

East Carolina University
Global Gateway – International Affairs Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2007

The Office of International Affairs welcomes you to the first issue of *Global Gateway*. This monthly publication will serve as one conduit of information for our faculty and staff on events and opportunities that foster internationalization here at ECU. We welcome your submissions of information and events by the first of each month.

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***A Word From ... Interim Provost Marilyn Sheerer***

I am particularly pleased, in my new role as Interim Provost, to have responsibility for the Office of International Affairs (IA). During the past few weeks, I have worked to become knowledgeable about our programs and services in this area. We have, as many of you know, some definite challenges in IA; but we also have many things going well at this point in time.

First, we have a hard-working dedicated staff ready to expand and enhance our services in IA. Secondly, we have welcomed another new group of international students to our campus. And, at the same time, we continue to send our own students to other countries through a variety of programs and alliances.

All that said, we have a number of goals to address. ECU needs to be more proactive in recruiting international students to our campus and providing excellent services for them when they arrive, including access to ESL support. We would also like to see more faculty taking students abroad and helping us craft new and better ways of making this happen.

So, the bottom line here is faculty involvement in IA. Over the years I have worked in higher education, I have had the wonderful opportunity to teach classes to groups of American students studying in Italy, Pakistan, and China. These were some of the best experiences of my academic career. Consequently, my interest here is to have more ECU faculty very engaged in such teaching and travel programs. Students, faculty, and ECU, in general, are the beneficiaries!

Please look for the sessions we are conducting out of IA that will provide information for you to consider becoming involved. In the near future, we also plan to conduct a search for a new Director of International Affairs. But our operations and services will not in any way decrease while we are searching for this new Director.

We look forward to seeing and talking to you about the untapped potential of our IA offerings.

Marilyn Sheerer  
Interim Provost

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International Student Recruitment Focus – East and Southeast Asia!

Our major recruiting focus this year continues with our work in East and Southeast Asia. In October Monika Wojciechowski, Assistant Director for International Student Recruitment, will be promoting ECU at fairs and school visits in **Ho Chi Minh City, Taipei, Hong Kong, Shanghai,**

Seoul, and Tokyo. If you are interested in assisting Monika in her recruitment efforts through distributing materials on your trips abroad, corresponding with prospective students in their native language, translating materials, or suggesting ideas on how to promote ECU abroad, please e-mail wojciechowskim@ecu.edu.

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### **We Have Welcomed Our New Rivers Chair!**

Dr. Julian B. Lethbridge is the Rivers Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of English for the 2007-2008 academic year. He comes to us from Tuebingen University in Germany. His main area of study is Sixteenth Century English Literature, but he also has interests in the Classics and Philosophy. Dr. Lethbridge may be available to speak with your class or group and can be contacted at [lethbridgej@ecu.edu](mailto:lethbridgej@ecu.edu).

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Our International Students!

This semester we are pleased to welcome over 200 international students to our campus from 54 countries including Brazil, South Korea, Bahamas, China, Canada, Nigeria, Japan, Germany, and Norway. In addition, nearly 50 ECU students are currently studying abroad. We are working to increase international academic and cultural exchange as an important part of the educational experience at East Carolina University.

The incoming class includes many outstanding freshman and transfer students and among them is Yoojin Suh. Without knowing any English, Yoojin Suh came to the U.S. at the age of thirteen. She has traveled a long way since the fateful day of September 11, 2001 when she was crossing the Pacific to enter the unknown.

Yoojin graduated this past May from Wayne Country Day School with a weighted GPA of 4.36 and the honor of being chosen the valedictorian. Throughout high school, Yoojin was recognized for her academic excellence in Spanish, math, physics and English. In addition, she was the president of Art Honor Society in grade ten and the president of Spanish Honor Society in grade twelve. Yoojin is also musically and artistically talented. She has played the flute since the age of eleven and has been recognized for her drawing abilities.

Yoojin had been offered acceptance to UNC Chapel Hill, NYU and Case Western Reserve University, but we are very pleased that she chose to pursue her nursing degree at ECU.

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### **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

#### **September 12, 2007**

- Summer Study Abroad General Information Session for faculty – Mendenhall Student Center, Social Room, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Please contact Bill Mallett at 252-328-1939 or [mallettw@ecu.edu](mailto:mallettw@ecu.edu) for more information.

### **September 17, 2007**

- Deadline for study abroad applications to ECU's Bilateral Exchange Partners and the University of North Carolina Exchange Program (UNCEP)

For more information about these programs and how to apply, please visit our website at <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/studyabroad.cfm> or contact Brandi Dudley at [dudleyb@ecu.edu](mailto:dudleyb@ecu.edu) or 252-328-1937.

*Please share the following spring 2008 scholarship opportunities with students in your classes.*

- Deadline for the Thomas W. Rivers Scholarship – supporting students studying abroad through ECU for academic credit

For full scholarship details please visit [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/scholarships.cfm#CP\\_JUMP\\_88716](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/scholarships.cfm#CP_JUMP_88716) or contact Brandi Dudley at [dudleyb@ecu.edu](mailto:dudleyb@ecu.edu) or 252-328-1937.

- Deadline for the IFSA Foundation Scholarship

ECU will be offering six \$2500 scholarships for a semester in Eastern Europe, Russia, Eurasia, or Asia. For more information on applying for this scholarship, please visit [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/scholarships.cfm#CP\\_JUMP\\_96698](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/scholarships.cfm#CP_JUMP_96698).

### **September 19, 2007**

- Welcome reception for East Carolina University's new international faculty and staff – International House, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Stop by and get to know our new international faculty and staff. Please contact Rhonda Brown at [brownr@ecu.edu](mailto:brownr@ecu.edu) or 252-328-1934 for more information.

- Summer Study Abroad Workshop – a help session for faculty who want to plan a summer study abroad trip – Self Help Building, Room 300G, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Please contact Bill Mallett at [mallettw@ecu.edu](mailto:mallettw@ecu.edu) or 252-328-1939 for more information.

### **September 26, 2007**

- Workshop – Intercultural Sensitivity in the Classroom – Bate Building, Room 1032, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

The Office of International Affairs cordially invites all faculty members to a workshop on how to assist international students in the classroom. For more information, please contact Rhonda Brown at [brownr@ecu.edu](mailto:brownr@ecu.edu) or 252-328-1934, Brandi Dudley at [dudleyb@ecu.edu](mailto:dudleyb@ecu.edu) or 252-328-1937, or Monika Wojciechowski at [wojciechowskim@ecu.edu](mailto:wojciechowskim@ecu.edu) or 252-328-6769.

**October 15, 2007**

- Deadline for the Fulbright Scholar Program: Scholar in Residence Program

If your department is interested in hosting a Fulbright Scholar in Residence, please visit the following website for more information <http://www.cies.org/sir/>.

**November 1, 2007**

- Deadline for submission of applications for the ECU Faculty Travel Grant

This competitive program will provide 16 travel assistance grants of up to \$500 for faculty members who are traveling abroad this spring as a speaker at an international event. More information and applications are available online at [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/upload/FTG\\_application.pdf](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/intlaffairs/upload/FTG_application.pdf).

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We want to hear from you. We would be pleased to include stories on your teaching, research, or service related to international activities. Please submit your comments and suggestions to our editor Julie Williams at williamsjul@ecu.edu.