

# **INTERNATIONAL e-NEWSLETTER 2006**

**Newsletter of Muskegon Community College Volume IV Fall 2006**

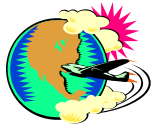
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## ***Welcome Back Faculty!***

Greetings and welcome back! To let you know the international programs are still going strong, here is what we are working on this fall.

- International Country Travelogue – India
- German Exchange Program 2007
- Fall International Panel Discussion
- Global Awareness Festival
- International Business Classes
- Export/Import Professional Certificate Programs
- Host Family Program
- International Customized Training
- International Newsletter

For more information on any of these programs, you can now go to the new international website at: <http://www.muskegoncc.edu/pages/301.asp>.

Do you know anyone who would be interested in contributing to the MCC student scholarship fund for our German Exchange Program? There are many students at MCC who cannot afford the cost to participate in this outstanding educational opportunity. If you know of a potential contributor, please call me at 231-777-0377. Let me conclude by thanking all of you who continue to support the vision for international programs at MCC. Each one of you can make a difference to the internationalizing of the college.

Sharon VandenHeuvel  
International Coordinator



## **Faculty and Staff News**

**Kurt Troutman**, MCC political science instructor, traveled to Russia and visited Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Perm this summer on a Fulbright Scholarship Award from the Midwest Institute, which is a consortium of 98 colleges in 12 Midwest states. Kurt was selected because of his work at MCC involving students with the Model Arab League and the Model United Nations. While in Russia, Kurt attended a variety of cultural events, including the famous Russian Ballet of St. Petersburg, participated in discussions of Russian literary works, and gave a presentation on American foreign policy at Moscow State University. Congratulations Kurt!

**Pam Brown, Kathy Tosa, Tom Donhue, Maria Anderson, and Sharon Vandenheuvel** traveled to Stuttgart, Germany, last May with MCC students. They visited the Kaufmannische Schule Nord, a technical college in Stuttgart and various historical sites and businesses, such as Munich, the Porsche Plant in Stuttgart, the Ritter-Sport candy manufacturing plant, and dined in medieval castles. If you run into Pam Brown in the hallways, ask her how she got lost in Stuttgart last spring!

**Carl Pohlman, from MCC's Athletic Department** and his family traveled to Germany to visit his niece near Frankfurt. They also spent a day traveling to Paris. The downside of the trip: "The traffic in Paris was unbelievable." The upside of the trip: "They enjoyed the food and the ability to go from town to town by biking."



**Richard Oman** from the Creative & Performing Arts Department traveled to Pisa, Italy, this summer. His travels included the **Piazza dei Miracoli**, which included the famous **Leaning Tower**, the **Pisa Cathedral** (begun in 1064), and **Battistero** (baptistery) begun in 1153 and completed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. He also toured the **Camposanto** (cemetery), which features soil shipped from Calvary during the crusades, and some wonderful frescoes which scientists are struggling to preserve. "We also visited the **Museo dell'Opera del Duomo**, which is filled with a fascinating profusion of artworks and a cathedral and baptistery dating back to the Roman and Etruscan eras of power."

**Vilene Rodgers, counselor**, and her son Matt visited her old stomping grounds and spent five weeks in Greece over June and July. Their tour included the Peloponese (Athens, Corinth, Delphi, Olympia, Epidauros, and Meteora) and then they spent four weeks 'winging it' on the islands. They visited the island of Samos, Rhodes with its medieval city for a week and then Crete for a week of the

Minoan civilization and a fireworks display to celebrate Naval Week! Their next island visit was Mykonos to do a day visit to the nearby sacred island of Delos, and then they traveled on to the island of Santorini, where they spent a week on the rim of a crater, which has been speculated to be the origin of the Atlantis myth.

**Kathy Tosa, social science instructor, visited two countries this past summer. Here are some excerpts from her travels.**

**Singapore** ...where is it exactly? “I had to look on the map to find this melting pot of Asian civilization located strategically south of Malaysia on the Malaccan Straits. Singapore’s history as a trading center began as early as the second century AD. The city-state was controlled by Siam (modern-day Thailand), Java, the Portuguese and the British East India Company. It became a British Colony during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, suffered under Japanese occupation during World War II, and achieved independence in 1965. Since then the People’s Action Party of Singapore has controlled the Republic winning ten straight elections. All this I learned when I visited my daughter in Singapore this past August.”



“My first impression of Singapore at midnight after a 30-hour flight was beautiful orchids growing at the luggage carousel. This was different. It was all different; the heat and humidity, the international seamless blend of Chinese, Malay, Indian and European culture, and the food. The food of Singapore is a gastronomical delight. The food reflects the multi-cultural make-up of the island state. For starters there is unmatched street food — chili crabs and chicken rice, laksa and satay and fish head curry — served in hundreds of hawkers’ stalls. It’s fast, cheap and delicious. But there is also elegant fine dining to rival any big city in the world. The Singapore Sling was invented here at the famous Raffles Hotel, a beautiful colonial era hotel. The people were so friendly, the technology so high-tech, the museums, the aquarium... There is much more to share. Just ask me.”

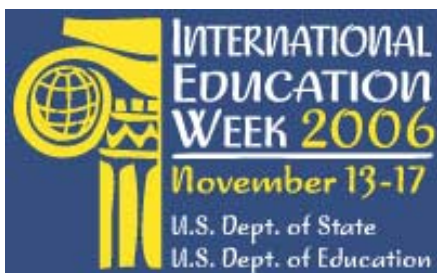


**Germany.** “During a couple of weeks in July, I toured Germany with Alison, my recently graduated 18-year-old niece. I saw Dresden, Berlin, Potsdam, Rothenberg, Nürnberg and Heidelberg. We visited the Reichstag in Berlin and lost ourselves in the new Holocaust Memorial. We learned how Frederick the Great saved the starving peasants with the introduction of potatoes. We followed the Nachtwächter (night watchman) through medieval Rothenberg and saw the Nazi Parade Grounds and fascinating museum in Nürnberg.”



**International Quiz:** This port city on the Red Sea receives Muslim pilgrims bound for Mecca. a. Jeddah b. Abu Dhabi c. Medina d. Cairo

### ***Upcoming International Events***



International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchanges worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of an effort to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange

experiences in the United States. The following Muskegon Community College events are held as a celebration of international education week. Join us! (Logo provided by the U.S. department of education).



**Keith St. Clair, social science instructor for Grand Rapids Community College**, will give a presentation **Monday, November 13**, on his recent five-week Fulbright scholarship trip to India. Come explore this nation's fascinating rich history, diverse religions, current conflicts, and exotic contradictions. This event will take place in the Stevenson Center for Higher Education, Room 1100, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. with 15 minutes for questions. A reception will follow with cookies and punch being served. This event is **FREE** to the public.



**Free International Panel Discussion slated for November 15.** Plan to attend the sixth annual International Panel discussion on November 15, 6 - 8:30 p.m., Room 1100, in the Stevenson Center for Higher Education. Hear speakers from Sudan, West Africa, Finland, Switzerland, Jordan, Japan, and Indonesia. Instructors, bring your students to this event! Once again Kurt Troutman will facilitate the discussion. Our president, Dr. David Rule, has not missed a session!



## **GLOBAL AWARENESS FESTIVAL THE ARAB WORLD - February 12-16 2007**

### ***Events spanning the entire week will include:***

- An International Film Series.
- Free Film Festival.
- International Cuisine featured by the campus food service.
- Keynote Speaker.
- A Teacher Workshop.
- Information Fair will feature booths highlighting international opportunities for students to study and work abroad as well as learn about cultural differences around the world.
- Global Topic Investigations will explore topics related to the Arab world.

**For more information on how you can participate, please contact Kathy Tosa at 231-777-0376 or at: [tosak@muskegoncc.edu](mailto:tosak@muskegoncc.edu).**

**We look forward to your participation in Muskegon Community College's  
Global Awareness Festival**



### **MCC International Affairs Club**

Muskegon Community College is pleased to announce that the International Affairs Club, under the direction of Kurt Troutman, MCC Social Science instructor, will be taking 20 MCC students to the American Model United Nations Conference held in Chicago, IL, November 18 -21.

The purpose of the International Affairs Club is to provide students various opportunities to increase their awareness of global politics. Muskegon Community College promotes a number of collaborative learning opportunities emphasizing an institutional commitment to student modeling programs as a pedagogical strategy for exposing students to the United Nations, Arab League, European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Participation in a modeling simulation provides students an opportunity to immerse themselves in the politics of international organizations. Students study

history, economics and diplomacy in preparation for a simulation. Each student is assigned to a specific committee in anticipation of the simulation and individual independent research is required for a successful experience. Additional preparation includes learning of parliamentary procedures, drafting pre-conference resolutions and keeping abreast of current events influencing a simulation conference. While participating in simulations students serve as conference delegates and as ambassadors of Muskegon Community College. For more information on the American Model United Nations visit [www.amun.org](http://www.amun.org).

The MCC International Affairs Club has been active since 2000, providing a variety of challenging international learning experiences. The International Affairs Club is open and welcoming of all students regardless of race, ability or sex. This is a nonpartisan organization, which seeks to create discussion and engagement of political thought.



***Welcome MCC's International students!***

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>
Goran Micic	Croatia
Adam Toth	Hungary
Young-Guk Kim	South Korea
Yuko Sugiura	Japan
Xeniza Teteryatrikova	Kazakhstan
Hirotohi Kamaga	Japan
Sami Lempinen	Finland
Yasir Muhammad	Pakistan
Coulibaly Zoumana	W. Africa
Cui Zhang	China
Kalpana Patel	Pakistan
Petri Peltonemi	Finland
Veronica Greiner	Germany
Ionela Miller	Romania
Maria Perry	Russia
Yannick Schenk	Switzerland
William Awur	Sudan
Zoumana Coulibaly	West Africa
Abia Sakka	Jordan

A welcome luncheon was held for the international students on Wednesday, October 4, in Caesar Lounge.



## **Germany Exchange Program 2007!**



### **SIGN UP FOR THE GERMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM!**

The trip is scheduled for Spring Term

May 9 - 17, 2007

The tenth annual German Exchange program is scheduled for May 9 – 17, 2007. MCC students and faculty can participate in the exchange program with Kaufmannische Schule Nord, a technical college in **Stuttgart, Germany**. Spend seven days in Germany with host families and visit various businesses and historical sites. The itinerary this year will include visiting German companies, such as the Daimler Chrysler Plant in Stuttgart, hiking in the Alps, and dining in medieval castles. **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 20.**

**Optional Excursion:** May 17 - 20. Add three days to your trip. **Destination: Munich, Germany!** Munich is located near the geographical center of the Southern German region of Bavaria. The population of Munich is 1.2 million people. Founded in 1158 by Henry the Lion, Duke of Saxony, it is Germany's third largest city. Munich has the second biggest number of working people in Germany and has ten Universities as well as 45 Museums. This trip will include visits to cultural centers and World War II historical sites in the village of Dachau, where you can visit the site of the former concentration camp.



## **Ireland Exchange Program 2007!**

Visit the Burren College of Art in spring 2007 (dates to be announced) with students from Kalamazoo Community college. Set in the grounds of a 16th century castle in the stunning Burren landscape on Ireland's Atlantic coast, this exchange program offers you a unique opportunity for your creative development. For more information, please contact Sharon at 777-0377.



### ***Study Abroad Programs for Students***

**CDS International, Inc.** The Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange scholarship program (CDS) provides MCC students the opportunity to live, study, and work for a year in Germany and for German students to do the same in the U.S.A. This scholarship program, with a strong focus on cultural exchange, is designed to give participants understanding for everyday life, education, and professional training in Germany and the United States. The scholarship for the student covers funding of international airfare, local transportation and stipend, language training/study costs, orientation, mid-year and final seminars, sickness and accident insurance. The student is responsible for personal expenses (\$300-\$500/month), active involvement in search for an internship position, and community integration in Germany. The deadline for this program year is **December 1, 2006**. For an application contact CDS International at: [www.cdsintl.org/](http://www.cdsintl.org/)



**Athlone, Ireland summer program!** ATHLONE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY in Athlone, Ireland, offers two summer school programs for students throughout the U.S. These programs will introduce students to Ireland and the Irish culture. Educational lectures, tours, discussions and readings will focus on key aspects of Irish history, settlements, migration, and civilization. For more information, call Sharon, the international coordinator, 777-0377.



### ***Travel Abroad Opportunities for Faculty***

**The Midwest Institute for International/Intercultural Education (MIIE)** is organizing a three-year curriculum project (2007-2010) that will involve 90 faculty and 12 colleges. Also, more Fulbright GPA projects are under development for summer 2007 to the following countries:

- Armenia-Georgia
- China
- India
- Japan
- S. Korea
- Malaysia
- Peru

**For more information contact Theo Sypris at 269-488-4283 or at [tsypris@kvcc.edu](mailto:tsypris@kvcc.edu).** MILLE is a self-funded consortium of two-year colleges located in the Midwest region. Its primary objective is to support curriculum and professional development by organizing curriculum workshops, fall and spring conferences, overseas projects for faculty and students and to assist with grant development, provide faculty mentoring and professional networking. The website for MILLE is located at: <http://orgs.kvcc.edu/midwest/>

**Summer 2007 trip to China** - July 10-August 13, 2007. Bluegrass Community and Technical College (Lexington, Kentucky) has an exchange agreement with Changsha Education College in Changsha, Hunan, China. Participants will teach oral English, and there is no homework or written work required. The main qualifications are that teachers be native English speakers, have a college degree, and have an outgoing personality. Previous teaching experience is very helpful but not required. The American teachers do not have to know any Mandarin Chinese. The main task of the teaching is to work with middle school teachers to improve their speaking and listening abilities. Teachers will do exercises that encourage conversational English. The students are either public school teachers or advanced college students. Tentative itinerary will include Lexington-Chicago-Hong Kong-Changsha-Shanghai-Guilin-Xian-Beijing-Lexington. The trip lasts about 32 days. **For further information contact: David Wachtel, 859-246-6324 or [David.wachtel@kctcs.edu](mailto:David.wachtel@kctcs.edu).**



### ***Conferences/Seminars for Faculty***

**The Midwest Institute for International/Intercultural Education (MIIE)** will hold its *14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE* Friday-Saturday, April 13-14, 2007, at Kirkwood Community College, KTOS Center, in Marion, Iowa. Programs will include the following and more!

- International Programming & Global Education at KCC
- Infusing Curriculum on Russia into Social Science Courses
- China-USA Relations on Security and Trade
- Globalizing English-Communication Courses
- Infusing Global Dimensions in Physical Sciences Courses
- Incorporating Russian Arts into the Curriculum
- Organizing and Implementing Student Travel-Study Overseas
- Global Environmental Infusion into the Curriculum

For more information, contact: Theo Sypris, Director, Ph: 269-488-4283 or 269-488-4534 Fax: 269-488-4458 **E-mail: [tsypris@kvcc.edu](mailto:tsypris@kvcc.edu).**

## COUNTRY HIGHLIGHT – UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



### Economic Overview

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is the sixth largest oil exporter in the world. Despite volatile oil prices, the economy has performed reasonably well over the last five years. The economy is relatively diversified, including petrochemicals, aluminum, tourism and banking. **Imports and Exports:** Principal imports: machinery and transport equipment, food and textiles. Main exports: Crude petroleum and natural gas. Main

import suppliers, 2001: Japan (10.2%), USA (9.6%), UK (8.8%), China (8.6%), Germany (6.7%), India (6.7%). Main export markets: Japan (36.4%), India (7.5%), South Korea (7.1%), Singapore (6.3%), Iran (3.8%), Oman (3.4%).

**Population:** The Emirates are bounded in the north by the Persian Gulf, northeast by Oman, east by the Gulf of Oman and Oman, south and west by Saudi Arabia. 2002 population estimate, 2,934,000; density, about one-tenth are nomads. Approximately 78% of the population is foreigners, the highest percentage of any country. The official language is Arabic; **English is widely spoken.**

**Climate:** The country experiences desert conditions, with rainfall both limited and erratic. The period May to Sept. is generally rainless.

From the Muskegon Community College Library Online International Business Resources, [Statesman's Yearbook](#) is a source for current political, economic and social information.



**International Quiz Answer:** The port city of Jeddah



## FALL 2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 13: **Keith St. Clair** presentation on India in the Stevenson Center for Higher Education, Room 1100, from 6 to 7:30 pm.

November 15: Sixth annual International Panel discussion for faculty and students in the Stevenson Center for Higher Education, Room 1100, from 6 - 8:30 p.m.

December 20: German Exchange application deadline.

**Hosting opportunity!** German students and faculty will arrive in Muskegon for eight days, June 13 – 21, 2007, to visit area businesses and experience many tourist attractions. If you are interested in hosting a German faculty or student in June, please contact Sharon at 777-0377.

*MCC is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, political persuasion, disability, height, weight, or age in any of its educational programs, activities, and employment.*