Brazil Scientific Mobility Program

The Brazilian government instituted a study abroad scholarship program in 2011 called Ciencias sem Fronteiras (translation: Science without Borders). The program provides scholarships to undergraduate students from Brazil for one year of study at colleges and universities all over the world, and is administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE) as the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP) in this country. The top receiving country is the United States, but students have a list of nearly thirty countries to choose from in Europe, Asia and Oceania. Scholarships are given primarily to students in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Students in the program return to Brazil to complete their degrees. The Brazilian government is nearly half of the way there in meeting the challenge set for them by President Dilma Rousseff, to grant 100,000 scholarships for the best students from Brazil to study at the world’s finest universities.

In May 2013, IIE was facing a major challenge. Brazilian authorities had just requested assistance in redirecting nearly 2,400 scholarship recipients to the U.S. from other destinations. These students would need intensive English instruction beginning in Fall 2013 and IIE, contracted by the Brazilian government to place all undergraduate BSMP students on U.S. campuses, had a formidable task before them. So IIE contacted SUNY Global. The result: 14 SUNY campuses stepped up to this challenge and nearly 200 re-directed students enrolled at SUNY campuses this fall. This is in addition to more than 30 students directly placed by IIE prior to the redirect, for a total of 225 new BSMP students arriving in fall 2013. BSMP students are eligible for a full-year academic placement upon completion of one semester of intensive English, thus these students will continue their studies on a SUNY campus next semester. Some will become full-time students in their STEM fields, others will take a mix of English and STEM coursework, and others will continue with their intensive English instruction.

Continued on page 12
As many know, commission-based international student recruitment has long been controversial in the United States. As many of you may also know, I have been working for the past eight years to reform U.S. recruitment practice, and to develop both standards and enforcement processes to protect the interests of students and to professionalize agency recruiting practice.

In September, we earned a major victory. The National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC) decisively voted to reverse its long-standing opposition to member institutions utilizing agents and commission-based strategies for international recruitment. Member institutions no longer face the threat of retaliation or sanction for doing what is already legal, provided that they “ensure accountability, transparency and integrity.” Of course, this is exactly what SUNY has been doing since launching SUNY Select (the agency strategy in which campuses partner with agents around the world to enroll qualified students).

SUNY has made a commitment to contracting only with agencies certified by the American International Recruitment Council (AIRC). Many SUNY campuses are active members of AIRC. Two of our colleagues (Mary Marquez-Bell of Old Westbury and John Pomeroy of UAlbany) now serve on the AIRC Board of Directors. SUNY has implemented system-wide agency management processes which are unrivaled nationally, and there are now 34 campuses actively engaged in SUNY Select.

But most exciting are the results we are obtaining. Fall 2012 represented SUNY Select’s first intake of agency-recruited students. During that semester, SUNY Select resulted in 103 students placed. One year later, in Fall 2013, 269 students were placed – a 161% increase over the previous fall semester. During the first year of SUNY Select (FY12/13), sixteen campuses received students. During the first half of FY 13/14, twenty-two campuses have benefited. Furthermore, all sectors are engaged, with particular uptake for community colleges (eight received students this most recent intake).

And now to revenues and return on investment. During FY12/13, SUNY Select resulted in approximately $1.5 million in direct tuition paid to campuses. When offset by the investment made by SUNY Global into managing SUNY Select, this represents a 308% ROI. FY13/14 is even better, with $1.85 million in revenue (for the first half only) and a 487% ROI. We are excited about our progress, and look forward to continuing to grow and enhance our enrollment strategies in the years to come.
The University at Buffalo Hosts SUNY’s First Comprehensive Internationalization Workshop

SUNY and the World: Toward Comprehensive Internationalization is a call for strengthening the already significant engagement of SUNY institutions, faculty and students with the world beyond our borders. SUNY and the World is a pillar of the Power of SUNY Strategic Plan as well as a crosscutting theme that permeates the other five Big Ideas enumerated in the plan.

Last summer, the SUNY and the World Innovation Team launched a process of campus-based strategic planning for internationalization, through which campus personnel become completely familiarized with the goals expressed in SUNY and the World: Toward Comprehensive Internationalization through comprehensive two-day workshops. Post-workshop, each team will engage its campus community in adapting the goals of the system-wide plan to the unique mission and context of each SUNY institution.

To begin the process, the SUNY and the World team invited Dr. John Hudzik, former NAFSA and AIEA president and an internationally recognized expert on the internationalization of higher education, to give a sneak-preview to SUNY’s Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) during their June meeting held at FIT. The presentation gave CAOs a clear understanding of the intentions of the workshop, and an opportunity to offer their input. Each campus CAO was then asked to identify a small group of senior representatives to engage in the single two-day active workshop.

The University at Buffalo hosted the first workshop at the historic Jacobs Executive Development Center on September 18-19. For two days Dr. Hudzik led fourteen campus teams of 3-6 people each through discussions of trends and challenges in internationalization, fitting international priorities into the campus mission and goals, project and action planning, moving from concept to action, and funding/resourcing internationalization efforts. The workshop included a presentation from UB’s international education leaders detailing their own very successful experience in internationalization planning and execution. In addition, a SUNY Global Showcase was held on the evening of the first day, to provide an opportunity for campus representatives to learn more about SUNY resources available to support the internationalization efforts of each institution. Teams left prepared to return home and lead a comprehensive internationalization planning and action process aimed at crafting or building upon a plan that fits within the mission and goals of their campus.

A second workshop will be hosted by SUNY Global at the SUNY Global Center in Manhattan, on December 9-10, 2013. We cannot wait to welcome Dr. Hudzik back to New York to continue this exciting work.

For more information on the workshops and/or on the comprehensive internationalization activities, please contact Alena Rodick at alena.rodick@suny.edu

SUNY and the World Executive Team: Co-Chair Mitch Leventhal, SUNY Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs; Co-Chair Stephen C. Dunnett, Vice Provost for International Education, University at Buffalo; Co-Chair Bruce Sillner, Dean for International Programs, SUNY New Paltz; John Wood, Senior Associate Vice Provost for International Education, University at Buffalo; Sally Crimmins Villela, SUNY Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs
**CISSS Corner**

Council for International Student and Scholar Services

- **The SUNY J-1 Exchange Visitor Program Consortium now consists of 30 SUNY campuses. This fall we have 16 exchange visitors participating in exchange activities through the consortium!**

- **SUNY Global will host an Exchange Visitor Advisor Meeting for SUNY J-1 EVP Consortium campuses on Friday, November 15th at SUNY Plaza in Albany.**

- **The next Council for International Student and Scholar Services (CISSS) Annual Meeting will be held Friday, April 10th and CISSS will be the next day. Meetings will be held at the SUNY Global Center in Manhattan.** An optional webinar following the formal CISSS meeting on Friday will be offered.

For more information regarding ISSS or any of the highlights above, please contact Beverly Plowucha, International Student and Scholar Services Manager, at beverly.plowucha@suny.edu

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**SUNY hosts the First Annual UCosmic® Conference**

On October 31st, the UCosmic® Consortium hosted its first annual conference: Collaborative Software Development to Address Strategic Challenges in Higher Education: Kuali, VIVO and UCosmic®. Held at the SUNY Global Center, the conference was attended by representatives of the three consortia, as well as chief technology officers, senior international officers and administrators interested in tracking and managing global activity.

The three open-source higher education software development consortia were each born to meet the needs of one institution, but quickly found that they could benefit by broadening participation. UCosmic® began at the University of Cincinnati, Kuali at Indiana University and VIVO at Cornell. Kuali developed to provide basic IT infrastructure built expressly to meet higher education needs at a cost far lower than that of commercially available software. Kuali has been very successful in its development, through a dispersed network that allows member institutions to direct development efforts in accordance with their needs and supported by their investments.

Library specialists at Cornell University initiated the development of VIVO in order to meet the need for a platform to share research and scholarship interests among faculty. It was quickly recognized that this was a need common to all research institutions, and the effort grew to engage other members in a consortium which set about defining data standards carefully in preparation for broad adoption.

UCosmic was developed to meet the need of the University of Cincinnati to map its global engagement, including that of its students, faculty and community partners. As Mitch Leventhal reports, founders were soon inundated with requests from institutions that wished to purchase UCosmic. But they were not in the software business. Thus was born the idea of an open source solution developed by a consortium. The UCosmic Consortium is now managed by SUNY in partnership with the University of Cincinnati.

Several issues raised were pertinent to all three consortia, including: privacy, data use policies, governance and management structures, vendor relations and licensing. The discussion of inter-consortia collaboration concluded that the three consortia ought to continue the valuable sharing of experiences. Also the three consortia could benefit from mutual promotion, in other words promoting the other two to their respective audiences. Kuali founder Barry Walsh made the point that a disproportionate ratio of the scant dollars allocated to public higher education are spent on commercial software platforms; if there are ways to bring down those costs through open source products developed by and for HEIs, it benefits us all as it allows us to put more of our scant resources toward the academic mission.

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**About UCosmic**

The UCosmic® Consortium is an international open-source software initiative, managed by SUNY, which establishes effective data standards and technical solutions focused on describing global engagements. For information on UCosmic® membership, please email Jen.Nevins@ucosmic.org.

**About The Kuali Foundation**

The Kuali Foundation builds open source software for higher education administration, such as financials, research administration and compliance, HR/Payroll systems, and more.

**About VIVO**

VIVO supports the advancement of research and scholarly information by integrating and sharing information about researchers and scholars, their activities, and their outputs both within a single institution and across broad, distributed networks.
Binghamton University hosted colleagues from 18 SUNY Campuses and System Administration for the first meeting of the SUNY Language Consortium Working Group on September 27. The gathering attracted approximately 50 faculty members, instructional designers and administrators. The day-long meeting provided an opportunity for a thoughtful, active and highly participatory dialogue on how collaboration among the parts might serve to elevate the whole.

For nearly two years, SUNY Global has worked with language faculty and others whose work supports the teaching of languages on the SUNY Language PACT initiative (Pipeline-Access-Culture-Technology). One facet of Language PACT focuses on the creation of an educational consortium to enhance and increase the teaching and learning of language through a consortium approach. The September meeting brought together the SUNY campuses that wish to construct and participate in the Language Consortium. Participants gathered in teams to brainstorm, develop the consortium concept, envision potential pitfalls and dream of “big, hairy, audacious” possibilities. The summary report of the meeting is posted here: http://global.suny.edu/oip/pact/LanguagePactConsortium.pdf.

A total of 22 SUNY campuses have joined the language consortium working group to date. The consortium aims to make SUNY’s vast linguistic resources and expertise available to students while enhancing the quality of language teaching and learning for member campuses, building upon the strengths of existing instructional programs, offering professional development for instructional personnel, and promoting best practices and collaboration among SUNY faculty.

At the Cooperstown meeting of SUNY’s Chief Academic Officers in October, participants learned of progress made at the Language Consortium planning meeting in Binghamton. A few of those present expressed interest in the data on foreign language instruction in the digital environment, and cautioned to group to examine those data carefully as it develops plans for the consortium. In general, provosts expressed strong support for the Language Consortium concept.

The next Language Consortium planning meeting will be aligned with the Language PACT workshop in Spring 2014, date TBD. For updates on this initiative or to become actively involved in the planning of the consortium and/or PACT activities, we invite you to join the Language PACT community in the SUNY Learning Commons by emailing alena.rodick@suny.edu.

SUNY Global, CUNY and Diversity Abroad recently collaborated to host a day-long interactive diversity symposium entitled Fostering Engagement and Inclusion of International Students and Scholars at the SUNY Global Center in New York City on October 11. The event included general sessions and two roundtable opportunities for participants to examine the key intersections among diversity, inclusion and international students and scholars on U.S. campuses.

Among the highlights of the event was a panel of six international students who shared their experiences in an effort to more clearly define perspectives on diversity. The symposium was attended by over 100 registrants from SUNY, CUNY, and higher education institutions from New Jersey, District of Columbia, Connecticut, and Illinois.

The Diversity Abroad Network is the leading professional consortium of higher education institutions, government agencies, for-profit and non-profit organizations dedicated to advancing diversity and equity in international education.
News from Mexico City, Mexico

- **SUNY-Puebla State Agreement** – Signed in spring 2013 in the presence of the Governor of Puebla State and the U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, this agreement brought more than 50 English professors and students from Puebla’s public technology universities to four SUNY campuses to study intensive English for 6 weeks.

- **Mexican Ministry of Education** - The SUNY Office in Mexico administered a program with the Ministry to send public school English teachers to the University at Albany for English instruction in summer 2013. President Obama’s “100,000 Strong in the Americas” initiative seeks ways to grow that program considerably in the coming years.

- **SUNY-AMPEI Exchange** –Supported by funds from the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, this program sends international programs professionals from Mexican universities to SUNY for 1-2 weeks, to learn how a major U.S. university manages internationalization and student and faculty exchange. Since 2005, 11 SUNY campuses have taken part, with each campus sending faculty or staff to Mexico on a reciprocal visit, many of which have produced long-lasting partnerships.

- **Beyond Mexico**, the SUNY Mexico office is deeply involved in other initiatives in the region, which include taking the lead role in coordinating the placement of students from the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP) on SUNY campuses.

The Mexico office is centrally located in Mexico City. It has office space for visiting SUNY campus staff and faculty.

Before coming, always communicate your plans to:
- Director Robert Balkin at bbob@sunymex.com, and
- Office Administrator Adriana Jiménez at ajg@sunymex.com.

Updates from the SUNY Offices in Turkey and Mexico

News from Ankara, Turkey

- The European Association for International Education (EAIE) hosted its 25th annual conference in Istanbul in September. SUNY had a strong presence at the conference, with presenters and attendees including Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs Mitch Leventhal, Jon Rubin (Director of the SUNY COIL Center), and Ben Balkaya (Director of the Office in Turkey). The University at Buffalo, New Paltz, Oneonta and Potsdam were also represented at the conference.

- Bursa Topal, Program Advisor in the SUNY Office in Turkey, spent two weeks in mid-September visiting eight of the eleven SUNY campuses which participate in the Turkish dual diploma programs, to give her first-hand knowledge of the campuses she promotes to prospective students and their families.

- After more than ten years of student enrollment, the Turkish dual diploma programs are undergoing a second external evaluation to ensure continuous quality improvement. SUNY Global has engaged Güleşen Odabaşıoğlu, an international education and career counselor in Turkey and former program officer at the Turkish Fulbright Commission for 22 years. Güleşen is conducting interviews with students, faculty and coordinators of the dual diploma programs, and has just completed an intense schedule of SUNY campus visits. Her final report and recommendations will be utilized by participating institutions to address issues and consider program changes to enrich the quality of the award-winning programs.

- Faculty members involved in the Turkish dual diploma programs are encouraged to submit proposals for the SUNY Global Turkish Fellowship for Faculty Exchange. The fellowships are supported by an endowment from the Turkish government to strengthen collaboration with Turkish universities and to promote Turkish studies at SUNY. Awarded on a rolling basis, the fellowships provide support for the travel of faculty to and from Turkish partner institutions, for short-term, semester or year-long exchange visits. So far in 2013, three faculty members from Cortland, two from Fredonia and one from Izmir University of Economics received fellowships.

For information regarding Turkish programs or any of the highlights above, please contact Linda Veraska, Program Officer for Turkey in the Office of International Programs at linda.veraska@suny.edu.

For information regarding Turkish programs or any of the highlights above, please contact Linda Veraska, Program Officer for Turkey in the Office of International Programs at linda.veraska@suny.edu.
SUNY Global People: Meet Julie Ficarra

“It all started when I saw the movie Hotel Rwanda,” remarks Julie Ficarra, describing how she, a self-described working class UB freshman from Upstate NY, tapped into SUNY’s study abroad network three times as an undergrad. This is the story of how that young woman encountered her professional mission and emerged as an international scholar and “Africanist.”

It was in her first semester at UB when Julie saw the film. So troubled that she had not even heard of the 1994 Rwandan genocide, she marched directly to UB’s Study Abroad office in search of a program in Africa – and fast! There she met Olga Crombie, Assistant Director for Study Abroad Programs, who guided Julie to Stony Brook’s program in Tanzania, where Julie could attend the UN’s International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Olga encouraged her to go there the following semester. (Julie does not hesitate in naming Ms. Crombie as her most important mentor.)

Julie returned to Buffalo, only to study abroad twice more, in England (Oxford) and the Czech Republic (Charles University). After graduating from UB, Julie received her Master’s in International Education Policy from Harvard.

After working first in international programs at the University of South Florida, Julie joined COIL in October as Program Coordinator for International Collaborations, a position funded through the recently renewed agreement between SUNY and Spain’s Banco Santander. In her position, Julie will coordinate COIL’s Nodal Network, which has now grown to 18 SUNY campuses, as well as taking a major role in COIL’s communications strategies with its constituencies around the world.

Global Systems Retreat

On July 18-19, SUNY Global hosted a retreat for forty people from higher education systems around the world. The mission was to determine the need for an international conference to provide an opportunity to discuss how colleges and universities operate as part of multi-campus systems, the governance and operation of higher education systems, as well as how to foster greater system-to-system collaboration across borders.

Chancellor Zimpher laid the foundation for a high level of discussion with her opening remarks on the unique potentials of systems and the value of systemness. Dr. Ellen Hazelkorn of the Dublin Institute of Technology provided insight into the Irish higher education system. Dr. Elizabeth Lyons, Senior Advisor with the US Department of State presented a compelling case for the importance of international collaborations for researchers. SUNY Chancellor Emeritus D. Bruce Johnstone presented on the various governance structures of post-secondary systems.

During the retreat, chaired by Vice Chancellor Mitch Leventhal and Associate Provost Jason Lane, discussion focused on developing better collaboration among systems, greater sharing of best practices, student mobility within and among systems, and whether or not there is a need for a global association of higher education systems.

In addition to representatives from various SUNY campuses, the retreat included participants from CUNY, University of Wisconsin, Webster University, Association of Catalan Public Universities (Spain), Al-Kafaat University (Lebanon), University of the West Indies, University of the South Pacific, German Universities of Applied Sciences, the International Education Advantage (INTEAD) and the National Association of System Heads (NASH). “From my perspective, the systems conference planning retreat was a huge success. It is clear that system leaders and administrators are enthusiastic about a forum where they can discuss common challenges, share best practices and alternate approaches, and finally, establish the basis for robust system-to-system relationships,” said co-chair Dr. Leventhal.

While the discussion on whether a global association would be formed was left to be determined, the consensus on the future conference was clear. Dr. Leventhal noted, “My hope is that the conference planned for 2014 will be a landmark event, which will lead to an agreement for regular meetings of system leaders from around the world.”
The Spring 2013 issue of the SUNY Global News announced SUNY’s new system-to-system relationship with the University of the West Indies, the world’s first multi-national university with 16 member countries. The SUNY-UWI partnership began in fall 2012 and currently involves 10 SUNY campuses and an initial work plan devised with input from 60 administrators and faculty from both SUNY and UWI. A formal Memorandum of Understanding was signed in January 2013.

In support of this partnership, both institutions have allocated seed funds for joint research teams. Coordinated by SUNY’s Office of Global Affairs and UWI Central’s Office for Regional and International Affairs, the top proposals for this award were selected based upon the strength of the team and the feasibility of the proposed project in terms of expertise in the research or instructional area and potential project sponsors.

The joint projects selected are:

- “Enhancing Citizen Security in the Caribbean,” Geneseo, University at Buffalo, UWI-Mona, UWI-St. Augustine and UWI-Cave Hill
- “Improving Cardiovascular Health in Native and Migrant Caribbean Populations,” Downstate, University at Buffalo, UWI-Mona, UWI-Barbados and UWI Open Campus
- “SUNY/UWI Health-Related Research and Educational Collaborations in Natural Products and Medicinal Chemistry,” Geneseo and UWI-Mona
- “Environmental Sciences and Climate Change,” UAlbany, UWI-Mona and UWI-Cave Hill
- “Understanding the Effects of Land Practices and Pollution on the Health of Coral Reefs of the Caribbean,” ESF, UWI-Mona, UWI-Caribbean Coastal Data Center, UWI-Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory
- “The Development of a New Course: Marine Invasive Alien Species in Tropical and Temperate Climates,” Stony Brook, UWI-Mona, UWI-St. Augustine

"International partnerships allow University systems around the world to work together to study and solve global issues while providing exciting opportunities for students and faculty,” said SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher. “SUNY’s Global Affairs office is a leader in its field, fostering productive relationships and promoting New York State and its unmatched system of public higher education to a worldwide audience.”
The Office of International Recruitment has worked extensively on updating communication and marketing materials that will ultimately help us reach a broader audience of international students, advisors, and marketing partners across the world.

- **Agent Training Website Launched**
  To ensure the continued success of the agency recruitment strategy for our 34 SUNY Select campuses, we are working hard to provide all of our agency partners with the information they need to advise prospective SUNY students correctly, with a sufficient level of detail. To facilitate easy access to relevant information about the campuses, we have created an Agent Training Website that will serve as a central entry point to information about the SUNY Select group as a whole. The website provides useful resources for agents and advisors, including individual campus profiles for all participating campuses as well as information about admissions requirements, application procedures, scholarship options, conditional admissions options, and much more. The website can be viewed at [http://global.suny.edu/oir/agentmanual.cfm](http://global.suny.edu/oir/agentmanual.cfm)

- **International Student Prospectus 2014**
  For the past two years, the Office of International Recruitment has published an Undergraduate International Student Prospectus, which is based on the contents and format of the SUNY Viewbook. We recently released our third edition of the international prospectus, which will have a similar format to previous editions but with one significant change – this year we will include information for prospective graduate applicants, including a list of graduate programs offered by SUNY Select campuses.

  The updated prospectus can be viewed and downloaded from: [http://global.suny.edu/oir/internationalstudents.cfm](http://global.suny.edu/oir/internationalstudents.cfm)

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**Snapshots from a Recruitment Trip to India:**

*Expect the Unexpected*

The Office of International Recruitment works to promote the SUNY brand to international students throughout the world. Kirsten Feddersen, Manager of International Recruitment, recently returned from a trip to India where she profiled SUNY to a range of stakeholders. It was an effective and worthwhile trip, and Kirsten provides a few verbal snapshots from her travels below. Although Kirsten’s travel schedule was confirmed with meetings, fairs and student sessions – and colleagues who travel for international recruitment will not be surprised – she found herself in some unexpected situations.

**Ahmedabad, Gujarat: Friday, Sept 20 at 7:15 pm**

I am admiring the skeleton of a house which will eventually become the Corporate Headquarters for one of our new agency partners. We pose for an obligatory group shot and I note how difficult it is to look professional when you are wearing heels on a construction site and fanning off mosquitoes.

**Mumbai, Maharashtra: Sunday, Sept 22 at 12:30 pm**

I am face-to-face with a group of students packed so tightly that they make a NYC subway train during rush hour look like a walk in the countryside. I tell them that we have more than 7,000 programs and 64 campuses at SUNY, which doesn't deter them from asking very specific questions like “What is SUNY’s GRE requirement?” and “What does the SUNY campus look like?”

**Bangalore, Karnataka: Wednesday, Sept 25 at 6 pm**

After two agent training sessions, half a lunch, and four tuk-tuk rides with two colleagues (it requires both skill and determination to fit three fully grown adults in the back of a tuk-tuk), we’re watching a presentation on a lead generation system that engages prospective students through social media in a new and innovative way. Fascinating!

**Chennai, Tamil Nadu: Sunday, Sept 29 at 9:40 am**

Without preparation, I am asked to give a 10-minute presentation about OPT and career opportunities after graduation to 100 students. I integrate a small pitch about becoming a citizen of the world and how that changes not just your resume, but your life!

**Chennai Airport: Sunday, Sept 29 at 9:00 pm**

Almost asleep from talking to students for eight hours straight, I am waiting to board my flight back to the US. Namaste, India!
Office of International Recruitment
Continued from page 9

• NACAC Reverses Anti-Agent Position - SUNY Select Forges Ahead
  On September 22nd, the 69th National Conference of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) reversed its long-held position against all forms of agency-based student recruitment, stating that “universities wishing to use commissioned agents to recruit international students will now be permitted to do so, provided they follow new guidelines to ensure accountability, integrity, and transparency…” This change was approved by a decisive 152 to 47 vote.

NACAC’s reversal has far-reaching, positive implications for SUNY and the SUNY Select consortium, and comes as a result of dedicated advocacy on the part of many SUNY campus colleagues.

Since launching SUNY Select just two years ago, we have developed an effective shared service through systematized agency recruitment, simplifying the managerial support needed by each campus. The International Recruitment Council (IRC) has provided ongoing coordination and professional development services, and is also tackling complex challenges around international pathway programs, ESL programs, international credential evaluation, and more.

SUNY is now in its second year of recruiting students through the SUNY Select agency channel. Our fall 2013 intake is more than double the first fall intake of 120 last year, and we have made our first distribution of scholarship funds for need-based study abroad to all SUNY Select campuses – this amount will grow significantly in the coming years.

SUNY’s commitment to best practices and collective management is singular among higher education systems nationwide, and perhaps worldwide.

NACAC has declared that there will be a one year moratorium on implementing the change. This will have no effect on SUNY Select. During this time the NACAC Admission Practices Committee and International Advisory Committee will interpret the present situation and recommend next steps. It is in our interest to encourage the development of a strategic partnership with AIRC. AIRC – now with nearly 220 institutional members – has developed the most rigorous standards and agency certification process worldwide. AIRC’s members are largely NACAC members. Now is the time for all of us to serve as the bridge, to bring these two organizations together, in the interest of students and American education.

• SUNY China Office
  The SUNY China office, based in Beijing, is a resource for campus outreach in China. The team, which consists of three staff, reports to the Office of International Recruitment and spends the majority of their time focused on SUNY’s recruitment efforts in the market. The office counsels students, maintains a Chinese-language website, assists campuses with translating and printing materials, facilitates visits, and acts as a liaison to our agency partners. The office has also supported individual campus requests to host small events or support specific projects. Please feel free to reach out to Elton Wen, Manager of the Office for further information or requests: elton.wen@sunychina.org

For more information on any of the highlights above, contact Kirsten Feddersen, Manager of International Recruitment, at kirsten.feddersen@suny.edu.
the use of COIL. Winning institutions will receive up to 14 months of training and support from the COIL Center, in collaboration with ACE, to develop two collaborative online international pilot courses with a partner institution abroad. The winners will also be recognized at the 6th COIL Conference in New York City. Submissions are due on November 11, 2013.

For more info visit http://coil.suny.edu.

Save the dates for the 6th COIL Conference - March 20-21, 2014 in NYC

Join professors, international programs staff, instructional technologists, and administrators from SUNY and other U.S. and international institutions for this engaging event. Last year’s event included 200+ attendees from 35 SUNY campuses and 70+ institutions from around the U.S. and abroad, with 18+ countries represented. The event continues to grow into the preeminent annual event in this emerging field and will include a wide range of plenary and breakout sessions providing an in-depth overview of current experiences and innovative teaching models in collaborative online international learning.

Watch your email or visit the COIL website http://coil.suny.edu for details and the Call for Presentations.

Release of Case Studies from the COIL Institute for Globally Networked Learning in the Humanities

The recently concluded COIL Institute for Globally Networked Learning in the Humanities marked the largest ever working group of globally networked learning practitioners, with over 120 participants from around the world working with the COIL Center and outside experts. As part of COIL’s efforts to capture the results of the Institute, each of the 24 international teams have completed a detailed case study describing their joint course development and implementation process during their 18-month initiatives. To our knowledge, these documents represent the first detailed analysis of globally networked learning projects on a large scale. The aim of the case studies is to help the Fellows and teams learn more about each other’s work, and to also serve as valuable resources for future developers of globally networked courses. As a result, these case studies will not only help Institute teams sustain and improve their partnerships, but will also contribute to the creation and expansion of COIL courses around the world.

You can access the individual case studies or specific questions at http://coil.suny.edu/case-studies.

COIL Campus Roadshow

COIL is increasing outreach to our SUNY campuses, as well as around the US and the world, to promote the development of COIL courses as a key comprehensive internationalization strategy. This includes presentations at major international conferences, including NAFSA and EAIE. COIL’s Director Jon Rubin has also received an increasing number of invitations to speak at events around the world, resulting in a growing interest from international institutions in creating COIL partnerships with SUNY and a growing recognition of this modality.

As a result, COIL is undertaking an enhanced outreach schedule this fall to the 18 campuses which are members of the COIL Nodal Network. Each member campus has committed to embedding COIL’s model into courses and broader internationalization plans, and has a designated Campus Coordinator to serve as liaison to the COIL Center and the Network.

A key aspect of this strategy will take place November 18-22 when the COIL Center will hit the road to visit more than a dozen campuses during International Education Week (IEW). In honor of IEW 2013 we are collaborating with our Nodal Network Campus Coordinators to offer COIL-focused programming and workshops to promote and celebrate internationalization of the curriculum. This will include a combination of informational ‘getting started’ presentations, partnering strategy workshops, and meetings with senior administration. With IEW typically focusing on traditional student mobility, the Roadshow will enrich conversations across SUNY around comprehensive and curricular internationalization.

For more information on the Nodal Network visit http://coil.suny.edu/nodal or email coilinfo@suny.edu.
“IIE is particularly pleased to be working with an institution like SUNY that has such breadth and experience in delivering full-time intensive English instruction and that has been able to host more than 225 students at fourteen different campuses in the state of New York.”
- Edward Monks, Director of Academic and Experiential Learning, IIE

“New York is amazing and Stony Brook University is a good place to live. It is a calm place to live and talk with people from all over the world. The most important thing is to learn English with teachers that I like so much.”
- Mateus de Oliveria Ferreira
Stony Brook

“This is a very important chance to change my life. I never imagined that this opportunity would become a reality.”
- Natali Araujo, New Paltz

They are enthusiastic, hard-working, disciplined, and goal-oriented - all very positive attributes which have been infectious among the other international students in our ESL program. The BSMP students have a great reputation on our campus as they are not only eager to learn about our customs and culture, but they are also anxious to share cross-cultural information and knowledge about the customs and culture of Brazil. It’s been an enriching experience for everyone involved.
- Connie Perdreau
ESL Director, New Paltz

“Enhanced ESL
Currently, there are 8 SUNY campuses which provide year-round Intensive English Programs (IEPs). But because the demand to provide English instruction to the Brazilian students this fall was so great, many of SUNY's non-IEP campuses created new and innovative programs – well beyond their traditional ESL course offerings – in order to provide the BSMP students with full-time, semester-long English programs that offered no fewer than 18 "contact hours" of instruction per week. It was a display of agility and creativity accomplished in less than two months’ time!”

Stony Brook Intensive English Center
Staff: “BSMP students have added a wonderful layer of diversity to the student-body at the IEC. The students are bright, positive, and energetic in their English studies and attitudes. They have truly embraced everything the Stony Brook campus has to offer, and we welcome them to the IEC and campus community.”
"JCC is fortunate to have 12 BSMP students on our campus this fall. They often are counted as a group, studying English language instruction and sharing similar schedules, but they are very much individuals. They have touched us with their stories, educated us on their culture, and warmed our hearts with their friendship. They will leave us forever changed because they took a chance to expand their horizons and come to this small corner of southwestern New York."

- Victoria Peterson, International Outreach Coordinator
Jamestown CC

"It's not easy to live in another county, but fortunately at JCC, I never feel alone. Everyone here is ready to help us in any moment. I am glad I have a friendly new place to call home."

- Ana Caroline de Oliveira da Silva,
Jamestown CC

"My three Brazilian students..., are a pleasure to teach. They are highly motivated, focused, diligent, mature, and they take their studies very seriously. They always go the extra mile and produce fine work. Also, all three of them did fantastic oral presentations which were organized well, informative, and entertaining!"

- Barbara Brady, Language Immersion Lecturer, Nassau Community College

"It is an excellent experience. Sometimes at SUNY New Paltz, we have Brazilian events where we can show everyone the Brazilian culture. Moreover, I can know different cultures, and it is making me feel more globalized and prepared for the future. This is the best opportunity of my life. I am sure that in the future I will remind myself of this and say "Thank you" for this opportunity!"

- Djalma Oliveira, New Paltz, president of student group

"When I think about my life here at Stony Brook University, I just can't believe how far I have come and how my world could change dramatically. I am experiencing so many new things here that I never thought would be possible. Being at Stony Brook University showed me a whole new world of possibilities."

- Felipe Bittencourt de Souza, Stony Brook

At an event to welcome BSMP students to SUNY New Paltz this fall, Frederico Menino of the Brazilian Consulate-General office for New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania declared SUNY as "by far the largest recipient" of BSMP students and called SUNY "a very important partner" for the Brazil government’s program.
SUNY Global Unveils the SUNY Russia Programs Network

SUNY has longstanding strong relationships with two of Russia’s premier universities, both of which host SUNY offices. In fact, the University at Albany and Moscow State University have had a collaborative relationship since the 1970s, making it the oldest educational collaboration between the United States and Russia. Since the beginning of this cooperation, the two universities have exchanged hundreds of students and faculty members in many fields and disciplines.

The second most prominent university in the Russian Federation, Saint Petersburg State University, has worked with Stony Brook University on the joint New York-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (NYI) for more than a decade. Since its inception, NYI has hosted more than 1,000 student participants from more than 30 American colleges and universities and over 50 universities from across the Russian Federation.

Many other SUNY campuses and faculty members are successfully working with the Russian institutions on a variety of programs and projects. To provide better support for these partnerships, as well as to foster new ones, SUNY Global has launched the SUNY Russia Programs Network (RPN), which will bring SUNY’s presence in Russia to a new level and provide exciting opportunities to all interested SUNY campuses.

This new structure was designed in consultation with faculty and administrators who direct programs in Russia and is meant to coordinate relationships among institutions in the SUNY system and those in the Russian Federation. Prof. John F. Bailyn of the Stony Brook Linguistics department will serve as system-wide faculty director for the SUNY RPN. Dr. Bailyn will continue to take an active role in managing the vibrant partnership with St. Petersburg State University while also developing new programs and opportunities for SUNY students and faculty from all 64 campuses.

An executive committee comprised of representatives from SUNY Global, faculty from university centers, as well as representatives from other campuses with activities in Russia, will oversee SUNY’s new Russia strategy. Professor Bailyn and Alecia Barbour, Assistant to the Faculty Director, will facilitate the operations of new and existing programs. Interested SUNY campuses are invited to nominate a faculty member for a system-wide RPN Working Group to facilitate input and participation. To nominate someone contact Dr. Bailyn directly at russia.programs@suny.edu.

SUNY RPN has already sent out its very first announcement inviting SUNY faculty in the Humanities and Social Sciences to apply for a Spring Travel Award to spend 7-10 days in St. Petersburg during the coming semester. For additional information please contact Dr. Bailyn and Alecia Barbour at russia.programs@suny.edu or by phone at (212) 317-3569.

EVENTS

- **December 4**

- **December 5**
  SUNY Dual Diploma Coordinator Meeting, SUNY Plaza. For information email Linda veraska@suny.edu

- **December 9-10**
  SUNY Comprehensive Internationalization Workshop with John Hudzik, SUNY Global Center. For info email: alena.rodick@suny.edu

- **January 14**
  State of the University Address by SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher [www.suny.edu](http://www.suny.edu)

- **February 15-19**
  AIEA Conference, Washington DC

- **March 20-21**
  6th COIL Conference, SUNY Global Center

- **April 10**
  SUNY Select Workshop. For information email kirsten.feddersen@suny.edu

- **April 11**
  SUNY Council on International Student and Scholar Services (CISSS) Annual Meeting. For information email beverly.plowucha@suny.edu
Awards and Recognition

Team Alfred

This summer, students from, Alfred State, Alfred University, and Guilin University of Technology in China (dubbed Team Alfred), came together in Datong, China, to build a home of the future—one that showcases some of the biggest innovations in renewable energy and sustainable design. More than 20 other teams representing colleges and universities in 13 countries gathered for the competition in Datong, striving to create the most energy-efficient, aesthetic, and affordable solar-powered homes imaginable. Team Alfred walked away with a first place award in energy balance and an incredible hands-on work experience.

Region X Conference

There was a SUNY SWEEP at the NAFSA Region X Conference held in Atlantic City, New Jersey in October! Of the three awards given to international educators, all three were presented to SUNY colleagues. We hope you will join us in congratulating:

Beverly Plowucha, International Student and Scholar Services Manager at SUNY Global, was awarded the James O’Driscoll Distinguished Service Award at the conference. Recipients are selected based on nomination letters demonstrating the nominees’ exceptional service to Region X (New York/New Jersey), the furtherance of interests of international educational exchange, and active participation in regional activities, projects and programs. The award is named in honor of James O’Driscoll who served as Chair of Region X in 1990-1991 and held national leadership positions in both TESOL and NAFSA.

Tricia Herritt, Coordinator of International Student Services at Alfred State College, and Julie Ficarra, Program Coordinator for International Collaborations at SUNY COIL, were the recipients of the Rising Professional Award. This award recognizes NAFSA members employed in the field of international education for fewer than five years, who have demonstrated a notable commitment to the field through professional or volunteer activities, and who are active in regional and/or national NAFSA affairs.
On June 27th, SUNY Levin Institute hosted the first New York Innovation Showcase, in partnership with the Research Foundation for SUNY and Empire State Development (ESD). Twenty-six entrepreneurial firms from around New York State presented their concepts to a New York City investor pool at the SUNY Global Center in Manhattan and established new working relationships with advisors. Empire State Development administers the Innovate New York Funds, a set of seven investment firms investing state dollars into startups around the state.

Participants represented new business developments in the fields of life sciences, healthcare, technology/energy/materials, and IT/services. Presenting companies included Histowiz, a histopathology outsourcing company based at Downstate Medical’s incubator; Hocus Locus, a molecular tool company developed by an entrepreneur-in-residence working with faculty at UAlbany; Synchronet, a PET scanning instrument developer operating in a Stony Brook University incubator; and The Worldwide App, smartphone application company from the SUNY Fredonia incubator.

Chancellor Nancy Zimpher stressed the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in revitalizing the New York economy, and its importance in SUNY’s strategic plan, emphasizing the importance of Governor Cuomo’s Start-UP NY legislation which creates an unprecedented opportunity to stimulate new business on SUNY campuses.

Dr. Timothy Killeen, SUNY Vice Chancellor for Research and President of the Research Foundation, welcomed the participants, seventeen of whom came from SUNY campuses or incubators affiliated with SUNY. Dr. Killeen emphasized the importance of linking SUNY with the investors and vibrant startup community in the City of New York.

President of Empire State Development, Kenneth Adams, highlighted the recently passed groundbreaking legislation to establish Start-UP NY – tax-free zones dedicated to supporting entrepreneurial firms located on SUNY and other university campuses. He discussed plans for ten regional Innovation Hot Spots, a new $50 million Enterprise Innovation Fund to invest in start-up companies, and ESD’s establishment of the Innovation New York Network to integrate efforts into a comprehensive and effective whole.

For details on the event and participating firms, please consult the New York Innovation Showcase Program Booklet.
SUNY’s Confucius Institute for Business (CIB) is pleased to welcome a new Chinese Director, Dr. Sun Dong, who arrived in July. Dr. Sun is from CIB’s collaborative partner, Nanjing University of Finance and Economics (NUFE) in China. A professor of English literature at NUFE with more than 20 years of teaching experience, Dr. Sun has also served as Associate Dean of the Higher Education Research Institute at NUFE, and has written academic articles and a collection of poetry.

Also in July, Dr. Maryalice Mazzara, CIB’s Associate Director, became the CIB Director. Dr. Mazzara and Dr. Sun and the CIB team have developed several new initiatives to add to the current courses and programs, including “Chinese Movie Night,” which screens films such as “Red Sorghum,” based on the book by Chinese writer Mr. Mo Yan, the 2012 Nobel Laureate for Literature. This program was co-sponsored with the China Institute. CIB inaugurated the “Distinguished Speaker Series” in August. Speakers include Ms. Yue-Sai Kan, the Emmy-winning television host, producer and entrepreneur; and Ambassador Gregory W. Slayton, who has written extensively on China and is considered a “Distinguished Foreign Expert” by the Chinese Government. Scheduled for November is Ms. Kathy Bloomgarden, CEO of Ruder Finn. The series will continue throughout the year.

On September 10th the Confucius Institute hosted their second Annual Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration. Over two hundred people enjoyed an evening of Chinese cultural events and food. The highlight was a calligraphy exhibition and demonstration by Professor Zhou Bin, calligraphy master and teacher to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. Another highlight was an exhibition of Chinese opera costumes and live presentations provided by Binghamton University’s Confucius Institute for Chinese Opera.

Confucius Institute for Business
Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival

The Mid-Autumn Festival is an official harvest festival celebrated by Chinese and Vietnamese, held on the 15th day of the eighth month in the Chinese calendar during a full moon (late September or early October in the Gregorian calendar), close to the autumnal equinox.

The Chinese have celebrated the harvest since the Shang Dynasty (c. 16th to 10th century BCE). The celebration as a festival started to gain popularity during the early Tang Dynasty (618–907 CE). The term mid-autumn first appeared in Rites of Zhou, a written collection of rituals of the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046–771 BCE).
Alfred State’s Partnership with Sant’Anna Institute in Sorrento, Italy

Submitted by Mikenna Pierotti

Alfred State has partnered with Sant’Anna Institute in Sorrento, Italy, to offer an optional semester of study abroad to its students. Students from schools of architecture, the business administration (BBA) program, as well as any students who wish to fulfill liberal arts and humanities requirements can study in a truly unique learning environment. Last year, students presented a redesigned harbor plan to the city of Sorrento with the intent of increasing tourism and commercial opportunities in the area. The city is currently considering this plan.

Alfred State Serves as Associate Campus for the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program

Fellows are nominated by US Embassies or Fulbright Commissions, based on their potential for leadership and a demonstrated commitment to public service in either the public or private sector. The program fosters an exchange of knowledge and mutual understanding through which the United States joins in a significant partnership with developing countries. Alfred State, in conjunction with Cornell University’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, has served as an associate campus for the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program hosted by Cornell University since 2007. As a designated associate campus, Alfred State hosts individual and group visits by the current year’s Humphrey Fellows and, in partnership with the program staff at Cornell University, arranges professional, social, and volunteer activities on campus and in the rural Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania communities surrounding the campus. Last year, Humphrey Fellows from Nigeria, the Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Ethiopia, and Lesotho were on campus for a discussion titled “Life in Africa Now.”

Bridging Theory and Practice in the Teaching of Language

Chesla Ann Bohinski

On Saturday, September 28, 2013, more than 100 educators and students from various institutions came together on Binghamton University’s campus for the 1st Annual Conference of Foreign Language Teaching. Sponsored by Binghamton University’s Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, the Graduate School of Education, Center for Korean Studies, Harpur College Dean’s Office and Nukporfe African Dance and Drumming Ensemble, conference efforts concentrated on its theme, Bridging Theory and Practice: Building Effective Classroom Methodology.

Enthusiastically welcomed the evening before the conference by a performance by the Nukporfe Ensemble, attendees joined the ensemble on stage and learned traditional African dance. The energy continued with the conference day’s start as attendees were greeted and applauded by various administrators for investing time and making a commitment in the advancement of foreign language teaching. Throughout the conference day, attendees collaborated, shared their love of language, discovered a variety of effective classroom strategies and learned innovative instructional design techniques during the conference’s 30 presentations. Keynote speaker Paul D. Toth, Ph.D. from Temple University (Philadelphia, PA) presented on Making Grammar Instruction “Relevant” for Linguistic Development: Applying L2 Theories to the Real World of Language Teaching.

Conference chair, Chesla Ann Bohinski, Ph.D. from Binghamton University is pleased to announce that Binghamton University’s 2nd Annual Conference on Foreign Language Teaching is slated for September 20-21, 2014. The conference theme will be Modernizing Modern Language Teaching: Reinventing the Classroom and the Curriculum. Visit binghamton.edu/romance/language-conference for more information.

Attendees engaged in one of the conference presentations

From right to left, Antonio Sobejano-Morán, Chair of Romance Languages and Literatures (Binghamton University), Donald J. Loewen, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education (Binghamton), Sally Crimmins Villela, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs, Harvey G. Stenger, President (Binghamton University), Chesla Ann Bohinski, Conference Chair (Binghamton), S.G. Grant, Dean of Graduate School of Education (Binghamton), Anne McCall, Dean of Harpur College of Arts and Sciences (Binghamton)
Research Partnership Fosters International Internship Program

Submitted by Katharine Krebs

A decade-long research partnership between Professor of Mechanical Engineering S.B. Park and his research group, and Samsung Techwin has taken another step to expand academic opportunities for Binghamton University students at the international level.

“I connected with Samsung through technical conferences and after that many of their high-profile executives came here several times for research collaborations,” said Park. Samsung became a member of the Integrated Electronics Engineering Center (IEEC), now part of the Center of Excellence in Small Scale Systems Integration and Packaging (S3IP).

Watson School Dean Krishnaswami “Hari” Srihari and Vice President for Research Bhagat Sammakia have made visits to Korea to strengthen research collaborations; discussions of an academic partnership began in earnest last November.

In March, President Harvey Stenger met C.K. Lim, the president and CEO of Samsung Techwin, and signed an agreement to formalize an internship program for both undergraduate and graduate students.

“We want students to have the global competencies necessary in today’s global marketplace,” said Amanda Bailor, international career and alumni connections coordinator for the Watson School.

The internship is one way to provide those competencies. “The program is in Samsung’s interests to globalize their workforce and have some sort of long-term hiring advantages,” said Bailor.

“They were amazed by the quality of Binghamton students. They have many interns from KAIST, MIT and Stanford; these opportunities are highly prestigious and compared to them, Binghamton students are quite impressive,” said Park.

Eight BU students were selected for the paid internships and left for six weeks in Korea on June 1.

“The program also goes beyond the internships, involving faculty,” said Park. “It’s opening the door to our faculty and the expected outcome is mutually beneficial,” he said. “Our faculty should be there to interact with their engineers and business units.” This summer K.D. Kang (Associate Professor of Computer Science) went there and Prof. Yoon had a research project funded by Samsung.

“When faculty are engaged, students will be automatically be engaged at much bigger scale. In the long run, we wish to have a Samsung lab here at the Binghamton campus. I believe that day will be coming,” said Park.

Semifinalists who were culled from 80 applicants went through Skype interviews with Samsung.

“They were amazed by the quality of Binghamton students. They have many interns from KAIST, MIT and Stanford; these opportunities are highly prestigious and compared to them, Binghamton students are quite impressive,” said Park.

First Class of Sri Lankan Students Study Physical Therapy at SUNY Canton

Submitted by Marela Fiacco and Lorette Murray

International students are gaining from, and adding to, the overall experience of SUNY Canton’s physical therapist assistant (PTA) program.

Last year, the College linked with the International Institute for Health Sciences (IIHS) in Sri Lanka to bring four students per semester to SUNY Canton to complete their degree. This is the first semester that the program has had a contingent of students from IIHS. The International Institute for Health Sciences is a healthcare training organization whose mission is to bring innovation to healthcare training, infuse the traditional values of professionalism, while adhering to international training standards to improve the quality of lives of healthcare professionals. The Institute partnered with SUNY Canton and other international organizations to provide solutions to the global need of well-educated professionals working in healthcare.

“My favorite part is the way we learn,” Aruna P. Dissanayake, one of the IIHS students, said. “There is a lot of student-teacher interaction.”

“It has been great for our students as well,” said Molnar, “They gain cultural awareness and have had great interactions with their new classmates.”

The College has partnered with several international universities in recent years as a way to extend its career driven, hands-on majors, including the PTA program.

“Each time we partner with other colleges overseas, we broaden the diverse learning experiences available to our traditional U.S. based student body” said Marela Fiacco, director of international programs.

Continued on page 20
Global News From Around the System

Continued from page 19

Joint China Visit - Fulton
-Montgomery Community
College and Cobleskill

Submitted by Susan Jagendorf-Sobierański and Arlene Spencer

Fulton-Montgomery Community College Professor John Kohn spent the month of June in China recruiting students for FMCC. This opportunity came about due to his wife, Lynda McMaster-Schuyler’s involvement in the dual diploma Biotechnology program that SUNY Cobleskill shares with the Jingling Institute of Technology in Nanjing, China. Dr. McMaster-Schuyler taught biochemistry to twenty-five Chinese juniors, some of whom are attending SUNY Cobleskill this fall.

While his wife was busy teaching, Professor Kohn spent his days meeting with Chinese high school seniors and their parents, touting the advantages of attending college at FMCC. He was able to give prospective students a real sense of the educational benefits of studying at a community college and then transferring with SUNY’s seamless transfer agreements.

Knowledgeable translators and college placement representatives, some of whom have worked with SUNY international recruiting agency partners, greeted the couple and gave them an in-depth look at the challenges Chinese students face when choosing higher education options. Professor Kohn led an informative, witty, and heartfelt discussion leading to many questions and much interest.

Cobleskill professors Peiyu Zeng, Lynda McMaster-Schuyler and Michael Murphy with Chinese students enrolled in a dual diploma program through SUNY Cobleskill.

SUNY Cortland - Belize Zoo Transformation Project

Submitted by Jennifer Wilson and Mary Schlarb

A SUNY Cortland project to make The Belize Zoo fully accessible to the public wasn’t inspired by the usual fuzzy, feathery or slithery zoo mascot.

The Belize Zoo Transformation Project (which mirrors the Cortland Inclusive Recreation Resource Center, an initiative to make NYS parks and recreational areas available to all) found its inspiration in a very special Belizean, Jerome Flores. Since childhood, Flores has loved visiting its rescued carnival menagerie and newer acquisitions. He even came to work for the zoo. But recently he was seriously injured in a fall and now must use a wheelchair to get around. Although the zoo had accessible walkways inside, not long ago Flores found himself stranded outside in the zoo’s gravel parking lot.

Enter Vicki Wilkins, a Cortland professor of recreation, parks and leisure studies, and her students. They raised $8,860 on campus with raffles, a breakfast, and t-shirt and bracelet sales. Then, during spring break, Wilkins and nine undergraduate and three graduate students who were enrolled in her Special Topics in Recreation and Leisure Studies course flew to Belize to put the donations to good use: making the entrance walkway to the zoo reachable by anyone, adapting newly constructed restrooms, landscaping, and marking slots for vehicles of visitors with restricted mobility.

On the students’ last day on the project, Flores rolled up to try out the walkway and visit all his “friends” inhabiting the zoo. It was a sight to melt the hearts of most any student, as well as the most seasoned Cortland faculty and zoo staff.

This fall, future participants are once again raising money and donations on
Rolling out the Cortland Red Carpet

Submitted by Mary Schlarb

The meaningful engagement of visiting scholars on a campus reaps many rewards, such as collaborative research and the infusion of new perspectives into campus and academic life. To support this, SUNY Cortland, one member of the SUNY Exchange Visitor Program, has developed a Guide for Hosting International Visitors, offering a set of guidelines and procedures to help departments prepare to host visiting scholars. The College is enjoying an increased number of visiting international faculty and speakers, now greatly facilitated by membership in the Consortium. To ensure visitors have the most productive and comfortable experience possible, Cortland’s International Programs Office has worked with experienced faculty and staff to outline expectations, roles, and responsibilities for campus hosts.

The guidelines suggest that host departments plan well in advance, to allow sufficient time for processing of required visa applications. Departments are asked to provide office space and arrange on- or off-campus accommodations, and prepare a meaningful itinerary that provides opportunities for their guest to engage with faculty, staff, and students through welcome receptions, public talks, and participation in departmental meetings.

To encourage faculty exchange, the College’s Residence Life and Housing Office has made available two visiting faculty apartments in the residence halls, through a faculty-in-residence program that encourages scholars to participate in the life and educational programs in their hall. The Guide also explains campus procedures related to the hiring or volunteer appointment process, payroll, technology access, and other practical matters.

The Hosting Guide is intended to help departments determine whether they have adequate time, personnel, and other required resources to offer a meaningful experience to potential visitors.

For more information, contact Mary Schlarb at mary.schlarb@cortland.edu

GENESEO

Indian Television Comes to Geneseo

Kaitlyn Quinlivan, Class of 2015

From April 27th-May 2nd, Indian reality TV show “College Hunt: USA” rocked the SUNY Geneseo campus.

A production of both the U.S. Consulate General in Mumbai and Channel V, an international television network based in India, the show consisted of a three-college tour. Prior to visiting SUNY Geneseo, the show was filmed at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Ohio Wesleyan University. On each campus, students faced surprising challenges and gave admission interviews, making it more like a documentary than a reality show.

On April 27th, after months of preparation and communication between SUNY Geneseo International Student and Scholar Services Office staff, the U.S. Consulate in Mumbai, and the show’s director, the TV crew and students arrived. The whirlwind four-day filmmaking experience documented the immersion of the applicants in both the academic and extracurricular offerings of SUNY Geneseo.

Cuckoo Gupta operates a switchboard during Professor Chris Pruszynski’s television production class.

All photos by Keith Walters/Geneseo College Communications

Unique to their experiences at SUNY Geneseo (versus the other universities) was that at Geneseo they had the chance to jump right into their chosen field of study. In Shashank’s case, his interest in international relations landed him in a large-scale Model U.N. simulation in which he was given background on the Congo Wars and two minutes of prep time to prepare his position as a representative of the US! Cuckoo’s interest in communications and more specifically, filmmaking, led to her challenge of creating in one day a one-minute film that took place on campus. These challenges were representative of Geneseo academics as well as the remarkable opportunities offered by our extracurricular activities.

Another aspect of the show’s visit to Geneseo that differentiated it from other universities was the number of students who volunteered to help make the visit a success; the sense of community found at Geneseo was evident.

A feeling of excitement and pride was felt among all at the chance to display the outstanding qualities that Geneseo – and the SUNY system as a whole – have to offer.

Continued on page 22
Global News From Around the System

Continued from page 21

Inaugural Global Laboratory Symposium held at SUNY Oswego

Submitted by Shashi Kanbur and Lorrie Clemo

The first SUNY Oswego Global Laboratory Symposium was held at Oswego’s Rice Creek Field Station October 2-4. Bringing together academics and university leaders from around the world, the Symposium was part of Oswego’s landmark celebration to mark the opening of the new Shineman Science, Engineering and Innovation Center and the rebuilding of the biological field station and astronomical observatory at Rice Creek.

The symposium provided a platform to develop new international research collaborations and pedagogical initiatives. Participating institutions included the Universidade de IberoAmerica, Costa Rica; the Federal Universities of Alagoas, Paraiba and Sao Francisco Valley, and the Universidade do Planalto Catarinense, all from Brazil; the University of Calcutta, India; and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Supported by funds from Banco Santander, the National Science Foundation, Oswego College Foundation, and National Central University, program evaluations indicate 100% persistence of students in STEM fields and a study abroad rate of 13%. Student research work carried out during the program can be viewed at http://www.oswego.edu/academics/research/global_laboratory/posters.html.

SUNY Potsdam hosts Visiting Scholar from Czech Republic

Submitted by Krista LaVack

The thought of detailed chemistry research may not conjure up excitement in most people but at SUNY Potsdam, international scholar collaborations are doing just that.

A research collaboration began in 1999 between Dr. Maria Hepel, Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry at Potsdam and Professor Petr Skladal, a world recognized expert on biosensors from Masaryk University in the Czech Republic. Since then, six graduate students from Masaryk have visited Potsdam, to work on research projects including environmental monitoring of pollutants using piezoiimmunosensors for the detection of herbicides such as atrazine or 2,4-D or PCBs. A previous visiting scholar, Dr. Jan Halamek is now an Assistant Professor at SUNY’s College of Nanotechnology Sciences and Engineering (CNSE).

Visiting scholars learn about electrochemical quartz crystal nanobalance, atomic force microscopy, and raman spectroscopy instrumentation. Research publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations at scientific conferences result from their work. They interact with Potsdam students inside and outside of the lab, learning about American culture and the Adirondacks – through hiking, fishing, and trips to Lake Placid, Thousand Islands, and Niagara Falls. Czech scholars also get a chance to improve their English skills.

The benefits of hosting foreign scholars translate to Potsdam students as well. Potsdam students work with visitors side by side in the lab, and outside the lab host picnics, field trips, dinners at local restaurants or joint trips to professional meetings such as the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society. Kanna Ito, a Potsdam student, recently visited Masaryk University.

Currently, Potsdam is hosting Mr. Ondřej Kubesa, a Ph.D. candidate in Biochemistry at Masaryk University. When asked why he pursued an Exchange Scholar experience at Potsdam, he answered, “Three words come to mind: knowledge, experience and dreams. I knew from colleagues at Masaryk University that Dr. Hepel had a lot of experience with grapheme and biosensors. I knew this experience would assist me in building my knowledge of this area. Second, after
seeing my colleagues pursue this experience at SUNY Potsdam, I realized the importance of pursuing this international experience for myself. And lastly, I have always wanted to visit the USA but knew I wanted to be there for longer than just a tourist experience. “ He continued, “For most of my time, I am working with a small group of students who are assisting me with the research components of my experience. I feel like I am assisting them with increasing their knowledge of this field of Chemistry and in turn, they are assisting me with my English. I have attended numerous presentations, lectures and seminars to get to know the university and the community better ... Overall, SUNY Potsdam is 100% the perfect choice for me!”

The students—selected via an application process—are studying under the direction of master artisans in wood painting and Thangka painting at the Norbulingka Institute in northern India. The group is also studying Tibetan Buddhist philosophy with Professor Ironbiter.

The study abroad program includes trips to Dharamsala cultural and social service organizations, a Himalayan journey to Ladakh, and a trek on the Tibetan plateau. Students are also paired with Tibetan students studying at the Norbulingka Institute, enriching their understanding of Tibetan culture and the exile community in Northern India. Purchase students had their audience with Tenzin Gyatso, who is the 14th Dalai Lama, on June 4. The Dalai Lamas are believed to be manifestations of Avalokiteshvara or Chenrezig, the Bodhisattva of Compassion and the patron saint of Tibet.

A group of 16 students currently in India participating in a Purchase College-SUNY program were honored when they were granted a private audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet.

Submitted by Deirdre Sato

A group of 16 students currently in India participating in a Purchase College-SUNY program were honored when they were granted a private audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet.

The students—participating in a summer study abroad program led by Purchase professor Suzanne Ironbiter—had been attending a four-day teaching with His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India, and were then granted the private audience where he told them: “Our religion is about love and compassion, and the practice of non-violence.”

“This was a huge honor and something that just doesn’t happen very often,” said Deirdre Sato, director of International Programs and Services at Purchase College. “One of the students even got a press pass and was allowed to take photos of His Holiness, which is quite unusual.”

Purchase College journalism students with Jean Leonetti (middle), Mayor of Antibes, France

Seven journalism students interviewed Jean Leonetti, mayor of Antibes, France, with questions about the local economy, national politics and austerity measures in place across Europe.

Allee Manning, a journalism major, asked about a one-day air traffic controller strike at nearby Nice Airport, and a more disruptive four-day rail strike that shut down traffic between Nice and Marseille, the two main cities of southern France. The strike affected Antibes. Leonetti shook his head and shrugged. “Striking is a European sport.”

Leonetti is also a cardiologist. Estephany Payano, a creative writing major, asked Leonetti if he had concerns that austerity measures would threaten France’s renowned health care system. He said the system was so ingrained in French society that it would be the last thing anyone would cut.

The journalism students are taking Reporting the Region, with Prof. Ross Daly. Twelve other students are working in Antibes with Prof. Robin Lynch in her Translation Drawing course. Students have been creating images of the city’s parks, narrow streets, the yacht-filled harbor and the snow-covered Alps in the distance.

“It is as much about seeing as it is about drawing, making,” said Lynch. However, the beauty of the place can be “overwhelming,” she added. Lynch has led visits for all students in the program to the region’s many museums, including the Picasso Museum in Antibes, and the National Fernand Leger Museum in nearby Biot. That has been an influence for her drawing students.

“I can almost feel the energy of the people who were here before,” mused Chester Anand, an arts management student in the drawing class. “Being at the Picasso Museum by the water was fantastic. I don’t think I could ask for a more perfect environment,” he said.

Continued on page 24
Global News From Around the System

Continued from page 23

News from Tompkins Cortland Community College

During the summer of 2013, TC3 hosted a 10 week Summer Global Connections program that received 166 students from eight Latin American universities seeking a second degree at TC3. With them came seven faculty representing a number of those institutions. TC3 once again held the Summer Intensive English Institute, a five-week academic English as a Second Language and professional development program for international university faculty and staff. In 2013, 50 people from seven universities completed the program. Both programs are expected to take place again in the summer of 2014.

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SPOTLIGHT

Sharing Services in the GLOBAL Arena

SUNY’s shared services initiative is intended to leverage SUNY’s systemness by promoting collaboration among campuses for administrative functions. By sharing services with other campuses in their region, campuses put themselves in a position to better serve their students. SUNY Global is no exception:

• What did two neighboring SUNY campuses do to meet the challenge of the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program when each lacked one necessary ingredient? Nassau Community College has a strong intensive English program but no residential facilities. Old Westbury has residential facilities but no English program. So the two institutions, that are only five miles apart, did the clever thing: they joined forces to their mutual advantage.

Nassau Community College’s LINCC language immersion program is one of SUNY’s 8 Intensive English Programs (IEPs) which offer intensive English year-round. However, NCC does not have residence halls, a requirement for participating institutions in the BSMP program. In order for NCC’s important language center to welcome BSMP students, campus housing would be required. Thus began discussions leading to an agreement between NCC and SUNY Old Westbury. Under the agreement, the 27 BSMP students receive English instruction at NCC while housed and receiving meals at Old Westbury. In turn, several of these students, upon completing their English training, will go on to study their STEM majors at Old Westbury. This agreement is the first of its kind between the two institutions, but it certainly holds promise for similar collaboration in the future.

• In May the first SUNY “shared services” agreement between two campuses specifically to promote international student recruitment was signed by SUNY Oswego president Deborah F. Stanley and SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry president Cornelius Murphy. SUNY Oswego and ESF both have a broad interest in developing more effective and successful international recruitment, leveraging the strengths and distinction of academic programs on both campuses, and specifically facilitating recruitment of international undergraduate and graduate students into ESF through the recruiting processes currently executed by Oswego. SUNY Oswego has developed a successful international recruitment operation, housing that responsibility in the office that also deals with international partnerships, student services, and education abroad. Oswego’s Office of International Education and Programs had the staffing, resources, and international expertise that ESF could benefit from. Given its small staff size, international recruitment travel was not a realistic strategy for ESF to undertake alone. ESF had also committed to a strategy of increasing recruitment in several neighboring states, and that was already stretching staff and travel budgets.

The program mix and targeted student populations between Oswego and ESF did not overlap, facilitating a cooperative and collegial process. This meant that they could explore the potential for an international recruitment partnership that would take advantage of Oswego’s existing investment in international recruitment and provide some additional ESF resources to support that travel. The fundamental idea was that an Oswego representative recruiting abroad was also capable of representing SUNY-ESF at the same time, which could make this a win-win proposition.

Starting with discussions between senior leadership, the agreement between the two campuses was developed, focusing on the services that each campus felt they were doing well and had sufficient service capacity to provide. An MOU outlined shared expectations for staff training, prospect information sharing, and other recruitment protocols as well as defining the expected budget amount that ESF would transfer to Oswego to underwrite the partnership for the next two years.

Both campuses are confident that this shared services partnership will benefit both campuses moving forward.