Summer 2013

Newsletter Summer 2013

Grant Center for International Education

Ouachita Baptist University

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Dr. Rex M. Horne, Jr.
President,
Ouachita Baptist University

Dear Friends of the Grant Center,

The Daniel and Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education is being transformed this summer. Its facilities are being expanded and completely remodeled. Charlie and Cindy Fuller have made this possible through their very generous gift. A ceremonial re-opening of the Center is planned for Sept. 12.

With the Fullers’ encouragement, we are inviting others to join them in supporting the Grant Center by contributing to its endowment. Increased earnings from the endowment will enhance our ability to assist international students and those who participate in one of the Center’s numerous study abroad opportunities. I hope you will consider sending a gift soon. Becky and I plan to send a donation in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Grant during August to help celebrate Dr. Grant’s 90th birthday!

Elsewhere in this issue, you will read about those who benefit from the programs of the Grant Center. Please join me in praying for this important part of our work here at Ouachita.

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

This photo, taken in Santorini, Greece, by Tyler Rosenthal, earned first place in the Grant Center’s annual international photo contest. The Friends of the Grant Center funded the contest, prizes totaling $500.
Student Spotlight: Craig Martin

Craig Martin, the 2011 recipient of the Grant Scholarship Award, hails from Harare, Zimbabwe. A graphic design major and talented artist, Craig is actively involved on OBU’s campus through the Ouachita Student Foundation (OSF) and Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team and serves as a work study student in the Grant Center. When asked what his favorite things about Ouachita are, Craig notes, “I really appreciate how personal Ouachita is. As a relatively small school our classes are very small, which allows us to interact personally and build relationships with fellow students and professors. This has been especially helpful to me as an artist pursuing such a practical field. I feel like more than just a number in a multitude of students, and a member of a close-knit community. As an international student, people have been overwhelmingly welcoming and friendly toward me. Put simply, I have been blessed by the people I have encountered from day one and Ouachita did not take long to feel like home. I am blessed beyond measure to be at Ouachita.”

European Study Tour

Twenty-one Ouachita students were led on a three-week journey through Europe by faculty members Terry DeWitt and Barbara Pemberton this May. Students were given the invaluable opportunity to experience history firsthand by going to the Sistine Chapel, Notre Dame, Westminster Abbey, the Louvre, the Colosseum and other historic sites. The European Study Tour, which is offered on a yearly basis, provides six hours of credit and is an excellent way for students to connect with what they’re learning in the classroom with tangible experiences in the real world.

Dr. Pemberton explained, “The European Study Tour is Ouachita’s version of the Grand Tour, a tradition long enjoyed and documented in Western culture by the likes of Keats, Twain and Hemingway. The students study hard all semester in order to truly appreciate what they will see and experience on the trip. But there are additional benefits like becoming confident world travelers able to read maps and navigate subway systems, all while having a great time with good friends.”

Zimbabwe Recruiting Trip

From May 17 to 26, Ian and Sharon Cosh traveled with six current Ouachita students to recruit future Ouachitonians from Zimbabwe. This group was able to share in more than 10 schools in nine days about opportunities to study at Ouachita. It was especially beneficial to work with current students, four of whom are Zimbabwe natives and to have the added perspectives of both an American and Venezuelan student as well. All were very encouraged by the open doors provided and the strong interest shown in pursuing a Ouachita education.

Global Junction: 2013 International Food Festival

Ouachita’s International Food Festival, sponsored by the International Club and the Grant Center, has become an annual event during the Spring semester. International students and MKs prepare traditional food from their respective countries. This year, food stations represented four regions: Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

Held on Feb. 19 in the Walker Conference Center, the theme was “Global Junction.” The atmosphere was made even more festive by live entertainment provided by several students. Sponsor Sharon Cosh commented, “The food festival is an excellent example of the way that our students truly do bring the world to this campus.”