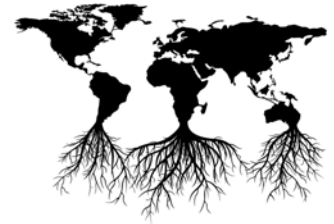

INTERNATIONALLY SPEAKING

Official Newsletter of the University of Kansas Medical Center International Affairs Committee



Features

International Health Care Experiences

International Student Orientation

Student Activities

Faculty Activities

Want to Contribute?

The staff of *Internationally Speaking* would like to know about any faculty, staff, or student international activities, experiences, and programs. Please send information electronically to jreagan@kumc.edu. Be sure to include the title "Internationally Speaking" in the subject line of the email. We also welcome photographs and suggestions for feature articles.

Volume 4, Issue 1

Fall 2009

Welcome to *Internationally Speaking!*



As a new academic year begins, the Office of International Programs and the International Affairs Committee looks back and plans for the future.

2008-2009 has been a successful academic year for International Programs and the International Affairs Committee. On 1 April, Sarah Hiatt joined the Office of International Programs as International Student Coordinator. She recently traveled to the national NAFSA meeting and returned with some wonderful ideas for programs to benefit our international and domestic student population. Sarah is now deep into working with Julia Shaw on F1-student visas.

Any faculty, staff or students who would like to submit information/articles with an international flavor should contact Judith Reagan, Director, Office of International Programs at jreagan@kumc.edu

We hope you enjoy this Fall issue of *Internationally Speaking*.

Perspectives



“I never feel that I am away from home. I am living in my ‘second home’, the United States. I guess this is the result of my simple law; you will get back what you give. I give love, care, and peace. The more I give, the more I get.”

- Bader AL-Hablani, Health Information Management
Country of Citizenship - Saudi Arabia

3-Day Forum International Health Care Experiences

On 20-22 April, a 3-Day Forum on International Health Care Experiences was sponsored by the International Affairs Committee and the following student organizations: SEAD, CSSA, AsianAMSA, KUMCIO, MSA, Indian Society, and CEP

On 20 April, senior nursing students who had traveled to



**District Hospital of Santani
Santani, Paraguay**

Mexico, Malawi, and the Dominican Republic for short-term electives, presented their experiences to faculty, staff and students.

On 21 April, senior medical and nursing students who traveled abroad in January and February for clinical experiences, both as electives and part of the senior nursing Practicum, presented

posters. The top 3 medical students' abstracts were presented to faculty, staff and students, followed by the poster presenta-



**Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital
Johannesburg, South Africa**

tion in the School of Nursing Atrium. Thirty-nine medical and nursing students traveled to sites on five continents.

The first of a series on Cultural Traditions in Health Care was held on 22 April.



A panel discussion on "Patient/Health Care Practitioner Relationships" was facilitated by Dr. Ann Kuckelman Cobb, medical anthropologist, nurse educator and artist. The panelists, health care practitioners who have practiced abroad and in the United States, included Dr. Ammar Almehmi, a Nephrologist originally from Syria; Dr. Mani Mani, a Plastic Surgeon, originally from India; Dr. Isaac Opole, an Internist, originally from Kenya; Dr. Valmi Sousa, a PhD Nurse Practitioner and Researcher, originally from Brazil; and Dr. Fen Wang, a Radiation Oncologist, originally from China.



Areas of discussion included comparing and contrasting the role of the family, alternative medicine and expectations of health care on the parts of the practitioner and the patient.

International Student Orientation

The Office of International Programs welcomed the incoming International Students of 2009 during a three day event held 13, 14 and 15 August.

This year's International Student Orientation included informative presentations and activities designed to familiarize students with the campus, faculty and peers.



2009 International Students

Dr. Barbara Atkinson, Executive Vice Chancellor and Executive Dean of the School of Medicine, and Dr. Allen Rawitch, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean of Graduate Studies, were on hand to welcome the students and express their support of the International Community at KUMC. Our group of incoming internationals includes 21 undergraduates and graduates in all programs. They join 311 internationals already on campus from 47 different countries. Thursday's activities included the always popular "Amazing Race," where students learned to navigate the campus through a series of clues that led students on a timed trek across the Medical Center. The winning team (pictured) was awarded prizes, generously donated by the KU Medical Center Bookstore. In the afternoon, students were given the opportunity to explore U.S. Classroom Culture via a panel discussion led by current KUMC International Students.



**Amazing Race Winning Team
pictured with Dr. Allen
Rawitch, Vice Chancellor for
Academic Affairs and Dean of
Graduate Studies**

Panel members included Tarang Jain, a PhD student in Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, originally from India; Kai Wu, PhD student in Pharmacology, originally from China; and Saddam Kana'an, a PhD student in Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science originally from Jordan. Julia Shaw, Associate Director, presented on immigration topics and functions of the Office of International Programs. Denise Johnson, ESL Coordinator and Cultural Programs Senior Coordinator introduced the students to multiple cultural activities and programs designed for the International Community. Such programs include "Life in the USA," a series bringing speakers to KUMC to present on a multitude of topics dealing with typical American activities, ideas or events; and Conversation Partners, a program that pairs internationals with native English speakers in an informal setting to practice English skills and make multi-cultural connections with new friends. Denise also covered the special ESL services offered, highlighting resources available to students through courses as well as the ESL lab, an independent study lab for international students and their families.

Day two was held in conjunction with the staff of Dykes Library where students were introduced to technological information and the library system at KUMC.

Presentations included Library Resources, Plagiarism, EndNote, Enroll & Pay, Angel network, myKUMC, and myFiles.

On Friday evening, the entire International Community at KUMC was invited to help welcome students during the International Student Reception. The reception was held in Orr Major and included dinner and a movie. Internationally focused student organizations were on hand to recruit new members and provide information to interested students.

On Saturday morning, students met at KUMC for a trip to the City Market of Kansas City.



Kansas City Market

The students learned to navigate the local public transit system, while observing a little of the city. They also had the opportunity to purchase food from many cultures, including their own. On Saturday Evening the Indian Student Association of KUMC hosted a celebration complete with food, music, and traditional dancing for India Independence Day. The event was held in Battenfield Auditorium and offered free dinner to all new International Students. The Office of International Programs wishes especially to thank all who volunteered their time and efforts.

Student & Faculty Activities

Student Activities

In July and August, three 2009-2010 Robinson Scholars from the Department of Occupational Therapy in the School of Allied Health traveled to Vellore, India. Amy Chapman, Monica Joshi, and Asia Nuss spent six weeks at Christian Medical College in areas such as Developmental Pediatrics, Outpatient Rehabilitation and Community Health and Development. Two of the students also spent some time at the Schieffelin Leprosy Training and Rehabilitation Centre in Karigiri.

In February, three 2009-2010 Robinson Scholars from the School of Nursing and one from the School of Medicine will spend one month at Christian Medical College.

Faculty Activities

KU School of Nursing Faculty Enhancement for Cultural Enrichment

In order to enhance the integration of cultural competence into the School of Nursing curriculum, a Cultural Competency Faculty Enhancement grant awarded in 2008 has led to numerous activities and learning experiences for School of Nursing faculty and outreach activities on the campus.

The grant is sponsored by the REACH Health Care Foundation and the Greater Kansas City Healthcare Foundation. A Cultural Enrichment Advisory Board was formed by Dean Karen Miller and SON faculty and staff to plan and conduct various cultural enrichment activities for faculty development.

Activities began with two SON faculty and staff workshops with such speakers as Kathy Mayle and Myra Christopher. Three book club sessions were offered for small group discussion and dialogue related to such best-selling books as *If the Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, *The Tortilla Curtain*, and *Three Cups of Tea*. Another activity included two screenings of the movie *The Beauty School of Kabul* during the first annual campus wide International Showcase week held April. Following the movie screening, a discussion and dialogue titled *An Afghanistan Experience* was offered to the KUMC campus to discuss the movie and the book *Three Cups of Tea*.

Currently, Dr. Miller and the Cultural Enrichment Advisory Board are offering yet another unique cultural enhancement opportunity through an e-learning experience – Quality Interactions – A patient-based Approach to Cross Cultural Care.

This first of its kind learning tool is an excellent approach to complete short modules with case plans of 3 cultural models and includes 2.5 continuing education units to complete at the convenience of the participant. The unique and diverse approach offered through this grant-funded Cultural Enrichment Faculty and Staff Enhancement Program has provided many opportunities for busy faculty and staff to develop and enhance cultural competence and network with other co-workers who may not be able to otherwise attend such events due to time constraints. This approach and activities could be of benefit to other departments and students alike to meet our objectives for on-going cultural enrichment.

KU School of Allied Health, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science

Ms Lisa VanHoose, Clinical Instructor, traveled to Lima, Peru, 17-28 May, to assist a physical therapy department with clinical development in the area of wound care. In addition, VanHoose was accepted to present a poster, "The Effect of Type 2 Diabetes and Aerobic Exercise Training on Lymphatic Biomarkers and Cardiovascular Function," at the 22nd International Congress of Lymphology, to be held 21-25 September in Sydney, Australia.