



EXPANDING HORIZONS

International Programs, The University of Montana, April 2006

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UM Delegation visits New Zealand

By Gerald Fetz, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Fred Allendorf, Regents Professor of Biological Sciences at UM, has had a very active relationship with Victoria University in New Zealand's capital city, Wellington, since he spent a Fulbright year "down under" in 2000-2001. Perhaps not completely coincidentally, the Head of the School of Biology at Victoria received his Ph.D. here at UM and worked in part with a young geneticist, Fred Allendorf. For the past couple of years, Fred has spent two months each year at Victoria and has worked diligently and imaginatively in fostering collaborations between VU and UM. In fact, he and a colleague from VU have team-taught a course the past two years in which half of the students are at VU and half at UM. That course is in "real time," despite the fact that the two halves are half a world away, and has led to fascinating interactions, "aha" moments, and joint projects. Additionally, a rapidly growing number of faculty and students from both universities have traveled back and forth in order to study and engage in research collaborations in very different environments.

UM has also had a long-standing partnership with Massey University in Palmerston North, one of Missoula's sister-cities, located about 75 miles north of Wellington. A relatively large number of UM faculty and students have participated in our exchange relationship with that New Zealand university, most recently on the faculty side, Professor Paul Miller from the Department of Sociology and Professor Karen Kaufman in Drama/Dance who are at Massey this year. They, too, are developing collaborations and making plans with colleagues there to come and teach at UM next year.

Because of all of this, President George Dennison, Dean Gerald Fetz (Arts and Sciences), and Professor Kate Shanley (Chair, Native

American Studies), were invited to spend an exciting and very informative week in New Zealand in late February in order to formalize the new partnership with Victoria University and to explore additional points of potential collaboration between UM and both of these outstanding New Zealand universities. The trip resulted in the opportunity for more UM students to spend a semester or even a year studying in New Zealand, a very popular destination for our students. And it also led to very productive discussions that



UM Delegation led by President George Dennison meeting with faculty members from the Maori Studies Program at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

are likely to lead to close cooperation and collaboration between related departments, programs, and disciplines here and there. In addition to expanding the connections already in place in the Biological Sciences area, discussions were begun and are continuing to develop connections between our Native American Studies Department and the Maori Studies programs at both Victoria and Massey; our Creative Writing Program and the Institute of Creative Writing at Victoria; the History and Geography departments at all three universities; and our Sociology and Social Work programs with the Social Policy program at Massey. Further opportunities exist as well: Business and Commerce, Environmental Studies, Journalism, Education, Chemistry, Forestry and Conservation, Anthropology, and Economics among them.

Faculty and students interested in learning more about these opportunities (remember: when it's winter here, it's summer "down under"), should contact International Programs at 243-2288 or visit www.umt.edu/ip.

The Fourth Annual Central Asia Conference: A Policy Dialogue

Thursday, April 20

11:45-1:15 PM *Militant Islam: Islamic Fundamentalism in the Middle East and Central Asia*

Chair and Discussant: Dr. Mehrdad Kia, Director, International Programs and Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program, The University of Montana

Panelists: Samir Bitar, Arabic Language and Culture Instructor, The University of Montana, Dr. Jeffrey A. Gritzner, Chair and Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Montana, and Dr. Ahmed E. Souaiaia, Department of Religious Studies, University of Iowa

Venue: University Center Theater

1:15-2:45 PM *Rule of Law and Central Asia*

Chair and Discussant: Jeff Renz, Professor of Law, The University of Montana

Panelists: Alimbai Sulaimanov, Vice Dean for Curriculum and Aimonchok Tashieva, Lecturer, Osh State University, Kyrgyz Republic and Greg Munro, Professor of Law, The University of Montana

Venue: University Center Theater

3:00-4:30 PM *Political Mobilization in South Caucasus*

Chair and Discussant: Thomas Goltz, Visiting Scholar, Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program/Department of Geography, The University of Montana

Panelists: Jeffery Werbock, President, Mugham Society USA, Dr. Maia Sukhiashvili, Professor of Persian Language and Literature, The University of Montana and Elin Suleymanov, Consul General of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Los Angeles and Western States of the United States

Venue: University Center Theater

7:00-9:00 PM *Keynote Address: Governor Brian Schweitzer*

Venue: South Ballroom, University Center

All events are free and open to the public. Please visit <http://www.umt.edu/cap> or call 243-2288 for more information.

Friday, April 21

3:00-4:30 PM *Social and Environmental Change: Challenges for Central Asia*

Chair: Dr. Don Bedunah, Professor, College of Forestry and Conservation, The University of Montana

Panelists: Dr. Jeffrey A. Gritzner, Chair and Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Montana, Dr. Sarah J. Halvorson, Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Montana, Dr. Ardi Kia, Associate Director of the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program and Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Montana, Dr. Dina Mukhamedkhan, Fulbright Visiting Scholar from Kazakhstan, School of Education, The University of Montana

Venue: South Ballroom, University Center

7:00-7:45 PM *Cultural Event: Music by Jeffery Werbock*

Venue: South Ballroom, University Center

7:45-9:30 PM *Roundtable Discussion: Security, Energy, and Economic Development*

Panelists: Zamira Sydykova - Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United States, Meret Orazov - Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the United States, Elin

Suleymanov, Consul General of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Los Angeles and Western States of the United States, John G. Fox, Director of United States State Department's Office of Caucasus and Central Asian Affairs, Dr. Nancy Lubin, President of JNA Associates, Inc. and Senior Fellow for Eurasia at the American Foreign Policy Council, and Lieutenant Colonel Kurt Meppen, United States Institute for Peace

Venue: South Ballroom, University Center

Saturday, April 22

10:00- 12:00 PM *Central Asia's Future: Problems and Challenges*

Panelists: Zamira Sydykova - Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United States, Meret Orazov - Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the United States, Elin

Suleymanov, Consul General of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Los Angeles and Western States of the United States, John G. Fox, Director of United States State Department's Office of Caucasus and Central Asian Affairs, Dr. Nancy Lubin, President of JNA Associates, Inc. and Senior Fellow for Eurasia at the American Foreign Policy Council and Lieutenant Colonel Kurt Meppen, United States Institute for Peace

Venue: University Center Theater

The Fourth Annual Central Asia Conference

By Otto Koester, Coordinator, Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program

From April 20 to 22, 2006 The University of Montana will host the fourth annual international conference on Central and Southwest Asia on the Missoula campus. Highlighting the conference will be Ambassadors of four countries from Central Asia and the Director of United States State Department's Office of Caucasus and Central Asian Affairs – an historic first in U.S.-Central Asian relations. Titled "Central Asia: A Policy Dialogue", the conference builds on UM's growing reputation as a national leader in the field of Central and Southwest Asian studies.

A vast geographical area that once connected the peoples and cultures along the old Silk Road from China to the Mediterranean Sea, Central Asia is the birthplace of many ancient religions, empires, and centers of learning, but also the arena of devastating conflicts. Today, after the demise of the Soviet Union, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, it has gained vital strategic significance not only for Russia, China, and the countries of the Middle East and South Asia, but for the United States as well. Concerns about petroleum and natural resources, ethnic and religious conflict, authoritarian regimes, regional security and drug trafficking are only a few of the problems about which American policymakers and the general public need to be better informed.

Attending on behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan will be His Excellency Khamrokhon Zaripov, Plenipotentiary and Ambassador to the United States and Canada. The Kyrgyz Republic will be represented at the conference by Her Excellency Zamira Sydykova, the newly appointed Ambassador to the United States. Coming on behalf of the government of Turkmenistan will be His Excellency, Meret Orazov. Representing the government of

Azerbaijan will be Elin Suleymanov, Consul General of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Los Angeles and western states of the United States. John Fox, Director of United States State Department's Office of Caucasus and Central Asian Affairs, will attend the conference on behalf of the United States.



Also coming from Washington, D.C. will be Kurt Meppen, formerly chief advisor on Central Asian security policies to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and Nancy Lubin, one of this country's most highly regarded policy specialists on Uzbekistan. The keynote address will be delivered by Governor Brian Schweitzer. Jeffrey Werbock, a renowned performer and authority on traditional music from Azerbaijan, will head the cultural program.

Faculty from other universities and institutions participating as panelists include Professor Ahmed E. Souaiaia, Department of Religious Studies, University of Iowa; Dina Mukhamedkhan, Fulbright Visiting Scholar from Kazakhstan; Maia Sukhiashvili, Kutaisi State University, Republic of Georgia; and Alimbai Sulaimanov and Aimonchok Tashieva from Osh State University, Kyrgyz Republic. Panelists from UM will be Professors Donald Bedunah, Samir Bitar, Thomas Goltz, Jeffrey Gritzner, Sarah Halvorson, Ardi Kia, Greg Munro, and Jeffrey Renz.

The conference has been organized with generous support from the Montana Committee for the Humanities, UM's Office of the Vice President for Research and Development, and International Programs. All presentations and cultural performances will be open and free of charge to UM faculty, staff and students, and the general public. All events will be held in the University Center.

Jeffrey Werbock Plays Mugham

WHAT: As part of the April 20-22, 2006 Conference Central Asia: A Policy Dialogue, the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program, in conjunction with the Departments of Geography and Music and the International Programs present:

WHO: Jeffrey Werbock, an internationally acknowledged expert presenter and performer of Mugham, the traditional music of the Caucasus. In addition to giving a concert performance for the Central Asia conference, Mr. Werbock has agreed to give a lecture and demonstration of various instruments and styles associated with Mugham for students, faculty members and all others interested in this wonderful cultural legacy.

WHERE: Recital Hall (Room 115), Department of Music, UM

WHEN: Thursday, April 20th, 12:40- 2:00 PM

Jeffrey Werbock's performance is made possible by a generous grant from the Montana Committee for the Humanities.

The word mugham is used to designate a specialized style of music attributed to the Azerbaijani people of the Caucasus mountain range and nearby territories by that name. Mugham is generally recognized as a derivative of another specialized style of music attributed to the Persians, known there as dastgah. In the Caucasus, the refined music of the Persian court received a jolt of musical energy from the grand ancient tradition of the ashikh, the singing bard / minstrel of the mountains of Kavkaz. The full throated yodeling technique of the Kavkaz Azerbaijani ashikh lends an extraordinary power to the elegant and folksy melodies they employ while accompanying themselves on the saz, a long neck lute. When these two great and ancient musical traditions met and mixed, they gave birth to an extraordinary style of music that is evolving to this day.

For more information, see: www.mugham.org

National Security Language Initiative (NSLI)

The U.S. Department of Education, The U.S. Department of State, The U.S. Department of Defense, The Office of the Director of National Intelligence

The National Security Language Initiative is designed to dramatically increase the number of Americans learning critical need foreign languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hindi, Farsi, and others through new and expanded programs from kindergarten through university and into the workforce. An essential component of U.S. national security in the post-9/11 world is the ability to engage foreign governments and peoples, especially in critical regions, to encourage reform, promote understanding, convey respect for other cultures and provide an opportunity to learn more about America and its citizens. To do this, Americans must be able to communicate in other languages, a challenge for which most citizens are totally unprepared.

To address these needs, under the direction of the President of the United States, the Secretaries of State, Education and Defense, and the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) have developed a comprehensive national plan to expand U. S. foreign language education beginning in early childhood (kindergarten) and continuing throughout formal schooling and into the workforce with new programs and resources.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Department of Education and its partners will focus resources toward educating students, teachers and government workers in critical need foreign languages, such as Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, and increasing the number of advanced-level speakers in those and other languages. The Department of Education's FY 2007 budget proposal will include \$57 million for this initiative, a \$35 million increase over FY 2006.

• The Foreign Language Assistance Program

The Department of Education is proposing \$24 million to create incentives to teach and study critical need languages in K-12 by refocusing the Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) grants. The program will be redesigned to target critical needs languages and replicate the spread of innovative foreign language programs in critical needs languages, especially those that use technology.

- Contact: Cynthia Ryan, OELA, (202) 245-7140, cynthia.ryan@ed.gov
- Visit: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/index.html>

• Advancing America Through Foreign Language Partnerships

Twenty-four school districts in partnership with colleges and universities will create programs in critical need languages in 2007 through a proposed \$24 million Department of Education program. The program will likely expand to additional schools in future years to ultimately build continuous programs of study from kindergarten through university.

- Contact: Anne Campbell, OPE, (202) 219-7000, anne.campbell@ed.gov
- Visit: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html?src=oc>

• Language Teacher Corps

The Department of Education is proposing \$5 million to create a Language Teacher Corps with the goal of having 1,000 new foreign language teachers in our schools before the end of the decade. The program would offer Americans with proficiencies in critical languages opportunities to serve the nation by teaching languages in our nation's elementary and secondary schools.

- Contact: Holly Kuzmich, OPEPD, (202) 401-4903, holly.kuzmich@ed.gov
- Visit: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/opepd/index.html?src=oc>

• E-Learning Language Clearinghouse

A proposed \$1 million nationwide Department of Education E-Learning Language Clearinghouse would deliver foreign language education resources to teachers and students across the country. This Clearinghouse would provide a central repository for schools, teachers, and the public to find materials and web-based programs in critical needs languages developed by national resource centers, K-12 instructional programs, institutions of higher education and agencies of the federal government.

- Contact: Anne Campbell, OPE, (202) 219-7000, anne.campbell@ed.gov
- Visit: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html?src=oc>

• Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative

The Department of Education would expand Teacher-to-Teacher seminars through a proposed \$3 million effort to reach thousands of foreign language teachers. The program will seek to improve the quality of foreign language instruction in middle and high schools by featuring accomplished classroom teachers and language specialists who will provide instruction in research-based strategies and promising practices.

- Contact: Carolyn Snowburger, OESE, (202) 260-2598 carolyn.snowburger@ed.gov
- Visit: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html?src=oc>

DEPARTMENT OF STATE PROGRAMS

State Department programs will provide new opportunities for American high school students, undergraduates and graduate students to study critical need languages abroad, and will strengthen foreign language teaching in the U.S. through exchanges and professional development. President Bush has requested \$115 million in FY 2007 for the NSLI, of which \$26.7 million will support programs managed by the Department of State.

U.S. Fulbright Student Program: Will provide up to six months of intensive language training in Turkic, Indic, and Arabic language countries as an add-on before the normal Fulbright grant period begins. Open to Americans applying for the Fulbright student program in selected countries where critical need languages are spoken.

- Contact: Heidi Manley, (202) 453-8534, ManleyHL@state.gov
- Visit: <http://us.fulbrightonline.org> or www.iie.org

Intensive Summer Language Institutes: Will award scholarships for intensive overseas summer language institutes for beginning, intermediate, and advanced study in Arabic, Indic, and Turkic languages in 2006. Institutes in Chinese, Russian and Persian will be added in 2007. Open to American undergraduate and graduate students.

- Contact: Heidi Manley, (202) 453-8534, ManleyHL@state.gov
- Visit: <http://www.caorc.org/language>

Gilman Scholarships: Will provide financial support to pursue overseas study in critical need languages in semester or one-year programs for college credit. Open to American undergraduates who are Pell grant recipients (financially-needy).

- Contact: Coleen Gatehouse, (202) 453-8887, GatehouseCN@state.gov
- Visit: www.iie.org/programs/gilman

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants: Will provide teaching assistants in critical need languages to U.S. universities, colleges, and high schools by bringing native speaking teachers to the United States for one academic year at the beginning of their careers.

- Contact: Fayette Hermann, (202) 453-8531, HermannFL@state.gov
- Visit: <http://www.exchanges.state.gov> or www.iie.org

Teacher Exchange: Will provide critical need language teachers to U.S. secondary schools by bringing native speaking teachers to the United States for one academic year. Will provide American teachers in critical need languages opportunities for intensive summer study abroad. Teachers of Chinese and Arabic will participate in 2006, and Russian, Turkic, and Indic language teachers will be added in 2007.

- Contact: Catharine Cashner, (202) 453-8880, cashnerce@state.gov
- Visit: <http://www.exchanges.state.gov>

Youth Exchanges:

(1) Summer Language Institutes: Will provide U.S. high school students the opportunity to study Arabic or Chinese language abroad. In 2007, the program will expand to include Turkish, Hindi, and Russian languages.

(2) Academic Semester or Year Abroad: Will provide U.S. high school students taking formal critical need language classes the opportunity to spend an academic semester or year studying the language abroad.

(3) School Partnerships: Will provide U.S. schools linkages to foreign counterparts in critical need language countries (Russia, China, Turkey, India, and the Arab world) for interactive language programs and exchanges of groups of students and teachers.

- Contact: Carolyn Lantz, (202) 203-7505, LantzCS@state.gov
- Visit: <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/citizens/students>

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) Fact Sheet

Expanding the National Flagship Language Initiative

National Flagship Programs, administered by the National Security Education Program (NSEP) are strategic partnerships between the federal government and U.S. Institutions of Higher Education to implement programs of advanced instruction in critical languages.

Flagship Programs represent a national model for developing a workforce of professionals with superior level proficiencies in critical languages.

- NSLI calls for increase to 2000 students in 2009-2010.
- Nine Flagship Programs already operational:

Arabic: Georgetown University; University of Maryland, College Park

Chinese: Brigham Young University, Ohio State University, University of Oregon

Korean: University of California, Los Angeles; University of Hawaii, Manoa

Persian: University of Maryland, College Park

Russian: Byrn Mawr College/American Councils of Teachers of Russian

- Flagship programs already graduating student at ILR Level 3 (Superior)

FY07 NSLI Expansion Plans

- Additional Flagship Programs in Arabic and Chinese
- New Flagship Programs in Hindi/Urdu and Central Asian Languages
- Expansion of Flagship Model to include additional Flagship Universities throughout U.S.
- Expansion of K-16 Pipeline model to two additional national model programs; initiate first national K-16 model for Arabic
- Expanded strategic and business plan to leverage federal funding with private funding in support of Flagship programs
- Contact: Ms. Stacia Falat, NSEP, 703-696-1991, falats@ndu.edu, • Visit: <http://www.casl.umd.edu/nfli>

Report from Università degli Studi di Firenze in Florence Italy

By David Schuldberg, Professor, Psychology

March 30, 2006 - For the past two weeks I have been a guest of the Psychology Department at the Università degli Studi di Firenze, in Florence, Italy, where I have been privileged to be a "Professore di Chiara Fama," a professor whose fame is clear (!). On Sunday my spouse and son joined me, and we are enjoying two sides of Tuscany, academic and semi-urban life here in Florence and more rural and small-town life in the small medieval city of Cetona, one hour to the south.

In 2002 my family and I came to Italy during half of a sabbatical year; both my spouse, Dr. Shan Guisinger, and I worked on writing projects, and our son attended the fifth grade at the local school. (Our daughter was on a separate exchange in Berlin.) This was a wonderful period, in fact a life-changing one for me, providing a more international perspective about different ways to live. We also made some lifelong friends here.

Since that time, I have wondered whether and how it might be possible to combine academic work with other parts of life in Tuscany, to -- simplifying this -- combine scholarship and La Dolce Vita. A year and a half ago I began to discuss collaborative research projects with an Italian colleague, Professor Marco Giannini in Florence, and he has been my host for the past two weeks.

During the sabbatical, our son became very fluent in Italian, while Shan and I were able to get by. This Spring Semester we have been taking Elementary Italian II (MCLG 195 [02]) from Dr. Badery, and we wondered how our language would be by the middle of March. Happily, my colleague here, Prof. Giannini, has also had experience with language instruction; at the beginning of the visit he suggested that we carry out as much as possible of our scholarly work in Italian. This has proved to be very enriching, enjoyable, and exhausting, and I have begun to acquire some technical vocabulary in Italian ("factor analysis," "psychometrics," "nonlinear dynamics"), as well as improving in use of grammar.

The picture is of a lecture to doctoral students in Psychology. (I still spoke mainly in English, although I could respond to some questions using Italian.) Seeing this room, I felt I had died and gone to heaven.

In a few days I will be back in Missoula to resume work on Monday after Spring Break, returning with several writing projects planned and a renewed commitment to improving in my Italian.



David Schuldberg lecturing doctoral students in Psychology at Università degli Studi di Firenze

Visiting Scholar from South Africa

By Lynne Koester, Director, Intercultural Youth and Family Development Program

The University of Montana recently hosted a week-long visit by Ms. Joanne Potterton, during which time she presented colloquia, held workshops, and led informal discussions with students, faculty and community health professionals from a variety of disciplines. Her visit was sponsored by a grant from the UM Visiting Scholar fund awarded to faculty in the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science (Carrie Gajdosik), the Department of Psychology, and the Intercultural Youth and Family Development program (Lynne Koester). Additional support was provided by these individual departments and programs, as well as the Department of Health and Human Performance, the School of Social Work, and the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

Ms. Potterton is a pediatric physiotherapist and a faculty member of the Department of Physiotherapy at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. She is a South African who has lived and worked in the rural areas of her country as well as in the urban cities of Johannesburg and Soweto. She has provided physiotherapy services to poor South Africans in a variety of settings, including a small, under resourced, rural hospital in northeastern South Africa, the large, public, urban hospitals which serve several million poor Black South Africans living in Johannesburg and Soweto, and transient camps in the Johannesburg area where refugees from other African countries live in abject poverty. Her experiences of working with the indigent in rural and urban areas have provided a foundation for the university courses she teaches on providing community service in rural or underserved areas. She has dealt with the practical problems of working in cultures very different from her own and in communities where few people spoke or understood English or Afrikaans. In addition, she has observed firsthand the medical and social impact of poverty and HIV/AIDS on the lives of people

living in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Ms. Potterton has been involved in the field of HIV/AIDS for the past twelve years as a researcher, instructor, and clinician. She has published and presented (both nationally and internationally) on the issues, developmental problems, and consequences of HIV/AIDS for children. Currently, she is examining the effects of physiotherapy intervention on the motor and cognitive development of these children as well as the effects on parents or other caregivers of caring for a child with HIV/AIDS. She promotes a holistic approach which is necessary to understand the psychosocial, health, education and economic impact of HIV infection on the individual, the family and the community. Through her work and participation in international forums, she is acutely aware of the global impact of HIV/AIDS, particularly within the context of the African continent.

The topics of community service and HIV/AIDS are intimately intertwined when that service is to the poor and underserved. Ms. Potterton's unique background and experiences allow her to merge these two topics, and the relevance of her information can be applied to either national or international settings. Her presentations at UM on community assessment and cultural awareness were imbedded within the context of the social, economic and medical impact of HIV/AIDS. Her presence on campus and within the Missoula community heightened the awareness of this pandemic and assisted both faculty and students in understanding the global nature of these issues.

In addition to the obvious relevance to UM students and faculty in Physical Therapy, Ms. Potterton's visit was particularly important for those involved with the new Inter-

(contd. South Africa page 8)

Faculty Exchange Report: A Semester in Finland

By Rebecca Richards, Associate Professor, Sociology

I received a Fulbright Senior Scholar research and lecturing award to the University of Joensuu in eastern Finland for fall semester 2005. As a visiting professor in the Faculty of Forestry, I worked with Finnish colleagues in developing a comparative case study of the wild berry industry in Finland and the wild huckleberry industry in the Pacific Northwest.

Wild berry picking is the most prevalent outdoor activity in Finland with over 70 percent of the Finnish population reporting in a 1997 survey that they pick wild berries. Traditionally, wild berries played a major nutritional role in northern diets and even today, wild berries are a major part of Scandinavian cuisine. In addition, Finnish berry products have for years been exported to other countries in northern and eastern Europe. However, as urbanization in Finland has intensified in recent years, commercial wild berry processors increasingly have had difficulty finding sufficient numbers of rural Finns to harvest berries. In the last few years, these processors have come to increasingly depend on migrant foreign pickers from Thailand and Eastern Europe to supply them with berries for both the domestic and export markets. At the same time, cheaper supplies of berries from China and Russia have lowered European demand for Finnish wild berry product exports. Hence, the wild berry industry in Finland has increasingly faced the labor and market pressures of globalization.

To compare the social changes in the Finnish wild berry industry with both similar and different trends in the western wild huckleberry industry, I based my study in part on my recently completed, *A Social History of the Wild Huckleberry Industry in the Pacific Northwest*, which will be published as a General Technical Report by the



Rebecca Richards in Finland

U.S. National Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, in March, 2006. Using data from my previous work, I helped my Finnish colleagues develop a Finnish wild berry processor survey that was administered in January 2006. My comparative project was also part of the Faculty of Forestry's Academy of Finland's funded project on the role of non-wood forest products in alleviating rural poverty in developing and developed countries. As part of that project, I participated with my Finnish colleagues in a multinational, collaborative research workshop summarizing work in progress in Prague in November 2005.

In addition to my research project, I developed and taught an intensive course in Social Perspectives on Non-Wood Forest Product Harvesting in the United States and Canada as part of the Masters in International Forestry program at the University of Joensuu. I taught the course in English to both Finnish and international students, and I am planning to further develop this course to include Northern Europe and Russia and the circumboreal, cold temperate forest focus next Wintersession 2007 at The University of Montana.

From Rhetoric to Reality: Conducting an English Teaching Training Program at Khon Kaen University, Thailand

By Rhea Ashmore, Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

Luck, timing, and talent: My philosophy includes these three variables for life's achievements. Regarding luck and timing, Meghan Squires, Assistant Director for Faculty Exchange, contacted me in early May 2005 requesting that I visit with two administrators from Khon Kaen University, Thailand: Sumon Sakolchai, President, and Peerasit Kamnuansilpa, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. A memorandum of understanding had been recently signed between our institutions of higher education, and they were interested in exploring The University of Montana campus and meeting faculty.

Here's where the talent comes in. Our discussion focused on my experiences training Chinese teachers of English in the People's Republic of China. Our Thai guests were interested in the same for their 30 faculty of English. I expressed my willingness, and several weeks later, I received an invitation to do so. President George Dennison, Vice President Daniel Dwyer, Dean Paul Rowland, and Director Mehrdad Kia were most supportive...thank you!

Wintersession 2006 offered a convenient time for the training, including the opportunity to escape three weeks of Montana winter. I devised a 15-hour workshop using the chapter book *Sahara Special* (Codell, 2003) as the foundation for demonstrating a plethora of teaching strategies. The book's plot presents the trials and tribulations of growing up in inner city Chicago from the voice of Sahara Jones, a fifth grader, and the positive influence of her devoted and sassy teacher, Miss Pointy. The novel's theme is a reminder that the purpose of school is not only to impart knowledge but also to blossom souls. Furthermore, inherent in the story line are examples of creative and effective teaching methods.

Khon Kaen University (KKU) is one of four regional universities established in 1964 as part of a decentralized development plan for higher education in Thailand. Located in northeastern Thailand, only an hour's plane ride from Bangkok, the campus supports 16 faculties, four academic support centers, a hospital, and research institutes. Undergraduate and graduate enrollment approximates 20,000. The campus offers many services and facilities and is well maintained. The climate is a tropical one.

During the training sessions, I demonstrated reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing activities in which the participants practiced. Specific activities included writing and dramatizing poetry, composing chapter reaction papers, peer editing, read alouds, questioning techniques, assessment, and multiple intelligences strategies. Facilitated by Dean Peerasit, Thai administrators and I shared an afternoon discussing the goal of a double degree with UM. The proposed interdisciplinary doctoral degree in English Communications would represent an international degree in which the contributions from each culture and University would be integral to the single degree. So earnest is President Sakolchai's commitment to our partnership, at the closing ceremony he presented a surprise scholarship to a junior faculty member to study at UM!

Will the partnership flourish? Opportunities abound for mutual faculty and student exchanges and joint research projects. Quality elementary schools in Khon Kaen are eager to accommodate our student teachers earning their elementary licensure; I am engaging in comparative education research with faculty in KKUs English Department; President Sakolchai awarded a scholarship to a Thai faculty member to visit UM; and a UM undergraduate student is planning to study at KKU next academic year. The answer appears to be positive.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

The Newsletter of the International Programs at The University of Montana



The University of
Montana

**International Programs
International Center (MIP005)**

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cultural Youth and Family Development program. In speaking to these groups about the importance of community needs assessment, she shared her expertise regarding volunteer and assistance work with underserved populations. As the list of topics indicates, Ms. Potterton was able to address many issues of interest to students in a variety of fields on campus, including rural mental health (Psychology and Counselor Education), Developmental and Clinical Psychology, Social Work, Anthropology, and the new Master's in Public Health program. She was an invaluable resource precisely because of her ability to bridge these many, diverse areas. The following is an overview of topics addressed by Ms. Potterton during her visit to UM:

- "Basic Health and Social Needs in Africa: Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Future."
- "Treating patients with HIV/AIDS: What the Physical Therapist Needs to Know."
- "Assessing and identifying the needs of rural or underserved communities."
- "Implementing research in developing countries."
- "Integrating into foreign cultures as a service provider: How is it done?"
- "Social and psychological impact and implications of HIV/AIDS on young children and their families."

Members of the University community who were able to participate in these activities gained a great deal from Joanne Potterton's expertise, her effective presentation style, and her impressive knowledge and insights about all of these topics. We were indeed fortunate to have been able to bring her to the University of Montana for this purpose!

We welcome items of international or intercultural interest for the next newsletter. Please send them to International Programs, International Center, or email us (goabroad@mso.umt.edu).

If you are interested in receiving an email notification regarding upcoming international events and IP activities, please send your name and email address to goabroad@mso.umt.edu or call 243-2288.

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