their studies and graduate in December.

We anticipate six European nursing faculty members will come to Washburn this Fall 2011 for

two week time periods to participate in teaching classes and working with Washburn faculty members.

We are enjoying many enriching international student and faculty experiences!  
Respectfully submitted,

## **College of Arts and Sciences** by Gordon McQuere, Dean

For this issue, I would like to concentrate on telling you about several new international faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, who are beginning at Washburn in the Fall semester of 2011. First, Dr. Rodrigo Mercader, whose roots are in Bolivia though he was born in the U.S., is joining the Department of Biology as Assistant Professor of Ecology. His higher education has been at the University of California at Davis and at Michigan State University. Dr. Seid Adem is a new Assistant Professor of Analytical Chemistry. He is originally from Ethiopia, and educated at universities in Eritrea and Ethiopia, before coming to the United States to complete a doctorate at the University of Arizona. Joining the English Department as Assistant Professor of American Literature is Dr. Vanessa Steinroetter, who is originally from Germany. Her master's degree comes from a university in Germany, and her Ph.D. from The University of Nebraska-Lincoln. New to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as Lecturer is Dr. Hee Seok Nam, who is originally from South Korea. In addition to degrees from schools in his homeland, he has studied at the University of Iowa. Finally, the Department of Music welcomes Dr. Diana Seitz as Assistant Professor of Violin. Originally from the Republic of Azerbaijan, she studied at the Moscow Conservatory and holds graduate degrees from the University of Oklahoma. Returning to Washburn University as Lecturer in Philosophy is Dr. Klaus Ladstaetter, who is from Austria. His graduate degrees are from SUNY-Albany. We welcome

these fine new colleagues and the many contributions they will make to Washburn University and our students.

## From the Desk of ...

### **Bassima Schbley, President of ICT**

Some may argue that larger schools typically outshine smaller institutions when it comes to spreading culture throughout a community. Washburn University consistently disproves this idea by its many cultural awareness projects. This wonderful feature of Washburn is most apparent in the International Center of Topeka. I want thank ICT for your support and for making me feel welcome as I begin my first term as president.

I want to briefly review the history and purpose of ICT. It was incorporated in April 1980 as a community membership organization. The primary mission of ICT is to foster interest in international and intercultural issues through educational, social, and cultural programs. This mission is carried out both on the Washburn campus and in the Topeka community. Last year ICT helped to welcome and support 200 international students and to send 190 Washburn students to other countries through the university's Study Abroad program.

Through the past 30 years, many community volunteers from different backgrounds have served on the governing board. Teachers, professors, lawyers, and business owners have given their time and professional expertise. I will name only two: *Alice Soper*, a retired Topeka public school teacher, volunteered for over two decades teaching English to students from all over the world. Alice also coordinated ICT's International Bazaar for many years and was the motivating force behind the addition of the "English for the Foreign Born" class at Washburn University. *Frank Taff* is a Topeka attorney in private practice who has

contributed significantly to ICT. He serves on the board, provides invaluable advice, and even stays after the events to make sure everything is cleaned up and in its proper place.

A lot of exciting developments are presenting themselves to ICT, including trips to Cuba, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay. In addition, international students will be afforded the opportunity to visit rural areas near Topeka. The ICT board also hopes to sponsor more events that showcase our international programs to the community. After successful Korean and Middle Eastern cultural fairs, we want to present the Japanese culture as well.

As is the custom of our beloved mascot, Ichabod Washburn, the university constantly seeks better understanding of the different cultures that compose its student body. The celebration of diverse cultures will only further our great institution's reputation as a cultural center.

### **Tina Williams, Study Abroad Coordinator**

Washburn welcomes The University of Guanajuato in Mexico as the newest direct exchange partner. Washburn students now have over 25 direct exchange programs to choose from. ¡Bienvenidos Universidad de Guanajuato!



The University of Guanajuato, Mexico

The International Programs Scholarship Committee awarded Scholarships to 113 students participating in study abroad programs in over a dozen different countries during the summer and fall and academic year of 2011-12. Programs range in length from one week to an academic year. Included are the following Faculty-Led Transformational Experiences:

China – International Business and Entrepreneurship Experience – Dr. Michael Stoica  
Costa Rica – The Costa Rica Experience – Professor Georgina Tenny  
Czech Republic – European Cultures & Societies – Dr. Karen Kapusta-Pofahl  
England – Art and Theatre in London – Dr. Paul Prece  
England – Morita Therapy Research Seminar – Dr. Brain Ogawa  
Scotland – Comparative Criminal Justice – Dr. Gary Bayens

Eighteen Washburn University students will spend their fall semester or a portion of the semester studying in one of the following countries: Argentina, Austria, Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, and Spain. Nine Washburn students will spend the academic year abroad in Finland, Hungary, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendar  
The Office of International Programs will hold a Study Abroad Fair on February 2, 2012 from 11:00am – 2:00pm in the Union. Come visit with faculty leaders, former study abroad participants and international students to learn about WU Study Abroad programs. Students interested in participating in summer/fall 2012 programs may begin the study abroad exploration process now by visiting a Study Abroad Advisor in the Office of International Programs. The Study Abroad Admission & Scholarship Application Deadline for spring 2012 programs is October 15, 2011, and for summer/fall 2012 programs, March 1. If you would like to find out more about WU study

abroad opportunities visit: [www.washburn.edu/iip](http://www.washburn.edu/iip).

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

This fall is off to a booming start for our sesquicentennial year. We have 69 students enrolled in the Intensive English Program, which includes four academic skill areas in the English language. This enrollment number is up 25% over last fall. It is an exciting development as I begin my second year in this position. We have two new additions to our adjunct faculty: English professor Tom Kennedy and reading specialist Meg Atwood. We also have Mary Ann Wittman, Travis Lamb, Don Field, and Sam Billen continuing to teach and work hard for us. One of my goals is to continue the integration of IEP students on campus. To do this, one of the IE writing classes will work with a class in the sociology department pairing up for projects in each class. In addition, we will send out our students again to do surveys and interviews with students and professors across campus. Look for these great students around campus and in the Celebration of Cultures event in November.

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

This spring, our office celebrated a major milestone in the area of international student services - reaching our goal of advising a total of over 200 students and short-term scholars from nearly 40 countries!

One new addition this spring, from which many of our international students greatly benefited, was our office becoming a VITA site for tax return preparation assistance. Our thanks go out to Walter Schoemaker, our VITA volunteer, without whom this service would not have been possible. In mid-May, our graduating class of 17 international students was the first to display pride in their countries by wearing stoles with their

country's flag at commencement. Our thanks go out to C.J. Crawford, who suggested this great idea, a tradition which our office plans to continue!

At the end of April, I had the amazing opportunity to travel to China to visit three of our partner universities and provide a pre-arrival orientation for new students coming to WU this Fall from those universities and three additional partner universities located nearby. I visited Shanghai Normal University in Shanghai, Zhejiang International Studies University in Hangzhou, and Zhejiang Normal University in Jinhua. It was wonderful to meet many of the new incoming students, as well as a few colleagues and previous exchange students to WU.

In mid-June, I travelled to London, England, to represent Washburn at the Hotcourses Global Student Fair. U.S. institutions of higher learning are starting to become more competitive in the U.K. education market due to higher education costs preparing to triple in the U.K. in the near future, as well as capped university placements, which leave many qualified students unable to attend college in the U.K. Our office is already making plans to attend the next Global Student Fair in London this November in hopes that we will begin to see more students coming to WU from the U.K. soon!

## Features

### Taiwan Youth Ambassadors Visit

Visiting the state of Kansas and Washburn University had been a wonderful and lovely experience for all of us. However, to some of us, it was their first time coming to US and everything was fresh and surprising. In the first 4 days, we stayed in Chicago visiting Northwestern University, University of Chicago, Sun-Times Newspaper, CME group, Senator Mark Kirk's

office and the federal court. Moreover, we took a quick view of the metropolis admiring the beauty of Navy Pier and Millennium Park.



Youth Ambassadors with President and Mrs. Farley

For the following 5 days, we came to Kansas City, which gave us a completely different perspective toward US. We had such amazing time visiting Kansas City and Washburn University. Staying in the city and the campus, we felt completely free of pressure and enjoyed the peace and serene atmosphere around us. Other than that, people were just being so friendly and hospitable to us.

After we first arrived in Kansas City, we had a welcome dinner at the residence of Dr. Jerry Farley, the Principal of Washburn University. While having interesting conversation with the principal and the faculties, we exchanged various ideas about cultural differences between Taiwan and America. On the next day, we performed Taiwan's aboriginal dance and did presentation with videos and power points in the "International House" to introduce Taiwan to Washburn University. During the weekend, we went to the Jazz museum and Nelson art museum, where we explored the history of Jazz music and admired the art displayed in Nelson art museum. On the last day, we introduced Taiwanese culture, cuisine and also art to the students after the Spanish class ended, and then we also taught them how to make Chinese knots. Therefore, meeting with the students in Washburn

University was so nice that we shared feelings and ideas from one another during the time.

In the end, we really appreciated for the opportunity to visit the United States, and the chance to get to know Washburn University. Furthermore, we all hope that someday you can come to Taiwan and experience our own unique culture, too.

Taiwan Youth Ambassadors:  
Eddie Chen, Demi Ko, Jackson Wang, Zhen Tao,  
David Liao, Yawen Hsu

## **Super Concert at the Kimmel Center** by Jimena Sanchez



The Kimmel Center

photo/JS

The Embassy of Paraguay in Washington was organizing a huge event for the 200 years of the independence of Paraguay, at the Kimmel Center. The idea was to have Paraguayan artists living in the States, Paraguayan artists living in other countries (like Germany, for example) and some of them flew from Paraguay, to perform. They made a selection between all these artists: You had to send your biography, a video, and the song you wanted to perform. I received the letter saying that I was selected, and could not believe it. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, I landed in Philadelphia. It was a

Thursday night, and I only had time to greet the people of the organization, and go to bed. The next day, was the rehearsal with my other two musicians (Pier Pappalardo on bass, and Ruben Pascottini playing piano). We never played together before, so we had to learn the songs in minutes. We spent the day rehearsing in different places, following the order of the show. Finally, Saturday came. The show started at 8pm, with a very busy concert hall (around 600 people). Every performance was amazing, bringing us closer to our country, being so far from home. I enjoyed my performance very much, the audience started to clap in the middle on the song: that is one of the most amazing feelings when I am playing. After the show ended, the organization offered a dinner for everyone who came to the concert, serving Paraguayan snacks. :)

## **Jazz Combo China Trip 2011** by Michel Averett

In June of 2011, the Washburn University Jazz Combo, led by Dr. Michael Averett, departed for a ten-day study abroad experience in China. The groups' mission was to perform four concerts at Washburn's sister universities in Shanghai and Beijing. The concerts were part of an Arts and Culture series to educate Chinese university students about world music and art.

The first two concerts were held on two different campuses of the same university: Shanghai Normal University. At Shanghai Normal University the group stayed in the Universities' guesthouse and were treated to several tours of Shanghai by the Universities' faculty. The highlights were the old portions of Shanghai, which were over 2,000 years old, the tall buildings in Pudong, the Shanghai Museum of History, and of course, the food.

After a week in Shanghai, the group boarded an overnight train that took us to Beijing. In Beijing

the group performed at the Beijing Conservatory of Modern Music where the students joined us in our performance, and a local jazz club. In addition to our performances, we were treated to some amazing sightseeing in Beijing. The highlights were the Great Wall of China, The Summer Palace, The Forbidden City, the site of the 2008 Olympics, The Ming Dynasty tombs, The Temple of Heaven, and of course, the food! We thank Dr. ShiaoLi Ding for her tremendous work in making all the Beijing performing and cultural tour arrangements.

The Washburn University Jazz Combo would also like to thank Baili Zhang, Director of International Programs, and President Farley for all of their support and for making this trip possible.

## New International Scholars Join WU Faculty



Professor **Vanessa Steinroetter** joined the English Department at Washburn University in the Fall 2011, after completing her Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She was born and raised in a small town in Germany, near the city of

Wiesbaden, and thanks to her American mother and German father grew up with cultural ties to both cultures. After completing her high school education in Germany, she enrolled at the Catholic University of Eichstaett, one of the smallest universities in Germany, located in Bavaria between Nuremberg and Munich. There she completed her M.A. in American literature and a degree in teaching English and French at the secondary school level. Having traveled frequently between both countries throughout her childhood

and adolescence, she decided to split her graduate studies between Germany and the U.S. She first spent a year as an exchange student at the University of Idaho while pursuing her M.A. in Germany and then moved to Nebraska for her doctoral studies.

Professor Steinroetter's areas of specialization are nineteenth-century American literature - particularly the literature of the Civil War period - women's literature, periodical literature, and the history of the book, and she also teaches classes on ethnic literatures and many other aspects of American literature. She is currently working on a research project based on her dissertation, in which she examines representations of readers and scenes of reading in literature of the American Civil War.



Visiting Associate **Professor Jeremiah Ho** (何嘉霖) joined Washburn Law in June 2010 as Director of Bar Services and as an Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Fellow. For 2011-2012, he is directing the first-year academic success program at the

law school and teaching courses in Products Liability and Remedies law. From time to time, he also conducts workshops and lectures on bar-examination subjects and skills for the law school.

Professor Ho previously taught at Whittier Law School, Costa Mesa, California, where he also earned his law degree. Before entering the academy, he practiced employment law in Los Angeles, handling class actions mostly in the wage-and-hour area. Professor Ho earned his undergraduate degree from UCLA and was born in Taipei, Taiwan. Besides English, he speaks fluent Mandarin and Taiwanese.



Prior to joining the Department of Biology at Washburn **Rodrigo Mercader** was a Research Associate at Michigan State University. His research focused on the development of tools to assess

the potential spread, efficacy of management options, and economic cost of an invasive forest insect pest, the emerald ash borer. As part of his research he worked in a large collaborative (2 universities, 2 federal agencies, and 3 state agencies) project to reduce the mortality of ash trees due to this invasive species ([www.slameab.info](http://www.slameab.info)). His involvement in this project will continue in the foreseeable future, albeit in a reduced role and hopefully with the help of Washburn University students. He received his PhD, also at Michigan State University, in Ecology, Evolutionary Biology and Behavior and Entomology. His thesis focused on the effects of climate change on swallowtail butterflies. In particular, he studied (and continues to study) the ecological divergence and potential speciation of swallowtail butterflies in response to climate change. Rodrigo was raised in Europe, Egypt, and South America, primarily in Bolivia.



**Professor Seid Adem:** After considerable teaching experience at College and University levels, I traveled half way round the world from Ethiopia and joined the Department of

Chemistry at the University of Arizona, Tucson, to pursue my PhD in Chemistry. Being international student, I had some challenges especially coping up with the cultural differences and the nostalgia, like any other student. But, you don't have to let those things to have a negative effect in your study and I determined to overcome them by adapting to the American system of living. Because of hard work, perseverance and support from my family and parents, I successfully completed my graduate study and obtained PhD degree in analytical chemistry, particularly in the area of bio-separations.

After obtaining my PhD, I spent one year as Owen Duston visiting assistant professor of chemistry at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN. I accepted the tenure track position in analytical chemistry, Department of chemistry, Washburn University with great enthusiasm and I am looking forward to working with my colleagues and the university community to be a successful and fruitful instructor.



Violinist **Diana Seitz** began her pursuit of music as a seven year old in her hometown of Baku, Azerbaijan (former USSR). Just two years later, at the age of nine, she made her first public appearance as a soloist with a chamber orchestra in Moscow, Russia. As a teenager, Diana became a

laureate of the Azerbaijan National Violin Competition and appeared as a soloist with the Azerbaijan State Philharmonic Orchestra, performing Paganini Concerto for violin and orchestra in D major with the Cadenza by E. Sauret.

Ms. Seitz received her bachelor's degree in violin performance from Tchaikovsky Moscow

Conservatory, where she studied with Olga Kaverzneva – a student of renowned Russian violinist David Oistrakh. During her studies in Moscow, Diana had numerous opportunities to perform in Moscow area and toured Europe with the Moscow Conservatory Orchestra.

After completing her studies at the Conservatory, Diana was forced to leave her homeland due to severe ethnic conflict. Accepting the invitation of the American Government, she moved to the United States where she was able to continue her performing career and musical studies. Dr. Seitz received her Master's Degree and Doctorate in violin performance from the University of Oklahoma, where she studied under Felicia Moye, while serving as the Associate Concertmaster of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra and first violinist of the Crouse String Quartet. A dynamic musician and a passionate pedagogue, Diana has performed and taught master classes in Russia, Europe and North America. Her performances are described by her colleagues as "exciting, powerful, energetic, noble and technically brilliant." Before joining the string faculty of Washburn University, Diana served as the Assistant professor of violin and the Associate Concertmaster of the Valley Symphony Orchestra. At the University of Texas-Pan America. Her professional experience also includes conducting the annual Seitz and Sounds violin workshop in Columbus, OH, as well as teaching at the Indiana University Summer Music Clinic (Bloomington, IN) and the Meadowmount School of Music (Westport, NY).



Professor **Hee Seok Nam** joined the Mathematics and Statistics Department at Washburn in the fall University in the Fall 2011. He was born in Korea

and completed his Ph. D. at Seoul National University with major in Mathematics. Before he came to U.S., he taught wide range of undergraduate mathematics courses at universities for several years. Actuarial Science is his new major in U.S. and he completed M.S. at the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of the University of Iowa. He spent a year as a visiting scholar to perform a research at the same department as well as an adjunct faculty at William Penn University.

Professor Nam's research interest is on risk management theory in the field of actuarial science. Most recent published paper is about characterizing upper comonotonicity via tail convex order. He is also on his way to ASA, an associate of the Society of Actuaries by passing series of exams and obtaining VEE credits.



**Professor Craig Martin** graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada, and served four years as a naval officer in the Canadian Armed Forces, during which time he was among other things, naval attaché in the Canadian Mission to the United Nations. After leaving the navy, he spent

four years in Japan on a *Monbushō* scholarship, during which he obtained an LL.M. from Osaka University. He then obtained his J.D. from the University of Toronto, following which he practiced civil litigation for several years at Stikeman Elliott LLP and Lenczner Slaght Royce Smith Griffin LLP in Toronto. He left practice in 2006 to undertake the S.J.D. at Penn Law.

Professor Martin's doctoral research focused on the relationship between constitutional and international law constraints on the use of armed

force, using the Japanese constitutional experience as a basis for part of the analysis. His research employs perspectives and theoretical work from international law, international relations, constitutional law, and military, political, and legal history.

## **Congratulations!**

The Office of International Programs wishes to recognize and congratulate the international students who were selected for and participated in the recent Spring Nall Speak Off. They were Dier (Penny) Liu, Jizhou (Joe) Li, Qianya (Tina) Zhuo, and Liting (Angelina) Guo. Qianya Zhuo placed second with her topic of "Chinese New Year," and Dier Liu placed third with her topic of "Cosplay."

### **The following students graduated in spring and summer 2011:**

Bahodur Abdukhalikov - Tajikistan - BBA in Management and Finance  
Christian Beer - Germany - MBA  
Geraldine Elphick - U.K. - BEd in Elementary Education (Middle School Math)  
Sherzod Kadirov - Uzbekistan - BBA in Management and Marketing  
Siu-Kei Lau - Hong Kong - BBA in Economics  
Novica Lazarevski - Macedonia - BA in Computer Information Systems  
Trang Le Nguyen - Vietnam - BBA in Management and Marketing  
Manuel Tabora - Honduras - Bachelor of Music in Instrumental Performance  
Joseph Serwadda - Uganda - Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Sciences  
Luodan Wang - China - BBA in Accounting  
Feng Zhang - China - BSN in Nursing  
Yiyang Zhang - China - BBA in Accounting  
Sijan Mainali - Nepal - BBA in Management

Mariam Rajab - Tanzania - BBA in Management and Accounting  
Bingqing Yin - China – MBA

### **The following students were placed on the President Honor Roll:**

Mariela Flores Barquero  
Zheng Dong  
Shuang Jiang  
Xin Jiang  
Dier Liu  
Leticia Perez  
Jimena Vallejos Barriocanal  
Haiji Wang  
Binbin Wu  
Anqi Zhang  
Alexander Beck  
Li Chen  
Shixian Chen  
Andrea Doldan Vallejo  
Qiuping Gao  
Teng Ge  
Bernhard Hafele  
Yan Li  
Zhenyu Li  
Congcong Lin  
Tian Lin  
Yaqi Tang  
Bichun Xu  
Ping Xu  
Di Wang  
Xian Wang  
Yiding Wang  
Congying Zheng  
Qianya Zhuo  
Teng Ge  
Arkadiusz Kozaczuk