



*Friends of the International Center,
at UC San Diego*

Newsletter

Volume XLIV, No.11

June 2017

President's Column

As I write this final column of the 2016-17 academic year, I cannot but help reflect on the trials and tribulations of the past year and to simultaneously dance a silent celebratory jig: we did it! Friends not only survived the loss of our International Center buildings, the moves into and use of a variety of new campus locations, but also emerged stronger than ever thanks to the amazing, talented, and dedicated leaders in this organization, including our 2016-17 Board members, program leaders, and active volunteers. Each of these individuals has worked tirelessly to ensure that our programs remain vibrant and relevant and that our community remains resolutely inclusive of all who wish to join us.

As the result of everyone's collective efforts, including our membership and university colleagues, our international community has experienced the same level of compassion, welcome, and support that has been the hallmark of the Friends for the past fifty-six years (special mention to **Joan Adamo, Jennie Chin, Nori Faer, Nancy Homeyer, Lynn Jahn, Ruth Newmark, Diana Saunders, Renate Schmid-**

Schoenbein, Georgina Sham, Marion Spors, Cindy Tozer, and Mariko Usui), and we were able to award a record \$110,000 in academic scholarships! Thank you one and all for your commitment and shared vision!

Friends programs operate year-round and the impact of your participation, whether it be occasional or frequent, cannot be overstated. As **Pearl Tangri**, originally from India and now in Australia, wrote in her May "goodbye awesome people" e-mail: "I am going to start a new journey but this journey of San Diego is going to be my favorite forever. I have made the most beautiful memories to cherish for life. Some amazing friends to hold on to forever. And some great volunteers/mentors to learn from & to enjoy with. Thank you dear friends to share your precious time and friendship with me." Pearl's e-mail generated a response from **Gabi Soliman**, who returned to Brazil about a year ago: "I would like to say that I feel the same about our AMAZING volunteers from IC, you guys make our experience in San Diego one of the best ever in life, to keep in our mind and hearts forever! Love you all and



Katya Newmark at Friends Dinner Social she chaired in April

miss sooooo much our chats, coffees and laughs together."

You will soon (keep your fingers crossed) find an interactive calendar on our <icfriends.ucsd.edu> website and will be able to find programs and events that match your interest. You might note that we have more evening events planned for 2017-18, and I ask that you please save the dates on your calendar, so that you can be part of the team that makes America great for all of the right reasons!

Since there's no time like the present, why not start by attending our July 4th picnic at the scenic Martin Johnson House (at SIO) from 5:00 – 8:00 pm?

Wishing you all a wonderful summer,

Katya

PresFIC@mail.ucsd.edu

Special Recognition of All Our International Center Volunteers

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are approaching the annual recognition luncheon for our International Center campus and community volunteers. This year, we are deviating from the normal course. We will be honoring all of our volunteers as outstanding, not a select group of individuals, with the Chancellor's recognition. Therein, I find it a bit ironic that I am about to single out one individual for her outstanding volunteer service to the UC San Diego international community and that individual is **Madeleine Rast**.

I met Madeleine for the first time shortly after I had arrived at UC San Diego as I waited in line and paid my five dollars for the Wednesday lunch, so beautifully prepared by the Friends volunteer International Kitchen team. This somewhat diminutive, unassuming, gracious lady cashiering that day greeted me. She said hello and inquired: "Who are you?" I replied: "My name is **Kirk Simmons**. It is a pleasure to meet you and thank you for volunteering." Surprised by my remark, she haltingly said: "You're welcome. I am Madeleine. What do you do?" I replied: "Actually, I am the new Dean of the Center." She smiled broadly, and I continued to move through the buffet line.

Over time, I had the opportunity to stop and chat with Madeleine many times. I was deeply touched by her quiet

warmth and sincerity. I often thought to myself: "She is someone I hardly know, but someone I understand to the depth of my soul." This was the effect Madeleine had on not just me, but I am certain on the thousands of people who crossed her path over the course of her long life.

Madeleine died recently. I was deeply saddened by the news. I felt as if I had lost an intimate friend. I wanted to know more about Madeleine. There was no obituary. I politely asked some of the Friends volunteers, but they were of little help in my quest for information. They said that she was a very private person. I was still curious. I did what we do in these times. I Googled Madeleine. There was not much, but I did discover her LinkedIn account—scant with information, but three items were listed. She had been a senior auditor in her work life. She was retired. She now enjoyed simply helping others. She did this very well.

Madeleine is my very special volunteer of the year—and so are each and every one of you—who give so much every day to enrich our international community.

Best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,
Kirk

The logo for the July 4th Celebration features the words "July 4th" in a large, red, cursive font, with "Celebration" in a smaller, blue, cursive font below it. A small American flag is positioned to the left of the word "Celebration".

Starting at 5:00 p.m. at
the Martin Johnson House
Scripps Institution of
Oceanography
8840 Biological Grade,
La Jolla

Cost: \$6/adult, \$3/child
from 2-10 years old,
infants free

Reservations required:
[https://july4thpicnicucsd.
eventbrite.com](https://july4thpicnicucsd.eventbrite.com)



We will offer a traditional American picnic supper featuring chips and dips, hotdogs with buns and condiments, corn on the cob, vegetarian baked beans, and potato salad, with brownies and watermelon for dessert. Wine and lemonade are included. There will be games and animal balloons for the children. By 9:00 p.m., we will be able to see the fireworks at the La Jolla Cove from the Martin Johnson House. So bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on and enjoy the show.

For more information, e-mail **Georgina Sham** at gbsham@gmail.com or **Lynn Jahn** at lynnjahn@gmail.com.

In Memoriam: Luna Fung, 1923-2017

—by *Renate Schmid-Schoenbein*

Luna Fung, one of the Friends founding members and dedicated volunteer, passed away peacefully in her sleep at her home on April 24, surrounded by her loving family.

Luna was born in Tianjin, China, the fourth of six sisters. After obtaining a degree in mathematics at National Central University in Chungking, she left China in 1947 for the United States on a scholarship to earn her M.A. in mathematics at UCLA.

After arriving in Los Angeles, she reconnected with **Yuan-Cheng (Bert) Fung** whom she had met during her studies at National Central University. Yuan-Cheng, a brilliant student of aeronautics, had left China two years earlier, in 1945, supported by a U.S. scholarship for outstanding engineers, and had gone to Pasadena for postdoctoral work at the California Institute of Technology.

They married in 1949 and led a fulfilling life as a young family, Yuan-Cheng as a Caltec faculty member, Luna teaching mathematics at Citrus College, as well as raising their two young children, **Conrad** and **Brenda**

In 1966, Yuan-Cheng accepted a faculty position at the young University of California, San Diego to found the Department of Bioengineering, and the family moved to La Jolla. Here Luna focused her energies and talents on becoming actively involved in many volunteer activities in the community and the university, such as the UCSD Medical Auxiliary, Oceanids Newcomers Committee, and the developing Friends of International Center.

In her quiet and analytical way, Luna was incredibly efficient in helping the Friends young programs grow and flourish. In 1973, Luna chaired the first Ethnic Dinner together with her good friend, **Lily Lin**. In 1974-75 she became the Friends Co-Chair with **Dorothy Edwards**. She dedicated herself with passion to the international Host Family program, the English tutoring program, and countless social events.

Based on her positive volunteering experience at the UCSD Medical Center Thrift Shop in Hillcrest, Luna convinced the Friends Board in 1981 to start a similar program at the International Center: the Friends Resale Shop. There she volunteered every Friday morning well into her eighties.

Luna, which means *The Moon*, shared many characteristics with her namesake—she was a calm presence of influence and consequence, never threatening and often illuminating. Even in her waning years, she was surrounded by admiration and love. For her 92nd birthday, the large community of her friends established a donation drive for a *Luna Fung Scholarship*, which has enabled the Friends to give out two scholarships per year in Luna's honor.

In her long and eventful life, Luna followed her path with strength



Luna Fung (on the right) with Medha von Essen in the International Center kitchen preparing for an Indian dinner scheduled for April 29, 1973. This event was the second of our still running series of Ethnic Dinners.

Photo from the *Triton Times*,
April 20, 1973

and achieved so much for herself, but mostly for those around her. Thank you, Luna.

June Calendar

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: **English Class**, 10:00-11:30

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Friday Chat**, 10:00-Noon

June 6, 13, 20, 27: **Gus' Table, English Conversation**, 10:00-Noon

June 6, 13, 20, 27: **FIC Craft Circle**, 1:00-3:30

June 7, 28: **Family Orientation**, 9:15

June 7, 14, 21, 28: **Wednesday Coffee**, 10:00-Noon

June 7, 14, 21, 28: **Mommy/Daddy & Me**, 1:45-2:45

June 18: **Father's Day**

June 22: **Cooking Class**, 9:00-Noon

For our summer schedule,
please see page 7

Donations

We thank **Conrad Fung, Danièle Rodé, Kathryn & Laurent Hamon, Kirk Simmons, Judith & Dan Muñoz, Georgia Crowne,** and **Ernest Mort** for their recent contributions to the Friends.



Barbara Fitzsimmons and Ruth Newmark check in the c. 90 guests



Tables display Eiffel Towers, while napkins reflect the colors of the French flag
Guests enjoy playing a bingo-like, get-acquainted game



Justin Costello and Liz Fong Wills take in the view



Executive Sous Chef Gerardo Moreno comes to inspect the laden buffet table

Vive la France: A French Feast with Music by Maurice Ravel

The beautiful rooms of the 15th floor of The Village, the new housing complex for transfer students, proved to be a perfect spot for the long-awaited **Friends Dinner Social** that continues to attract a nice mix of Friends, post-docs, graduate students, and UCSD staff. No matter whether it was the promise of a delicious three-course French meal, the eagerness to see expansive views of the ocean, the Torrey Pines Golf Course, and the distant mountains, or the lure of hearing a string quartet play classical music that enticed the guests, the dinner sold out quickly.

We have come to rely on our President to take a multitude of pictures and to share these, most often still on the same night of an event. Thus, by 11:00 p.m., on April 22, 2017, many of us were treated to a thoughtful e-mail thanking us for helping to mount the Friends Dinner Social she chaired. Accompanying her 26 photos, **Katya Newmark** wrote these words of appreciation:

Dear Friends Dinner Team,

Thank you to each and every one of you for your support and service that allowed the Friends to provide yet another enjoyable evening for our Friends Dinner Social guests! While I know that for the Friends volunteers the format and feel is different from what we have been accustomed, I hope that you agree that despite the differences, the overall result was a most positive experience and a great community builder. The food was delicious and won over many of our skeptics! A special thank-you to our musicians, who delighted our guests with their performance and whose participation was a powerful draw contributing to our sold-out evening.

To Katya's words of praise came this quick response from the Assistant Food Service Manager, who countered: *My pleasure. Lovely to see you and looking forward to seeing you all in May (at the Friends annual membership dinner). Kind regards, Farzin Khorsandjamal*



Clever decorations consisting of wire whisks donated by Lynn Jahn and cutouts saying *Vive la France* made by Danya Costello, were masterfully assembled by Matthew Costello to mimic Katya's vision of a fleur-de-lis



Jean Fort and Rong Hu from China engage in conversation on the terrace



Ozzy and Rachel Rogerio, Ana-Silvia Abreu; Reiko Watanabe standing in back



Qizhi Cao holds a plate of Chicken Cordon Bleu, tomato and zucchini tart, a green salad, and roll



Director of IFSO and violinist Roark Miller arranged for his ensemble to play Ravel's String Quartet to augment the dinner's French theme



The *mousse au chocolat* was a big hit



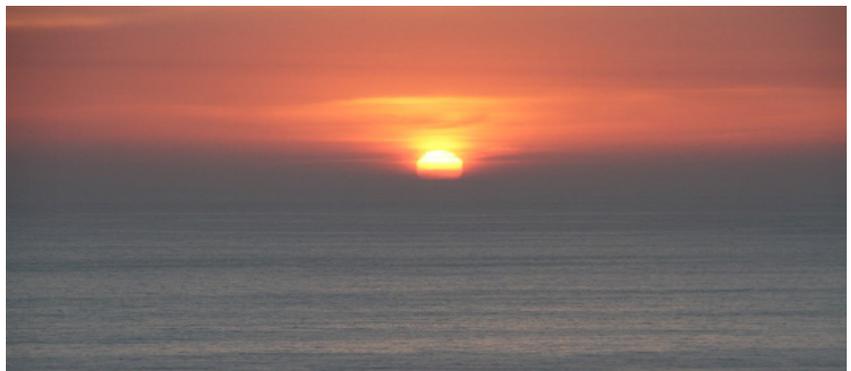
Violist Penny Bridges



Violinist John Goodkind



Cellist David Bittleman



A magnificent sunset as seen from the 15th floor of The Village

Guests left happy and enthusiastic about the new location. Representative of their comments are these summations:

What a resounding success! I think everyone involved had a good time and we were really treated to a wonderful venue for the event. I look forward to the next Friends Dinner Social. — Ginny Young

The social dinner was amazing tonight. Thank you very much for such a great organization that celebrates different cultures. Thank you also for creating such a welcoming environment for international people. — Seyhan Karakulak

I didn't have a chance to congratulate you, Katya, on organizing the French dinner. The location is fantastic, the food was delicious, and the company was interesting. Great job as usual. — Danièle Rodé

The dinner was a great event. We loved it. You can be sure I will tell about Friends Dinner to many. — Ana-Silvia Abreu

[My son] Richard and I had a good time attending last night's elegant banquet. With the charm of the golden sunset on the sea together with the harmonious music, it really was a beautiful evening. — Gladys Wong

A final bravo to the dinner chair: *Many merci beaucoup to you, Katya, for your unending work on behalf of the Friends. — Barbara Fitzsimmons*

My Journey to Making San Diego a Home Away from Home

—by *Yamuna Mohanram*

As newlyweds, **Nambi** and I embarked on our journey to San Diego (he in December 2015; I in January 2016), where he had taken up a postdoctoral research position with UCSD in the Biological Sciences Division. We both are from the Southern part of India, from the state of Tamil Nadu. Both of us did our undergraduate work in India and then moved to England for our graduate studies. Nambi's current research focuses on protein folding mechanism in relation to aging related neurodegenerative disorders, while my research interests have been in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine.

Like most couples, we were equally excited about the move and in figuring out what life had in store for us. We managed to have a safe and smooth transition, which we thoroughly enjoyed, and as a result we also were able to make our house our home. Besides having a wonderful time putting our home together and also exploring the marvelous scenic sights of this city, I did suffer sporadic moments of loneliness during the weekdays. Thoughts about leaving family, friends, job, city, and country rose up when I sat alone at home while my husband was away at work.

This feeling was strange to me, as I have spent a lot of time away from my near and dear ones, while I was pursuing my education in England and for work in India. This feeling was different and new to me. I was lacking the company of good friends; it was all the more hard to deal with as one with a J-2 visa, I could not begin to work, which also meant that meeting and getting to know people became limited.

While I waited for my work authorization document to come through, Nambi realized I was going through this phase and ensured that I step out of the house every single day to explore the city, while he was at work. On one such day, in the library, I came across Friends of the International Center in the local La Jolla newspaper. I read about the organization, its involvement with the International Center at UCSD, including the weekly activities it runs.

It got me excited, yet a little apprehensive, about joining the Friends arts and crafts class, as I wasn't sure if I would fit in well, so I waited for their monthly cookery class to take place and got myself enrolled.

That was the beginning of my association with

Friends of the International Center, and I still can remember that very first day, standing amongst so many other international participants and volunteers. Every single member on that very first day was warm and welcoming. It was encouraging and reassuring to be one amongst them. One of the international participants, **Hazuki**, who was soon to be returning back to Japan, took her time to walk me through the arts and crafts display cabinets, explaining all the other activities that went on in the International Center.

I listened to her and joined all the weekly activities. It made a lot of difference for me to have this kind of support from not just the volunteers, but also from the other international participants. This has brought a sense of strong bonding amongst us girls, and so it has amongst our partners.

I want to thank Friends and all your volunteers for what you do. You have made a big impact on my life. I didn't want to stop by just enjoying all the love that was being showered on me, but was looking for the best way to express my own experience and be the next Hazuki to newcomers. **Family Orientation** seemed the best fit, and **Nancy Homeyer** gladly accepted me to be on her team as an international volunteer, giving me that platform to speak and to share my experiences with newer international arrivals.



Family Orientation luncheon at the home of Nancy Homeyer.

Seated: Barbara Fitzsimmons, Diana Saunders

Standing: Yamuna Mohanram, Emma Forin, Joan Adamo,
Nancy Homeyer, Yuuka Nishibori, and Macarena Galaz

Since then, the team has been joined by
Tuktuki Bhattacharya and Mayra Nevarez



Slate of Friends Officers for the Year 2017-2018

President:	Katya Newmark
Vice President, Membership:	Renate Schmid-Schoenbein
Recording Secretary:	Lynn Jahn
Treasurer:	Ruth Newmark
Corresponding Secretary:	Jean Selzer

In keeping with our organization's fiscal year that ends on June 30th, Friends elected officers will assume their position on July 1, 2017.

Summer Schedule for Friends Programs

- ❖ The **Friends Resale Shop** will be on summer break, starting Friday, June 9, 2017. We will reopen our doors on Tuesday, September 26. Have a great summer, everyone! Happy travels. See you in the Fall at UC 214 (part of the Chancellor's complex between Library Walk and Matthews Quad).—**Marion Spors**
- ❖ **Gus' Table:** The Tuesday conversation group will meet every Tuesday morning, 10:00 to noon, in June, July, and August, in Building 409's Dance Hall, unless it's a major holiday. While the topics of conversation are yet to be planned, I am sure we will all have a good time and continue to learn more about American culture and idiomatic expressions.—**Nori Faer**
- ❖ **Craft Circle** will continue through the summer at its usual time, Tuesday afternoon, 1:00-3:30, in the Dance Hall of UC Building 409. **Lynn Jahn** and **Mary Woo** will continue to provide direction for projects in sewing, crochet, and/or knitting, or other projects that may be of interest to our participants.—**Jennie Chin**
- ❖ **Family Orientation:** The volunteers of Family Orientation greet the families of international faculty and scholars new to UCSD on the first and third Wednesdays of each month year-round. We provide them with an orientation to this country and campus. We make them aware of Wednesday Coffee and other welcoming programs and activities where they can make new friends. These programs continue throughout the summer, and so do the arrival of new internationals. It does get a little quieter and a little easier to park up until August and then things pick up again.—**Nancy Homeyer**
- ❖ **Wednesday Coffee** will continue all through the summer to meet every week from 10:00–12:00 noon, in Building 409. We have in the plans all sorts of crafts, such as weaving with yarn, fabric and paper; painting rocks; sewing, crocheting, and knitting projects; embroidering; making pine needle baskets; and we may even do Tai-chi or some folk dancing one Wednesday. Join us any and every Wednesday for some coffee, snacks, fun craft projects, and just getting acquainted.—**Georgina Sham**
- ❖ **Mommy/ Daddy & Me** will meet through the summer at its usual time (every Wednesday afternoon, from 1:45 -2:45) in Room 2148 of McGill Hall. The international leaders will continue to offer a fun-filled program for kids 0 – 5 years old and their caregivers, that includes sing-alongs, story time, and craft projects. We may also plan some occasional special events, such as park play dates, outdoor crafts, and a swap meet. Older siblings are welcome!—**Mariko Usui**
- ❖ **Cooking classes** in Revelle's demonstration kitchen will be on hiatus from July through September, but will resume in October, as usual on the second Thursday of the month, under the guidance of **Chef Vargus**.—**Cindy Tozer/Katya Newmark**
- ❖ **English as a Second Language** class will continue every Thursday morning, from 10:00-11:30 (unless I am away) until the end of July. Classes will include reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills practice, whilst learning new vocabulary, grammar, and cultural topics. **Luke** and I will return to England, but intend to see some of the United States in August before heading home. **Irma** and **Pat Canan** will take over the ELS program in mid-September.—**Diana Saunders**
- ❖ **Friday Chat** will meet every Friday all summer, from 10:00-noon, in Building 409. We also will continue early-morning tennis, and the occasional hike or outing to something interesting. Grunion runs on the high tides after the full and new moon are likely to be on the list.—**Cindy Tozer**

SCHOLARSHIP LETTERS

The Impact of Sports in Egypt

Egypt has long been known for its inspiring tourist sites and rich heritage, the latter of which has attracted many generations of historians and stimulated their intellectual curiosity and creativity. While many scholars have chosen to elucidate the wealth of its ancient past, my research focuses on the last 150 years and the ways in which everyday people shaped their national destiny. In particular, I argue that sport allowed the ideologies of intellectuals and political elites to be translated in a way that permitted broader segments of the population to internalize and use them to influence the future of their nation.

Today's scholars of Egypt, however, face many challenges, both internal and external, in conducting their research. The nation has, for example, suffered from the spread of misconceptions about the Arab and Muslim world and, as such, the number of grants willing to fund travel to the region dwindles every year. Moreover, the country's immense and unpredictable bureaucracy is well known, and thus any archival visit must account for substantial delays, and even the possibility that access to materials may be denied entirely, necessitating backup plans and limiting the number of sites that one can expect to visit on any trip.

The generous support of the Friends of the International Center, however, has helped ease these difficulties and allowed me to expand the possibilities of what I will be able to accomplish in my dissertation. The additional funding made it possible for me to travel outside of Cairo to several supplemental research centers in the city of Alexandria on the Mediterranean coast. My scholarship ensured that I had sufficient resources to access the full breadth of the city's archives, from the periodical collections at the University of Alexandria, to the secondary sources at the Faculty of Physical Education for Men.

I was also afforded the opportunity, for the first time, to visit several of the sporting clubs that were founded during my period of study, ones that may provide clues as to how sport aided everyday people in impacting the world around them. Upon explaining to the guards at one club that I was writing about the sports history of Egypt, one looked at me with an expression of consternation and remarked "I do not think that you will find anything of value on that topic here. Our library mostly contains documents on the social history of the club, not the actual sports." They were quite relieved to hear that this was exactly the kind of material I was looking for.

While these visits were not always this successful [the city's largest club, for example, had no library other than a reading room for children!], the experience of each excursion was never wasted. There are no online indices that reveal what archival materials these organizations hold, and thus engaging them first hand has allowed me to modify my expectations and better plan my time for the future. This is in addition to the fundamental benefit of practicing the local dialect and acclimatizing myself to the culture. All of these considerations, I hope, will contribute to the objective that I stated in my application: breaking the cycle of cultural misperceptions by traveling to and acquiring knowledge about the region, so that I can contribute to greater awareness and understanding on a global scale.

Paul Tchir

Ph.D. Candidate from Canada, Department of History

Dear Friends,

I am having the most wonderful time in Rome! I have visited Florence, Tivoli, as well as the countryside in Lazio and Tuscany. My Italian Food and Anthropology professor took our class on a site visit to the medieval city of Viterbo, where we went to a vineyard and observed the wine and cheese production, and had lunch in a famous Italian artist's studio. It was awesome!! I have traveled to London (where I got a tattoo!), and have booked my flights to Greece and Paris in the upcoming weeks!

Italy really does have its reputation for charm—I love it here. There is always something to do, or see, or eat. A huge flea market is set up right in front of my apartment building every Sunday; there is a pizza shop right around the corner for our late night study sessions or when we've had too much great wine, and there are gelato shops on every corner to treat ourselves after every not-so-great midterm. I threw coins into the Trevi Fountain, watched my classmate DJ music at a local club, shopped for leather goods till I dropped, and browsed contemporary art galleries against the backdrop of Renaissance culture. I have reveled in the ancient Roman ruins and cried at the sight of basilicas. I could not have asked for a more enriching experience.

I am immensely grateful to those that selected me to be a recipient of a Friends of the International Scholarship. I was able to have most of my fees covered for this trip thanks to financial aid and your scholarship. I love this experience so much that I have decided to continue my study abroad endeavors and have recently applied for the UCEAP Yonsei University International Summer School Program. It is a six-week summer program in Seoul, Korea. I will be commencing my last quarter as an undergrad there.

I cannot thank you enough for the

opportunity you've given me and the doors it has opened up. I think I was truly able to get a bearing on my future while being in Rome, because I was finally able to step away from work and the daily distractions back at home and really sit down and consider in which direction I wanted my post-undergrad life to go. I am still terrified, but a little less clueless, and, thankfully, a little more confident. Thank you for being a part of my journey!

Karen Wang

Sixth College, Sociology major

A Dream Come True

This summer, I was able to fulfill my dream of studying abroad. Going to Korea not only benefitted me in my academics, it held great professional and personal value as well.

While at Yonsei University, I had the opportunity to study in an intensive, immersive language program. Although I had studied Korean before, I was surprised by how much my language skills improved in a short period of ten weeks. My other course, Contemporary Korean Culture, was also extremely engaging and interesting. It gave me valuable knowledge about the development of a rapidly growing modern Asian nation, including some of the economic and social challenges that it faces. Taking these courses reaffirmed my desire to work in a field revolving around international relations between the United States and East Asia.

Outside of my course work, something totally unexpected happened. While removing my eye makeup, I had an allergic reaction to a new makeup remover and wound up with chemical burns and corneal erosion in both of my eyes. Being suddenly thrown into this physically and emotionally terrifying experience might seem all terrible, but it also gave me new insights [no pun intended]. I was able to realize my abilities and determination to overcome challenges, and to see the strength of my friendships. The expe-

rience, though, did have a financial impact, since I had to pay out of pocket for all my medical expenses. I was extremely grateful for my Friends of the International Center Scholarship, because it had helped me save so much in my spending in other areas.

Studying abroad opened up a whole new world for me. In this best summer of my life, I learned much

both inside and outside the classroom, traveled to historic sites I had only dreamed about, made lifelong friends, and unforgettable memories. Thank you for allowing that to happen through your scholarship.

Claudia Cheng

Muir College,

International Studies major

Research Report

As an international student at UC San Diego, I have had the opportunity to interact with diverse people, which has helped me in developing inclusive teaching skills, a thoughtful research design, and an empathetic approach to collaborating with colleagues in projects. During this year, when I was funded by the Friends of the International Center, I have been able to make some advances on my research, while also initiating a few smaller extra-curricular projects.

My dissertation is about the narratives built by the Indian government around craft and how this impacts extant craft communities, specifically in terms of how they represent themselves in an increasingly capitalistic handicrafts market. During the past year, I have been able to organize a panel and present a paper at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association at Minneapolis. I also shared my work with a group of South Asian scholars at the University of Washington in Seattle, and am presenting another paper at the Association of Asian Studies in Toronto, in March 2017.

Thanks to a grant I received from UC's Frontiers of Innovation Scholars Program and the Center for Cyber Archaeology and sustainability, I have initiated a digital humanities project to translate my written research onto a multimedia platform, so that it will be accessible to scholarly and lay audiences. Additionally, I am developing an ancillary project at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, which examines the role played by American curators in showcasing Asian culture during the Cold War period. Thus, my research interests have been shaped by my experiences of intercultural relations and inquiries.

I have also been contributing towards some extra-academic projects. I am currently a member of the Graduate Advisory Board of Humanists@Work, a University of California Humanities Research Institute organization dedicated towards encouraging graduate students in the humanities and social sciences to value their labor and consider careers that utilize their disciplinary background outside of academia. As the only international member, I am collaborating with the International Faculty & Scholars Office to build a campus map of facilities available to international students.

My goal is to contribute towards crystallizing our knowledge bases regarding the support systems that are available to international students who are often far from family, friends, and extended networks. Consequently, I am also working with other graduate students to start a local chapter of the Humanists@Work organization in an effort to build a community of support, collaboration, and resourcefulness, which, I have always felt, is also the mission of the Friends of the International Center.

Sowparnika Balaswaminathan

Ph.D. Candidate from India, Department of Anthropology

Cooperation and Understanding Between Lands

Last year I had the amazing opportunity to be a part of a group of students who have benefited from a Friends of the International Center Scholarship. Such awards not only help students thrive in an economical sense, but also demonstrate the University's interest in diversity as a means of cooperation and cultural understanding. Being a part of this ongoing process was priceless, and I will always appreciate it as a fundamental aid to my performance and growth as a writer and a scholar.

Through the funding of the scholarship, I was able to travel back to my hometown over the summer to work on the research for my thesis manuscript, "Machine; a digital and experimental hybrid text". I am interested in borders and traces, and the Friends of the International Center scholarship gave me the chance to explore them both, and to safeguard that the relationship between my two languages and my two countries remains, not untouched, but transformed by the abilities and resources I can access through the privileged position of being a Mexican student in the United States.

I am still working on creating as many links as possible between my two lands and my two sides of the border. Now, more than ever before, the efforts of UCSD and the Friends of International Center to achieve international cooperation and strive for equality are not just incidentals but necessity, which I applaud and feel proud to have been a part of.

María José Delgadillo

MFA Candidate in Creative Writing

A Summer in Ecuador

Last summer, I studied abroad in Ecuador through a UCSD Global Seminar program that focused on Culture, Language, and Child Development and was taught by UCSD Education Studies professor, Dr. **Alison Wishard Guerra**. While abroad, I lived with my host mother, **Martha**, in Quito and I learned much about Ecuadorian family structure, culture, and food through this homestay. By living with Martha for five weeks, I developed a close and caring relationship with her. She is someone dear to me, with whom I still maintain contact.

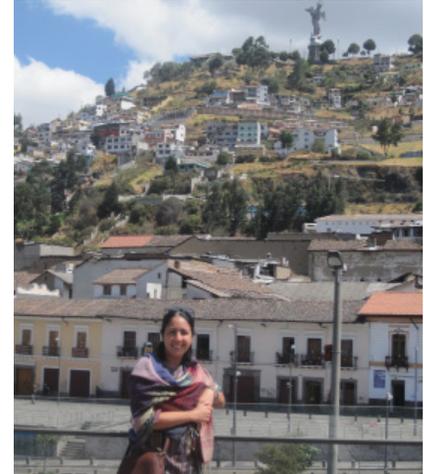
During the last weekend of the Global Seminar, our group visited a rural school, the Unidad Educativa Emilio Cecco, located in Muyuna, where we collaborated with the local Quechua teachers and students through *minga*, or voluntary work, by helping with construction and painting.

One of the bilingual Kichwa-Spanish-speaking teachers told me about the school's lack of educational resources and the daily challenges that many of the students face due to their impoverished family backgrounds. Many of the students possess only one pencil and one notebook to use for all of their classes throughout the school year. Once they run out of pages, they must erase some in order to record new notes. The schoolteachers themselves do not have sufficient resources to learn English to teach this language to their students.

Such conversation helped me understand the personal and structural struggles that teachers and students face in rural schools like the Emilio Cecco School. Based on my interactions with this caring, Quechua community, I now recognize the drastic differences between collectivism within indigenous Ecuadorian communities and the individualism that is so prominent in American society.

Thank you so much for awarding me a Friends of the International Center scholarship. It has greatly contributed to my learning experiences in Ecuador and has helped me to promote studying abroad to the OASIS student community.

Dianna Ratsamy, Muir College, Ethnic Studies major



Maria Celleri in Quito

Quito's Growth in the 1970s: Exploring the Role of Mass Media

Since 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] has been distributing development loans to various Latin American and Caribbean countries, funding projects from infrastructure, to urban renewal, education, environmental sustainability, and gender equity.

My academic research, which explores the northward development of Ecuador's capital city, Quito, specifically focuses on the role that the IDB played in helping fund the city's urban renewal projects. In my larger project, I am interested in both tracing the growth of the city as it pertains to ideas of decay, control, and respectability, as well as tracing the debt that the nation accrued in this time period. Further, I connect the country's history of foreign debt back to its founding in the 16th century and explore how Latin American nations are established by and maintain their economic relations to empire through economic debt.

In the summer of 2016, thanks to the generous contribution from the Friends of the International Center, I conducted archival research in Quito, Ecuador. During my time there, I conducted research in the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador and the

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