

Spring 2011

Newsletter Spring 2011

Grant Center for International Education
Ouachita Baptist University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/gcnewsletter>

 Part of the [Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education Commons](#), [International and Comparative Education Commons](#), and the [Public Relations and Advertising Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Grant Center for International Education, "Newsletter Spring 2011" (2011). *Grant Center Newsletters*. 5.
<http://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/gcnewsletter/5>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Daniel & Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Grant Center Newsletters by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

DANIEL & BETTY JO GRANT CENTER
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2011



Global Connections

Diversity is valued in higher education because it provides for differing and sometimes divergent views on life. It is commonly appreciated that we are enriched and stimulated by ideas that come from outside our cultural norm. Certainly as Southern Baptists, we have always supported reaching out to meet human needs and reaching out to share the Gospel both at home and abroad. Our goal at Ouachita is to encourage every student to have an international learning experience before they graduate. For some, this may mean spending a semester abroad and for others it may be a total language immersion experience during a short summer term.

As friends of international education, we want to express our thanks to you for your support of international education at Ouachita. We see the lives of students being changed on a daily basis, and we are committed to offering our students the finest international education experience that is available anywhere in the world. Ouachita is globally connected. We have friends, alumni, former students and supporters all around the world. Let's recommit ourselves to the task of supporting international students who study at Ouachita and who add diversity. And let's commit ourselves to the task of encouraging American students to study abroad who always return with a fresh appreciation for their homeland and a special place in their hearts for the people of other nations. Making the world a better place does indeed happen one person at a time.



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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LITTLE ROCK, AR
PERMIT #211



Each semester at Ouachita, I hear our students talk about their experiences through the programs of the Daniel and Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education. Both international students who travel to Arkadelphia and local students who enroll in study abroad opportunities understand that their lives are being enriched and changed. These young people add a special flavor to our campus and challenge all of us to keep a global perspective as we consider what God has in store for the future. We are grateful for their presence among us. Thank you for the encouragement and support you provide for this important facet of our work.



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

DANIEL & BETTY JO GRANT CENTER
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2011

Liverpool Hope University:
A Fresh Option for Study Abroad



A delegation of eight Ouachita faculty members, deans and administrators visited Liverpool Hope University in early January 2011 to explore new ways to strengthen international education at Ouachita. Liverpool is a historic city that is strategically located to provide our students with easy access to Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England. In addition, the local airport provides budget airline flights to all the major cities of Europe.



LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

Liverpool Hope University is a faith-affirming, liberal arts university, with a rich ecumenical history and a student-nurturing ethos. This semester, seventeen students are studying in Liverpool and enjoying the benefits of easy travel, excellent academic opportunities, and plenty of social interaction with student from the United Kingdom and other international countries.

Dr. and Mrs. Horne will visit the university in May to meet the Rector and other senior members of Liverpool Hope's administrative team. Professor Pillay, the rector of LHU, has accepted an invitation to visit Ouachita in November 2011 to present a lecture on global higher education. He will be highlighted as one of our 125th anniversary speakers. During his visit, he will have the opportunity to meet the Ouachita community and interact with students, faculty and staff.

**OUACHITA
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**
GRANT CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
410 Ouachita Street • Box 3777
Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71998-0001



THIS PHOTO, TAKEN IN CANADA BY OUACHITA FRESHMAN KELSEY FRINK, EARNED SECOND PLACE IN THE GRANT CENTER'S ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST. THE FRIENDS OF THE GRANT CENTER FUNDED THE CONTEST PRIZES TOTALING \$500.



SECOND PLACE WINNER: SENIOR ERIN FLIPPIN, TURKEY

Study abroad participants*

Alicante, Spain: 3	Liverpool, England: 17
Costa Rica: 17	Orleans, France: 1
European Study Tour: 12	Salzburg, Austria: 2
Hands On: 7	Seinan, Japan: 2

*Summer 2010-Spring 2011

A parent's perspective

Mr. Cosh,

I am writing to express Kristi's and my sincere appreciation for the advice and counsel you have given our daughter, Karen Brown, and specifically for the encouragement you gave her to study abroad at the University of Edinburgh. ... It has doubtless been the preeminent event in her young life.

As you know, Karen is one of the quiet set. ... We have watched Karen listening intently to someone who was describing something incorrectly that she knew about much better than they: not a word. But let the topic swing to Scotland, England or a related topic and suddenly there is a passion to speak, to describe, to tell.

She has friends from that experience that we believe will be lifelong. ... It was an experience that continues to drive her.

... This summer, Karen has been working as an intern at a publishing house – Oberon Books in London. ... They seem to like her work there, and she is having a ball. Upon graduation, her 'A' plan is to work on a master's degree at the University of Edinburgh (not exactly a surprise to us). ...

Anyway, thanks again for all your help. We only wish more students would take the opportunity for international study. In our daughter's case, it was truly life-changing.

Tom and Kristi Brown

Dear Friends of the Grant Center for International Education,

One of the highlights of every year for many people connected to Ouachita is the International Food Festival. My wife and I had attended every year since its beginning until this year. A family illness caused us to be out of town, and we were very sorry to miss it. Our "adopted" son from Uzbekistan, Humoy Ravshanov, was one of the student leaders involved in the planning and the details of this event. He was excited to report that the crowd had almost outgrown the space and that everyone had a great time. He was also pleased to make a brief report to the Friends of the Grant Center for International Education (FGCIE) on behalf of international students at Ouachita.

Since 1923 when the first international student came from China to Ouachita, the university has had a growing emphasis on "global education." In addition to the internationals who come, several exchange programs and many mission trips to all parts of the world have caused most of the students to have a global perspective as they learn about and discuss issues in their classes.

The FGCIE received one gift of \$30,000 this year that is the beginning of an endowed scholarship for international programs, and it is the goal of the FGCIE that others will be making significant contributions for the many programs that are offered through the Grant Center. If you or friends of yours might be interested in supporting any one of the many international emphases, we invite you to contact the director, Ian Cosh, who with the Development Office will assist you in making sure that your gift is maximized and appropriate credit is given.

The Bible instructs us to "go into all the world," and the goal of the FGCIE is to do just that by sending students out and bringing students to the campus from all over the world where they become "salt" and "light."

Thank you for being a partner of FGCIE through your membership and gifts.



Sincerely,
Bill Dixon
President, FGCIE

René Zimny joins Grant Center staff as assistant director



René Zimny joined the Grant Center staff last summer as assistant director and coordinator of international recruiting. A native of Namibia, he graduated from Ouachita in 2008 with a degree in mass communications and graphic design.

As a former international student himself, René is very passionate about recruiting and assisting international students and missionary kids as they integrate into a foreign culture. He is a frequent traveler and has family and friends from many parts of the world.

René married his wife, fellow Ouachitonian Brooke Showalter, in 2009. Brooke serves as assistant director in Ouachita's office of communications. The two live in Arkadelphia with their dog, Lucy, and cat, Charlie.

International Food Festival: The Amazin' Graze

The 2011 International Food Festival was held on Feb. 15 with the theme, The Amazin' Graze, loosely based on the reality TV show *The Amazing Race*. Along with current international students, the entertainment for the evening was IZIBONGO, a group of Christian musicians who perform a variety of ethnic music.



This event is a great way to build awareness of OBU's international community. Close to 500 people were present and more than 100 volunteers gave of their time and talents. Thank you to our wonderful community and Ouachita family for making this event a success once again.

International Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee sets sights on missionary kids

The International Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee was initiated in the fall of 2011 in order to specifically address recruitment and retention of missionary kids and international students. Members of the committee were chosen for their passion for missionary kids and internationals students; they come from across Ouachita's campus and have diverse backgrounds with international ties.

The subcommittee has primarily focused on reevaluating Ouachita's financial aid package for MKs in order to keep OBU competitive in the field. With the new package, Ouachita will award an MK discount in the amount of \$13,000 annually for up to four years, starting in fall of 2011. When combined with potential federal, state and private grant and scholarship funds as well as the International Mission Board's Post-secondary Education Allowance; MKs may receive up to 100% of the cost of tuition, fees, room and board.

Thirty-four MKs representing 23 countries are currently enrolled at Ouachita, and 46 international students representing 27 countries are currently enrolled.

ESL program fosters discussion and growth

Ouachita's English as a Second Language (ESL) program is in its 18th year this semester. We have five students this Spring: three from Japan and two tennis players from Spain. Two of the Japanese students will return in May to Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka as they have been exchange students this year, but the other three students will remain and enter the degree program in the fall.

Terese Cox and Sharon Cosh are teaching, and visiting J3 missionary Matt Miller volunteers to teach a Friday novel-reading class.

The opportunities for meaningful discussions have certainly been plentiful this semester in light of the heartbreaking catastrophes in Japan. We are thankful that all families of our students are safe, but we realize that the long-term ramifications of these events will affect their lives for many years to come. We believe that God has brought these students to us at such a time as this.



FIRST PLACE WINNER: FRESHMAN KRISTIN JOHNSON, PERU

Four \$500 FGCIE Travel Awards put to good use in summer/fall 2010

- Tim Ferris, a sophomore business administration major from Triangle, Zimbabwe, representing Ouachita and Zimbabwe at a swim meet in Calif.
- Hannah West, a sophomore French major from Rockwall, Texas, was able to study French at the University of Orleans in fall 2010.
- Erin Flippen, a senior Christian studies and Spanish major from Denison, Texas, used her travel award to study missions at Ouachita while serving the cause of missions in the Middle East.
- Nicci Fillinger, a senior Christian studies and mass communications major from Perry, Ark., and OBU's Ben Elrod Scholar, studied Chinese at Peking University during summer 2011.

A word of thanks

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I would like to thank all the people who were involved assisting Coach Killackey and me to travel to Irvine, Calif., this summer for the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships. Your donation helped to provide me the opportunity to compete on the world stage with the best of the best. The meet was very prestigious with many World Champions and Olympians present. It was very exciting to be a part of one of the fastest meets of the year and to be around so many outstanding swimmers.

I had one of the best meets of my career as an amateur swimmer. I swam two personal best times and two season best times out of my four swims. Both personal bests were Zimbabwean National Records, so I was ecstatic! I came very close to making the top 16 consolation final in the 50m breaststroke, but came in 17th by two tenths of a second. Coming so close not only fueled me to continue striving for success, but also afforded me the opportunity to gain experience as a swimmer, as did the whole meet.

Coach Killackey and I came away very satisfied and thrilled with what we had achieved, so thank you again for your help in getting us there.

Tim Ferris