



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Newsletter

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The Center for International Education is pleased to welcome the inaugural visiting scholar in African Studies, Dr. Wotsuna Khamalwa, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology and Religion, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. Khamalwa holds a Ph.D in Philosophy of Science of

The Center for International Education would like to welcome this year's Mildred Miller Fort Visiting Scholar in European Studies, Dr. Igor Kuzmin. Kuzmin comes to CSU from the Institute of International Educational Programs, Saint-Petersburg State Technical University, Russia, where he holds the title of Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor of Historical and Political Sciences. Kuzmin holds a Ph.D in Historical Science, a MA in Political Science, and for more than 25 years has taught courses

and Government and Politics of the Soviet Union and Russia.

Kuzmin has more than 10 years experience teaching western students at Saint-Petersburg and at universities such as Augusta State. Kuzmin is teaching two courses at CSU, Russia During WWII (HIST 5565U / HIST 5565G), and Russian Foreign Policy Since 1991 (POLS 3555).

Shane Larkin, a student in Kuzmin's "Russia During WWII" class, describes Kuzmin as a "very knowledgeable professor." He says that Kuzmin has a range of information from a variety of subjects. Larkin also enjoys "the unique perspective that a visiting professor can offer," especially since Kuzmin is

Points of Interest

- International Events Past and Future
- Academic and Social Programs for Students
- Study Exchanges and Study Abroad
- Faculty Development

She also recognizes Khamalwa's willingness to share his personal stories as an African with the class to help the students retain what he teaches.

Commenting on his role in Columbus, Khamalwa explains "America is the big brother the world looks up to. There are many American NGOs and multinationals working in and with Africa. It is imperative that American students come to know Africa a bit better." He believes that he can

help the students at CSU to understand Africa, including the peoples, the cultures and the religions. This understanding, he says, will enable the students to be successful when engaging with people from Africa.

such as human rights and democracy, but at the same time he believes that his objective here should be "to try and widen the horizon of American students." As a visiting scholar, Khamalwa acts as a bridge between the American students and his home country. "The world may be globalized, yet there are local differences that spice up our interaction with one another." And by participating in exchange programs, Khamalwa believes that people will be better equipped to understand each other.

He notes also that "as an international researcher and scholar, my exposure to the American educational system, as well as engaging with American students and staff, helps to expand my horizon." In addition, "Africa wants to share in the ideas espoused by America,

Khamalwa would like to thank the academic community of Columbus State University for hosting him. "I pledge to make my contribution, however little."

from the country that he is teaching. Kuzmin says that he is really enjoying the cleanliness, and the slower pace of a medium sized city rather than the hustle and bustle of a big city like Saint-Petersburg. He is

also enjoying his classroom experience as well. "American students are more serious about learning and they put more effort" into their studies than their Russian counterparts Kuzmin says. He adds that the Russian students require a firmer

interest in discovering his perspective as a Russian. Kuzmin is also very impressed by the university as a whole, the administration which made his first days go very well. He also enjoys his classroom experience as

hand, they aren't as excited about learning, and also try to find many ways to "beat the system." "The students here are very attentive, understanding, and seem to enjoy the topics being presented," Kuzmin said. The students, he says, have great

- About the Center for International Education -

The Center for International Education leads the university's effort to internationalize the campus. The center enriches and broadens students and faculty members' understanding of the world. It promotes an awareness of world cultures by providing opportunities for international education.

Our mission is to coordinate and develop international programs, promote greater campus awareness of the international arena through activities and publications, cultivate an international curriculum and promote campus and community collaboration.

Staff includes:
 - Dr. Neal R. McCrillis, Mildred Miller Fort Foundation Distinguished Chair of International Education, Director of CIE
 - Dr. Julie Ballenger, Assistant Director of CIE and Professor of History
 - Amy Nyland, International Student Coordinator
 - Christine Murphey, Administrative Coordinator
 - Charlene Hatch, Student Assistant (Publications)
 - Sydney Lanier, Student Assistant (Study Broad)
 - Tamika Oaks, Work-Study Student

The Culture Shock of Asia: Studying in Korea

By Joanna Ahlman

students.

Korea met me as I stepped off the plane on August 26, 2006. I had the privilege of studying art for one semester at Ewha Woman's University in the heart of Seoul. I was the first foreigner to study in their art department. The friendliness, hospitality, and helpfulness that I experienced from the minute I



Joanna Ahlman with hiking goup and j9nsE* guide.

got there until my departure was overwhelming. I was able to become immersed in Asia's aesthetic qualities as I studied Korean painting, drawing, art history, and ceramics. I came to understand the emphasis on symbolism and respect as well as the focus on detail and precision. I was inspired and challenged by the technical excellence that was continually exemplified. During my time there I also worked with a variety of Christian churches, was a private tutor (I had at one point eight students), and also experienced the culture of Korea with my fellow exchange

vegetarian meals, a mat, blanket, and we all slept in a little room with a heated floor. Early in the morning we heard the sound of the Buddhist bells and chants from the temple monks. When we awoke, we were fed rice and given rice balls before we started hiking. We quickly discovered that Koreans are serious about hiking. We were passed by young and old, always smiled at us and tried to communicate in English. They often gave food to us, exemplifying their innate generosity. Just as the sun was setting and a cold

Korea is famous for its mountain ranges and hiking. I was able to take weekend trips to see these mountains. In September, we set out on a few of the experiences that have given 1.2 Korea. All of the challenges and reshaped my perspective on many aspects of Korea. I took a lot of time to explore the coast of Korea and began our adventure. The first night we stayed in a Buddhist temple. We were provided with Joanna Ahlman and friends It is very hard to describe what it has been like to study at the University of Oxford community

in terms of my education, I do not think I

alongside the brightest students the world

has to offer I had to take time to adjust to the culture and language differences

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Miss Africa Pageant a Great Success

The 2nd Annual Miss Africa Pageant was held on November 9, 2006. With six contestants, two group performances, and a full audience, this year's pageant was full of excitement.

The event started at 6 p.m. in the Davidson Student Center. Linda Bomboka, President of the African Students Association, hosted the event with fellow association member Cedric Nzomo.

Each non-African contestant was given a country in Africa; they then had to learn everything they could about that country to ensure that they represented the country well. Asia Reynolds, the contestant for Ethiopia, explained that the preparation for the pageant was intensive and long. "This is my first time in the contest," she said, and she hadn't expected all the work that was needed, but according to a [2 T1ted

Exciting New Scholarships for International Students Opens up New Doors

A new scholarship for international students was recently approved by the International Education Committee. The International Student Service Scholarship (ISSS) is the first scholarship that is being offered exclusively to the international population at CSU. The ISSS waives the cost of out-of-state tuition, providing approximately \$8,000 a year in financial assistance to recipients.

According to Amy Nyland, International Student Coordinator, the ISSS is a wonderful tool for recruiting new international students from around the globe and providing incentive for current international students to stay and study at CSU. "This scholarship will open doors for international students who might not have had the chance to study at CSU if it weren't for some type of financial assistance," Nyland says. She also comments that quite often international students who come to CSU do not finish their program of study because of financial issues. "There are many international students who come to study at CSU, but are forced to return home after one or two years because the cost becomes too much. The ISSS can ease this financial burden and may prevent many of these international students from having to leave CSU before gaining their degree."

The ISSS is different from the general out-of-state tuition waiver because recipients are required to complete 20 hours of international service each semester. Because of this service requirement, the scholarship is helping to further CSU's goal of internationalizing the campus, Nyland said. A couple of programs are currently being developed to help students fulfill their service requirements. All programs provide an avenue for international students to interact with American students on and off campus as well as with members of the community. The deadline to apply is March 30th and announce-

ments will be made in late April.

Comments on the New ISSS

By Shenja (Marga) Velasquez

I believe that the new ISSS is a great opportunity for many international students to continue their education at CSU. Why is this? Because it is easier for an international student to afford to pay in-state rather than out-of-state tuition.

I have been a student at CSU for the last three years. My first year at CSU I came as a Rotary student, and I was lucky because I did not have to worry about paying out-of-state tuition. After I finished my first year I decided to continue studying at CSU, and the only way that I could make that possible was by obtaining an out-of-state tuition waiver. I have been lucky enough to receive the out-of-state tuition waiver for the past two years but it has not been easy since there is much competition, and at times I was not exactly sure what determined the granting of the waivers. It was also very hard for me because as an international student I would leave over the summer to go home and see my family, and the out-of-state tuition waivers were not announced until July, so I never knew if I would be returning to CSU.

I know that my brother and I have really been blessed with the granting of these waivers, and that is why both of us have always tried to be involved with different activities on campus. In a way I

feel that I should do my best to contribute to CSU and give back all that CSU has given to me.

I believe that this new scholarship will enable more international students to

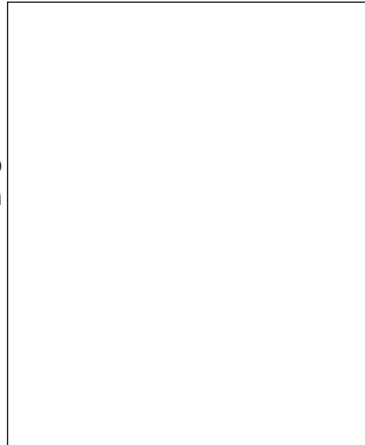
study here at CSU and participate in events. This is a great opportunity for students to get involved with the programming, as well as supporting activities on campus. The ISSS is a good idea because it will also permit the students to work together and provide new ideas for the international meetings and related activities.

Even though the ISSS has a requirement of 40 hours of service (20 per semester), the schol-

arship is more than worth the time for the benefit you receive. This will also encourage international students to make the most of their experience at CSU organizing events that they will enjoy, and sharing their culture with the rest of the student body. I think that most of the international students will be grateful for this scholarship since they are only competing against other international students and not all of the out-of-state U.S. students.

I would be delighted, honored, and truly dedicated to the commitment of working for such a good cause as this scholarship, because it is not only benefiting me but all those interested in international education and the international community.

For more information, contact Amy Nyland via email at nyland_amy@colstate.edu.



Shenja (Marga) Velasquez, International Student



By Audria Crain

During my first few weeks in Oxford I was concerned about how I was going to manage. But as time progressed so did I, and by my eleventh and final week in Britain my worries had subsided and my story of Michaelmas term became one of building new ideas, new relationships, and new skills.

In surviving my first week, I entered what is known as Fresher's week. This is the week before the start of the academic year. It's organized by a college or a hall student organization, the Junior Common Room (JCR), with the intention of orienting the first year students or Freshers. One of the most important events of Fresher's Week is Fresher's Fair, which is held every year in the stately Exam Schools on High Street. I put my email address on many club lists that day, but the main result was I became a member of the Oxford Modern Pentathlon Association (OUMPA).

How on earth I picked OUMPA out of all the things to do in Oxford, I'm not sure. As one can guess, a pentathlon consists of five events. I do not know how to ride, so technically I'm a tetrathlete. The four events in which I compete are running, swimming, shooting, and fencing. I know it sounds crazy, especially when I

had never done any shooting or fencing before the first week of term, but joining OUMPA was a very wise decision. I have learned two new skills, and have had surprising

success with one -- fencing. I placed fourth in Novice Varsity against Cambridge and first out of the girls in OUMPA cups. But, in joining OUMPA I

have also built many new relationships, and have been able to get a taste of a very famous aspect of Oxford life -- the life of an Oxford Blue or varsity athlete.

In addition to OUMPA training and socials, riding my bike everywhere, JCR events, and special occasions like the Thanksgiving Dinner we hosted at the Spencer House, some may wonder if I did much studying at all. But, of all the things I did in Oxford, one thing I did not do was lose sight of my top priority -- school! Reading and essay writing con-

sumed the vast majority of my week.

My essays were due via email every Thursday night at 6:00, and my tutorial was every Friday morning at 11:30 in one of the various rooms surrounding Exeter College "quad." I worked every week with the hope of my tutor telling me that I had written a "First Class" paper (a "First" is the highest distinction a graduating British student can earn), and while my last paper did evoke the word "great," "first" remained elusive.

However, my work for last term is not over as of yet, and as I'm writing now, I'm surrounded by stacks of material to review for the collections I will sit once I return to Oxford in January. I've yet to give up my quest for a "First." Luckily,

Induction of New Members: International Honors

This year's annual Phi Beta Delta induction, held November 14, 2006 at the International House Event Hall, saw a total of 28 students, faculty, staff and honorary inductees. The inductees ranged from international students who were recognized for excellence in their programs here at CSU, to study abroad students and faculty recognized for their international excellence overseas.

Writing Fellow SU, t7M-a and StMelanie Fallon,

This year's induction included a keynote address by Ms. Melanie Fallon, the first Marguerite and Lamar Smith



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COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Semester or Yearlong Programs

- CSU in Oxford, England
 - spend a year in the oldest English university
- Edge Hill College
 - study in the heart of Lancashire, near Liverpool and Manchester
- Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology Ireland
 - spend a semester in beautiful western Ireland
- ISEP Exchange Programs
 - 100 institutions around the world
- Kansai Gaidai in Japan
 - range of courses in English plus Japanese language study
- Laval University
 - French speaking university exchange for history majors
- Northumbria University in Newcastle, England
 - semester or year long study in one of 200 majors
- Zeppelin University, Germany
 - spend a semester in the Bodensee, near Lake Constance

Summer Study Abroad Programs

- CSU in Oxford, England
 - classes in literature and others, 3 weeks - \$2,495 plus tuition
- Cuernavaca, Mexico - 4 weeks in June

Spring & Winter Break Programs

- Costa Rica - Biology
- London - Business
- Andros Island - Biology / Community Health
- Japan - Art
- Germany - Computer Science

Maymester

- Switzerland and France Business Program
- Belize Education Program
- Brazil Business Program
- Africa Biology Program
- London Theatre Program