

Winter 2013

Newsletter Winter 2013

Grant Center for International Education
Ouachita Baptist University

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DANIEL & BETTY JO GRANT CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
FALL 2012 • WINTER 2013

Grant Scholarship gives the gift of Ouachita to Brazilian student



For Catarina Figueiredo, August 2011 changed her life. That month, a recruiting team from Ouachita visited her Rio de Janeiro high school, and that meeting, along with the generous support of OBU's Grant Center for International Education, put her on the path to becoming a Ouachita Tiger.



"I had never thought about coming to study in a different country," Catarina said. "I was kind of afraid, but after this amazing semester I can say that I have no regrets. God really knows what is best for me. Ouachita is the dream that God has dreamed for a long time for me, and I had no idea until 2011.

"I thought it would be impossible to come here because it would be really expensive to my family," Catarina added. "However, I received the honor for being blessed by the Grant Scholarship. This scholarship has been the way to make it possible and real every day in my life."

Catarina is entering her second semester at Ouachita and is one of two international students benefiting from Grant Scholarships. Nearly 30 OBU students are supported by other scholarships from the Grant Center this year.

"OBU has been a gift," Catarina said. "Words cannot express how thankful I am for this opportunity, so the only thing I can say is thank you so much for trusting, for giving me the chance, for blessing me!"

After completing work in Ouachita's English as a Second Language program last fall, Catarina will begin regular classes this spring, working toward a pre-med degree. She has already gotten involved with OBU's International Club and took part in the filming of the university's recent LipDub music video. She has also given back to the Ouachita and Arkadelphia communities by volunteering at the annual Donor Banquet and Tiger Serve Day.

"It is unbelievable how much has been changing in my life since I got here," Catarina said. "I have been learning about different cultures and learning how to get closer to the Lord. I have been working on my English, making new friends; in other words, I can say that now I see the world in a completely different way because of Ouachita.

"OBU has been a gift," she said. "It is one of the greatest things that has already happened to me."

Thank you for your generous support of the Grant Center and students like Catarina. We hope you will continue to help us bring Ouachita to the world. FIND OUT HOW INSIDE!



Study Abroad

104 students participated in Study Abroad programs during 2012. Programs include semester and summer study abroad as well as mission trips and departmental trips.

"I cannot thank you enough for paying for my flights and making it possible for me to go to Liverpool with the jazz combo. The trip was outstanding. We had an absolute blast playing, conducting clinics and sight seeing around Liverpool. My favorite thing from the trip was the countless conversations I had with students; just getting to know them and discuss our cultures was something I will never forget. Thank you!"

Zach Zucha,
senior business administration/finance major from Sachse, Texas

From the desk of Director Ian Cosh...

Teaching a global business course in the Hickingbotham School of Business this semester provided fresh insight into the rate at which our world continues to globalize. The two driving forces behind globalization are advances in technology and falling barriers to trade and investment.

The accelerated growth of communications and the availability of products from every corner of the globe are not, however, evenly distributed. We still live in a world where there are digital divides and where we continue to deal with poverty, war and hunger. This reality means that we, as a university, must constantly rededicate ourselves to the task of graduating students who are dual citizens. I use that term in the non-legal sense as defining men and women who accept responsibility for the betterment of their global neighborhood as well as their local and national neighborhood.

Global leadership will continue to be a growth industry, so every student who has an international experience is better equipped to embrace the future. God is working out His redemptive purposes in the world, and we are called to be active partners with Him in that process. At Ouachita we believe that a commitment to global Christian and academic excellence will be part of the character of our graduates.



Ian Cosh
VP for Community &
International Engagement
Director of the Grant Center

International Food Festival • SAVE THE DATE

The theme for this year's International Food Festival is "GLOBAL JUNCTION." Come join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship on **February 19, 2013**, in OBU's Walker Conference Center.

Doors open at 6 p.m.



International students travel to Memphis & Nashville

Over Fall Break this year, the Daniel & Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education and the English as a Second Language Program sponsored a 3-day trip to Memphis and Nashville, Tenn., for 24 students. This annual field trip primarily targets ESL students who take the American History and Culture class. International Club students and MKs are also always invited and eagerly respond.



Matt Douglass, instructor of the American History and Culture class, worked with ESL Coordinator Sharon Cosh to plan the trip. Grant Center staff members who accompanied the students included Ian and Sharon Cosh; Douglass and his wife, Angela; Nathan Fayard, ESL instructor; and Tanya Jackson, administrative assistant. A charter bus provided safety on the road and allowed faculty, staff and students to interact during the travel time.

The group visited the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis and ate at the original famous Corky's BBQ restaurant for a taste of the delicious cuisine in the area. Dinner in downtown Nashville at the Wild Horse Saloon allowed students to be introduced to "boot-scooting" for the first time.

The following day, the group toured The Hermitage, President Andrew Jackson's elegant plantation home, and spent the afternoon at the Opry Mills Mall. For the evening's entertainment, the group enjoyed the Grand Ole Opry, a delightful experience at the heart of country music!

On the final morning, the group returned to downtown Nashville where some visited the Country Music Hall of Fame and others shopped. The students particularly enjoyed the fascinating culture of cowboys and country music.

After an afternoon in Centennial Park, a visit to the Parthenon and a free concert, the group headed home. Arriving late Saturday evening they were tired but clearly contented with having made life long friendships with one another.

Field trips for internationals provide an all-important introduction to American culture. The experience builds relationships and allows the students to follow a path of living history while learning together about their new and fascinating culture. The memories made and the relationships deepened are priceless!

Welcome Dr. & Mrs. Lee Miller

We would like to welcome Lee and Deb Miller to our campus. They will be serving with us through the spring of 2013 as our missionaries-in-residence.



Lee is a native of New Jersey, and Deb is from Missouri. They have two married children and three grandchildren.

They have been career missionaries for 21 years in South America and the Eastern Caribbean. Lee has been a pastor for 25 years.

The Millers will be living in the Ouachita MIR house and will have an office in the Campus Ministries suite.

Friends of the Grant Center Meeting

Thank you to the Friends for providing scholarships to the various program initiatives of the Grant Center for International Education.

Please remember that the next FGCIE meeting will be held **FEBRUARY 19, 2013**, before the International Food Festival. **The meeting will start at 4 p.m. in the Alumni Room above Walker Conference Center.** Those attending the meeting will be given free early admission into the International Food Festival.

Please contact the Grant Center for more details at 870.245.5197.

Friends of the Grant Center for International Education

Ouachita Baptist University

The **FGCIE** supports the advancement of international education at Ouachita. Members receive a newsletter, invitations to events, opportunities for involvement and a complimentary ticket to the annual **International Food Festival**.

_____ \$50 Joint Membership

_____ \$35 Individual Membership

I am enclosing a gift of _____ to support international education at Ouachita instead of or in addition to my membership.

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