



Seeing the Present and Beyond

"Vision is the best manifestation of creative imagination and the primary motivation of human action. It's the ability to see beyond our present reality, to create, to invent what does not exist....It gives us capacity to live out of our imagination instead of our memory."

Stephen R. Covey

I received a wonderful e-mail message this morning from my colleague, Solange Bonn, professor and coordinator of the English as a Second Language Program at Federal University in Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil. She recruited three teachers who are graduates of her program to participate in the West Virginia Council of International Programs (CIP) exchange this past semester. Brief biographies of the teachers appear on the next page. Karla Assis and Patricia Costa had placements with the WVU Department of Foreign Languages; Teresa Neves' assignment was with Central Elementary School. Here is some of what Professor Bonn had to say:

Thank you again for the opportunity CIP gave to my teachers. They've told me they enjoyed training, working and living in Morgantown more than they could have imagined....Do you think we could send another group of Brazilian teachers of English? I could very easily get professionals from other fields interested in the CIP program too.

The benefits that accrue from these teachers' placements only begin with the expression of satisfaction by our colleagues in Brazil. Each of them, as well as all of our CIP professionals, make important contributions to the university and the community. For example, a placement director for one of the teachers said this: "Our CIP participant wrote materials for a new video course and instructed teachers in their use, coordinated tutor services, gave professional development workshops and helped supervise the writing lab. She provided service to our students that would not otherwise have been possible." Two of the teachers have applied to WVU to enroll in

master's degree programs and will likely return to West Virginia in the fall as graduate assistants.

In addition to CIP, another function of International Extension is to do research to assess West Virginia's role and potential in the global economy. We discovered that West Virginia's top five international export markets in 1996 were Canada, Japan, Italy, United Kingdom, and Brazil. Yes, Brazil. If Brazil is going to be an important trade partner with our state, the university can be an important player in recruiting Brazilian students, collaborating with Brazilian faculty and business leaders, engaging in economic and trade analysis pertaining to our relationship with Brazil, providing opportunities for WVU students to study there, and promoting Portuguese language study in our schools. International Extension is a catalyst for these kinds of endeavors.

I may have wandered a bit from the intention of this article by focusing on Brazil; a strong case can be made for knowing the language and culture of many countries. International Extension through CIP, international education camps for teens, 4-H youth exchanges, development projects abroad, research studies, Extension Homemakers' international scholarship and other programs, is WVU Extension Service's window to the world, and a vital partner with University faculty, staff, and students in realizing international program objectives. International Extension involves numerous country partnerships where a diversity of international professionals and West Virginia youth, families, and communities participate.

This newsletter provides illustrations of our programs, and the partners and volunteers who are involved. I hope that reading it will provide you with a vision of what International Extension is and can be for extension, the university and the people of West Virginia.

Richard L. Fleisher
Extension Specialist and
CIP Director

CIP Professionals Conclude 1997 Placements

Karla Assis

Brazil

Teacher (English & Computers)

WVU Department of Foreign Languages

Karla, 23, earned her bachelor's degree in English language and Literature from Universidade Federal do Espirito Santo. For the past four years, she has taught English as a foreign language to children and adults in both private and public schools. In her current position with public schools in Vitoria, Karla teaches computer skills to children and teenagers, and English to adults in the evening. Karla was born in Joao, Monlevade, Minas Gerais, and lives in Vitoria, Espirito Santo.

Patricia Costa

Brazil

English Teacher/Coordinator

WVU Department of Foreign Languages

Patricia, 29, earned her bachelor's degree in English from Universidade Federal do Espirito Santo. She also completed a six-year course in English at the Point Language Services in Vitoria, a private English language institute, where she has been teaching since 1988. In her current position at the Institute, Patricia is a teacher, coordinator and trainer during the day; she also teaches English to ages 7 through adult in the evenings. Patricia was born in Resplendor, Minas Gerais, and lives in Vitoria, Espirito Santo.

Maria Teresa Neves

Brazil

English Teacher

Central Elementary School

Teresa, 28, earned her bachelor's degree in English from Universidade Federal do Espirito Santo. She also completed a "Letras" course to prepare language teachers and began teaching English in 1990. Since then, Teresa has taken two additional specialization courses in Belo Horizonte and in London. She is currently employed by Point Language Services, a private language institute in Vitoria, where she teaches beginning and intermediate English to children, adolescents and adults. Maria Teresa was born in Vitoria, Espirito Santo, where she now lives.

Andres Suarez

Colombia

Physician

WVU Community Medicine

Andres, 30, earned his medical degree from Caldas University in Manizales, Caldas. Since completing his

degree, Andres has practiced medicine in both rural and urban settings around Manizales, with a focus on the elderly, family planning, testing and treatment of patients. In his current position, Andres works at a medical center where he consults with and treats inpatients and outpatients, performs surgery and deliveries, and conducts vaccination campaigns. Andres was born in Manizales, Caldas, where he has lived all his life.

Chensheng Shen

China

Director of Foreign Affairs

Shared: College of Business and Economics, Office of International Students & Scholars, International Health Program

Chensheng, 52, earned his most recent degree in legal metrology and quality supervision from Germany Physikalisch - Technische Bundesanstalt (PTBP) in 1996. Other degrees he completed include education (1984) from Zhejiang Educational University, and language and English education (1966 and 1979) from Hangzhou Educational College. He has been Director of Foreign Affairs for the China Institute of Metrology (CIM) since 1992. Chensheng conducts national conferences in various fields, establishes relationships between CIM and organizations in other countries, and organizes international exchanges in a wide range of technical fields. Chensheng was born in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, where he presently lives and works.

Christine Dwubratu

Germany

Social Worker

Bartlett House Homeless Shelter

Christine, 28, earned her master's degree in social work from Evangelische Fachhochschule Berlin in 1994. Since graduation, she has worked as a trainee at two social agencies in Berlin. In the first, Gesundheitsanct, a health service for mentally ill adults, Christine provided direct service to patients as part of a team approach. In her current position at the Caritas e. V. Berlin, a refuge for women, she provides direct services for women at the shelter to assist them with various problems, parenting, finding housing and jobs, and generally getting their lives in order. Christine was born in Berlin where she continues to reside today.

continued on next page

Maria Elena Avonce**Mexico***Health Educator**WVU Division of Family & Consumer Sciences*

Elena, 49, earned her pediatric nursing degree at Instituto Nacional de Pediatria. For several years, she worked as a nurse in maternal and infant care programs and caring for adults in a public hospital. In 1975, Elena left nursing to become a health educator, a field in which she is still employed. In her current position at the Universidad de Guanajuato, Escuela de Enfermeria del Celaya, she develops special projects, teaches health education, coordinates activities of other health educators, and conducts student health interviews. Over the past 10 years Elena also has participated in the "Nutrition and Health for Mothers and Children" program in conjunction with the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences at WVU. Elena lives in Celaya and is the oldest of ten children.

Sirilak Pingaysorn**Thailand***Instructor, Home Economics/Environmental Science**WVU Division of Resource Management*

Sirilak, 33, earned her master's degree in environmental studies from Kasetsart University in Bangkok, and her bachelor's degree in social studies from Srinakharinwirot University in Bangkok, Thailand. For the past seven years she has worked as an environmental scientist and consultant in environmental impact studies, as a researcher in the Thai Forestry Sector Master Plan Projects, and as an instructor. In her current position as home economics Instructor at the Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU), in Bangkok, Sirilak teaches Family and Community Resources Management and Child and Family Development; develops curricula in environmental management and textbooks about environmental concerns in the community and food businesses; and heads a public relations working group. Sirilak was born in Bangkok, where she continues to reside.

**West Virginia's CIP group included,
(left to right),****front row,**

Patricia Costa, *Brazil*;
Andres Suarez, *Colombia*;
Christine Dwubratius, *Germany*;
Celina Trushell, *program assistant*;
Sirilak Pyngaysorn, *Thailand*;
Maria Elena Avonce, *Mexico*;
Maria Teresa Neves, *Brazil*

back row,

Chensheng Shen, *China*;
John Bretz, *CIP assistant*;
Rich Fleisher, *CIP director*;
Karla Assis, *Brazil*; and
Ibrahim N'Diaye, *Mali, graduate
research assistant.*

Visit the International Extension Web Site:**<http://www.wvu.edu/~exten>**Click on "**international**"**Phone:** 304•293•2694**Fax:** 304•293•8747**E-mail:** rfleishe@wvu.edu

Linda Dlugos: A Dedicated CIP Volunteer

Each issue of the International Extension Newsletter highlights the background and contributions of a person closely associated with the program. This issue focuses on Linda Dlugos, an art educator in the Morgantown community for 26 years, and a member of the West Virginia Council of International Programs (CIP) Board since 1988.

When you talk to Linda Dlugos, it is easy to understand why the CIP program is an important activity in her life. Linda first became familiar with CIP in 1986 through a teaching colleague who was a board member and provided homestays for CIP international professionals. Linda has loved to travel and has been attracted to cultures of other countries for as long as she can remember. One day, she thought to herself, "I would really like to get involved with this program." She called Sandy DeCosta, who was then director of CIP, and asked if she could volunteer. Linda's participation began shortly thereafter when she volunteered to host Marta Zsoldos, a social worker from Budapest, Hungary. Linda and Marta became friends and have continued to correspond regularly. Two years later, Linda accepted an appointment to serve on the CIP Board of Directors. "I love being on the board," Linda says. "There is a special bond that unites us in helping to make CIP happen for the participants and our community."

Linda points to her selection as a Fulbright Exchange Teacher as a remarkable, life-altering experience, which also stimulated her long-term CIP association. Her Fulbright assignment sent her to Sheffield, England, for the 1986-87 academic year, where she taught art at a comprehensive school, grades seven to eleven. She exchanged teaching assignments and homes that year with her counterpart Fulbright Teacher from England who came to Morgantown and taught at Westover Junior High School.

It took several weeks for Linda and her students to adjust to each other's accents, but the experience was valuable and memorable. She learned a great deal about England's education system through her teaching assignment and opportunities to give guest presentations at other schools. She remembers vividly attending a conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland. "Buildings were barricaded and you sometimes heard the sound of gunfire," she explains. "It was a sobering experience!"

Upon returning home, Linda became a member of the Fulbright Commission's Teacher Exchange Regional Interview Team, an assignment that she has retained for 10 years. She has taught at Suncrest Middle School for the



Linda with Japanese woman who taught flower arranging and the tea ceremony in her home in Kani City, Japan.

past nine years. Earlier this year, she saw an advertisement by the Fulbright Memorial Fund announcing a new program for American teachers in Japan. Linda was one of 100 teachers selected from the 2,500 applicants in the inaugural year of the program. The delegation of teachers spent three weeks in Japan with the expectation of adapting their learnings and insights to their classrooms in the United States. Linda is applying what she learned about origami, Japanese paper folding. Her students are making origami cranes as part of a community service project. Recently, Suncrest Middle School students presented strings of cranes to pediatric patients at Ruby Memorial Hospital. They have established a goal of making and distributing 10,000 cranes. They have created 3,000 so far.

Linda brings a unique perspective to her students by virtue of her international experiences. Her international insights are particularly helpful when you consider that Suncrest Middle School includes students from 12 different countries. She continues to be a gifted teacher, seeking new and creative ways to touch her students. If you visit her classroom, you will see the words "art show" written in 33 languages. The list expands whenever a student or visitor can add another translation. Linda is enthusiastic and excited about reaching kids and sharing international perspectives. "My CIP experiences, international exchanges, and travel help me to understand and appreciate cultural differences," she points out. "They help me to be more sensitive to my students and more innovative in my teaching."

Her students are not the only beneficiaries of Linda's time and talents. Just ask anyone affiliated with the West Virginia CIP program. ▲

International Extension Program Highlights

WVU Multicultural Camp

The seventh annual Multicultural Camp was conducted July 6-10, 1997. Forty-eight students attended the camp, highlighted by the weeklong participation of international students from the WVU Intensive English Program and a delegation of Korean public school teachers. The camp provides students with opportunities to learn more about other countries and global issues, and bring back learnings to their schools and communities.

The eighth annual camp is scheduled July 19-23, 1998. Peter Jensen, extension agent in Morgan County, and Richard Fleisher co-coordinate the camp.

International 4-H Youth (IFYE) Exchange Program

Allison Ebert from Mineral County is our 1997-98 IFYE delegate. She spent the fall semester in Australia. Her statewide speaking tour is scheduled Jan. 13 - May 9, 1998.



We hosted two IFYE delegates from abroad this year. Kjersti Bang from Norway and Jukka-Pekka (J.P.) Savolainen from Finland visited West Virginia from July 1 to Sept. 13. Kjersti and J.P. are college students in their countries.

Extension Homemakers' International Student Scholarship

Celina Melgoza from Mexico is the West Virginia Extension Homemakers' scholarship recipient for 1997-98. Celina is a sophomore at West Virginia University, majoring in education. She is preparing a booklet about her country and a slide set and script for use by Extension Homemakers and 4-H groups. Her state tour is scheduled May 13-Aug. 4, 1998.

Elizabeth Gorimani from Zimbabwe completed her second year as scholarship recipient and second tour of the state last summer.

Mali Pen Pal Program

Extension continues to implement a pen pal program for children in West Virginia and Mali. Ibrahim N'Diaye, graduate research assistant with the International Extension Program, coordinates the program with Dara Shaw, special program director of the WVU Intensive English Program. More than 400 youths are now involved in the project.

Three Malian students are planning to come to West Virginia next summer to visit their pen pals and attend the WVU Multicultural Camp.

Guatemala Project

The Guatemala Project, which began in 1992, continues to expand and diversify. The project consists of exchange, development, and humanitarian activities in West Virginia and several communities in Guatemala. International Extension and Morgantown North Rotary Club coordinate the project in conjunction with Guatemala North Rotary Club.

In the village of El Carmen, a revolving loan fund continues to help support agricultural development for families. Well tests were completed in 1997, and progress continues for establishing a water distribution system for the community in 1998. Rich Fleisher gave presentations to many groups about our work in Guatemala, several of them with his wife Jane, a project volunteer.

Rich is leading a delegation of 11 faculty, students, and community volunteers to San Lucas Toliman, Solala. The purposes of the trip, scheduled Jan. 2-9, 1998, are to: continue and expand facets of the project, establish new opportunities for academic and community collaboration between West Virginia and Guatemala, educate the delegation and others about the plight of marginalized people in Guatemala, and conduct humanitarian work. The group includes extension faculty Guen Brown, Peter Jensen and Ric MacDowell; CIP Board Member Greg Juckett and volunteer Dennis Overman; and Extension Homemaker Suzanne Bryant.

Campamento de Ingles Intensivo

El primer programa de aprendizaje intensivo del idioma Español será ofrecido por la Universidad de Virginia Occidental, durante los días 26 al 31 de Julio de 1998 en Jackson's Mill. El campamento es coordinado por el Programa de Extension Internacional y el Departamento de Idiomas Extranjeros de la Universidad de Virginia Occidental,

en colaboración con la Asociación de Maestros de Lenguas Extranjeras a través del Estado.

El programa consistirá en clases y presentaciones, tutelaje individual, juegos interactivos y recreación, como también actividades de carácter social. Toda la instrucción y las actividades durante el campamento serán conducidas en Español. La objetivo es proveer de manera intensiva, a aquellos estudiantes de escuela superior que hayan completado por lo menos un año de Español, la oportunidad de mejorar sus habilidades en el manejo del lenguaje y sus conocimientos acerca de países hispano hablantes.

Este campamento será también ofrecido a jóvenes de América Latina y España. Para ellos se brindará la oportunidad de pasar tres semanas en Virginia Occidental y de participar en el Campamento Multicultural, Campamento de Español Intensivo, y una semana de aprendizaje de Inglés.

Spanish Immersion Camp

West Virginia University's first Spanish Immersion Camp for teenagers is scheduled July 26-31, 1998 at Jackson's Mill. The camp is coordinated by International Extension and the WVU Department of Foreign Languages, in cooperation with the West Virginia Foreign Language Teachers' Association.

The program will consist of formal classes and presentations, one-to one tutoring, interactive games and recreation, and social activities. All of the instruction and activities of the camp will be conducted in Spanish. The goal is to provide an intensive opportunity for high school students in the state who have completed at least one year of Spanish or the equivalent to improve their language ability and knowledge about Spanish speaking countries.

The camp is also being marketed to teens in Latin America and Spain as part of an opportunity to spend three weeks in West Virginia to attend the Multicultural Camp, Spanish Immersion Camp, and a week of English instruction.

"We must all learn to live together as brothers, or we will all perish together as fools. We are tied together in the single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, and whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly."

Martin Luther King

West Virginia Ginseng Case Study

The West Virginia ginseng project was begun by WVU extension agents in the early 1990s with the recognition that ginseng could be a source of income for rural landowners in the state. The project represents an opportunity for extension to diversify its economic development initiatives by reaching China and other international markets. Rich Fleisher, Peter Marshall, extension specialist; John Scott Jr, Mercer County extension agent, are collaborating on a case study to determine and assess what happened, and to draw implications for future economic development initiatives.

The case study plan has been developed and implementation will begin in Mercer County in February 1998. The study will be conducted in two phases. Phase I will involve a discussion with a subset of the key players in the project. Phase II will involve in-depth interviews with the key people who can provide a full picture of the ginseng project from its inception to the present.

Global Assessment Project in the Eastern Panhandle

The Global Assessment Project in the Eastern Panhandle—Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties—is a collaborative research project that documents and assesses the nature and potential of international economic development initiatives in the region. It is a study being conducted by the WVU Extension Service and WVU Bureau of Business and Economic Research, in cooperation with the International Trade Development Council of the Eastern Panhandle. The Extension team consists of graduate research assistant Iba N'Diaye, Community and Economic Development (CED) division director Scott Loveridge, and CED program specialist Alison Hanham, and Rich Fleisher.

The study in progress will result in a resource document of information and data about the climate and future potential for international business activities in the three counties. The specific objectives of the project are to: (1) provide information about the characteristics and scope of international trade in the region, (2) identify the multiplier effects of international trade in the primary economic sectors, (3) characterize the current status of internationalization in the region, and (4) present an indication of the most promising international economic development opportunities. ▲

Council of International Fellowship (CIF)

Exchange Opportunities Abroad– The Council of International Fellowship, the alumni organization affiliated with CIP, annually conducts exchanges for human service professionals throughout the world. Programs are similar to the training and work-related placements

provided by West Virginia CIP. Exchanges will be conducted in 15 countries in 1998. Placements are typically 4-10 weeks in length and are open to an average of 6-12 professionals per country. Further details are available by contacting the CIF coordinators directly:

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West Virginia's needs can no longer be understood or addressed locally or regionally. West Virginia is part of an increasingly interdependent world. Current and future needs of our state must be viewed globally. WVU International Extension links the university, extension and West Virginians to people and institutions of different cultures across geographical boundaries.

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