

Summer 2015

## Newsletter Summer 2015

Grant Center for International Education  
*Ouachita Baptist University*

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DANIEL & BETTY JO GRANT CENTER  
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
SUMMER 2015



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A WORD FROM BILL BULLINGTON,  
PRESIDENT OF THE FRIENDS OF THE  
GRANT CENTER

Dear Friends of the Grant Center,

There were five international students at Ouachita during my senior year (1956-1957), if the three students from Hawaii are included since it was not yet a state. What a difference in the years that followed! The campus has always had a focus on missions, including the presence of international missionaries and MKs. Director Ian Cosh says that we now have about 35 internationals and 30 MKs representing about 30 countries. If short-term study trips and study abroad are included, he adds, "then we have about 150 individuals involved in some way in international education and missions."

Ouachita provides international students an experience that rarely would be found anywhere else. Some of those pluses are: a premium education; a welcoming and accepting atmosphere; willing hands and hearts to assist in their adjustment to a new setting and culture; a prevailing Christian spirit that seeks their best interest; and many students and professors who empathize and connect well with them because they have also traveled, studied and lived in other countries.

A highlight of the meeting of Friends of the Grant Center always has been the reports from international students and students who have studied abroad. Their stories are always encouraging and inspiring.

That's why giving to Ouachita is the best investment anyone can make in the lives of students who impact positively their community, our nation and the world. The Grant Center for International Education is one of the reasons why Ouachita is a great university and deserving of our loyal support.



**Bill Bullington**  
President,  
Friends of the Grant Center



The European Study Tour group visited the Colosseum in Rome.

DANIEL & BETTY JO GRANT CENTER  
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
SUMMER 2015

FROM THE DESK OF DIRECTOR IAN COSH...



**International Education:  
Experience, experience, experience!**

This summer I had the opportunity to co-lead the European Study Tour with Dr. Scott Holsclaw as part of the program review process for the Grant Center. My oversight duties always involve me in the details but not the actual experience. This year's trip reinforced for me the transformative power of experience in the educational process.

Experience is a word I value as an educator. It can be used as a noun or as a verb and the European Study Tour is an example of where the word provides a key to understanding what an international experience can do for a student.

Used as a noun, the word means practical contact with and observation of facts or events. Don't you love some of the synonyms that bring that meaning home: involvement in, participation in, contact with, acquaintance with, exposure to, observation of, awareness of, insight into!

Used as a verb, the word means to encounter or to undergo. Don't you also love some of the synonyms that bring that meaning home: undergo, encounter, meet, come into contact with, come across, come up against, face, be faced with!

That, my friends, is my challenge! Support such endeavors with your material resources and encourage young men and women to pursue truth and learning by giving them an international experience. It is part of the magic of learning and the power of human transformation. Love God, love people and love life through the opportunities that experience offers!



**Ian Cosh**  
Vice President for Community & International Engagement  
Director of the Grant Center



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**OBUGrantCenter**

## 2015 INTERNATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST

- 1st Place: Makoto Abe, Bolivia
- 2nd Place: Sarah Stiles, Nepal
- 3rd Place: Michael Butler, SE Asia



### Q&A WITH MIKALA BUTLER

Mikala spent a semester working with Southern Baptist International Mission Board missionaries in Kenya this spring.

- Q** Where are you from and what are you studying?
- A** I am from Paragould, Ark., pursuing a double major in sociology and Christian studies with an emphasis in missions. I will be a junior this fall.
- Q** What did your daily life look like in Kenya?
- A** My daily life in Kenya consisted of taking public transportation to campus to evangelize, leading Bible studies, one-on-one discipleship, etc. Then in the evenings, I would go out into the community making relationships by buying vegetables, visiting with friends, etc.
- Q** How do you see the world differently since going to Kenya?
- A** The world is much bigger since I've been to Kenya, but also, the amount of people waiting to hear the Gospel is much bigger.
- Q** What is your favorite Kenyan dish?
- A** My favorite Kenyan dish is dangu and chapati which is like a lentil soup with a thick tortilla.



### PROFESSORS EXPLORE POSSIBLE OLYMPIC-THEMED KINESIOLOGY COURSE

Sponsored by the Daniel & Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education, the Michael D. Huckabee School of Education and the Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies, Dr. Mike Reynolds and Dr. Terry DeWitt traveled to Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France and the United Kingdom in preparation for a course and trip to be offered in spring 2016 titled "Olympic History and Culture."



Dr. Mike Reynolds and Dr. Terry DeWitt visit the Olympic museum in Switzerland.

Olympic venues visited by Reynolds and DeWitt included Berlin, Munich, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Innsbruck, Paris and London. Included in their expedition was a visit to the renowned Olympic museum in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### RECRUITING IN ZIMBABWE

Assistant Director Amy Gattis was joined by rising OBU sophomores Nonsi Nxumalo and Andrew John Stambolie on a recruiting trip through Zimbabwe. This marks the third consecutive year that the Grant Center has focused on recruiting in Zimbabwe, and the strategy of working with current students and alumni in three key cities continues to work well.

Churches and private Christian high schools are the focus of our efforts in Zimbabwe, and the connections are strong. Nonsi and Andrew John both came to Ouachita as a result of the first recruiting trip, so it was special for them to now represent OBU in the high school from which they both graduated. The team effort involved – from housing to transportation to coordination – by current students, alumni and their parents is both unique and a testimony to the positive experiences of so many Zimbabwean students on Ouachita's campus over many years.



### INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

The annual International Food Festival was held Feb. 17 in Walker Conference Center. More than 600 people had the opportunity to taste cuisine from all over the world. More than 70 students, faculty and staff shared food representing either their home country or a place where they had spent time. More than 20 countries were represented!

This year's theme was "Passport to the World." In addition to the diverse cuisine, participants enjoyed a variety of music genres. From classical Chinese music on the piano to songs of Montenegro, guests had a literal sampling of food and culture from around the world.



### NEW RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP THROUGH AMERISTUDY

The Grant Center has recently partnered with Ouachita alumni living overseas to represent OBU through AmeriStudy, which is the newly unveiled recruiting arm of the Consortium for Global Education. The AmeriStudy program is working on behalf of Baptist colleges to recruit international students from around the world.



Andrew and Allison Sweatman represent Ouachita with prospective Korean students and their parents.

This spring, a delegation from several schools in the consortium traveled to Korea and China. Recent OBU alumni Andrew and Allison Sweatman (pictured left) flew to Seoul and represented Ouachita with prospective

Korean students and their parents. Andrew and Allison were living and teaching at a university in Xian, China.

Later, Molly Bowman and Bethany Peevy represented Ouachita at several events in China. Molly and Bethany were both living and working in Beijing this spring.

One of the top ways that international students find out about Ouachita is through the recommendation of our alumni. We're grateful for the assistance of those mentioned above.



The Zimbabwe Recruitment team enjoys a well-deserved break at Antelope Park near Gweru, Zimbabwe.



Piano performance major Zhanxiu Lu from China performs at the International Food Festival



Students and guests explore the World Market at the International Food Festival.