Greetings! This issue of our newsletter focuses on upcoming ECU International Affairs events and on several important deadlines for faculty and students.

Thursday, March 20th, is the campus deadline for departments to submit applications for the 2009-2010 Thomas W. Rivers Distinguished Professorship in International Affairs. Over the years this wonderful "Rivers Chairship" program, endowed by a person of great generosity and foresight, has brought numerous international scholars of note to ECU who have helped energize our teaching, research, and intellectual discussion in many fields.

It is important to state that individual scholars from abroad do not apply for the Rivers Chairship themselves. Instead, ECU departments wishing to host a professor should apply on his or her behalf, the purpose being to maximize the probability that all Rivers Chairs truly become part of the fabric of their ECU host department during their stay. Please discuss this great internationalization opportunity with your colleagues and select your department’s 2009-2010 candidate. Application information for the Rivers Professorship may be found at http://www.ecu.edu/intlaffairs/upload/RiversChairApplication.doc.

Keys to Academic Success Workshop, February 13, 2009

The Keys to Academic Success Workshop will take place at the Academic Advising and Support Center at 12:00 pm. The workshop, which will cover topics such as study skills and academic policies, procedures, and resources, as well as academic integrity, has been organized thanks to collaboration with the Academic Advising and Support Center, the Pirate Tutoring Center, and the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. International undergraduate students interested in attending should e-mail international@ecu.edu before Thursday noon.

Student Fulbright Information Session, February 23, 2009

ECU will host a Student Fulbright Information Session on Monday, February 23, 2009, from 2:00 – 3:00 pm in the Bate Building, room 1003. If you have successful undergraduate or graduate students interested in applying please encourage them to attend this session. For more information, contact Brandi Dudley at dudleyb@ecu.edu.

Thomas W. Rivers Award Applications due February 25, 2009

The Thomas W. Rivers Award Application deadline for summer study abroad is Wednesday, February 25, 2009. All applications should be submitted to the Office of International Affairs. For more information, contact Brandi Dudley at dudleyb@ecu.edu.

International Scholars Symposium, April 1, 2009
The International Scholars Symposium, sponsored by the International Faculty and Staff Committee in association with ECU Research and Creative Achievement Week 2009, will be held Wednesday, April 1, 2009 from 3:30 – 6:00 pm in Mendenhall, Great Rooms 1 and 2. For more information contact Ranjeet Agarwala at agarwalar@ecu.edu.

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Student Exchange Placements Still Available for Fall 2009

While the official application deadline for the student exchange program in fall 2009 has past, ECU still has a number of exchange placements available for the fall semester. If a student is interested in studying in countries such as Finland, France, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, or the U.K., please have the student visit the Office of International Affairs to get started on the application process. For more information contact Brandi Dudley at dudleyb@ecu.edu.

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Great Decisions Program

ECU will host the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions Program which began on January 17, 2009, and continues for eight consecutive Saturday mornings. The program is sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Eastern North Carolina and consists of a series of lectures by academic and professional experts on topics of global significance. The 2009 topics are US and Rising Powers, Afghanistan/Pakistan, Energy and the Global Economy, The Arctic, Egypt in the 21st Century, Global Food Supply, Cuba after Castro, and Universal Human Rights. For a complete schedule and additional information see the Great Decisions webpage.

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Sixth TALGS Conference

The 6th TALGS (TESOL/Applied Linguistics Graduate Students) Conference will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2009, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm, in the Bate Building at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. We have an exciting line-up of workshops, papers, and discussions on a variety of issues related to language use, language learning, and language teaching. The schedule is available on the TALGS website. All interested students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend!

A catered lunch and refreshments will be available. Parking is free. Please visit the conference site for details.

If interested, please help us plan and visit http://core.ecu.edu/engl/talgs/conference/registration.htm to register as soon as possible. Onsite registration will begin 2/21 at 8:00 am.

Organized by the Linguistics and TESOL graduate students and faculty, TALGS is aimed at providing a serious yet relaxed environment for graduate students and professionals working in a variety of applied linguistics fields and TESL/TEFL to present their work, receive feedback, and network. The event, co-sponsored by Carolina TESOL, is a continuing education opportunity for North Carolina teachers. This year's plenary speaker will be a distinguished TESOL scholar and educator, Dr. Jodi Crandall, University of Maryland-Baltimore County, with a presentation entitled, Sharing Our Expertise: Working with Mainstream Teachers, and a discussion session on TESOL Standards.
For more information on the speaker and all conference sessions, please view the attached poster and visit the TALGS website.

Contact us:
Graduate student organizers, Zuzana Elliott, Lamont Cannon, & Yi Sun: talgs@ecu.edu
Faculty sponsor, Lida Cope: copel@ecu.edu
Visit Linguistics and TESOL at ECU:
http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/engl/graduate/linguistics.cfm
http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/engl/graduate/tesol.cfm

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We want to hear from you and encourage you to submit accounts of your international activities in teaching, research, service, or other areas. Please send your comments and suggestions to our editor Julie Williams at williamsjul@ecu.edu.