



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

Newsletter

Volume XLVI, No.10

June 2019

President's Column

One of the most challenging parts about living a long life is that we experience an increasing number of losses of friends and colleagues. Friends of the International Center is in its 58th year and will be saying good bye to Global Education (formerly International Center) Dean **Kirk Simmons**, who will retire at the end of this academic year. Dean Simmons began working at UC San Diego about the same time I came on to the Friends Board, and it is hard to fathom that I will not only be outstaying his tenure, but that I will not have his counsel or shared history as we move forward. We have been through so many ups and downs during the past eight years including the ups related to models of a new building in 2012, the downs related to the loss of the physical International Center in 2016, and the ups related to the continued support of the University and plans for a new home in the Triton Pavilion (occupancy summer 2023).

Thank you Kirk for your belief in the value Friends brings to the University, for your collaboration, and for championing international education in its many permutations during your time on campus. We wish you well in your next phase of life and trust you know that you will always be warmly welcomed

should you have occasion to return.

Thankfully, all Friends program leaders have agreed to continue their volunteer service next year and this is great news for our dynamic group of international participants and our University partners. It is important that everyone know their service is not taken for granted and thus I take this moment to publicly thank:

Friends Board members for their service, which is not always very glamorous, including daytime program leaders: **Gladys Wong** who led a group of participants through mastery of Tai Chi Fan Dance; **Nori Faer**, **Cindy Tozer**, and the volunteers at Gus' Table and Friday Chat who keep conversations an ever-fascinating discussion of global cultures; **Jennie Chin** and the Craft Circle volunteers for reminding us of the value and pride that comes with making something handmade; **Nancy Homeyer**, **Eileen Tozer** and the Family Orientation team who graciously welcome our new international visitors each month; **Georgina Sham** and the Wednesday Coffee volunteers who devise fun activities each week and



Katya Newmark and Kirk Simmons
Friends Membership Dinner, May 2017

host special events throughout the year; **Yukina Nakazawa**, **Mariko Usui**, and the Mommy, Daddy & Me volunteers for providing an enriching and activity-filled time for our young families; **Irma** and **Pat Canaan** for their thoughtful and gracious support of participants as they gain confidence with their Everyday English skills; **Cindy Tozer** for helping me lead our Cooking program; and **Vivian Li** for helping participants find their strength and balance in Yoga.

Thank you to our **Resale Shop volunteers** who collectively enable the Shop to continue as a forum that brings international visitors together with locals to work while providing a service to the University community and revenue for our programs. Thank you **Marion Spors** for having left a dynamic work environment. I know we will

be saying good bye to quite a few of our Shop volunteers—please know you will be missed and that your contributions were critical to our success.

Thank you **Elisabeth Marti** for overseeing our always rewarding Visit an American Home program; thank you **Ruth Newmark** and the Scholarship Committee for the opportunity to meet an impressive, interesting, and diverse group of students; thank you **Liz Fong Wills** and all the Ethnic Dinner volunteers for your support of the Ethnic Dinner program; thank you

to my team of Friends Dinner Social volunteers and Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner team for helping create community; and, thank you **Ruth Newmark** for your tireless and passionate service as Editor of Friends *Newsletter* providing an invaluable source of communication for our wonderful membership and University colleagues.

Thank you to our many University colleagues, including Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, **Alysson Satterlund**, **Global Education, Graduate Division, Financial Aid Office, School of Medicine, UC San Diego Foundation**, and **UC San Diego Catering** for helping Friends realize its missions.

And a final thank you to **YOU**, our members, our readers, our supporters in all forms: without you there is no Friends community!

Please remember that programs continue through the summer with the exception of the cooking program, *Newsletter*, and the **Resale Shop that will close Friday, June 14.**

Watch for information on our annual July 4th picnic.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer!

Katya

Katya Newmark
PresFIC@ucsd.edu



June Calendar

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: **Yoga Class**, 9:00-10:00

June 3, 10, 17, 24: **Tai Chi**, 2:00-3:00

June 4, 11, 18, 25: **Gus' Table**, 10:00-Noon

June 4, 11, 18, 25: **FIC Craft Circle**, 1:00-3:00

June 5, 19: **Family Orientation**, 9:15

June 5, 12, 19, 26: **Wednesday Coffee**, 10:00-Noon

June 5, 12, 19, 26: **Mommy/Daddy & Me**, 1:45-2:45

June 6: **Cooking Class**, 9:00-Noon

June 6, 13, 20, 27: **Everyday English**, 10:00-11:30

June 7, 14, 21, 28: **Friday Chat**, 10:00-Noon

June 11: **Friends Board Meeting**, 10:00

June 14: **Resale Shop will close for the summer**



Hospitality

—by *Georgina Sham*

Once again, **Alma Coles** generously offered her home and culinary talents to host Wednesday Coffee. On April 24, twenty of us gathered at her house and helped with preparations of the luncheon menu she had designed for us. We cut vegetables for the salads, while Alma made several loads of dough using her handy bread machine.

In the meantime, her husband **Bill** started the grill and then grilled the steaks that Alma had marinated beforehand, as well as the bread. We all dug in and ate a delicious meal that ended with Alma's famous Swedish almond cake.

Because the Coles are very relaxed about having children at



Alma goes over recipes

their house, we had an abundance of babies, in addition to a toddler and a 5-year-old, in attendance. **Jei Yoon Park** took pictures and we all enjoyed ourselves.

Alma has a very large garden and she invited us to see it all. Her giant amaryllis bulbs were blooming profusely and the fruit trees were amazing. Several people picked kumquats and loquats to take home.

We are very grateful to Alma for hosting us.

Farewell



Dear Friends,

It has always been an honor and a pleasure for me to have the opportunity to communicate with the full membership of the Friends. It is bittersweet that this will be my last opportunity. In July, I will retire from UC San Diego and conclude a work career that has crossed international research, education, and business and taken me to just about every corner of the world. Growing up in a mountain valley in southern Oregon, I never imagined that my life course would be so incredibly broad, rich, and fulfilling. To end my career at UC San Diego was a remarkable opportunity for me to make one more contribution rather than simply coasting into retirement. For that, I will be forever grateful to the faculty and administrators on the search committee for my position who trusted I had something to offer at a ripe age.

I distinctly recall my first encounter with the Friends membership. It was an extraordinarily warm afternoon for San Diego. I had been asked to give a public forum. I walked into the room in which I was to speak and was very surprised to see such a crowd. The room had no air conditioning. The room temperature was nearing 90 degrees. I wondered how we all would collectively survive the heat. Only much later did I learn that air conditioning was considered unnecessary in the near-perfect weather of La Jolla, but, as we now find, climate change has altered this perception.

As I began my presentation, I surveyed the room. At my left, in the front row, was a line of people I perceived to be folks from the broader community. They appeared distinctly different from the professorial-looking types or

the beleaguered-looking staff who I imagined had been strong-armed into attending. Immediately, I thought to myself, these "Friends" I have read about must be a very committed group. As days, months, and years past, this proved to be true in the very best way possible.

Joan Adamo was President of the Friends that year. Joan had worked in the Study Abroad Office for a time. I was delighted that she understood the challenges before me, and she provided me with wonderful guidance as I dipped my feet into the excellence and the bureaucracy that makes for the very best public education system in the world. Joan fretted about who would replace her in her leadership role and then suddenly **Katya Newmark** dropped from the sky—like an angel to save the day and ensure the continuation of a rich tradition threatened by the tides of change. As I now know, not only did she save the day, but she has provided incredibly dynamic leadership through a period of massive change in the organization and the campus. Katya quickly became my partner in navigating the rollercoaster of change and challenge that confronted the historic International Center. We fought and lost the battle of gaining support for rehabilitation of the original building. At the time, it was a devastating loss and one I took very personally. My solace as I depart the campus is that the concept that was the Center has been reimagined and in a way that will make our international community a centerpiece of the campus into the future.

I had a very clear agenda for the campus when I walked in the

door. I have kept a copy in my desk drawer to remind me not to despair in my dark moments when I thought I could not overcome the most complex of bureaucracies. For me, the counter to the challenge of the bureaucracy was being surrounded by some of the brightest students and the most brilliant faculty in the world. What more could one ask than be immersed in a sea of great minds?

I have not met my own picky expectations. Sure, most of my agenda is launched in some form, but not just yet in the grand style I imagined. I hope to look back on the campus a few years from now and find it fully realized. The one thing in which I have absolute confidence is that my vision has always been far-reaching. With that said, as Dr. **Chip Schooley** moves forward in leading a dramatic revisioning of internationalization on campus, I am trusting that my vision will quickly be superseded by his farsightedness and expertise.

In closing, I want to extend my special thanks to the core group of Friends volunteers who are present daily and provide such extraordinary support to our rapidly-growing international community of students, scholars, and faculty. I would also like to specially thank the dynamic duo, **Katya and Ruth Newmark**, who carry on a remarkable legacy of service and leadership to this great university. I carry you all in my heart always.

Sincerely,

Kirk

Kirk Simmons

Dean, Global Education



Spanish-themed Friends Dinner Social

—Story and Photos by Katya Newmark



Harry King, Samuel Liang (totally engrossed in playing the bingo game), with Patrick & Theresa Sterlina



Christa McReynolds and Judy Vacquier



Katya Newmark with Naomi, Rio, and Akio Tomita from Japan

As I predicted, our Spanish-themed Friends Dinner Social on April 20 was a high-energy event from start to finish. The weather could not have been better from which to enjoy the beautiful views of the ocean and spring sunset, while sipping either a mock Sangria or a glass of Spanish *tempranillo* from atop Village 15.

The icebreaker, filled with Spanish trivia, kept guests mingling and hopefully entertained—who knew the Basques made the first stapler in the 1800s or that instead of a tooth fairy, in Spain a rat named Pérez leaves a gift under your pillow? In keeping with the theme, prizes awarded were a bottle of Catalunyan wine to **Judy Vacquier** and a new Trader Joe’s find of dehydrated grapes to our youngest and most dedicated game player, **Samuel Liang**, who collected enough signatures for four bingos.

Our bold tabletops reflected Spain’s vibrancy with black tablecloths set with red and yellow napkins folded in the shape of a boat symbolizing Spanish explorer **Juan Cabrillo**’s landing in Cali-

fornia. And, notwithstanding any moral views about bullfighting, our centerpieces featured iconic black and red bulls and matadors atop a yellow backdrop. The wind provided an extra challenge in keeping the paper decorations upright, but even our service team shared how much they enjoyed the playful centerpieces.

The menu was selected not only to provide a delicious meal, but also to provide representation from different regions in Spain. The menu began with two tapas: *croquetas de pollo* (chicken croquette) and *datilos con tocino* (dates with bacon) along with several stories about tapas origins. The buffet began with *salmorejo*, an Andalusian tomato soup that was garnished with chopped egg and ham, and was followed by succulent *pollo al ajillo*, a Castilian chicken with garlic sauce that is one of Spain’s most popular dishes. The buffet also offered light *albondigas*, meatballs brought to Spain in the 8th century during Moorish rule; *tortilla Española*, the delicious Basque Spanish omelet; *alubias con arroz*, a traditional As-



Erika Lopez



Pilar Moreno and John Moore



Prof. Ann Craig

turian rice and beans dish; *espinicas con garbanzos*, a traditional Sevillian spinach and garbanzos dish that is especially prevalent during Lent (a timely selection); and *ensalada de rucula, uva y almendra*, a Katya-created salad paying tribute to three of Spain's delicious staples: grapes, Marcona almonds, and oranges. The meal ended with *crema Catalana*, a luxurious variation of the French crème brûlée, from Catalan that left everyone feeling relaxed and happy as we moved to the final part of the evening.

For our cultural entertainment, guests were treated to an amazing and powerful musical performance by UC San Diego's Dean



Anelize Bauermeister and Felipe Calil from Brazil

of Undergraduate Students and Linguistics Professor, **John Moore**, highly regarded and known in the world of Spanish guitarists as **Juan Moro**, accompanied by singer **Pilar Moreno**, and flamenco dancer **Erika Lopez**. From our under two-years of age guests to our more mature guests, all were captivated by the rhythms and energy of the Spanish music that filled the room.

Audible groans were heard when I shared that we would not be holding another Friends Dinner Social until fall, and our guests repeatedly thank us for providing forums with diversity of guests, cultures, entertainment, and the opportunity to make new friends! For those left on the waiting list, my apologies that you could not be accommodated, and I hope that everyone will remember to register early for our always enjoyable events.



Laurette Verbinski and Ray Park



Akio Tomita, Friends member Debby Park, and Pedro Belda from Spain in the buffet line



Donations

—by Ruth Newmark

Friends of the International Center is fortunate to have many in our group who continue to champion both our hospitality and scholarship programs. Gratefully we are closing our fiscal year with a flurry of generous gifts. Some people thoughtfully add a contribution to when they make reservations to Friends special events, others make donations in honor or memory of loved ones, while many simply make a gift because they realize what an important role Friends plays in offering a sense of belonging to our international campus community.

We thank **Janet & Maarten Chrispeels**, **Kim Signoret-Paar**, **Pat Fleming**, **Christa McReynolds**, **Jean & Jeff Selzer**, **Ariane & Hannes Pessentheiner**, **Seyhan Karakulak**, and **Cristina Amado** for their recent donations.

We are happy to report that once more **Carol Robertson** and **Mary & Victor Dhooge** donated to the *Tecele Kidane-Mariam Scholarship*, that **Katya Newmark & Matthew Costello** added a substantial sum to the *Ruth Newmark Scholarship*, and that **Y.C. Fung** made a contribution to the *Luna Fung Scholarship*, as did Y.C.'s and Luna's son, **Conrad Fung**.

Nadine & Oliver Wilson made their scholarship donation in memory of **Eleanor tum Suden**, while **Georgia Crowne**—looking forward to meeting the 2019 recipient of the *David K. Crowne Scholarship* at the Friends May scholarship awards

dinner—continues to honor her late husband by funding a scholarship named in his memory.

In late April, Friends of the International Center were honored to receive a \$25,000 check from the **San Diego Foundation** on behalf of the **Peacemakers Fund**, “to fund scholarships for UC San Diego graduate students traveling abroad for research, study, or fieldwork for advancement of peace, justice, and /or development.” We are most grateful to **Donna (Davida) Huchel** and **Andrew Mundt** (whose father, **William Mundt**, was instrumental in setting up the Peacemakers Fund) for facilitating this exceptional gift.

That this is the second gift—a similar one was received in 2018 that helped fund international research for a number of UCSD graduate students—made Friends especially proud.

As I wrote Davida and Andrew: “The feedback from the scholarship recipients is heartwarming. All write how meaningful even a small scholarship like ours is to them. The graduate students mention over and over that Friends scholarships are among the very few that come without any restrictions, so that the money, for example, can be used for rent, something that is very important, especially to international students who often find themselves strapped for money in the summer when they don’t have an income from teaching. Most often our award

is used to pay for airline tickets, be it to a conference the student could not otherwise attend, or to far-off places for essential research. Some of the ways our awards have been used have surprised us: I distinctly recall one student doing research in Baja California writing that he used it to cover the cost of travel insurance and gasoline, another for replacing the bow for her cello, while a number have bought special equipment, such as an underwater camera, or paid for a local assistant who helped with the student’s fieldwork.”

Friends award recipients express best the significance of their fellowship. Wrote **Beverly French**, a Ph.D. student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and recipient of the 2018 *Friends Carol & Stuart Smith Scholarship*:

“I don’t have words enough to express my thanks to the **Friends of the International Center** for awarding me a fellowship. The award itself reads for *academic excellence and outstanding contribution to international friendship and understanding* and I am not exaggerating when I say that, as a young scientist, of all the awards I have been humbled and honored to receive, I am the most honored to receive this fellowship.

“I think one of the most valuable lessons we can take away from higher education is how to be a better human in this world, and there are so few outlets that express appreciation for this under-valued outcome of higher education. Particularly in my field—that of coral reef ecology and conservation ecology—the human dimension can only be ignored at our own peril, and the peril of the ecosystems and organisms which we seek to protect. Our fates are intertwined.”

Undergraduates are generally less specific, but stress that our scholarships are essential to their study abroad and that the experience changed their outlook on both

April 11, 2019

their host country and on the United States—that the experiences were life changing.

From one of our latest scholarship recipients, a Political Science student, **Jzov Stith Gambles**, upon hearing that she had been selected to receive a 2019 Friends scholarship to study at Queen Mary's University of London, we received this note: "Thank you so much for this opportunity to study abroad! I truly appreciate Friends of International Center investing in my future and my personal development."

•••••

Friends of the International Center is proud to be recognized as an official support group of our UC San Diego campus, and grateful to receive invaluable support—financial and in multiple other ways—from a number of university divisions. We are especially appreciative of the support of **Global Education, Student Affairs, the Graduate Division, Study Abroad, the Medical School, the Financial Aid & Scholarships Office**, and the **UC San Diego Foundation**.

As part of the annual support group renewal process, Friends are asked to provide endorsement from the person that oversees our organization. We thank Dean **Kirk Simmons** for his kind words and for allowing us to share his laudatory remarks.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate Davida Huchel's charming way of signing her letters: "in unity" or "globally speaking" by thanking not only our **treasured donors**, but also our **treasured volunteers**, who keep the Friends of the International Center programs humming.

Friends
April 2019
Volunteer Hours:
994.5 = 5.65 FTEs

Corinne A. Cramer
Director – Donor Stewardship
Advancement Services
Support Group Operations
9500 Gilman Drive #0940
La Jolla, CA 92093

Dear Ms. Cramer:

I am delighted to enthusiastically endorse the Friends of the International Center for a renewal of their official support group recognition. This is the 58th year of their continuing service to the international community at UC San Diego. The contributions of the Friends to the vibrancy of global education and research at UC San Diego are immeasurable. Again, this year their scholarship development efforts alone will yield over \$130,000 in support to undergraduate, graduate and medical students on campus.

Each month the Friends contribute close to 1,000 hours in volunteer time. Their programs continue to serve all populations of our international community from degree-seeking, international undergraduate students to visiting international faculty members and their accompanying family members. The Friends is a unique and valuable organization, which has deep, historical roots in the community and remains one-of-a-kind when compared to similar organizations around the country--and around the world.

I encourage you to readily approve their reapplication for official group status.

Sincerely,



Kirk Simmons, Ph.D.
Dean, Global Education

Membership

Friends welcome **Theresa & Patrick Sterlina** as new members and were pleased to see the couple at our latest Friends Dinner Social (see photo on p. 4).

We thank **Georgina Sham** for referring Theresa to our Mommy/Daddy & Me program, which Theresa has joined as a volunteer, applying her profound knowledge of early childhood education gained from working in the field for over 15 years. Theresa earned her B.S. at the University of Connecticut in Elementary Education and followed this with graduate work as a Reading Teacher at SUNY Albany. Throughout her career, she has gained a deep understanding of children and how to address their social and emotional needs by looking at the world the way children see it. Theresa has written three children's books and is currently working on her fourth. Passionate about reading to children, she is scouring libraries all over San Diego looking for age appropriate books!

Mommy/Daddy & Me is delighted to count Theresa as the children's new American grandma.



Friends of the International Center volunteers



Jim Galvin with Kirk Simmons

To: Kirk Simmons, Jim Galvin, Kelly O'Sullivan Sommer, Victoria Gerginis-Mellos, and Debi Gianni

From: Katya Newmark

Thank you for the lovely brunch held today honoring the efforts of the many volunteers supporting Global Education at UC San Diego.

Thank you **Kirk** for your kind remarks, for your seven years of Friends support, and for approving the continuation of this event—rest assured nothing is taken for granted and all is appreciated!

Thank you **Jim** for serving as an eloquent master-of-ceremonies.

Thank you **Kelly** for the special recognition given to the Scholarship Committee.

Thank you **Victoria** and **Debi** for your time, patience, and efforts to pull this event together. I loved the seed packets, the herbs, and the menu.

And most importantly, thank you all for being wonderful colleagues year-round!

Thank You, Volunteers!

On Monday, May 6, Global Education (GE) saluted their volunteers with a celebratory brunch. Volunteer groups included: **Friends of the International Center, Oceanids, the English-in-Action Conversation Program, and the Thanksgiving Exchange.**

President **Katya Newmark** was applauded for her role in overseeing the Friends organization, and FIC volunteers were also acknowledged for their contributions in helping the international community thrive. The following volunteers were given special recognition:

☞ Friend Member of the Year: **Katya Newmark**

☞ New Member of the Year: **Linda Ferri**

☞ International Volunteer of the Year: **Yukina Nakazawa**

☞ Program of the Year: *Newsletter*: **Ruth Newmark**, editor

Jim Galvin, Study Abroad Director of Program Development, served as master of ceremonies. In the absence of **Kelly O'Sullivan Sommer**, Director of Study Abroad, Jim acknowledged the scholarship volunteers: **Jeri Abernathy, Joan Adamo, Kim Burton, Louise Kauffman, Candace Kohl, Kathleen Micheletti, Katya Newmark, and Ruth Newmark**, Scholarship Committee Chair.

The Volunteer Appreciation Brunch also highlighted a sampling of Friends programs and the opportunities created for international scholars and visitors to participate in their UC San Diego community.

To further acknowledge the appreciation of volunteers' tireless contributions, Global Education provided attendees with an official UC San Diego Appreciation Certificate and specially designed seed packets to commemorate Global Education's gratitude for helping grow our community.

On behalf of Global Education, we thank you for making our international community thrive!

Victoria Gerginis-Mellos

International Faculty & Scholars Office, Office Manager

SCHOLARSHIP LETTERS

Tuebingen: Center of Kant Study

I am writing this report from Tuebingen, Germany, where I am spending the current academic year, and the FIC scholarship was an enormous help to me in paying for the set-up costs here. My scholarship covered the costs of flights and the deposit on my apartment, enabling me to arrive here a month earlier than would otherwise have been possible.

I am working towards my Ph.D. in the Department of Philosophy at UCSD. One doesn't often have cause to travel as a philosopher, but there are numerous reasons why, given my research interests, Tuebingen is an excellent place to visit. My background in philosophy is in the philosophy of mind, and my thesis research has an historical focus: I am working on **Immanuel Kant's** philosophy of mind, as it informs his broader philosophical project. Kant is famous for all sorts of striking claims about the possibilities and limitations of the human intellect. On the one hand, he was an Enlightenment man: he believed that each of us is an autonomous agent endowed with an intellect capable of scrutinizing even the most entrenched tenets of political and scriptural tradition. But on the other hand, he believed that the human intellect is beset by deep limitations: the human mind, Kant held, could never penetrate into the true nature of the reality that lies behind 'appearances'. I want to understand the theory of mind that lies behind this ambivalent prognosis.

Kant was writing in Koenigsberg, present day Kaliningrad, but the influence of his writings rapidly extended throughout Prussia and other Germanic regions. His influence was particularly strong here in Tuebingen, a small, very picturesque college town in the Swabian region, also home to a number of Lutheran seminaries. The

atmosphere, then as now, is one of great natural and architectural beauty, and intense intellectual engagement.

Tuebingen is one of Germany's great centers for the study of Kantian philosophy. The philosophy department is housed in a 13th century building that overlooks the river Neckar. I work in the *Kant-Hegel Zimmer*, a dark room that overlooks the river and has leather-bound editions of Kant and Hegel's writings from wall to wall. I regularly attend departmental colloquia, as well as a graduate seminar on Kant, all of which are conducted in German. I am working towards a presentation in April, when I will lead a three-hour seminar with a presentation of my thesis research. I have also had the opportunity to present my work at a graduate conference in Austria, and to discuss a recent essay with an influential professor in Berlin.

I am surrounded by colleagues whose grounding in Kantian philosophy inspires me to keep asking questions and developing my project. I could not think of a more conducive environment in which to nurture my dissertation project, and I am deeply grateful to the Friends of the International Center, for helping to make this dream a reality.

Max Edwards

Ph.D. Candidate from the UK

Chinese Publication Industry

Over the past year, funding from the Friends of the International Center has allowed me to make significant progress with my dissertation research and writing. In particular, I have spent a large amount of time undertaking detailed bibliographical study of propaganda books printed in the People's Republic of China.

This approach offers new evidence for the successes and failure of the Chinese publishing industry in the 1970s. It also offers a window onto how the state decided to allocate scarce paper resources.

As part of my work, I produced a sample catalogue of part of my book collection, and in January 2019 I was awarded the inaugural California Young Book Collector's Prize for my cataloguing and my collection of Chinese propaganda. I now have the opportunity to exhibit my collection at the 52nd California International Book Fair in Oakland in February.

Funding from the FIC has also helped me secure additional grants from the Willison Foundation Charitable Trust and the Bibliographical Society of America to conduct research at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, this summer.

On campus, I continue to actively represent the interests of international students on the Library Graduate Advisory Committee. I also serve on the Academic Integrity Review Board, a campus-wide committee, which upholds the university's policies on academic integrity and ensures that students receive fair treatment.

Once again, my thanks to the FIC for funding me the past year. I hope to see you soon.

Matthew Wills

Ph.D. student from the UK
Department of History

Two Friends Fellowships

During the summer of 2018 I was able to finalize my dissertation research thanks to the support of a Friends of the International Center Fellowship. The funds provided were put in the service of securing valuable archival research and data processing time at the UCSD Special Collec-

tions Library during the spring and summer of 2018.

I was able to return to the library collections so as to fill in some blanks left by previous stages of data gathering. During this time, I was also able to conduct three additional research interviews with subjects related to my dissertation project.

Thanks to the Friends of the International Center award I could devote ample time to these tasks, a luxury that I would not have been able to afford had I had to be fully employed during the period.

The title of my dissertation is *Biennial Places: Reciprocity, Expertise, and the Expansion of the Global Contemporary Art Industry*. It has required much travel and research stays in places as different as Cuba, the Netherlands, and Mexico City. I have been incredibly lucky to be supported by UCSD in different ways through the years—and twice by a Friends of the International Center fellowship.

Support from the Friends of the International Center awards has been crucial to me and other fellow international graduate students, who often lack the support networks of national graduate students, and are not eligible to off-campus funding opportunities to conduct their research.

Paloma Checa-Gismero
Ph.D. Candidate from Spain
Department of Visual Arts: Art
History, Theory, and Criticism

Structural Engineering

Inspection of structures is a critical task that needs to be performed in order to guarantee the safety of structural components during their service life. Different Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE) techniques can be used to inspect aerospace, civil, and biological systems to ensure their structural integrity and to identify the presence of damages and defects, which could impair the cor-

rect functioning of the overall structure.

The focus of my research is the inspection of structures through the passive extraction of the acoustic transfer function of the medium under consideration, and the 2D and 3D characterization of defects by means of ultrasonic imaging. The first research project addresses the issue of defect detection in railroad tracks by extracting the acoustic transfer function of rails through a normalized cross-correlation operator, which exploits the random acoustic vibrations generated by the train wheels. A technique to remove uncorrelated noise from the recorded signals is also introduced to make the transfer function reconstruction more robust. A statistical outlier analysis is used to detect any variation in the transfer function of the rail as the train moves along the track, in order to identify locations where discontinuities (joints, welds, defects) might be present. A prototype with multiple pairs of capacitive sensors was developed to perform the inspection in a non-contact, passive-only, high-speed manner. Results from field tests performed at the Transportation Technology Center (TTC) in Pueblo, CO, have demonstrated the potential of the system for the reliable inspection of railroad tracks at speeds up to 80mph.

Simone Sternini
Ph.D. Student from Italy
Department of Structural
Engineering
Luna Fung Scholarship

Portuguese Colonization of Brazil

Last summer, due in part to financial support from a Friends of the International Center Fellowship, I was able to conclude two months of archival research in Lisbon, Portugal. In my application, I emphasized my study of projects of Portuguese colonization of Brazil. In particular, I was interested in

exploring a law passed in 1758 and valid through 1798—the *Dirécório dos Índios*—which the Portuguese Crown used to promote interracial marriages between native Brazilian women and male Portuguese colonists.

During my two months at the archives, I researched this topic through central imperial government documents. To its own peril, the administration of the Portuguese empire was highly centralized in Lisbon. Thus, most documents relating to the period I study are not in Brazil, but remain archived in Portugal. While searching through various archives storing material related to this topic, I made several crucial discoveries that helped advance key lines of research and allowed me to outline and draft a whole dissertation chapter. In addition to documents relating to native peoples, I inadvertently also discovered several cases of fleeing slaves “hidden” in the Portuguese archives.

The question of slavery was a crucial one to me. And, indeed, this was a topic for which I only had one source—a source I was struggling to frame and utilize in the dissertation despite its evident importance. The cases I unearthed this summer gave me the possibility of putting that source in dialogue with other extant plantation documents.

Slavery in Brazil is a big scholarly field; less so, in the eighteenth century context of the Portuguese empire. At the same time, scholarship on the colonization of native peoples—including their enslavement—has recurrently separated them from enslaved Africans. Due to the Friends of the International Center fellowship support and belief in my work, I was able to understand how to put these two modes of subjugation into dialogue. And, what is more, I was also able to link shifting conceptions of humanity, racialization of human diverse kinds, and changes to the government of colonial populations with the expulsion of “gypsy” populations from the midst of the Portuguese territory.

Described in pathological terms as a “plague” that spread like an epidemic disease, I was able to conclude that gypsy populations were the savage within. By analyzing these documents, I became keenly aware of the problem of ruling the unruly—be it indigenous peoples, escaped enslaved Africans, or semi-nomadic gypsy populations.

This summer, I hope to continue with this work and begin drafting a new dissertation chapter. I must emphasize how direly needed your support was, and how much I enjoyed conversing with and learning from other fellows about the exceptional work they are doing.

Thank you for this wonderful initiative and support!

Patrícia Martins Marcos
Ph.D. student from Portugal
Department of History

Dear Donor,

For the past months, I have studied at the University of Glasgow through UCEAP, taking psychology and public policy classes. One class in particular, called Service to the Community, allowed me to work at a volunteering agency that raises money for hospice care. This experience has allowed me to be more integrated into my host country by allowing me to interact with the locals in the community. This has taught me a lot about life in Scotland and has challenged my American-centric views.

Studying abroad has been a dream of mine. I didn’t know how I would make it possible as a first-generation student from a low-income family, but I knew that I wanted it enough to do everything in my power to make it happen. For me, studying abroad has been contingent on receiving enough scholarships to go, so when I found out that I could go, I was completely over the moon.

I am truly grateful for your generosity, as I would not have been able to study abroad otherwise. It’s been an experience of a lifetime and I feel so privileged to have the opportunity to have this chapter in my development.

I am very excited to continue my journey abroad for the rest of the academic year and continue my growth

Thank you for making my time here in Scotland possible.

Yulin Ma

Eleanor Roosevelt College, Human Development major



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The Friends of the International Center *Newsletter* is published monthly, September through June. All material submitted must be received in writing by the editor no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication.

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