



# Washburn's International Accent

April, 2004

Volume III, Issue 4

*International Accent, published twice a semester by the Office of International Programs, strives to inform the university community of all things international and to foster the awareness of international education.*

<http://www.washburn.edu/iip/newsletters>

## Calendar of Major Events (April 1-May 31)

*(Please call 231-1051 for more information about all events unless there is another contact number.)*

April 6, 6:30 p.m, International Film Series, "Man Without a Past" (Finland), Sheffel Room 101A, Topeka&Shawnee County Public Library, T:580-4427

April 9, 4-6 p.m, Kansas Room, Study Abroad Orientation and Scholarship Presentation

April 14, noon, GA 118, talk by Mary Dorsey Wanless, "Gum Bichromate Images from the Caribbean"

April 14, noon, i-House, Brown Bag Lecture by Shirley Dinkel, "Sauna is a Three-Syllable Word"

April 16, 7 p.m, Stoffer 103, Shoestring Film Society, "Y Tu Mama Tambien" (2001, Mexico)

April 19, noon, deadline for faculty to submit application for international travel fund

April 27, KAFSA (Kansas Association of Foreign Student Advisors) Conference at WU

April 28, noon, i-House, Brown Bag Lecture by Michael Stoica, "The Central European Higher Education System: Its Struggle to Adapt to Changes"

April 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m, i-House, ICT, Inc. Annual Meeting and Dinner

May 4, 6:30 p.m, International Film Series, "Ratcatcher" (UK), Sheffel Room 101A, Topeka and

Shawnee County Public Library, Tel. 580-4427

May 15, Commencement for spring and summer 2004

May 17, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown vs Board of Education

## In Their Own Words--

### Why International Students Choose to Attend Washburn

"Studying at Washburn has been extraordinary! The classes are small with very helpful instructors. Washburn's quiet location creates a conducive and relaxed learning environment. It is really hard to get bored because there is always some activity on campus. Washburn has indeed become my home away from home."

--*Ovokeraye Achinike, Biology Major from Nigeria*

"The Washburn people, including students, faculty and staff, are the most friendly and helpful people I have ever met."

--*Mohammed S. Rahman, Computer Sciences Major from Bangladesh*

"At Washburn I learn a lot not only from the classes, but also from all other aspects of the campus and local communities. My professors are wonderful educators. They encourage me to succeed in academics and in the American culture."

--*Bin Guo, Nursing Major from China*

"I chose Washburn because of its small class size compared to large universities, which allows students to get maximum assistance from their professors. In addition, there are student tutors for every class to help those in need of additional help. It's fun to attend Washburn University."

--Danson Kamunyu, *Biology Major from Kenya*

## F.Y.I.

\*The **Washburn Endowment Association** has recently added two endowed funds to its portfolio to benefit international students studying at Washburn: The ICT/William Langdon Fund, and the John and Joan Sturm International Fund.

\***Ahmed Makhoukh**, Fulbright Scholar from Morocco, will come to Washburn this summer.

\* **Mr. Ma Jihua**, Vice President of Wuhan University of Science and Technology (Wuhan, China) will be on campus April 13-24 as participant in the SALT (Sino-American Leadership Training) Program.

\***CIS** (formerly INS) has increased fees for filing various applications. Most notably, I-539 (change of status and reinstatement application form) increased from \$140 to \$195, and I-765 (application for employment authorization form) increased from \$120 to \$175.

## In Brief

### **Fukuoka Students Visit Campus On Their Own**

February 20, 2004, marked the arrival of 20 visiting Fukuoka University students to the Washburn campus. This year, however, was a little different than previous years: this was the first student group to come on the three-week study program without a faculty sponsor. The students, however, handled this challenge well, showing a great sense of responsibility and independence, as well as seeking support from their newly-made friends on campus and host families in the Topeka community. Without a doubt, one of the favorite memories will be of the International Club Talent Show on March 5, which showcased the talents of both international and American students, from

musical performances to dancing and a karate exhibition. Special recognition was given to international students Carla Sintra and Troy Douglas for their great representation of talent playing basketball for W.U., and also to the four Fukuoka student leaders, Masatoshi Shimokawa, Sachi Murakami, Yumi Tanaka and Kanako Ueno for their excellent leadership skills. The Office of International Programs is already in the process of planning a celebration for the 25th year of the Fukuoka-WU exchange program in Spring 2005. You won't want to miss it, so keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming details! (by Heidi Kraus)

## In the Spotlight

### **Danson Kamunyu**

When you are doing research that much of the non-scientific world would have no clue about, it's useful to be able to explain what you're working on in laymen's terms. Danson Kamunyu, a senior from Kenya majoring in Biology, is able to do just that. He has been working on analyzing the *Drosophila* (a type of fruit fly) brain to determine what kind of relationship exists between the cuticle and brain. His ultimate goal? To transfer what he has learned in his *Drosophila* research to mosquitos to do malaria research. It seems he is well on his way to achieving his goal, especially after a once-in-a-lifetime experience with the WU *Drosophila* Research Group, which attended the International Genetic Society Congress in Melbourne, Australia, for one week this past summer. The group's poster presentation went well, and they received advice from Nobel Prize winners such as Dr. Eric Weischaus from Yale University. Danson has also been awarded a KBRIN scholarship of \$4000 to apply towards his research and materials. After graduating in May 2004, Danson would like to do research in the medical field and eventually earn a PhD in the U.S. or Australia. We wish him well and much future success! (by H. Kraus)

## About Study Abroad

### **New Program to take Students to Cuba**

For the first time Washburn students will have the opportunity to travel to Cuba to study the island nation's unique history, political system, and culture.

Dr. Bob Beatty, assistant professor of Political Science, will be leading the group when they go to Cuba for eight days in June. The trip will be part of the political science class on Cuba he is teaching in Washburn's summer session. The program is limited to 20 students and already is full.

While most Americans are barred from traveling to Cuba, Washburn was issued a special license by the U.S. Government allowing students to go to Cuba if they are part of an academic program at Washburn. While in Cuba the students will learn about Cuban history and politics via special lectures by Dr. Beatty and Cuban professors while visiting important sites such as the Bay of Pigs, the Spanish fortresses, Revolutionary Square, and the grave of Che Guevera. They will stay in Havana, Cienfuegos, and Santa Clara during their week on the island and will also visit a Cuban hospital and elementary school.

Beatty went to Cuba in the summer of 2001 to scout the possibility of bringing Washburn students there. Says Beatty, "Cuba is a communist dictatorship, one of only 5 left in the world, so I want Washburn students to be able to study this unique place. But it is also a safe place to go for our students." Washburn students will be receiving support from the International Education fund, WSGA will also be conducting fundraisers to help offset the cost.

### **Study Abroad Scholarship Recipients Announced**

A total of 58 students have been awarded scholarships to study abroad this coming summer and fall:

#### **Going to Italy, Sponsored by the Art Department**

Amanda Baer  
Nicholas Carr  
Julie Clements  
Branton Davis  
Laura Engelhardt  
Susan Jobe  
Joseph Keehn II  
Anna Neufeld  
Sara O'Keeffe  
Erica Schuler  
Erin Wynkoop

#### **Going to England, sponsored by Criminal Justice**

Amanda Bayens  
Bethanee Boeh

Nathan Bulmer  
Tracy Cooper  
Betty Leesman  
David Persons  
John Swinford

#### **Going to Cambridge, England, sponsored by Donna Love**

Whitney Bolz  
Jessica Cafferata  
Ruskin Kwofie  
Blaine Landis  
Tamara Mitchell  
Dan Morrow  
Evan Mulch  
Roscoe Mutz  
Jacquelyn Pingleton  
Bryon Rosine  
Stacey Unruh

#### **Going to the Netherlands, sponsored by the Law School**

Jenoise Callahan  
Melissa Castillo  
Jamie Farr  
Christopher Lanfranca  
Kathryn Peacock  
Ashley Polston  
Jennifer Sifford  
Brian Woolley

#### **Going to Cuba, sponsored by Political Science**

Abigail Bernhard  
Sheila Burchess  
Laura Burton  
Jessica Ensley  
Lyllall Ford  
Thaddaeus Giddens  
Matthew Johns  
Johnathan Lick  
Leslie Marcuson  
Ashley McMillan  
Adriene Metzenthin  
Andrea Niles  
Nikhil Parulkar  
Erin Quintanilla  
Meranda Reifschneider  
Joyce Rorie  
Jamie Slack  
Andrea VanBecelaere

**Going to Romania, sponsored by  
Michael Stoica and Gary Schmidt**  
Aaron Jacobson  
Ty Walrod

**Going to Spain under the Megellan Exchange**  
David Nimz (fall semester)

**Going to Ireland Under the Law School Exchange**  
Kimbra Caywood (fall semester)

**Going to Finland  
under the Nursing School Exchange**  
Jessica Vanderweide (fall semester)



Tom Ellis (left), Special Assistant to the President, and Ron Wasserstein (right), Vice President of Academic Affairs, serving cakes on Washburn's 139<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## Congratulations!

**Miguel Gonzalez-Abellas** (Spain) has been promoted to the rank of associate professor of Spanish.

**Azyz Sharafy** (India) has been promoted to the rank of associate professor of art.

**Sam Leung** (Hong Kong) has been promoted to the rank of associate professor of chemistry.

**Heidi Kraus** (USA), Coordinator of Student International Activities, was awarded the Student Life Achieving Excellence Award.

**Kyounghwa "Agness" Oh** (Korea) was featured in the Topeka Capitol-Journal on March 14 for her works of art.



Julie Stenehjelm, Norway, (left), and Anna Bohgard, Sweden, (right), enjoying the train tour at the KS Historical Museum. Sixty-two American Field Service (AFS) students attending high schools across Kansas participated in the Capitol Experience at Washburn Jan. 29-31.

## Photo News



Back left: Valerio Amicucci, Italy, Peter Cotorceanu, Deborah Cotorceanu, Maike Hermann, Germany, front, David Arnold, Switzerland, posing for a lasting impression during the AFS visit.