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



Newsletter

Volume XLI, No. 6

February 2014

President's Message

Legends, commercialization, and debated history aside, Valentine's Day has become a holiday celebrated in many countries, honoring not only love, but also friendship (e.g., Latin America's *Día del Amor y la Amistad*, day of love and friendship; Finland's *Ystävänpäivä*, Friends Day). I recently learned of an interesting variation practiced in Japan and South Korea where on February 14 the woman is expected to give out chocolate reflecting the nature of her feelings, leaving no one out: *giri* (obligatory and devoid of romantic interest) chocolate for colleagues, bosses, family, and male friends; *cho-giri chocolate* (really obligatory) for men just barely tolerated; *tomo* (friend) *chocolate* given to female friends; or *honmei* (favorite) chocolate reserved for boyfriends/husbands. Then one month later, on White Day, March 14, the male is expected to give a gift in return. Needless to say the chocolate industry flourishes in February.

Whatever your custom and personal celebrations of Valentine's Day, I hope that our efforts are successful in conveying our appreciation of you, our Friends and participants, each and every day. "Each friend represents a world in us, a world not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born." Anais Nin

A special expression of appreciation to **Liz** and **Chris Wills**, Chef **Jimmy Chen** and his team of talented chefs, and the many other volunteers, who, no doubt, will make our January 25th fundraising dinner not only profitable, but also a memorable occasion.

I look forward to seeing you at our next Friends Dinner Social, Saturday, February 22, at 6 o'clock.

Katya Newmark



Katya with **Jeff Stopple**, Professor of Mathematics at UCSB and Associate Dean of UCEAP, visiting our campus and brought by UCSD's EAP Director, **Kim Burton**, to the International Center Holiday Lunch, December 10, 2013



Kevin DelMastro (Assistant Director, International Faculty and Scholar Office) seated with **Melissa Chiong** (IFSO Immigration Specialist) and **Sandra Vargas-Tinoco** (IFSO Immigration Advisor) displays the elegant ironwood carving he won at the Holiday Lunch. As if preordained, the two lovely examples of Mexican folk art donated by **Candace Kohl** as raffle prizes went, one each, to a member of the IC staff and the other to a member of the Friends. We are most grateful for Candace's generous contributions carefully selected from among her vast collection of ethnic arts and crafts.



*Friends Dinner
Social
Saturday,
February 22
at 6:00 p.m.
International Center*



Elisa dishes out salad as Sascha, Dagmar, and Barbara serve pizza to Richard Chi Yung Chim from Hong Kong



UCSD staff members Jennifer Oh (Office of Research Affairs), Maria Din (Geisel Library), and Nora Bodrian (Intercollegiate Athletics)



Bags of Christmas cookies held this message: "Happy Holidays from the Friends of the International Center"



One of our younger guests feasts on the popcorn

Friends Dinner Social No. 2

—by Audrey Leriche

Our second Friends Dinner Social was held on Thursday, December 12, 2013. **Dagmar Bocakova, Katya Newmark, and I (Audrey Leriche)**—the three co-chairs—wanted this event to be a casual Holiday party, allowing everybody to have a relaxed moment in the rush of the end-of-the year holiday preparations. Our guideline was to mix “casual” with “Christmas,” showcasing the American and European cultures that Katya, Dagmar, and I represent. We decided on a movie night, complete with pizza and popcorn. The Center’s festive decorations, our colorful centerpieces, the candlelight, the gift bag of holiday cookies we offered to each guest, and the mulled wine we served, all contributed to the Christmas spirit.

For both Dagmar and me, serving mulled wine was an obvious choice, and we were pleased to share this European winter tradition with others. Multiple recipes exist, depending on where you are from, but I picked my beloved Alsatian spiced mulled wine—a delicious hot drink that combines red wine with orange and lemon slices and an infusion of spices, including star anise, cinnamon, ginger, cloves, and nutmeg.

Although the emphasis was on casual, we still wanted the party to have flair, so, we decided to serve popcorn in paper cones that we fashioned from pretty sheets of paper. And a number of us spent a wonderful afternoon in the IC kitchen baking French, Slovak, and American cookies, sharing traditions, jokes, and sayings of our countries.

We could not have done without the help of our friends and fellow volunteers, and take this occasion to thank them. They are: **Jennie Chin, Mary Woo, Nadine Weydenhammer, Elisabeth Marti, Sascha Duttke, Becky Wright, Elisa Postila, Richard Chi Yung Chim, Barbara Fitzsimmons, Jerry Fitzsimmons, Danya Costello, Ruth Newmark, and Justin Costello.**

We hope that all our guests could feel the pleasure we had preparing a tailored event intended to make everyone feel special and welcome. Despite conflicting holiday celebrations (chiefly the UCSD Postdoctoral Association’s holiday party), we welcomed 58 guests: among them 26 visiting scholars, some with families, representing many countries (all the way from Brazil to Kazakhstan).

Dagmar and I look forward to welcoming you at *Friends Dinner Social No. 3* that will have friendship as its theme. Please join us at the International Center on Saturday, February 22. The menu is still in the planning stage, but we promise a full-course, “homecooked” meal. Please note that reservations are essential. To facilitate making reservations, you will find a handy coupon on page 11 of this *Newsletter*.

Bring your friends and come to make new friends!



Audrey, Katya, and Dagmar



Our bakers: Dagmar, Jennie, Katya, Elisabeth, Mary, Nadine, and Audrey



Meet First Vice President Judith Muñoz

I was born in Los Angeles, California and was reared in Eugene, Oregon. I attended the University of Oregon in Eugene for my Bachelor's degree in General Social Science and my Master's in Counseling Psychology. I began a doctoral program at Oregon State University with the intention of becoming a community college president. Instead, I moved to San Diego and took a position at UCSD, and finished my doctorate at the University of San Diego.

At UCSD, I spent six years in various student affairs and human resources administrative positions, and even for a short time the International Center reported to me. Then it was on to the University of San Diego, where I was the Chief Human Resources Officer and an adjunct faculty member.

In 2000, I became a vice president at The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) and retired from there in 2010. One of the departments that reported to me was the International Office.

Since retirement, I have been involved in several volunteer activities, including spending almost a year as the CEO and President of the San Diego Humane Society. I have also served on the boards of San Diego Hospice, the Petco Foundation, and the UCSD Chancellor's Community Advisory Committee, as well as several professional associations. I have served as a long-term care ombudsman with the County of San Diego, and with my therapy dogs I have volunteered at San Diego Hospice.

I knew about the Friends of the International Center through my

friendship with **Mary Dhooge**, for many years Director of the International Center and life member of the Friends. Coming onto the Board of the Friends seemed a natural fit for me given my understanding of international education, my experience with UCSD, my interest in diverse cultures, and my love of travel. I have visited more than 45 countries and all of the continents except Antarctica, which is on my list for 2015 travel.

Joining the Friends has been a great experience for me. I continue to be impressed with the long-term volunteer commitment and dedication of so many of the Friends membership. **Katya Newmark's** leadership of the organization is remarkable, and she has been very patient with me as I try to learn the expectations of my position of First Vice President. Unfortunately for Katya, hands-on programming is not one of my strengths, but I have recruited new Friend **Vivian Lodes** to chair the Annual Dinner Committee. Vivian is currently the Human Resources Specialist at Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, but is planning to retire in March, when she will have more time to devote to volunteer projects. Vivian and I have worked together before, and I know she will do a splendid job of chairing the Friends Annual Dinner.

At one meeting, there was a discussion of how we could entice more men to come to Friends activities and I suggested a football watching party. Well, since there is not a big screen TV at the International Center, we ended up having an American Football 101 "class"



Judith on safari in Kruger National Park, South Africa

this fall. It was a lot of fun, and I expect we will do it next year.

Two areas of interest to me with the Friends are membership development and fundraising. Katya and I would like to expand our fundraising activities to increase resources for scholarships, or maybe I should start with getting that big screen TV!

Besides being impressed with the Friends, I am equally impressed with the excellent working relationship the Friends have with Dean **Kirk Simmons** and the support and helpfulness of the International Center staff.

My current family is composed of my husband **Dan Muñoz**, a retired UCSD psychologist, and my two dog children, Jackson and Spartan. Jackson is a 22-lb miniature poodle mix and Spartan is a large Labradoodle weighing 60 pounds and growing. My next goal (said with a smile) is to integrate dogs into the Friends activities.

The International House

—by *Henri Migala, Director*

The International House (I-House) at UCSD is a programming hub for the university, as well as a vibrant and engaging residential learning community of 10 international visiting scholars and nearly 350 undergraduate students (half American and half international) from over 30 countries, which promotes global citizenship, international awareness, and intercultural understanding. I-House brings together people from diverse cultures in an engaging and supportive environment where they can expand their knowledge, develop their skills, and grow as global citizens. Through our distinctive programming and activities, I-House extends learning and intellectual conversations beyond the classroom, integrating students, scholars, and community members in dialogues about international issues and intercultural exchange. This rich mix of students, cultures, ideas, experiences, and perspectives creates a community for understanding and fosters diversity of thought and experience.

International education research recognizes the challenges in integrating international and

domestic students due to cultural expectations and misunderstandings. In response, I-House strives to engage international students to successfully transition and acclimate to the campus environment by also engaging the campus in our efforts and encouraging students, faculty, and staff involvement in internationally-focused programs.

The I-House model has been successful in providing students with opportunities to meet and interact with people from other countries, develop meaningful relationships with other students, and learn about themselves while learning about cultures different from their own. Through our programs we promote global awareness and multicultural understanding, facilitate personal and professional development, and help our international students to feel more a part of the UC San Diego community, and help our domestic students to receive an “international experience at home.” Overall, living in I-House provides students with exceptionally rewarding, even life-changing, educational and personal growth experiences.



I-House programs and activities also reach beyond the physical space and location of its buildings and residences to the rest of the campus and the larger community. The large and rapidly increasing international student community benefits greatly from the many successful programs developed and implemented by I-House. One of the goals of I-House is to develop and organize programs, events, and activities that bring together various departments, organized research units, organizations, and entities throughout the university, which promote a greater awareness and appreciation for, and understanding of, global issues. These programs better prepare students to communicate and function effectively in an increasingly global environment.

In addition to campus efforts, I-House also cultivates connections with community and international organizations to bridge the campus with the greater San Diego community. Through these efforts I-House has developed very close collaborative partnerships with the San Diego Diplomacy Council, San Diego World Affairs Council, United Nations Association of San Diego, and San Diego city's International Affairs Board. These collaborative efforts benefit UCSD by raising the university's visibility, and help us further our educational mission. And by partnering with I-House to develop programs with a global focus, the San Diego community helps us ensure that the future leaders we are educating are



Five students in traditional dress

socially and globally aware, informed, and competent.

In our most recent survey of I-House residents, 82% of the respondents stated that they either “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that “participating in I-House helped me become more internationally aware,” “helped me improve my cross-cultural awareness,” and “helped me develop my interpersonal communication skills.” This feedback shows that I-House contributes significantly to the personal, social, psychological, and cultural growth and development of our students—both international and domestic—and in our efforts to help prepare them to become more mature, informed, and engaged global citizens.

Founded in 1988, UCSD’s I-House is a member of International Houses Worldwide and is one of only 15 International Houses around the world. The International House movement began in the early 1900s in New York to help international students feel more welcome on campus and to promote global citizenship among U.S. students.

I am very grateful for the long-standing supportive and collaborative relationship between I-House and the International Center and the Friends of the International Center. I hope to build on these close connections to better serve our students, the university, and our community.



*Still a relative newcomer to our campus, **Henri Migala** came to UC San Diego in February 2013 as Director of International House. He holds an M.A. in medical anthropology, a master’s of public health, and a Ph.D. in higher education leadership. Fluent in French and Spanish, he also has a functional knowledge of Polish. At our fall High Andean Dinner, Dr. Migala generously shared with us pictures and stories of his experiences as a young researcher in a remote village of Bolivia. Friends saw him again at our I-Center Holiday lunch, and we look forward to many more interactions.*



Periodically, our Friends Resale Shop receives contributions of superior quality that are slow to sell. **Fran Doolittle** had the clever idea to set up a table at the I-Center Holiday lunch with a display of coffee table art books. Several guests purchased books that interested them, and at the end of the event, Fran could report that Friends made \$82 at the small book sale. Commented **Carol Smith**, one of the luncheon organizers: “What a great idea and great success the Coffee Table Book Sale turned out to be. Congratulations!” Fran is just one of the dedicated Shop volunteers who come up with promotional ideas that help Friends raise money for international scholarships.

Starting in 2004, **Gayle Barsamian** (Friends Resale Shop Coordinator from 2006 until her retirement in 2012) organized a special sale of holiday goods, initially in tandem with the Friends annual Holiday lunch. Explained Gayle: “There were some nice small gift items and lovely ornaments—donated via Gallery Eight—for which there was no space to show well in the Shop. I was helping in the storeroom already and **Joyce Dunn** [the Shop’s Coordinator then] was fine with the idea as long as I did the work. It was a success, not just in terms of sales, but also for positive feedback from members. The Holiday sale went on to become a larger event open to the campus community.”

For years, the late **Betty Shor** brought in for sale packages of exotic stamps, as well as small pots of succulents and geraniums that she grew from clippings from her yard. But as **Renate Schmid-Schoenbein** regretfully points out: “One thing is for sure: we cannot sell food items, otherwise one might consider offering homemade goodies.”

We do, however, have a wide range of merchandise for sale: clothing, jewelry, books, household goods among them, and further donations are welcome.

The Friends Resale Shop is visited primarily by UCSD students and staff, many repeat customers. You may enjoy reading some of their evaluations on Yelp. Here is one: “As a student that LOVES thrift-shopping, this place is fab because it’s cheap, on campus, and the volunteers are ever so friendly! My favorite pair of vintage high-waisted shorts EVER was purchased here for \$2!!! I would prob call it hit-or-miss for clothes, but when you have an hour in between classes and don’t really want to study, it’s the place to be. And when you do find something you love, it’s soooooo worth it because chances are, you just got it for less than \$5. Friends Resale definitely isn’t one of those places where they try to suck as much money out of you as they can.”

Come check out our ever changing display of merchandise. No doubt, there will be things appropriate as Valentine’s gifts, and most certainly you will find a vase suitable for those red roses your admirer may bring you!

Wednesday Coffee

—by Georgina Sham

It is a joy being Wednesday Coffee Coordinator because of the help from our international visitors. Almost from the time I started, visiting participants have volunteered (sometimes with a bit of arm twisting) to take charge of an activity, starting in 2007 with **Anne-Laure Moreau** from France teaching us beading.

Since then, I have been consulting participants as to what they would like to do, and in doing so I have found **Dagmar Bocakova** from Slovakia and **Keiko Hirai** from Japan to be invaluable.



Keiko Hirai and Dagmar Bocakova in the International Center kitchen

Dagmar, a landscape designer by training, is a talented artist and innovative craftsman, who now not only coordinates many of the craft projects on Wednesday, but has become a member of the Friends Board! Not surprising, Dagmar received a Chancellor's Award when, in 2012, she was named International Visitor of the Year. We were upset to learn that her husband, currently a post doc in neuroscience, will return to Europe and that come July they will move to Zürich, Switzerland.

Keiko has enjoyed coming to the International Center ever since 2007, when she arrived in San Diego with her husband, who is at UC San Diego as a postdoc in medicine. Already in 2010, Keiko was honored for her contributions at Wednesday Coffee and the Friends Resale Shop by being named International Visitor of the Year. For some time, Keiko

served as chef at the Friday International Café, and although she has quit that job, she continues to help out in the kitchen.

In July 2013, Keiko had a baby girl, but she stayed away from the Center for a mere month before she came back to volunteer at Wednesday Coffee, International Cooking Experience, and at special Friends events. Keiko is full of ideas for craft projects that can be accomplished in two hours, and prepares so carefully that we can all execute them.

Both Dagmar and Keiko have prepared lunches from their native countries for our International Kitchen program, and have helped with many other lunches. Because of leaders such as Dagmar and Keiko, other internationals have been willing to come forward to volunteer their services with far less trepidation.

Just in 2013, we have had a Finnish lunch prepared by **John Helola**, a Japanese lunch by **Keiko Hirai**, a vegetarian German lunch by **Louise Hummel-Schroter** and **Nadine Weydenhammer**, a Korean lunch chaired by **Angela Jung Yeon Kim**, a Reunion Island lunch by **Audrey Leriche** of France, and a Chilean lunch by **Manuela Gajardo**, who not only cooked but also created a beautiful flyer, and has offered to help with other flyers even though she's now back in Chile!

Besides the craft projects Dagmar and Keiko have headed, we had **Tatiana Shipova Fohtung** from Russia teach us how to make a *martisor*, a little trinket typically



Crouching: Katya Newmark
Standing: Ying-Ju Chen, Jessie Wu, Padma Stobdan, Georgina Sham, Dagmar Bocakova, Arti Sharma, Hanae Kido
at the December 11, 2013 cookie exchange

displayed in Moldova to welcome the arrival of spring, while **Mariko Usui**, **Mihoko Imamura**, and **Yuka Yamaguchi** from Japan have taught us origami. Mariko and Yuka also taught us Japanese crocheting, and **Ying-Ju Chen** from Taiwan together with Mariko and Yuka taught us to crochet hair scrunchies.

Then there's the Mommy/Daddy & Me class of which **Aehyang Park** from Korea has recently assumed leadership, building on the groundwork laid by **Keiko Bott-Suzuki** of Japan and Great Britain, who, with the help of **Lois le Brazidec**, started this program for tiny tots back in 2009. When necessary our Wednesday Morning Coffee hostess **Alice Blake-Stalker** has stepped in, but at this time Aehyang is in charge. Even though Aehyang worked as a software engineer in Korea and says that her experience with children was limited to teaching bible school in her church, she is doing a smashing job. She is especially good at involving the parents. To give just one example: she thoughtfully provides ahead of time the lyrics of songs the children will be taught, so that the parents can sing along at home.

And upon President **Katya Newmark**'s request, two of our internationals—**Dagmar Bocakova** and **Audrey Leriche**—readily assumed the chairmanship of a totally new

Friends program that tries to involve more young people in Friends activities. Audrey and Dagmar are doing a great job and are enthusiastically planning their third Friends Dinner Social to be held this month.

Even more recently, **Ying-Ju Chen** from Taiwan and **Elisa Postila** from Finland created a Facebook page for UCSD International Center spouses with the following purpose: "This is a great opportunity to share ideas, ask questions about things to do, carpool together, sell/buy items when you're moving out/moving in, and more."

All this, and I haven't even touched on the international volunteers in the Friends Resale Shop. Are our participants wonderful or what?



On December 12, too late for their picture to be included in the January *Newsletter*, Santa (**Doug Shriner**) and Mrs. Claus (**Alice Blake-Stalker**) came to visit the Wednesday Coffee, bringing joy to parents and children. Most wanted to pose for photos, so the line of about 50 children was long. Doug did a great job of handing out the stuffed toys we had made, and providing everyone with personal attention.

Come and join us for this month's activities:

- Feb 5: *Card Embossing with Mary Woo.*
- Feb 12: *Valentine's Day Projects.* **Doris Sant'Anna** will teach us to make beaded earrings. We also have some paper left from last year to make something special for your valentine.
- Feb 19: *Black History Month Luncheon.* We will prepare soul food featuring oven-fried chicken, collard greens, buttermilk biscuits, and sweet potato pie. Meet in the kitchen at 9:30 a.m. to start preparing the luncheon that will be served at 12 noon for \$5/person until all the food is gone.
- Feb 26: *Fimo Designs with Keiko Hirai.*

Scholarship Gifts

Treasurer **Karen Davis** reports that end-of-the-year donations to the Friends Scholarship Fund have been generous and numerous.

First of all, we wish to acknowledge the annual donation to the *Diane Lin Memorial Scholarship Fund* from Diane's uncle and aunt **Shao-Chi** and **Lily Yuli Lin**. Second, we wish to note the donation from **Carol** and **Stu Smith** intended for their named scholarship. The Smiths were so impressed by the recipient of their first scholarship that they have challenged the Friends Scholarship Committee (of which Carol is a member) to find another gem. While this remark was made somewhat in jest, it does bear out that many members of our organization feel a personal connection to our scholarship recipients and are proud of their accomplishments.

In alphabetical order, we wish to thank these kind donors—many of whom make repeat donations: **Joan & Lou Adamo**, **Barbara Baehr**, **Patricia Bertrand** and her son **Kevin Bertrand**, **Joan Bowes**, **Lou & Ken Bowles**, **Nancy Delaney**, **Heidrun Faulconer**, **Jean Fort**, **Donna & Thomas Golich**, **Gabriel Jackson**, **Marjorie Jackson**, the **Joan & Irwin Jacobs Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation**, **Horst Hoffmann**, **Nancy & Bill Homeyer**, **Mariette Kobrak**, **Sallye & Larry Krause**, **Maureen & Joe Nichols**, **Dorothy & David Parker**, **Georgina & Lu Sham**, and **Mihoko Vacquier**.

The *Ruth Newmark Scholarship* was greatly enriched by contributions made by **Katya Newmark & Matthew Costello** and their children **Danya** and **Justin Costello** ("We are proud of our mother/grandmother"), by family friends **Jean & Jeffery Selzer**, and by **Jean Fort**.

Gayle Barsamian & David Clapp made their thoughtful donation in memory of **David Crowne**, **Betty Shor**, and **Patricia Alksne**. It was accompanied by a note from Gayle hoping that the Friends Board might consider honoring Patti by naming a scholarship for her. This would be entirely fitting, since for many years Patti, through her consignment shop Second Act West, donated vast amounts of merchandise to our Resale Shop, thereby contributing greatly to the Shop's ability to raise money

for scholarships. **Judith Kirsch** from Lincoln, Nebraska also made a contribution in memory of Patti Alksne.

Thank you all!

For the importance of our scholarships, the recipients express it best. Do read their letters in this and other issues of our *Newsletter*.

February Calendar

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25: **Knit-Along**, Noon-4:00

Feb. 5, 19: **Family Orientation**, 9:15

Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26: **Wednesday Morning Coffee**, 10:00-Noon

Feb. 11: **Board Meeting**, 10:00

Feb. 13: **International Cooking Experience**, 9:30-1:00

Feb. 19: **International Kitchen**, Noon

Feb. 17: **Presidents' Day**

Feb. 22: **Friends Dinner Social**, 6:00

SCHOLARSHIP LETTERS

November 29, 2013

Dear Friends of the International Center,

I am writing from Rome, Italy. I only have two weeks left of my semester abroad. It has been a wonderful few months! I have enjoyed getting to know this beautiful city: exploring the historical sites, learning about its amazing art, and eating the delicious food. The full course load keeps me busy, but I am finding time to appreciate this time abroad.

I have journeyed outside of Rome, visiting some other spectacular cities in Italy, including Florence, Siena, Volterra, Capri, Sorrento, Positano, Pompeii, Cinque Terre, and, of course, Perugia for its world famous Chocolate Festival. During the week break, I was also able to travel outside of Italy, visiting Paris and London.

Arriving at the end of summer was great, because we had some

time to enjoy the beaches on the gorgeous Mediterranean. The best sea-shore day was spent relaxing on the beach in Positano, which also included a boat tour with cave swimming (and cliff jumping for those who do not share my fear of heights). During the fall break, I was able to celebrate Halloween at Hogwarts at the Harry Potter film studio in London. Transitioning from fall to winter, the holiday lights and festivities are slowly beginning to appear. Last night was spent at a Thanksgiving potluck in the apartment shared with some great new friends.

The academic program is challenging, but I enjoy my classes. The professors are passionate about Rome and the subjects they teach. I really love having site visits, where we go to the museums and locations that have the art or historical artifacts that we have learned about.

The extremely knowledgeable professors are our tour guides through some of the most famous places in the world! Just last weekend, I spent Friday in the Vatican museums and Sistine Chapel with my Renaissance Art class, and Saturday in Florence for the day with my Women and Art class, where we spent the day in the house once owned by Michelangelo, the Pitti Palace, and the Uffizi Gallery.

I live in a homestay, with a very sweet Italian woman and another girl in the program. I have loved having a home here in Rome, and the amazing home-cooked dinners make this experience even more special. Studying abroad is an incredible experience that I recommend to all students.

Thank you,
Colé Lauren Gevurtz
Rome Through the Ages, EAP
Biology major, Warren College

Cadiz, Spain

The Friends of the International Center Scholarship allowed me to take a five-week Global Seminar course in Cadiz, Spain with Professor and Provost **John Moore**. It was my first experience abroad and I encourage others to try it. One of my favorite parts about Cadiz is that there was live music happening in the courtyards and plazas almost every night. I am very grateful for those memories.

The attached picture was taken when a few of my classmates and I rented a car and drove to Baelo Claudia, two hours outside of Cadiz, to visit the Roman ruins. This little excursion was not part of the curriculum; however, it was highly educational and fun. It was especially nice to be in a small group and to be able to take our time looking around and take pictures. We really got to know each other on the drive, which was nice too. The Spanish countryside is beautiful and at times reminded me of Southern California.

As a music technology and dance major, I found the course on the history and development of flamenco especially gratifying. Among the many highlights were the live flamenco performances we attended.

My mother's recent passing had left me with a bit of an identity crisis. I had to adapt quickly to handle her estate and continue with my plans to attend college. My mother had always encouraged me to travel, and during my time in Spain I felt a deep connection to her that I had longed for. My family is from Mexico, and improving my Spanish so that I could communicate fluently with my grandma was one of my goals.

My time abroad was not only academically relevant, it was also culturally fulfilling. I have matured significantly. Your contribution is a tremendous aid to all who receive it. Thank you so much for your financial assistance.

Andromeda Bradley, Music major, Sixth College



Baelo Claudia

A Summer in Seoul

During the past six weeks, I studied on EAP at Yonsei University, International Summer School, located in Sinchon, Seoul. These six weeks were not merely a study-abroad experience—it was, most importantly, a process of growing up while adapting to a new country.

At Yonsei University, I took a total of three courses, including, Introduction to Psychology, Principles of Microeconomics, and Beginning Korean. Economics and psychology courses were taught in English by international professors. The teaching style was similar to that of the States, so I did not need much adjustment. The Korean class was taught by native Korean teachers, who only spoke Korean in class. What I loved most about this class was that the teachers were patient, to make sure everyone in the class understood the grammar and pronunciation. As a result, I have greatly improved in Korean pronunciation and vocabulary.

The dorm life at Yonsei was great for socializing and making new friends. I lived at the international student dormitory, along with most of the UCEAP participants, as well as other international students from all over the world. Living in such an intimate environment with people with similar interests, it is very easy to make friends.

Classes operated from Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and varied with each class. The rest of the week was mostly devoted to traveling. What made traveling so easy was the advanced and convenient transportation system. Travelers can get to anywhere in Seoul by subway, which has clear route indications and transfer information.

I have had many native cultural experiences, such as going to the Korean “jimjibang,” a public sauna house where both young and old people like to go to relax. I went on a tour to the Gyeonghwamun Palace, where the Joseon royals lived. The tour included

historical explanations about the palace, the residents, and also details about why the palace was designed the way it was. This truly enhanced my knowledge about ancient Korea.

One of the other unforgettable trips was the Busan trip hosted by UCEAP. The biggest fish market in Busan and the biggest department store in the world are all famous places that we explored, and the Haeundae beach offered a most beautiful and incredible scene. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people still filled the beach at night.

Night performances were also a ‘must-see’ in Korea. The nightlife in Korea was what made me so in love with this country. Bright neon streetlights, clubs, street performances, and cheap shopping highlighted the liveliness of the Korean culture. It was drastically different from my life in America. Every day, there were new things to learn. I feel truly grateful to be part of the UCEAP abroad family, and the experience and knowledge I gained were most valuable. I will treasure every memory of Korea.

Xinye Chen

Biochemistry major,
Sixth College

The following letter from Sarah Forbes literally arrived on Christmas day. What a fine present to us all!

A Study of Religions in India

I am writing in regards to my time studying abroad in Delhi, India. I'd like to first thank the committee for awarding me a scholarship to study abroad, it means a lot to me. I am a Study of Religion major at UCSD and I have wanted to travel to India to further explore Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Hinduism for a while now; this scholarship has helped me attain and successfully fulfill this wish.

Through my IES (Institute for the International Education of Students) program in India, I was able to take a class entitled “Perspectives on Faith



in India” in which I explored in depth these religions from the perspective of Indian scholars—a unique perspec-

pective that would be impossible to receive anywhere in the United States. This was an excursion-based class, and so I traveled with my professor and fellow classmates to Varanasi (along the Ganges River), Amritsar (the location of the Sikh Golden Temple), Aurangabad (the location of the Ajanta and Ellora sacred caves of Buddhism, Jainism, and Hinduism), and to various sacred temples in Delhi.

In addition to this class, I lived with a Hindu family and participated in daily and circumstantial Puja (Hindu worship/rituals). I not only got to learn the history and cultural effects of religions in India, but I also was able to see, on a daily basis how religion is lived in a Hindu home. Although I will never fully be able to see the faiths of India in the same light as a practicing Hindu, I came about as close as possible for an American woman through my IES program.

I also took beginning Hindi, which enabled me to gain the respect of many locals. I had to travel by rickshaw and had I not spoken Hindi, I would have been scammed ruthlessly every day. It was through learning the language that I was able to figure out when I was being scammed and able to prevent it. Scams are part of Indian culture, and they are a part that I would have been at the mercy of without Hindi and without my IES orientation education on the culture. It is, however, important to note that Hindi would only help in Delhi, as Hindi is not spoken in most other parts of India.

Lastly, I'd like to acknowledge how amazing the IES staff and program



was in general. The Program Director (Maria Stallone) and Student Affairs Director (Sunita Kewalramani) treated us like family and took a lot of time helping us integrate into Delhi culture. My experience would not have been as authentic and I would not have felt as secure and confident in India without them.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Thank you again so much for contributing to making study abroad in India a reality for me. You literally change people for the better by assisting them financially and making these kinds of life-changing experiences possible.

Sarah Forbes

Eleanor Roosevelt College

Winter Scholarships

—by Ruth Newmark

The Friends Scholarship Committee meets both in the fall and spring, but the two cycles could not be more different. At the November meeting, members review only undergraduate study-abroad applications and tend to see very few applications, while the April meetings are long, numerous, and deal with international scholarships for graduate (domestic and international), medical, and undergraduate students, with applications at times exceeding 150.

Our November 4, 2013 meeting was no exception, allowing Committee members to discuss in considerable detail the pros and cons of increasing the size of each *undergraduate* scholarship. After careful deliberation, it was decided to increase each award from \$1,000 to \$1,500, with the full realization that this would likely be at the cost of providing fewer scholarships. We felt, however, that expenses, not the least travel expenses, had risen sufficiently to warrant this increase.

Selected from among the six (all female) applicants were the following two students, oddly each going to study in the UK, albeit on different programs and at different institutions.

Iliana Gutierrez will spend the spring semester on the University of California's Education Abroad Program at the University of Bristol. Wrote Iliana, a Revelle College junior: "At the University of Bristol, I will be taking biology and medical

classes, gaining a new perspective in the fields I am passionate about and building on my foundations. Taking medical classes is especially distinguishing, as I will be able to get an introduction to the diseases of the human body, motivating me to continue on to medical school. My goal is to enhance my understanding of biology and medicine by taking classes that present another country's perspective and introduce me to topics that are currently unavailable to me."

Providing a bit more background about what makes her suited for this study, Iliana explained: "I have participated in various service activities including UCSD's Volunteer 50 and the American Red Cross. I am also a regular volunteer at Scripps Memorial Hospital, assisting staff and patients with requests on the cardiology units. On the weekends, I currently am assisting at the UCSD binational student-run free clinic in Tijuana, where I am able to translate for patients, take vitals, and help with patient registration. Having developed many traits, including flexibility and persistence, through these activities, I plan on engaging in similar opportunities at the University of Bristol, as a way of developing new skills and learning about the local culture."

Megan Machamer will also spend the winter/spring in the UK, but is heading on OAP to Queen Mary University, London, where

she plans to take courses in cultural anthropology and psychology that will fulfill both her major and Sixth college requirements.

Living abroad should not be a problem for Megan, who, after high school graduation, backpacked for three months in Europe with money she had saved working from the age of 13. "Being a twenty-two-year-old, first generation college student, I am at a critical point in my life, both personally and academically, able to pursue that which no one in my family has had the chance to do. My mother always told me that some day I would get the opportunity to make more of my life than she was ever given the chance, and she was right. However, climbing the social ladder as a female college student in a country that still holds largely patriarchal values does not always come easy, especially without the financial means and status background that many students my age have to their advantage. As a transfer student to the University of California San Diego, I can see that opportunities are constantly presenting themselves to help mold my experience and build my personal and professional background before applying for graduate school."

The Scholarship Committee decided that Iliana Gutierrez and Megan Machamer represent exactly the type of mature, motivated, and well-rounded student that Friends wish to help to study abroad.

Friends Dinner Social

Saturday, February 22, 2014, 6:00 PM, International Center

Please complete this form and enclose a check, made payable to the Friends of the International Center. Send to Dagmar Bocakova, Friends of the International Center, UCSD International Center 0018, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093-0018.

Reservations must be received by Friday, February 14, 2014

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(If you spell out the names of everyone in your party, all will receive nametags at the door.)

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Number of Friends (@ \$15.00): _____ Vegetarian meal requested: _____ (quantity)

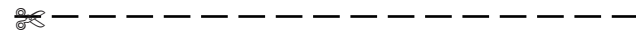
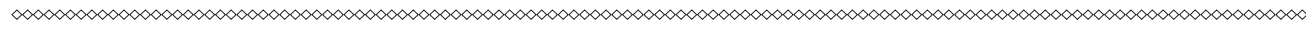
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Children under 5 free

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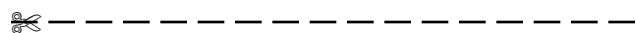
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http://icenter.ucsd.edu/friends
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Editor: **Ruth Newmark** (rnewmark@san.rr.com)

Contributors: **Joan Adamo, Barbara Baehr, Alice Blake-Stalker, Jennie Chin, Karen Davis, Nori Faer, Barbara Fitzsimmons, Nancy Homeyer, Judith Muñoz, Katya Newmark, Joe Nichols, Renate Schmid-Schoenbein, Georgina Sham, Carol Smith, Eleanor tum Sudan, Liz Fong Wills**

Contributing Photographers: **Kristine Kneib, Katya Newmark, Carol Smith, Stuart Smith, Christopher Wills**

Circulation: **Renate Schmid-Schoenbein**

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International Center
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