

International Times

News from the International Programs Office

Fall 2006
Issue 5

International Programs
1136 Euclid
Boise, ID 83725-1145
(208) 426-3652
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Task Force on Internationalization Completes Report

The Boise State University Task Force on Internationalization submitted its report titled "Making the Global Connection: Recommended Pathways to Internationalizing the Campus" to Provost Sona Andrews on May 18, 2006. It is available as a PDF document on the Task Force website at: <http://www2.boisestate.edu/vpaa/internationalization>

The International Programs Office would like to publicly and officially express its gratitude for the work of task force members and those who participated in the sub-committees of the task force for their hard work and dedication over the past three semesters. Task Force members included: Elisa Barney Smith, Michael Blankenship,

Kelley Brandt, James Cook, James Ferguson, Neil Gu, Jason Herbeck, Sabine Klahr, Ellie McKinnon, Rob Meyer, Mark Plew, Nina Ray, Uwe Reischl. The report is designed to provide recommendations to the administration regarding the comprehensive development of an international dimension throughout Boise State University. As a next step, Sabine Klahr, Director of International Programs and co-chair of the Task Force, will use the report to develop an action plan and assemble an advisory board for internationalization. Please contact Sabine if you are interested in participating in the advisory board which will be a small group that will meet only as needed and will do much of its work online.

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University Restructuring of International Programs

On April 1, 2006, International

Programs was moved from the Division of Extended Studies to reporting directly to the Provost. This change firmly places International Programs in academic affairs at Boise State University, which has been a common trend for centralized international education units at universities across the nation. Since International Programs is taking a leadership role in the institution's internationalization effort and programs

to advancing internationalization, placement in academic affairs is of vital importance. This structure allows those responsible for international education and internationalization to collaborate with and have direct access to the chief academic officer. It also facilitates collaboration with faculty, chairs, and deans who are at the heart of an effective and long-term internationalization process.

The Division of Extended Studies was instrumental in dedicating resources to initially develop an International Programs Office in 1997. At that time, the office was strictly a programmatic unit that also provided advising services to international students. In the past four years, the International Programs Office has significantly expanded its academic role at the University, taking on broader functions and advancing internationalization.

managed by the office are central



University de Deusto court yard, in Bilbao, Spain

International Connections Brown Bag Luncheon Seminar Series

Join us this year for an exciting new lineup of seminars presented by faculty and staff with international experience. The purpose of the seminar is to facilitate discussion regarding internationalization and highlight international research, teaching, projects, and travel by our faculty, staff, and students. Albertsons Library and International Programs collaboratively coordinate the series, which was initiated last year with great success.

Seminars are held once a month at 12:30 PM in the SUB Lookout Room. Light refreshments are available at no cost, but please feel free to bring your lunch. You can find the complete schedule and speakers at: <http://library.boisestate.edu/reference/connections.htm>

We look forward to seeing you at these events!

Thursday, September 21, 2006 in the Lookout Room, SUB
Greg Raymond, Frank Church Professor of International Relations and Director of the Honors Program, *After Iraq: The Imperiled American Imperium*

Thursday, October 19, 2006 in the Lookout Room, SUB
Nick Miller, History, *Testifying at the Hague - War crimes during the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s, The Hague Tribunal for Yugoslavia, and the experience of testifying before the tribunal.*

Friday, November 17, 2006 in Jordan A, SUB
Dewey Dykstra, Physics, *Engaging Tibetan Monks in Inquiry into Science...and travels in northern India*

Receptions Recognizing Visiting International Scholars

This academic year, Boise State University will begin to host receptions once per semester to recognize visiting international scholars. The receptions will be sponsored by the Provost's Office, the academic colleges, and International Programs. Visiting international scholars assist with infusing international content in courses, developing research connections with institutions in other countries, initiating international research collaboration,

and developing potential new university partnerships around the world. Through the receptions, we would like to make the scholars feel welcome at Boise State, raise awareness in the campus community that departments host international scholars, and facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration to develop the international dimension of the University. The receptions will be open to the entire university community.



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**The first reception will be held on
Thursday, October 26, 3 PM, in Hatch AB in the SUB.**

If your department is hosting visiting international scholars/faculty this fall, please notify Dr. Sabine Klahr, Director, International Programs, via e-mail: sklahr@boisestate.edu or by phone: 6-3652, so we can send them an official invitation.

Boise State Students Receive Study Abroad Awards

Once again Boise State students have been very successful in receiving competitive national scholarships for study abroad! The Gilman program received 1,007 applications for the 389 scholarships that were awarded. A record **four** Boise State students have received the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for study abroad!

Boise State's student winners are:

- ✓ **Jon Atkins**, \$5,000 to study in Prague, Czech Republic. Atkins is a Social Science major from Boise.
- ✓ **David Crapser**, \$5,000 to study in Saarbruecken, Germany. Crapser is a Music Education major from Boise.
- ✓ **Benjamin Marcoe**, \$3,000 to study in Sherbrooke, Canada. Marcoe is an International Business major from Boise.
- ✓ **Betsy Venard**, \$8,000 to study in Amman, Jordan. Venard is an Anthropology major from Bonners Ferry. She received a \$5,000 award plus \$3,000 from the U.S. Department of State. The additional funding was made available for students studying a critical need language. Venard will study Arabic language and culture in Jordan.

The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, funds the Gilman award. The award allows students with demonstrated financial need to study abroad. The Gilman scholarship aims to support students who have been traditionally under-represented in study abroad including but not limited to, students with high financial need, community college students, students in underrepresented fields such as the sciences and engineering, students with diverse ethnic backgrounds, students with disabilities, and students of nontraditional age. The program seeks to assist students from a diverse range and type of public and private institutions from all 50 states.

Award recipients are chosen by a competitive selection process and must use the award to defray eligible study abroad costs. These costs include program tuition, room and board, books, local transportation, insurance and international airfare.

The International Programs Office administers approximately \$30,000 in funding for study abroad scholarships. Students should not let fears of funding hold them back from studying abroad. Please contact the International Programs Office for an application, assistance or more information 426-3652.

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Back by popular demand!

Ask The Study Abroad Coordinator

Dear Corrine: Can I study abroad in Iraq?

-Interested in Iraq

Dear Interested: Unfortunately, the university does restrict study abroad in countries with a State Department warning, and there is such a warning for Iraq. Warnings are the highest level of State Department alert and we pay close attention to student safety. We do have hundreds of other study abroad options you can choose from, check out our website for more information: <http://www.boisestate.edu/international>

Dear Corrine: Does anyone every really receive these study abroad scholarships I keep hearing about?

-Money Hungry in Homedale

Dear Money: Yes. Boise State students are very successful at receiving several national scholarships such as the Gilman award. We

can assist you with your scholarship application, so you should definitely consider applying. Four students were awarded the Gilman for fall study abroad programs.

Dear Corrine: What is the Study Abroad Fair? -Timid at Tamarack

Dear Timid: Our Study Abroad Fair is a great opportunity to gather information about study abroad.

Prospective study abroad students get a chance to talk to alumni (fellow students), faculty, and staff from each program. Students can learn about financial aid, credits posting, and other Boise State international resources. Drop by any time during the fair to learn more!



Corrine M. Henke
Enjoying the culinary delights of China.

Study Abroad Fair

Friday, September 8th

10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Jordan Ballroom, SUB

Annual Study Abroad Fair

Do you want to study in another country as a Boise State student? We'll show you how! Come to the fourth annual Boise State Study Abroad Fair Friday, September 8, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. The fair will highlight all the study abroad opportunities available to Boise State students throughout the world. Students will have the opportunity to talk with faculty,

program representatives, advisors and returned study abroad students. Financial aid and scholarship information will be available and representatives from the Boise State Financial Aid Office will be on hand to discuss study abroad financial aid availability. There will also be information about international opportunities available to Boise State faculty and staff.

Spring and Summer Study Abroad Application Deadlines

Ready to study abroad next spring or summer?

Deadline for Spring 2007 – October 15, 2006

Deadline for Summer 2007 – April 1, 2007 (some flexibility)

Contact the International Programs Office for an application
studyabroad@boisestate.edu or 426-3652.

New International Partnerships for Boise State University

Boise State recently signed agreements with the following institutions:

Hangzhou Nursing College, Hangzhou, China

Boise State Department of Nursing – general research and workshop collaboration, faculty exchange, faculty-led short-term study programs for students

Hosei University, Tokyo, Japan

Student exchange and general cooperation across all academic disciplines

Mukogawa Women's University, Nishinomiya, Japan

General cooperative agreement across all academic disciplines

Agreement negotiations with the following institutions are in progress:

Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark

College of Education – student and faculty exchange agreement

Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea

General cooperative agreement, exchange of students in Computer Science and possibly other disciplines.

Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, Korea

Agreement for Sungkyunkwan students to study at Boise State for a semester or year.

Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences,

Wels Campus of Engineering - College of Engineering, pilot student exchange and faculty exchange, general cooperation



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International Student Interviews

Calin Toma is an international student from Romania. Calin has been actively involved in the International Student Association and many other organizations on campus since his arrival in 2001. This year Calin is working as an Assistant in the International Programs Office.

How did you decide to come to Boise State

University? Actually, it was a stroke of luck for me. Initially I was planning to go to an east coast school. While visiting some good friends in Florida, I happened to meet a person who used to live in Nampa. He suggested Boise State as a possible choice, I followed up with an e-mail and here I am going on my fourth year.

What do you like most about BSU and

Boise? The aspect that I like the most in general are its people. They make a big difference for me. That is why I decided to stay here and finish my undergraduate degree. I was very pleased to find among the BSU staff members people who are really supportive of the International Students and truly understand their hardships.

I like Boise as a city because it is big enough to offer a variety of entertainment options and, at the same time, it is small enough to allow me to concentrate on my academics.

What surprised you the most about the US?

The cultural variety surprised me most. This country truly is a “melting pot”. I did not fully understand that until I got here. I find it fascinating that in a city one can find people from every corner of the earth. Back home in Romania I was not able to be part of such a diverse environment. This was a nice surprise.

What kind of goals do you have for the

future? Right now, I am focused on finishing my undergraduate degree and I am planning to apply for a masters degree. This is going to keep me busy for the next couple of years. After that, I will probably focus on getting a job and starting a career. I hope that I can find a job that would pay me big money to travel all over the world. I would very much like to do that.

Tell us a little bit about your country. I

come from Romania, an eastern European country located between Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and the Black Sea. I was born in Transylvania, which is one of Romania’s three provinces. My country is famous for its old churches and monasteries, its wine and its gymnastics team. (It used to be soccer too but that went down the drain in the last 6 years). My country is about the same size as Idaho with about 25 million people. The climate is a temperate one. We have four seasons, like Idaho does, but the summers are not that hot and during winter we have tons of snow.

What is a major difference between your

country and the US? A big difference that I have noticed is the transportation system. Back home it is much easier to get around inside or outside the town. Here one is dependent on a car.

What do you miss most about your country?

The thing that I miss the most is the food. I did not realize that it will make such a big difference but it does.

Which languages do you speak? I speak Romanian and English.

Where have you traveled? (In the US or

abroad) In Europe, I have traveled to Hungary, Austria, Germany and Italy. In US, I have visited New York State, Pennsylvania, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Oklahoma, Nevada, California, Oregon and Utah.



Calin Toma is an International Student working in the International Programs Office

Amrita Jashnani is an international student from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. She is majoring in Electrical Engineering. This year she is working in the International Programs Office as an Assistant.

How did you decide to come to Boise State University? After finishing high school, I wanted to study in an area related to semiconductors and my brother who works here at Micron told me about the excellent courses offered at Boise State University.

What do you like most about BSU and Boise? What I like most about BSU is the faculty, which is very helpful and cooperative. For example, the professors try to make the class more lively and involved by having group projects.

What amuses me the most about Boise is the scenic beauty like the Swan Falls, Lucky Peak, Table Rock, etc.

What surprised you the most about the US? Lack of vegetarian food in restaurants is what surprised me most.

What kind of goals do you have for the future? In my opinion, it is essential to get some work experience in the industry, before going to grad school. So I plan to work for a couple years and then probably do MBA or PhD.

Tell us a little bit about your country. I am an Indian citizen but was born and brought up in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. So I guess I can tell you a little about both. Dubai, which is the commercial capital

of U.A.E., is one of the fastest developing cities of the world. Burj al-Arab, which is world's tallest (1,053 feet), seven star hotel stands in the sea on an artificial island in Dubai.

India is the seventh largest country by geographical area and second most populous country in the world. There are 28 states and almost each state has its own language. Even with this huge diversity, India is a nation where people of different religions and traditions reside peacefully.

What is a major difference between your country and the US? The major difference that comes to my mind is the status of living of a middle class person in US, which is much higher than its counterpart in U.A.E. or India.

I lived in Dubai for most part of my life, which is essentially a desert and where temperatures would sometimes even hit 130°F whereas it is just chilly in this part of the US.

What do you miss most about your country? I miss my friends, relatives and not to mention the food, especially during cultural or religious festivals.

Which languages do you speak? Apart from English, I can fluently speak Hindi, Sindhi and little Arabic and French.

Where have you traveled? (In the US or abroad) In US apart from Idaho, I've been to Texas, Utah and Oregon. As far as rest of the world is concerned, I've been to London, Dubai, and India.



Amrita is an International Student working in the International Programs Office



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We Need Your Donations

Every year we have a Thanksgiving Dinner for Boise State's international students. Typically approximately 100 students attend the event. We raffle off items to the students (the raffle tickets are free of charge). We like for every student to walk away with a gift, if possible. Please donate something to our cause. Donations should be new or looks-like-new, and can include gift certificates, clothing, household items, gifts items, etc. Some students have children, so items appropriate for children are needed also. The staff at the International Programs Office can arrange to pick up your donation. Please call the office 426-3652 with any questions.



Christy Babcock Quintero and Qing Li at the Thanksgiving Dinner last year.

SAVE THIS DATE

Saturday, February 24, 2007
6 - 9 PM

The much anticipated annual **International Food, Song, and Dance Festival** will be on Saturday, February 24, 2007 in the Jordan Ballroom. Mark your calendars for an evening of delicious food, outstanding entertainment, great raffle items, and lots of fun!

Internationalization comes in all sizes

by Erich White

Our primary work here in the Intensive English Program involves working with students from all around the globe who travel to the United States, and Boise specifically,



in order to develop English language skills for academic or other purposes - some for business, some for research, some simply for the pleasure of learning another language, and the culture that goes along with it. But on some occasions we also have an opportunity to provide a service to members of the local Boise-area community, in partnership with other community members, in ways that affect not only those individuals but also our community as a whole.

As a financially self-supported unit of the University, we are often limited in our capacity to serve the pieces of our local community most in need of help in developing greater English language skills; many of our neighbors who find English most challenging are working full-time and then some, supporting families and living lives that may not provide the luxury of funding university studies – which is where the Intensive English Program’s partnership with other community organizations comes into play. For example, this fall the Intensive

English Program is working in conjunction with a partner on campus, the Center Professional Development, as well as a community partner in Idaho Job Service, to build a customized English language training course for long-time Treasure Valley resident workers soon to be downsized from a local employer. In this way, working together as a team, the three organizations can overcome limitations of finances, experience or expertise that each agency might face trying to tackle this project alone, and provide this valuable service to our friends and neighbors who need a hand at a difficult time.

Helping people from all around the world to improve their skills and knowledge, and doing so working together with partners here in the community, shows in a very practical way the benefits of working together across linguistic, cultural and professional boundaries - benefits that underlie the basic way of thinking that leads to internationalization and international education. So, if the question ever pops into mind, ‘Why bother with all this internationalization stuff?’, just look around you – the reasons why are everywhere you turn.



IEP Adventures

Spring 2006 brought some exciting opportunities to our Intensive English students. They had a fun opportunity to extend their practice of the English language by participating as crew members during the annual Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic in June. This one-on-one experience involved participating as volunteer crew members for Roy Foote, of Footlights who also provided the experience of a hot air balloon ride as a surprise to these volunteer workers! The students that participated are Juan Guzman, Salah Al Otaibi, Khalid Almotaire, and Anny Tseng, Juan, Anny and Roy are seated in the balloons basket.



Staff Changes in the International Programs Office

A few staff changes are taking place in the Intensive English Program in the International Programs Office: Erich White, the Intensive English Program Coordinator, who served in this position for six years, is departing September 8 to pursue a career beyond ESL instruction. Two new staff members will manage the program: Chalimar Swain, Student Services Coordinator, and Jarie Castelin, Academic Coordinator. Both have been with the Intensive English Program for some time now: Jarie as ESL instructor and Chalimar as a student services assistant to Erich, so they already know what they are getting themselves into! We also hired a temporary Volunteer Program Coordinator to assist us with establishing a volunteer organization. We are happy that they are joining our office in their newly expanded roles.

Jarie Jackson Castelin, M.Ed. - Academic Coordinator

Jarie has lived in Shanghai, China, where she taught professional development to teachers and Chinese students. She has worked as an instructor at the International Programs Office at Boise State teaching English to international students and tutoring international Boise State faculty for the past three years. During this time she also coordinated the Governor's first teacher exchange with Boise State for teachers from China during a month-long visit. Her background includes working with at-risk high school students for 10 years in the Meridian School District, and acting as the statewide professional development coordinator for the Adult Basic Education program. She has traveled to England and Scotland, France, and Japan. Jarie has hosted a Boise State graduate research assistant in her home for the past month. She enjoys playing golf, traveling, and working with international students!

Chalimar Swain - Student Services Coordinator

Chalimar spent most of her infancy touring southeastern Asia in the comfy confines of a parent's backpack. From there she moved on to grow up in the Portland, Oregon area, climbed the corporate ladder with a major national retailer from a chilly home base near Minneapolis, and (with a brief stay in Hawaii tossed in) finally made the wise move and settled here in Boise, drawn by the fantastic rock climbing opportunities found throughout the area. Chalimar will complete her Human Resources degree at the end of this academic year.

Jennifer Hannaford - Volunteer Program Coordinator

The International Programs Office would like to welcome Jennifer Hannaford to our team. Jenny was brought on board to help us create a volunteer program. Volunteers are needed to assist students with airport pick-ups, short and long-term homestays, transportation and errand running. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jenny at aljenid@mac.com.



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