# Friends of the International Center, at UC San Diego

# Newsletter

Volume XL, No. 9 May 2013



2012 Membership Dinner and Scholarship Awards Ceremony

### **Annual Membership Dinner**

We invite you to share our annual membership dinner with the Friends and our many guests. The speaker will be our new International Center Dean, **Kirk Simmons**, who will share his vision of expanding and developing the International Center's role to the whole UCSD campus; we, in turn, are happy to be able to introduce more of the International Center supporters to Kirk.

The Friends Scholarship Committee much appreciates all the hours given to the Resale Shop by our many dedicated volunteers, and values all those who continually support us with donated items. Thank you to so many who generously give to our named scholarships and also to those who give unrestricted funds. This generosity enables us to receive matching funds.

The evening will begin at 6:00 o'clock with wine, punch, and appetizers in the lounge. The meal will be catered by our seasoned triple-A team—Alma Coles, Alice Blake-Stalker, Arline Paa—and a cast of other

volunteers. The dinner cost is \$20 per person and scholarship recipients are guests of the Friends. If you have dietary restrictions, please note your needs on the reservation form (see p. 11). The deadline for reservations is Friday, May 17. Please return the coupon on the back page of the May *Newsletter* promptly.

Since the dinner will be held outdoors in the central patio, we suggest that you dress warmly. Immediately after dinner, President Joan Adamo will conduct a brief business meeting, including the election of officers for 2013-14 as proposed by Alice Blake-Stalker, chair of the Nominating Committee. Ruth Newmark, Scholarship Committee chair, will then introduce our Friends Scholarship Awardees for 2013.

We look forward to seeing our Friends and guests and sharing with you the outstanding caliber of our scholarship recipients.

Alma Coles, Dinner Chair

### An International Menu

Drinks: White Wine and Cranberry Punch Appetizers: Hummus and Baba Ganoush with Pita

Crackers and Vegetable Sticks

Entrée: Poulet Dijonnaise, Summer Bean Salad,

Fruited Quinoa

Dessert: Swedish Almond Cake

Decaf Coffee and Green Tea

**Annual Membership Meeting and Scholarship Awards Ceremony** 

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Tuesday, May 21, 6:00 p.m. International Center Patio

### **Nominating Committee Report**

The Nominating Committee is pleased to propose the following slate of officers for the year 2013-14:

President:

1st Vice President, Programs:

2nd Vice President, Membership:
Recording Secretary:
Treasurer:

Corresponding Secretary:

Nominating Committee:

Ratya Newmark

Judith Muñoz

Renate Schmid-Schoenbein

Nori Faer

Karen Davis

Elisabeth Marti

Kristine Kneib,

Barbara Fitzsimmons, Alma Coles

The above slate will be voted on at the Friends Annual Dinner Meeting to be held at the International Center on Tuesday evening, May 21, 2013. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, but must have received the prior approval of the nominee.

To assure the necessary quorum, we ask that you please send in your proxy statement available on the back page of this *Newsletter*, if you can't attend the annual membership meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Alice Blake-Stalker, Nominating Committee Chair

### Resale Shop Profile: Jim Chase

—by Joe Nichols

Jim Chase has been a stalwart substitute in the Resale Shop for about three years. Always willing to help out, Jim is enthusiastic about our work and helps balance the gender mix. In December, he assumes an entirely different role: making an appearance as Santa Claus for all the little ones that attend Wednesday Coffee.

Anative of New York, Jim majored in environmental studies and business administration at the State University of New York. He spent four years in the Air Force in Intelligence and worked at the super secret National Security Agency. For many years, his employment was in the insurance business. He and his wife have lived in San Diego for over 30 years, so he is practically a native.

Jim found out about the Inter-



national Center through his wife's participation in Oceanids. He first volunteered with **Louise Keeling** in the Oceanids Kitchen Exchange. Louise nudged him to help out in the Resale Shop, but Jim continues to work in the Kitchen Exchange on a regular basis. Commented **Estelle Shabetai**: "I don't know what we would do without him."

Jim is one who talks the talk and walks the walk. He also vol-

### May Calendar

May 1, 15: Family Orientation, 9:15

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Wednesday Morning Coffee, 10:00-Noon

May 2: Volunteer Appreciation Lunch, Noon-1:30

May 2, 16: **Games**, 2:00-4:00

May 7, 14, 21, 28: **Knit-Along**, 1:00-3:30

May 9: International Cooking Experience, 9:30-1:00

May 14: Executive Board Meeting, 10:00

May 15: **International Kitchen Lunch**, Noon

May 21: **Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony**, 6:00

May 27: **Memorial Day** 

unteers at the Humane Society and the Sierra Club. He takes the bus to his volunteer jobs and drives an all-electric car.

As there is a frequent turnover of volunteers, especially of students whose class schedule changes from quarter to quarter, our Resale Shop Coordinator, **Alma Coles**, is eager to find new helpers. To learn what it entails to work in the Shop, you may e-mail Alma at acoles@gmail. com or you may telephone her at (858) 453-8813.

### **Membership News**

Renate Schmid-Schoenbein reports that Candace Gietzen and her husband, Richard Fridshal, have joined the Friends, and notes that Candace is interested in tutoring.

# Two Hospitality Programs: Knit Along and International Cooking Experience

—by Jennie Chin



Tuesday *Knit-Along* came about as an extension of Wednesday Coffee. Little did I know that a lot of people knit and crochet. There was a lot of interest in these activities, but the timing as part of Wednesday Coffee did not work out well, so we created a separate program with the approval of **Lynn Anderson**, then Director of the International Center.

At the start, we probably had some 25 attending; we now average about 15. I found that our Japanese participants are taught knitting and crocheting as part of their school curriculum. For others, it continues to be a craft learned from their mothers, grandmothers, and/or friends.

Due to her enthusiasm and infectious laughter, Yuko Kanda was in large part the inspiration for starting the knitting group. She truly embodies the spirit of Friends. There is one picture I always have in my head: it is of Yuko (from Japan), Eun-Mi Kim (from Korea and now living in San Francisco), and Yani Zhao (from China and currently completing her Ph.D. in physics in Poland) walking together after Wednesday Coffee, going off to ESL class with only English as their common language.

Lots of individuals, each in her unique way, make the group a success. Seeing a need, Judy Bavasi worked on incorporating English conversation as part of the program. That effort has paid off immensely, since we now see far greater interaction among our participants. Mira Vendler and Shangyu

Di serve as fabulous teachers to both new and experienced knitters. Early on, Jacey Chen was the group's unofficial social leader, welcoming many of the new faces by inviting them to her home and taking them under her wing. Jeri **Abernathy** took time to teach the group about weaving techniques. She worked most closely with Yuko, who was just getting started in weaving and managed to talk Yuko out of worrying about buying a sheep, thinking this a necessity even if she had no place to keep it.

As to the cooking class, Mary Woo and I were at a Friends Board meeting at which the retirement of **Barbara Starkey** from the Friends Cooking in America class was discussed. Hearing that the board was greatly disappointed to see such a successful program end, Mary and I decided to take up the challenge to continue this longstanding program, renaming it International Cooking Experience. To that end, we cook on the second Thursday of each month. Attracted by her knowledge of cooking and her extensive experience of working in the International Center kitchen, we quickly recruited Keiko Hirai as an additional instructor.

One of our goals is to make the class a communal experience, where everyone shares in the preparation, cooking, serving, and cleaning up. It makes for a very lively morning, and when we sit down to eat, everyone gets to talk and share opinions.

If I have learned anything about



the success of these two programs, it stems from Georgina Sham, who shows by example that enthusiasm, a spirit of making people feel welcome, and a strong sense of openness makes international visitors want to be here. Many times, the comments I receive from attendees relate to their anxiety about not speaking English well enough, their fear of not being accepted into an already established group, and their general concern of whether or not they are welcome. Sadly, they often experience the loneliness of being by oneself in a country where language, customs, shopping, and getting around can be quite daunting. Through our various hospitality programs, Friends try to alleviate these concerns.

I am reminded of a story about **Kristina Noolandi**, who comes to

volunteer for a few months at the beginning of each year, originally helping out at Friday Café. Because Kristina lived close to campus, one of the wonderful things she did was to take some of the young women who also lived in the UCSD area on weekly excursions to places like Costco and Ikea. I remember well a comment from one of the international visitors telling me what a great conversationalist Kristina was and how they enjoyed the time they were in her company.

Despite the fact that our programs may take on a different dimension from time to time, Friends activities continue to provide a safe haven for our visiting families. All that we do as volunteers really does make a difference and can have a lasting impact.

### **Wednesday Morning Coffee**

—by Georgina Sham

•May 1: **Art Walk** and **May Flower Baskets**. Starting at 10:00 a.m., **Bob Starkey** will guide us on a walk to Michael Asher's *Untitled*, Ian Hamilton Finley's *Unda*, and Nam June Paik's *Something Pacific*. This is the last campus walk of this series.

The other activity that day will be the making of May baskets, an annual Wednesday Coffee tradition instituted many years ago by **Emily Stowell**. We will make small baskets of live flowers to give to neighbors or friends. Although we will have some baskets and lots of flowers available, we ask, if at all possible, that you bring a small basket for your own use.



- •May 8: **Decoupage Crafts. Keiko Hirai** will demonstrate how to decorate boxes or photo frames using colorful papers and Mod Podge. All supplies will be provided. The finished decoupages should make great Mother's Day gifts.
- •May 15: **Korean Lunch** with **Angela Kim** leading us in preparing an authentic Korean meal. Please meet us in the kitchen at 9:30 to start preparations; lunch will be served at 12 noon for \$5/person. All are welcome! Please stay to help clean up. The menu will be posted two weeks in advance.
- May 22: **Fimo Crafts**. Once again, **Dagmar Bocakova** will lead us in this popular activity of making beautiful jewelry using polymer clay. All supplies will be provided.
- •May 29: **Cupcakes**. We will bake several kinds of cupcakes and then decorate them with different frostings of various colors, adding sprinkles and candies as desired. Please come to the kitchen at 9:30.

### Jim Arnold Lecture

—by Candace Kohl

The annual James R. Arnold public lecture will be held Friday May 3, 2013 at 4:00 in the afternoon, in the Auditorium of the Natural Sciences Building, Revelle College. The speaker this year will be Geoffrey Marcy, Professor of Astronomy at UC Berkeley, one of the pioneers and leaders in the discovery and characterization of planets around other stars.

The title of his talk is "Discoveries of Other Earths: Common, Habitable, Teeming?"

This year, astronomers harvested the first Earth-size planets ever found around other stars. The crop of Earths opens questions about their properties, their environments, and their suitability for life.

There will be a reception following the talk. For additional information, you may contact **Candace Kohl** (ckohl@ucsd.edu), who studied cosmochemistry under Jim Arnold.

NEW: You may also enjoy yet another new outgrowth of our Wednesday Coffee activities: Games Playing. This newly-formed group will meet every first and third Thursday afternoon, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., in the International Center dining room, under the leadership of Louise Hummel-Schroter from Germany.

This is fine opportunity to learn to play different board and card games. Alternately, you may want to share with the group games that are popular in your own country. You do not have to have any experience, just a desire to have fun and learn something new. Open to all.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Louise at her e-mail: lisahummel@yahoo.de.

### International Center Volunteers make the...

# WORLD of Difference

The International Center will host the third annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, May 2, from 12:00 noon-1:30, on the International Center patio.

All of the volunteers are crucial members of the International Center family, and over 800 volunteers have contributed thousands of volunteer hours to the Center. During this event, the International Center will honor and thank all of the volunteers who give so generously of their time in support of the students, scholars, and programs at the Center.

Dean of the International Center, Dr. **Kirk Simmons**, will present the awards on behalf of the Chancellor, and entertainment will be provided by the co-ed a capella group, The Beat. We hope that many International Center volunteers will be able to join us for this exciting event. Come meet the recipients of the annual Chancellor's Awards in the following categories: Friends Member of the Year, New Volunteer of the Year, International Visitor of the Year, Tutor of the Year, International Club of the Year, Study-Abroad Returnee of the Year, and Organization of the Year.

Space is limited. As this is an ALL volunteer luncheon, guests are not permitted and reservations are required. Should you have any questions, please contact **Shelly Taskin** at (858) 534-0603 or staskin@ucsd.edu.

### UC San Diego 2013 International Women's Day

It is always rewarding to see evidence of how International Center staff, students, and Friends work together. Friends President, **Joan Adamo**, received the following thoughtful note from **Miranda Conway**, International Students & Programs Office (ISPO) office manager:

"A few of the Friends were very gracious to participate in UCSD's International Women's Day Video Project. Some of their input was featured in the video and shown to all who attended International Women's Day on March 8, 2013 (over 100 students, faculty, staff). Would you mind disseminating this video to the Friends? We're grateful for their contribution, and it would be great for them to see their part in everything. This is the link to the video on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwjFy9y\_k\_U."

No doubt you will recognize **Alma Coles** and **Nori Faer** addressing the question: "What do you think are the challenges women face today?" or **Dulce Dorado** speaking about how her immigrant mother inspired her; however, whether or not you recognize the various speakers (male and female), you will enjoy hearing their personal comments on these topics, as well as on what it means to be a woman today.

While the celebration of International Women's Day, originally called International Working Women's Day, dates back to 1909, it did not become a popular event in the United States until after 1977, when the United Nations General Assembly invited member states to proclaim March 8 as the UN Day for women's rights and world peace.

Celebrated in different ways in different parts of the world, International Women's Day 2013 declared this year's theme as "The Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum."

## English Tables at Friday Café

The English-in-Action program will be sponsoring English conversation tables at the Friday International Cafés during Spring quarter from April 4 – June 7. All international students, scholars, and spouses are welcome to attend the conversation tables, and different topics will be discussed each week. For the list of topics and tutors who will lead the tables, please visit: http://bit.ly/ICConvTableSpring2013. If you have any questions, please e-mail Shelly Taskin, EIA Coordinator at iprograms@ucsd.edu.

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As the International Center's Programs Coordinator/International Student Advisor, Shelly's immediate responsibilities include English in Action Tutor Coordinator, Orientation Assistant Program Coordinator, and I-Club Staff Advisor.

Prior to working at the International Center, Shelly was a Program Representative and Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Student Advisor at the English Language Institute at UC San Diego Extension.



Director, International Scholar Office and Associate Director, International Center

The International Scholar Office (ISO) within the International Center functions in a variety of ways to support the research and teaching mission of UC San Diego. We are, of course, one of the welcoming faces, along with departmental administrators, faculty members, and Friends of the International Center, who initially meet the international faculty and researchers coming from all over the world to UC San Diego. But in addition to meeting them in their first days here, we are involved with them in many other ways, including helping departments decide in which visa classification to invite faculty and researchers, issuing paperwork to facilitate their entry to the U.S. and subsequent employment at UC San Diego, performing government-mandated reporting on some of their actions, and helping them adjust to living in the United States, which could entail taking them on a trip to Disneyland or providing them with resources to file their taxes often a daunting task for many of us U.S. citizens.

Located next to the Mandeville Auditorium, ISO works with a large and varied population of international faculty and researchers over the course of a year. UCSD is the seventh largest institution in the country, in terms of numbers of international scholars on our campus during any given year ("scholars" are distinguished from "students" generally by the fact that scholars are never enrolled full time in university classes; they may be "students" in their home country, but if they're performing research here rather than attending classes, we consider them "scholars"). Generally,

UC San Diego hosts nearly 2,400 scholars a year, with the top five countries of origin, in descending order, being China, South Korea, India, Japan, and Germany.

But we host scholars from more than 80 countries, and from such diverse places as Mozambique, New Zealand, Kyrgyzstan, Haiti, and Uruguay. Our scholars vary greatly in age as well; some are in their seventies while others are in their very late teens. And many of our scholars bring their spouses and children—though we only keep track of our Exchange Visitor (J-1) dependents, in this past year alone we recorded over a thousand spouses and children here.

So what are these alphabetic classifications, such as J-1, H-1B, TN, and others you may have heard of? They refer to the specific visa classification in which internationals are admitted to the United States for their temporary stay. Each classification (they run the gamut practically from A to Z) has been created by our federal government for a unique purpose with specific objectives in mind.

•J-1 "Exchange Visitors" are invited here for purposes of cultural and educational exchange; whether as students in degree programs, or faculty or researchers, they share their culturally informed perspectives and insights with us, and when they return to their home country, share their uniquely American experiences with their friends, family, coworkers, educational institutions, etc.—all to promote mutual understanding between the U.S. and other nations.

•The H-1B is a "specialty occupation," and requires the in-

ternational to be a skilled worker and be salaried by a U.S. employer; they are here to work

•The TN classification stands for "Trade NAFTA," and was created to facilitate employment of Canadian and Mexican nationals within the U.S., as part of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

ISO works predominantly with J-1 Exchange Visitors and H-1B employees, but we get a fair number of less common classifications as well, and we are kept very busy keeping up to date with all the regulations promulgated by various federal agencies (U.S. Departments of State, Homeland Security, and Labor) that govern these visa classifications—we have to know them inside and out in order to help our international scholars maintain their legal status throughout the course of their stay here at UC San Diego.

These numerous regulations can carry stiff penalties for organizations that are found not to be in compliance with them, and devastating consequences to scholars who do not comply as well. Organizations can be barred from sponsoring employees for H-1B status or permanent residency, can lose all federal funding dollars, can lose eligibility to host Exchange Visitors, and can be fined dramatic amounts. Scholars and their families can be forced to leave the U.S. prematurely, with lengthy or even permanent bars preventing them from future admission to the U.S. These are sobering thoughts, and keep us working diligently to meet all compliance requirements, and to lay out in our immigration advising sessions with our international scholars all potential

options and consequences.

But in spite of all the sobering regulations, the enjoyment we all share in meeting people of widely varying backgrounds with different perspectives from ours buoys us along as we navigate the churning regulatory waters—and we expect them to churn roughly this year as Congress gears up for major immigration law overhauls! Regulations currently require we provide orientation sessions for our J-1 Exchange Visitors, and our scholar advisors definitely enjoy this personal interaction with our international faculty scholars. The J-1 regulations also suggest that we offer additional programming to help exchange visitors adjust to living in the United States, specifically, "sponsors shall offer or make available to exchange visitors a variety of appropriate crosscultural activities....'

We have relied on the Friends of the International Center to help us meet this regulatory requirement; the International Family Orientation, the Wednesday Morning Coffee, the Knit-Along group, the Cooking in America classes, the International Lunch programs—all these and more sponsored by the Friends help us

tremendously in this goal, and help our international faculty, scholars, and their dependents, regardless of visa classification, begin to share experiences and perspectives with each other and with Americans.

Roark Miller oversees the operations of the International Scholar Office. For over a decade he has been working in international edu-

cation, advising international scholars and students on the full gamut of academic visa classifications; prior to coming to UC San Diego he worked in International Offices at Emory University and the Morehouse School of Medicine.

Roark received his Ph.D. in Musicology from the University of Michigan, and his B.Mus. in Piano Performance from the Oberlin Conservatory. He received a Fulbright Fellowship for dissertation research in Venice, Italy, has published articles in refereed journals, and has taught at Southern Methodist University and Emory University.

### Scholarship Donations

—by Ruth Newmark

Once again, contributions are being solicited for the funding of a scholarship named in honor of **Tecle Kidane-Mariam**, a native of Eritrea, who worked at the International Center from 1989-2000.

A generous donation arrived from Carol Robertson, longtime International Student Advisor and a former colleague and friend of Tec's, who decided last year to resurrect this scholarship, which has generally been awarded to a graduate student doing research

in Africa. Last year the scholar-ship was awarded to Maya Oren, a Ph.D. candidate in political science, for her work in Namibia. From 2003-07, scholarships were given in Tec's memory to doctoral students engaged in research or medical outreach in Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and Zambia, but also, in 2005, to a Kuwaiti student making a comparative study of Arabic sign languages.

Keeping Tec's memory alive in this meaningful way has become

Carol Robertson's task. Like Tec, Carol enjoys interacting with students. With a master's degree in counseling, she tries hard to help students to reach their goals, and is keenly aware that providing scholarships is one way of facilitating this.

Another donation to the Tecle Kidane-Mariam Scholarship came from Lina Quinsaat, who worked as a scholar advisor at Scripps Research Institute for many years. She retired a few years ago, and now lives on the East Coast, but comes back to San Diego frequently as she has family here.

Katherine Hodges also sent a contribution. Reminisced Kathy: "We hired Tec to be the International Student Advisor in 1989 when I became Assistant Director of the International Center. For the six years we worked together. Tec and I often started the day sharing reactions to some article we had read in that morning's New York *Times.* Years later, when Tec was quite ill, I visited him at Thornton Hospital and brought him a copy of the *New York Times*—only to learn that the hospital had lost his glasses after surgery and he couldn't read anything at all. I went downstairs to the hospital shop and traded my driver's license for every pair of reading glasses they had. Back in Tec's room, he tried on each pair of glasses while I played optometrist: 'Better or worse?' I asked as he switched from pair to pair while I held up the NYT. We had a lot of laughs picking the right pair. (Tec was much too good-natured to complain to the hospital staff about losing his glasses, but I gave them hell and his original pair soon reappeared.)"

Additional donations were made in Tec's memory by UCSD colleagues and friends: Mary Dhooge, Ruby Rosas, and Alma Coles, and SDSU's Jane Kalionzes.

Thank you all!

## SCHOLARSHIP LETTERS

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the funding to travel to Papua New Guinea. The trip was spectacular, the collections we did there will provide materials for three chapters in my thesis. It was also wonderful for me to see my first live tropical featherstars after working on them for so long! In terms of training it turned out to be much better than expected as well. By joining the French expedition, I was able to work with expert taxonomists on all of the groups of symbionts associated with the crinoids. Now, I have almost all of the symbionts identified to species level (except the new ones). Having this opportunity likely saved me half a year of struggle in identifications, leaving more time for me to work on analyzing the system in new ways.

I also had a wonderful time working with local students who joined us in the lab. Despite the temperatures rising to over 110 degrees in the lab each afternoon, the students kept coming back to see who was living with what crinoids—it was really fun. There isn't a word in tok pisin for featherstar, but our boat drivers came up with one: liklik star e gat gras bilong pisin [roughly little star with feathers].

We have hundreds of photographs from the trip that I am happy to share, if you are interested.

Mindi Summers
NSF Graduate Research Fellow
Scripps Institution of
Ocenography, Marine Biology
Curricular Group

Accompanying the above note of thanks, **Mindi Summers** sent a more formal scholarship report; interestingly, it is written in the third person. Here follow excerpts.

Photographs by Australian native Prof. **Greg Rouse**, a recent member of the Friends.

### Biodiversity of Crinoid Echinoderms and their Symbionts:

During November and December of 2012, Friends Scholarship recipient Mindi Summers joined part of the marine expedition Our Planet Reviewed Papua New Guinea (www.ourplanetreviewed.org), led by **Philippe Bouchet** (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle) and Claude Payri (IRD). This expedition brought together over 89 participants from 19 countries to assess and quantify the marine biodiversity of the Madang lagoon. Mindi, a graduate student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography joined the French-led expedition as part of a team led by Dr. **James Thomas** (Nova Southeastern University).

The goals for Mindi and her SIO advisor, Dr. **Greg Rouse**, were to re-examine the species diversity of crinoid echinoderms in the lagoon (using morphology and DNA) and collect the many symbionts that live with crinoids. Crinoid and symbiont diversity was explored on shallow coral reefs surrounding small islands in the Madang lagoon, Papua New Guinea.



Underwater exploration. Almost every morning, Lasek and Kevin from Riwo village, would take Greg, Mindi, and other scientists to a dive location in the Madang lagoon. As filter-feeders, crinoids love areas full of suspended particles/food with good coral cover for perching and hiding. The best places for crinoids were therefore on shallow reefs near islands. Once at the site, they dove for approximately 60 minutes, photographing and collecting 10-12 crinoids (and symbionts) per dive. Each crinoid was photographed and collected with symbionts underwater.

In the lab discoveries. Once back in the lab, the symbiont community of the crinoids could be explored. Crinoids were placed in seawater baths and the symbionts were removed, photographed, and identified. Some crinoids had no symbionts, while others had over 10 inhabitants [some of which lived inside them as parasites].

Local students were trained to remove symbionts from the crinoid echinoderms in the laboratory. Over 200 crinoids were examined, hosting more than 400 symbionts.



Mindi Summers working with young students in Papua New Guinea

Initial findings. During the 21-day trip, 224 crinoids were collected for the Echinoderm Tree of Life Project (www.echinotol.org). On these crinoids were found amphipods, gastropods, flatworms, fish, isopods, crabs, squat lobsters, snapping shrimp, shrimp, myzostome annelids, and scaleworms. The lagoon was very diverse and new crinoids and symbionts were continuing to be found on the last day! The DNA samples are currently being analyzed by Mindi for incorporation into her dissertation.

Over 600 crinoids and symbionts were collected and photographed during the 21-day trip. These animals and their relationships are currently being investigated as part of Mindi's dissertation work.

#### Dear Friends.

My adventure to Glasgow, Scotland far exceeded any expectations that I had. For one, it was interesting to live in a place that wasn't coastal California, and I quickly noticed that even if there are commonalities between different places in the world—language, food, hygiene, for instance—each location is unique. There are so many things in the UK that are different yet the same, such as supermarkets, cellphone costs (their way of doing it is much better), and accents; all these made Scotland an exciting place for me to live in. I was able to see icons of the world that always seemed abstract to me. I can't believe I can say to others that I went to the Scottish Highlands or to the Berlin Wall; until recently these places seemed so far away, both mentally and geographically. I appreciate that you helped me in allowing this experience to happen, and I am glad that the Friends of the International Center exists at our school.

I loved being in Europe and being able to experience Western culture in a newway. I became more knowledgeable about European countries, whether they related to lesser things like the different character sets used in Scandinavian countries, or to more significant events like Scottish devolution/independence.

Glasgow was a great place to see a different side of the world, and I really appreciated this opportunity to do so. Thank you, Friends of the International Center, for expanding my view of the world.

Chapman Seto Sixth College, Computer Science major

### Koreans in Japan

On September 17, 2002, the late North Korean leader **Kim Jong II** admitted to the abduction of Japanese civilians in the 1970s and 1980s by North Korean spies. The 9/17 revelation was indeed a critical rupture for Koreans in Japan, or Zainichi Koreans, as skepticism, punishment and discipline targeting Koreans reached an unprecedented level of intensity.

My dissertation aims to understand the ways in which Zainichi Koreans negotiate repression by the Japanese government and violence by nationalist groups that have escalated in recent years. The Friends of the International Center Scholarship has enabled me to conduct field research for my dissertation which focuses on Korean schools that have been extremely vulnerable to such forces because of their visibility and ties with the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, a pro-North Korea organization. Although there are 100+ Korean schools (K-12 and university) throughout Japan, where approximately 8,500 Korean students of 3rd and 4th- generation Korean students are enrolled, my field research took place in the Kyoto Korean High School in Kyoto-the city I am originally from. I observed the classes, conducted interviews with students, teachers, and parents, and participated in various activities, events and ceremonies.

In resisting anti-North Korean racism and marginalization, Korean school communities have sought support from both Japanese and South Korean individuals and groups. Within the Japanese multiculturalist framework, Zainichi Koreans are represented as (good) "different" Other, while within the South Korean framework, Zainichi Koreans are represented as the "same" Us, both of which fail to encompass the complexities of Zainichi Korean identities. As a result, Zainichi Koreans are obliged to selectively present themselves for different groups of "supporters" to be "recognizable," "legitimate," and "worthy" of rescue and protection, specifically by emphasizing that the schools have nothing to do with anything remotely associated with North Korea.

The key to an alternative to those frameworks lies in the Korean school communities. Contrary to the dominant Japanese discourse that blames the schools for indoctrinating their students to become loyal overseas nationals of North Korea, the students are far from being brainwashed. They are able to reinterpret and re-articulate what is taught at school and what it means to be Koreans in Japan on their own terms. Due to the limited space here, I cannot go into details, but ultimately, the students perform North Koreanness, South Koreanness, and Japaneseness flexibly and strategically.

Despite the ever-escalating anti-North Korea sentiment, the students do not choose to completely erase their North Koreanness. Instead, they seem to feel entitled and comfortable about being creative and playful with Koreanness and adding Japanese style comedy repertoire in their everyday practice in which the need and desire for recognition does not hold much significance. In my dissertation, I will explore the ways in which their performativity addresses the inadequacies of the either/or binary—either pro-North or South, either Japanese or Korean, either home or in diaspora—and allows us to imagine other possibilities of articulating Zainichi Korean experiences, politically and discursively, rather than simply highlighting their marginality.

I thank the Friends of the International Center for my **Ruth Newmark Scholarship** and for giving me an opportunity to closely examine a rarely studied group of people who are targeted by racism. I believe that studying Zainichi Koreans will give an insightful idea about how to promote friendship, understanding, and cooperation within and among the different groups of people in an international society.

Xyung Hee Ha
Department of Ethnic Studies

February 26, 2013

Dear Ruth and Friends of the International Center,

First, thank you for your support. And second, 春节快乐 or Happy Spring Festival and Chinese New Year!

I am honored to have received the Friends of the International Center scholarship. The funds helped to purchase my airline tickets to Beijing and pay for Chinese language classes. I am currently studying at the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language and conducting research as a Senior Scholar at the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

My time in Beijing is flying by, especially because I have Chinese classes everyday for four hours. I am making great strides in my classes and have just started a tutorial where I am reading Chinese art criticism for the first time. This ability is essential for my dissertation, which considers how Chinese artists entered the international art world in the 1980s and 1990s. During this period, many Chinese critics debated the impact Western art history had on Chinese contemporary art in the pages of art magazines. For the first time, I can read these debates firsthand, no longer needing to rely on (limited) English translations.

I recently returned to the United States in order to chair a panel about cultural negotiations of the Readymade at the College Art Association, the national association of artists and art historians. This

was a great experience. I was able to share not only my research but also showcase research about Asian art by scholars from around the world. I also traveled to Taiwan in the fall, where at Academia Sinica I presented my research about an artwork made by **Xu Bing** in 1993, entitled *Wu Street*.

Additionally, I have been working at a small artist-run project space called HomeShop. HomeShop is a collective of artists and writers and works within Beijing's small hutong neighborhoods. At HomeShop, I have been organizing activities, including the launch of our journal, Wear, a reading group; and a marathon screening of a "A Beijinger in New York," which was the first Chinese television show to be filmed in the United States. The series was produced in 1993 and tells the story of a Chinese man trying to make it in New York City. You can see what we are doing at HomeShop on our blog: http://www.homeshopbeijing.org/blog/.

I have been spending a lot of time at art museums and galleries, including the National Art Museum of China and the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art. In my spare time, I have been visiting Beijing's parks and recently made it out of the city for a wintery hike through snowy orchards. However, my most memorable experiences have been of cooking and eating with my Chinese and foreign friends.

Thank you again,
Orianna Cacchione
Ph.D. candidate in Art History



Orianna proudly displaying the publication Wear

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