I recently attended a UC San Diego Triton Leadership Conference and was reminded of the unique role Friends and YOU, our members, play, in not only the history, but also the future of UC San Diego. All too often we find ourselves reminiscing about the good-old-days but, not to diminish how wonderful they were, I find that we rarely spend much time talking about what we have achieved and even less time about what we have yet to achieve.

When looking at the future, our University leaders spend a good amount of time providing metrics attesting to UCSD’s achievements and successes, so I think it only right that I do my best to provide our members with this same type of approach. I begin by stating that it is with some regret that the concept of metrics is not more prevalent in the sphere of small non-profits, and that I cannot provide as many hard and fast numbers as I would like that would fully capture Friends many accomplishments. On the other hand, I can tell you a lot that will rightly impress you with Friends achievements.

For example, last month’s Indian-themed Ethnic Dinner was our 119th dinner offered to the San Diego community and several of our weekly programs (i.e. Wednesday Coffee, English Conversation) that began in the early 1970s are still thriving, which conservatively means that we have Friends programs surpassing their 2,300th session. And while, to the best of my knowledge, we have never kept hard and fast records of how many people we serve across all of our programs, I would conservatively guestimate that we have reached well-over 100,000 people.

On average, our data shows that Friends volunteer @10,000 hours each year—extrapolate this number over Friends fifty-seven year life and this means that Friends has volunteered over 570,000 hours of service to the University, which in present-day valuation is the equivalent of 3,289 full-time employees or, even more impressively, using the valuation shared by the Independent Sector, Friends has conferred an economic benefit of $16,581,300. Does this number not blow your socks off?

And just in the past six years of my Friends Presidency (please do not roll your eyes as to the number of years I have been writing this column), through YOUR generosity, Friends has awarded over $592,000 in academic scholarships, which tells us that Friends has conservatively awarded well over a million dollars in academic scholarships and has played a part in transforming the lives of thousands of students.

I hope that by now you are swelling with pride because you have earned that right through your choice of being a Friends member and supporter!

As we look forward, each of us continues to serve as an ambassador not only of Friends, but also of the broader University community by virtue of Friends role as a certified campus support group. Our achievements will only continue to grow with your continued support and I hope that you will continue to spread our message that in today’s jargon would stress our inclusivity, cultural sensitivity, and acceptance of social responsibility.

Wishing you a springtime filled with flowers, because as Lady Bird Johnson said: Where flowers bloom, so does hope.

Katya
Katya Newmark
PresFIC@ucsd.edu
Thinking About the Resale Shop

I like to think of the Resale Shop in many different ways. Sometimes I imagine it as a type of indoor jungle, a compact room bursting with old and new things: curiosities, piles of clothes, bags of jewelry, and other generous donations waiting to be organized. This may be the case when I arrive in the morning and see what should be done.

More often, however, I like to think of the Shop as a meeting point, a place to stop and linger, to browse and talk. It attracts a number of regular customers who have made it part of their weekly routine to drop by. Some of them look out for newfound treasures. Occasionally, someone just comes in for a chat, and if you happen to be there on a lucky day, you might even be treated to a private ukulele concert. It’s always a pleasure to recognize familiar faces, as well as to see new faces just about to discover this place. Imagine, how well a cozy café corner would fit into the picture?

Lastly, on a more conceptual level, I like to think of the Friends Resale Shop as a place where sustainability meets affordability. Here things get reused instead of thrown away, and old things find a new owner. There is great pleasure in observing someone discovering just what she has been looking for, or what she really hadn’t expected to find.

So, if you haven’t been in the Resale Shop lately: stop by, come in for a chat, and linger!

Serena Grädel

A native of the German-speaking part of Switzerland, Serena, a speech therapist, joined her husband, a post doc in the Physics Department, in the summer of 2018, and after attending many of Friends activities, she began to volunteer in our Resale Shop in October, working with Daniela Marshall. Like many other Friends volunteers, Serena is waiting for her work permit and is glad to have Gladys Wong as her current Tuesday partner.

I was a long time shopper at the old Resale Shop. My husband, Joe Nichols, volunteered there for many years, and when he passed away last year, I decided that I would keep our involvement going and become a volunteer myself. I now know why he enjoyed his time there so much.

The team that I work with is amazing. We really enjoy working together. (Mariko Hattori and Shinae Kim, while Cynthia Lael is there doing an awesome job sorting, pricing, and keeping the Shop neat and tidy).

We have such a variety of customers coming into the Shop: a student on her way to have her class picture taken needing a nice blouse and blazer, another student buying a pantsuit for a job interview the next day, a young couple needing dishes for a dinner party they are giving (a long discussion ensued—could they cook food in a silver dish that we had? Mariko did the research, and no they couldn’t use it for cooking, but they bought it as a serving dish).

We have students buying lab coats and goggles for science classes, people buying workout shoes, hiking boots, and artwork for their homes. Faculty and especially staff members also shop here. People are very friendly and a lot of chatting occurs.

Come visit us. We are open Tuesday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Maureen Nichols

My name is Mayra Nevárez. I’m a graphic designer from Mexico. I officially started volunteering at the Resale Shop in January 2017, replacing Noemi Aguirre, who was returning to Mexico, so it was a perfect opportunity for me to start.

To be honest, I always wanted to volunteer at the store, but I felt that my English was not good enough to interact with the customers. Of course, I was wrong. I started volunteering on Fridays with Pearl Tangri (India) and Daling Yi (China), and I had so much fun with them. I learned a lot of things, like pricing the products, talking with the donors and the students, answering the phone, etc.

When Pearl left San Diego, I was volunteering with Mariko Hattori (Japan) and Daling. While we were working, in our free times, we taught each other words.
from our own languages. Then I changed my shift to Wednesdays with Wonyoung Cho (Korea). It was always a nice experience to work with each of them!

Now my baby daughter, Emila, is requiring most of my attention and I’m not physically at the Shop, but am working digitally, managing the Shop’s Facebook and Instagram accounts. And of course, I worked closely with Marion Spors. She was always encouraging me to do things. Thanks to Marion, I organized an international fashion show in 2017, and started to apply my skills as a graphic designer to making posters and flyers, and now by taking charge of communication for the Shop. Marion was a great leader and I learned a lot from her.

I really encourage people to volunteer at the Resale Shop. It’s a great way to make friends and meet people, and to learn not only about American culture, but also about other cultures from your colleagues, visitors, and the customers.

Please visit the Shop’s Facebook and Instagram accounts:
https://www.facebook.com/FriendsResaleShopUCSD
https://www.instagram.com/friends_resale_shop/

March Calendar

| March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Friday Chat, 10:00-12:00 |
| March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Yoga Class, 9:00-10:00 |
| March 4, 11, 25: Tai Chi, 2:00-3:00 |
| March 5, 12, 19, 26: Gus’ Table, 10:00-12:00 |
| March 5, 19, 26: FIC Craft Circle, 1:00-3:00 |
| March 6, 20: Family Orientation, 9:15 |
| March 6, 13, 20, 27: Wednesday Coffee, 10:00-12:00 |
| March 6, 13, 20, 27: Mommy/Daddy & Me, 1:45-2:45 |
| March 7, 14, 21, 28: Everyday English, 10:00-11:30 |
| March 12: Friends Board Meeting, 10:00 |
| March 21: Cooking Class, 9:00-12:00 |
| March 29: César Chávez Holiday |

Your Donation Means More Than You May Realize

Because Friends campus mail routing is quite cumbersome, mail delivery takes an unusually long time, compounded in December and January by several holidays that affected both our campus mailroom and the U.S. mail service. While we already reported on a number of end-of-the-year donations in previous Newsletters, we hasten to add the names of a fine number of additional donors to Friends programs with a big “thank-you” to all our supporters, and we must stress that this includes our university colleagues in Global Education, Student Affairs, the Graduate Division, the Study Abroad Office, Financial Aid Office, and the Medical School.

We thank Josie Foulks, Mitchell Furumoto, Donna & Thomas Golich, Seyhan Karukalak, Marietta Kobrak, Alice McCauley, Christa McReynolds, Judith and Mihoko Vacquier, and Ellen Warner Scott for their unrestricted donations.

Additionally, we thank Claudia Lowenstein, Josephine & Fred Randel, and Ann Bowles for their contributions to the Friends scholarship fund.

Some donors make their scholarship contribution to the Friends account at the UC San Diego Foundation; we are greatly indebted to Laurette Verbinski and Victoria Wu for their continued support of our scholarship program.

The importance of your contribution is far greater than you may realize. Like so many of our program participants, Carla Reale Batista told us that all of her San Diego friends were made through Friends activities, while Marcela Machada, also from Brazil, shared that Friends are like family and keep her from being homesick. For another positive view, we cite a scholarship recipient, a Russian Ph.D. candidate in Communication with visa problems, Olga Lazitski: “I’d like to express my sincere gratitude for the incredible and generous support of the Friends of the International Center, who were there to help me during the hardest time of my life.”

Friends activities would quickly come to a standstill without the help of our wonderful donors and volunteers.
Notwithstanding the downpour and flash flood warnings, our February 2, 2019 Vietnamese-themed Friends Dinner Social saw all 90 seats filled with a nice and different mix of Friends, local and international scholar community members. My only regret is that these dinners sell out and that I am unable to accommodate the many left on our waiting list.

Determined to familiarize our guests with Vietnam, I perfected the game I created for our German-themed Friends Dinner Social, providing each guest with a description of a city, body of water, food, major site, or miscellaneous fact that allowed our guests to educate one another as they mingled. Several of our first-time attendees shared that they thought this an extremely fun way to socialize and learn at the same time, and Friends volunteer, Norbert Kubilus, added that several guests of our German-themed dinner opined that indeed this version was better. Barbara Stanculesc won a prize of Vietnamese coffee for having spoken with at least fifty-four of our guests!

To reflect the spirit of Vietnam, the dining tabletops featured red and yellow napkins representing the colors of the flag and folded to mimic a waterfall representing the country's natural beauty. The centerpieces featured tiered Asian plates with red base (happiness & luck); golden yellow (wealth & prosperity) and pink (love) flowers; and gold lanterns (wealth & completeness), the colors most associated with Tết Nguyên Đán, Vietnamese New Year (February 5, 2019). The tiered plates were topped with illuminated golden yellow lanterns reflecting the lantern's use during the new year celebration, as well as during Tết Trung Thu (Mid-Autumn Festival), and to conjure thoughts of the city of Hoi An's iconic beautiful silk lanterns. The inclusion of colorful origami lotus flowers represented one of Vietnam's most revered icons symbolizing purity, serenity, commitment, and optimism. No doubt our guests may not fully understand the intention behind my Friends Dinner Social centerpieces, but many guests tell me how much they enjoy the unique, fun, creative and festive ambiance the tabletops create.

Our meal provided what I hope was a broader exposure to Vietnamese food than what I observe most non-native diners eating at local Vietnamese restaurants, though there were some familiar items. Dishes all bore their names in both English and Vietnamese and our guest speaker, native Vietnamese Kimloan Hill, kindly announced the menu items with their correct pronunciation.

We began with appetizers consisting of fresh tofu spring rolls (gôi cuốn chay) and skewered pork meatballs (nem nướng) accompanied by fish sauce (nuóc chấm) and peanut sauce (sốt đậu phộng). Next diners enjoyed crab & asparagus soup (súp măng cua), before making their way to the buffet featuring: lemongrass chicken (ga xào xả ớt); Vietnamese shaking beef (bo lúc lắc); vegetable stir-fry noodles (rau cải thập cẩm xào); Chinese broccoli and garlic; kohlrabi and carrot salad (gỏi cà-rốt và xu hào); and steamed rice (cơm trắng). For dessert our guests were encouraged to make their own Vietnamese Coffee (cà phê) to accompany their banana tapioca pudding (chè chuối).

Dr. Kimloan Hill, a lecturer in UC San Diego’s Vietnamese Heritage Language Program, delivered an after-dinner presentation on the impact of Vietnamese soldiers serving France during World War I on the broader
Kudos to the FDS Chair

• Congratulations, Katya, on another FDS triumph. I think the large turnout is a tribute to past successes. Last night’s event was so much fun! The tables were beautiful, the menu so very fitting, and the speaker one of the most interesting I’ve ever heard. I’d love to hear/read more from her. All your seasoned efforts created a wonderfully memorable evening. Thank you!—Linda Ferri

• Thank YOU for putting together such a lovely evening. The centerpieces were very impressive and creative. I also thought the icebreaker was a great idea.—Eileen Tozer

• I love Vietnamese food since I traveled the length of the country, and enjoyed the dinner yesterday a lot. The talk told us about a part of the Vietnamese history I had never known about.—Christa McReynolds

• Another wonderful evening! Thank you very much for the great introduction to the Vietnamese cuisine and for the pictures you sent. The talk was thought provoking and highly informative!—Seyhan Karakulak

Make Your Reservation:
Friends Dinner Social: Spain
Saturday, April 20, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Village 15
https://fdsSpain2019.eventbrite.com
Reservations due by Friday, April 12

Membership
We welcome Donald Hill, Diana Simms Vines & John Malugen, and Adele Abrahamsen & William Bechtel, who joined our organization in February.
Friends Scholarships: 
ARE OUR AWARDS IN THE RIGHT AMOUNTS? 
—by Ruth Newmark

Friends scholarships are far from being the only international scholarships available to UC San Diego students; nonetheless, our scholarships play an important role in furthering international education. From time to time, the Friends Scholarship Committee considers the size of our awards, debating the advantages of offering fewer but larger scholarships versus keeping the status quo, currently set at $2,000 for eligible graduate and medical students and $1,500 for eligible undergraduates participating in an accredited study abroad program.

Over the 43 years, ever since awarding, in 1975 a single scholarship to an Israeli student working towards a Ph.D. in biology, our scholarship program has grown substantially, so that in the year 2017-18, Friends made 74 awards: 30 to graduate students, 4 to medical students, and 40 to undergraduates for a total value of $128,000.

In weighing the advantages vs. disadvantages of offering fewer but larger awards, we seek input from others, including asking our University partners for their advice. In 2018, President Katya Newmark made a special effort of soliciting feedback from recent scholarship recipients. The general consensus was to leave things as they stand.

One of the longer, persuasive, responses came from Paloma Checa-Gismero, a Spanish doctoral student in Visual Arts, who wrote: “Dear Friends, Thank you for your award, and for your support of my research.

This is the second time that I benefit from your generosity, and it means a lot to me. Regarding your question about the amount of awards, I believe that available resources should be distributed as widely as possible. Please, do not limit your support to fewer students. While it is true that more money is always welcome, those $2,000 have made a big difference for me. The first time, I received the Friends of the International Center award, I was able to purchase travel and housing for my first research trip to Cuba. This second time, those $2,000 will allow me to take a month off work to devote that time entirely to dissertation writing. Your help has been crucial at both the beginning and the end of my dissertation process, and I would love for as many of us as is possible to benefit from your help.

Eunice Lee from Korea, working towards a Ph.D. in Literature, expressed her thoughts this way: “I would weigh in towards keeping the fellowship at $2,000. I believe the amount is a good amount for graduate students, especially for those who can use this either for summer expenses that other research-based grants do not cover, or for international students who cannot find outside jobs. I strongly believe that it is more important to allow more students to have a bit of a financial breathing room.”

Another graduate student, Matthew Wills from the UK, on his way to earning a Ph.D. in History, began by thanking the FIC for hosting a fantastic dinner and for awarding him a scholarship, following his introductory remarks thusly: “In terms of graduate fellowships, I think keeping the figure at $2,000 is best. For one, the more fellowships you can award, the more people receive lines for their CV and an all-important moral boost that their project is worthwhile. Secondly, many graduates use this type of award to fund some short-term research, or in conjunction with other small awards. $2,000 can thus go a long way. Finally, I think raising the sum of money to $5,000 would not produce many substantial gains for most graduate students—the figure would not be enough to fund a long-term project. You would have to offer fellowships in the range of $20,000 to create a meaningful “large” fellowship award; the resultant downsides of only giving money to a small number of people far outweigh the benefits of giving small awards to a large group.”

Addressing the question from the point of view of both graduate and undergraduate students, came this thoughtful comment from another Ph.D. student, Minju Kim from South Korea, in the Psychology Department, who wrote: “Thank you for arranging the awesome dinner last Tuesday. I really enjoyed talking to all the awardees, and also to the people who provided us the opportunity to do so. I like the idea of keeping the scholarship amount as the way it is, if it can benefit more undergraduate and graduate students. If I could add some thoughts from my personal experience, I just want to mention that round-trip flights may often range from $1,500 to $1,800, depending on the destina-
tion and also on the time of the year (when the summer/winter breaks are very expensive). I was lucky to receive $2,000 as a graduate student, but it came to me that $1,500 for undergraduate students might be a bit of a tight budget. Still, it would be fair to keep the same amount for all the recipients in each group (undergraduate or graduate), regardless of their destination of foreign studies. Again, thank you so much for all your support and this opportunity.”

Now to some comments from undergraduates. Working towards a degree in Chemical Engineering, Chelsie Ceballos, on her way to study on EAP in Germany wrote: “If keeping the scholarship at $1,500 means that there are more undergraduate recipients, I believe that it should be kept at that amount. Although $1,500 is not enough to fund a student’s entire study abroad trip, it still makes a big difference. It’s better to see a larger number of students receive some support than only a few students receive full support. I am very grateful for the scholarship amount that I received.”

Because the Friends Scholarship Committee is asked by our campus Study Abroad office to read applications for scholarships other than our own, Katya also reached out to undergraduates beyond Friends scholarship recipients for feedback. Thus we heard from Bassel Hatoum, a B.S. candidate in Electrical Engineering planning to study in Scotland on a Global Seminar: “In response to your question about future scholarships, I would rather the scholarships be fair to keep the same amount for all the recipients in each group (undergraduate or graduate), regardless of their destination of foreign studies. Again, thank you so much for all your support and this opportunity.”

In October 2018, the Friends Scholarship Committee—Jeri Abernathy, Joan Adamo, Kim Burton, Louise Kauffman, Candace Kohl, Kathleen Micheletti, Katya Newmark, with Ruth Newmark as chair—had the privilege of making two more Friends Study Abroad Scholarship awards and providing recommendations for eight more Study Abroad, UC San Diego General Scholarships, all ten chosen from a pool of 19 applicants. The two Friends Scholarship recipients selected are undergraduates Connor Frank and Nathan Silitonga, coincidentally both going to study at Tohoku University, ranked among Japan’s leading universities. They are going on the identical UC Education Abroad Program called Engineering Science in English; their colleges, majors, and study focus, however, differ considerably.

Connor Frank is a Warren College Computer Science major (and aspiring baker), who hopes to delve into researching the application of computer science to healthcare.

Nathan Silitonga is a Muir College Mechanical Engineering major, who states that he has a special interest in how countries, such as Japan, recover from major earthquakes.

In March and April, the Friends Scholarship Committee will meet to make further 2018-19 scholarship selections.
Scholarship Letters

Since Friends awarded 74 scholarships last year, space limitations make it impossible to share all recipients’ reports in our Newsletter. Here follow excerpts from a number of recently received reports that may give an overview of the varied studies the recipients engage in and the bearing of Friends awards. Please note that in many cases these are mere snippets of more detailed accounts.—Ed.

Lobbyists
During the past year or so, my dissertation research has centered on discovering new empirical patterns in lobbying in American politics, which will inform research drawing on the insight of actual lobbyists. This has been a fruitful endeavor.

This research will consist first of exploratory interviews with a small number of lobbyists and then a survey in which thousands of currently or recently active lobbyists are invited to participate. The first stage is already under way, with meetings and conversations with lobbyists scheduled in the coming days.

Thank you again for your generous support and continued care for my work.—Huchen Liu, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science

Global Seminar in Paris
With the five-week seminar, I was able to take a deep dive into philosophy, a subject that is not necessarily aligned with my major of electrical engineering. This alternate perspective was something that I was excited to discover, and as I delved into the philosophy of technology and human values, it required me think in ways that were previously foreign to me. The course looked at how advancements in technology were both received and perceived. In many cases the widespread application of a product did not translate to an acceptance of the technology. For example, advancements in robotics have allowed robots to appear to be more sentient and human-like; however, as these technologies approach a so-called uncanny valley, they often receive the critique that they will never be accepted as a critically-thinking machine because of their unnatural development. Throughout the course I looked at many different perspectives on upcoming technologies.

As I continue to pursue a career in engineering, I will take these new viewpoints with me, allowing me to more accurately understand how my work will be used and how it will be received.

The Friends of the International Center’s assistance has helped me to see that there is so much more out there in the world, and I can’t wait to see more.—Hassan Eid, Warren College

EAP in the Netherlands
Prior to studying abroad in the Netherlands, I had never left the United States, so the trip was filled with many firsts. I was able to travel to many different countries, since they are all very close in proximity. I was also able to gain the global perspective I was hoping to gain in my education.

I took two courses: Medical Ethics and Positive Psychology. Both offered a European perspective to these topics, to which I had no prior exposure. Both classes emphasized discussion and collaboration, while the classes I was taking in the United States were mostly lecture-based and individualistic.

Furthermore, being abroad taught me a few lessons outside of the classroom. Being the directionally-challenged person that I am, I often struggled with navigating during traveling. However, due to the frequent weekend trips to different countries, I learned to plan and research ahead, and become more comfortable with public transportation and using navigational tools.

Being a first-generation college student, studying abroad was a desirable, yet intimidating experience due to the large price tag and the lack of familiarity with the process. However, the scholarship you all have donated to me helped me immensely. Thank you so much for providing me with the opportunity to go abroad, make memories, and have new experiences!—Tina Le, Thurgood Marshall College, Psychology major

Finding the Popular Subject in the voice of Julio Jaramillo:
Over the summer of 2018, I traveled to 1) Mexico City, 2) Bogotá, 3) Guayaquil, and 4) Quito, in order to complete the fieldwork stage of my dissertation project. The research was archival for the most part. In Mexico City, I spent two weeks at the Hemeroteca Nacional de México, part of the Biblioteca Nacional de México. This library houses an important part of the country’s national and regional newspapers. Due to the specificity of my research topic, consistent of a particular figure and certain key-concepts, physical archives are cumbersome and time-consuming to go through. The fact that most Mexican newspapers are not only housed under a single roof, but that an important percentage of these have been digitized and are available as data bases made
my time in Mexico City very productive.

In Bogotá, I followed a similar methodology. Unlike Mexico, in Colombia the national newspaper archives, housed in the Luis Ángel Arango National Library, are not digitized.

In both Quito and Guayaquil I was lucky to have local contacts. Archival research in Ecuador proved to be more challenging as materials were not as centralized as in the other countries. I did research in municipal libraries in both cities. Fortunately, an important part of the material from this country came from a private collector I contacted beforehand via Facebook.

I am deeply indebted to Friends of International Center. They were instrumental in the process of completing this ambitious research agenda. On top of the generous funding, the fact that the funds are disbursed before the trip takes place with very little bureaucracy makes the logistics of research trips simpler and helps navigating the financially challenging summer season. I commend and thank Friends of the International Center for their valuable contributions to the UCSD community.—Juan David Rubio Restrepo, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Music, Fitzsimmons Scholarship

**Anthropological Fieldwork in China**

When I was heading to Mainland China to do my fieldwork, I thought I had mentally prepared myself. I was a native Chinese. I was going back to my own city. I spoke not only Mandarin Chinese, but also three other local dialects. I already laid out a pretty comprehensive network and complete pilot studies. As many of the psychological anthropological researches, my research topic is intimate, sensitive, and intense. In short, I study how people experience, understand and/or express their emotions as they go through various personal or historical transitions through their body. It is a phenomenological approach to a psychological anthropology dissertation, embedding personal transitions in China’s intensive and unprecedented historical, social, political, and cultural transformations across generations.

Six months into the field, the most important thing I learned about doing fieldwork in a Chinese context is how difficult it is to establish a relationship, yet how deep you can dig once such relationship is established. People questioned me, as I expected, but in a way that was surprisingly stressful. In addition to their doubt about your academic discipline, which I could handle professionally, they raise existential tensions that affected me as a person. “Yes, Miranda,” they said, “I can see why this topic is very important.” Then they commented on how such “cutting edge knowledge” was not “practical,” and thus probably not what China needed at this point.

It was through identifying my own emotions that I began to understand not only the experiencing, processing, and expression of emotional fluctuations, but also how to be mindful during the interaction with others as I begin to spot the patterns of behavior, and articulation of thoughts, and people’s underlying motivations, regardless of how much or how little we share.

Before I received the scholarship, which made the whole fieldwork possible, I already knew that this experience would contribute greatly to my academic career. What I did not expect is how it changed me as a person. Studying embodiment was nothing compared to embodying a complex cultural setting. As I was navigating not only various parts of the cities (Shanghai and surrounding towns, even to the northern provinces), but also various social classes, my whole body filtered through macro and micro contexts (or what Bourdieu called the habitus), where each individual creates her little worlds. Everything I put on paper, scratched down on my little notebook, either in Chinese, English, or doodling, became footnotes to the real life of these people. These footnotes, with the coming years of research and living, will hopefully contribute to the understanding of moments in history.—Hua (Miranda) Wu, Ph.D. candidate, Psychological/Medical Anthropology, Diane Lin Scholarship

**EAP in England**

I just came back from the most amazing quarter abroad at King’s College in London. First off, I would like to say thank you so much for the scholarship—it means a lot to me and to be frank, it is one of the reasons I was able to study abroad.

I learned so much whilst I was abroad. I got to experience the traditional aspects of British culture. I frequented Afternoon Tea with my friends, which was lovely! Feasting on finger sandwiches and scones is a lifestyle that I can definitely get used to! I also got to experience the very old and traditional pub scene. You can find people in pubs literally from 11 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. the same day! Even simple things such as taking the tube to class and walking around London brought me joy. I wanted to really immerse myself into the culture of London. It is a beautiful city with gorgeous architecture.

During my time at King’s College, I had the opportunity to join a dance team and meet other students. They showed me all the insider spots in London and really helped me live life as a local.

One of the things I loved about
London was the proximity to other countries. During my time abroad, I visited various cities in Italy and the city of Amsterdam.

Overall, I had an amazing experience and I got to really experience and absorb a different culture. I met so many fantastic people and I have definitely grown as a person! I feel that I am more independent and courageous. Being alone in a new country is hard, but studying abroad made me more comfortable with trying new things. It made me realize that sometimes it is okay to feel lost, you’ll eventually find your way!

Once again, thanks for everything!—Tanaya Sawant, Economics major

Thailand on EAP

Thank you again for supporting me in my study abroad trip this past summer. I attended Thammasat University’s Public Health Summer Course in Thailand for seven weeks and wanted to follow up with what I did and how much your support impacted my experience.

During my stay in Thailand, I visited three different cities; Bangkok, Mae Sot, and Chiang Mai. The first two weeks of my program were filled with Thai lessons and seminars about migrant and refugee health at Bangkok. I spent everyday 9a.m.-5 p.m. sitting in a classroom which was very rigorous but rewarding.

After two weeks, my class was moved to Mae Sot, along the Thai-Burmese border in Northwestern Thailand to do fieldwork with migrant communities to better understand their health problems and what recommendations we could offer as students. I got incredibly connected with my host family. Even though we did not speak the same language, they welcomed me and spent time with me working through awkward pauses and laughs. To this day, I am still connected to my host sister via social media.

I also worked alongside six other teammates to do interviews and discussions with our migrant community about their health, as well as touring around the surrounding area to understand the village’s health from the perspective of health professionals and institutions.

In our village specifically, we discovered a high emphasis on combating malaria and dengue fever when there should be more health funding toward chronic illnesses like diabetes and hypertension. We presented our findings to the community and also suggested more health education by local community health workers at the local school nearby, so that a projector could be utilized to spread health information. We also gave an academic presentation to Thammasat University’s Global Studies Board after we returned to Bangkok.

Overall my experience was one that was forever life changing. Not only was it very academically rewarding, I was able to connect personally through stories or experiences we saw. I have always been interested in participating in immigration/refugee work in the U.S. Coming from an immigrant family made this experience very surreal and personal to me.

Thank you again for your generous support. Please let me know if I can do anything to pay it forward! Happy New Year!—Joanna Chen, International Studies: Anthropology major

Conducting a Cross-Cultural Study

I am a Ph.D. graduate student from South Korea in the Department of Psychology studying children’s cognitive development. I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to the Friends scholarship that supported my visit to Seoul, South Korea, for a cross-cultural project with a lab at Chung-Ang University.

This project is an extension of a study conducted at the UCSD Early Learning and Cognition Lab (ELC Lab). Led by Dr. Caren Walker, the ELC Lab studies the scientific thinking process of young children. Mainly, I am interested in how children use abstract concepts about relations (e.g., same or different) to make sense of the world. For example, when preschoolers are asked to discover when a music box would play a melody and when not, they can understand a rule that a pair of same objects (e.g., the two identical sides of chopsticks) can make a music box play a melody, while a pair of different objects (e.g., a fork and a knife) does not.

Interestingly, previous studies have shown that children may understand such cause-and-effect of the world differently, depending on the cultural environment that they were raised in. For example, children in China were more likely to focus on the relationship between objects (e.g., Are the two objects same or different to one another?) while children in the U.S. were more interested in the uniqueness of each object (e.g., Does a fork make the music box play a melody?).

Thanks to the financial support of the Friends scholarship, I was able to visit South Korea last fall to push forward another version of the project with children living in South Korea.

Personally, this project was an invaluable experience as an international graduate student. I learned a lot about connecting different research groups and thought about how a cross-cultural project can be well established. During my future steps as a graduate student, I will do my best to contribute to science by adding diversity to the child development research field, with the hopes of reducing the WEIRD (Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic) bias in academia—Minju Kim

Thank you again for your generous support. Please let me know if I can do anything to pay it forward! Happy New Year!—Joanna Chen, International Studies: Anthropology major

March 2019

Friends of the International Center, UCSD Newsletter
In Memoriam

Those of us who were lucky enough to have known Walter Munk (1917-2019), a life member of Friends, were saddened to learn of his recent death. A consummate scientist, Walter studied the ocean, and his research on the water’s wave patterns became legendary in WWII and was instrumental in determining the best time for the Allied amphibious landing in North Africa and the D-Day invasion in France. He was a highly acclaimed geophysicist and in his long life received many professional honors.

Friends probably knew him best for his staunch support of his wife’s, Judith Horton Munk’s, efforts to create an international center on the nascent UC San Diego campus, a dream that was realized in 1971. Together Walter and Judith (1925-2006) rallied the local community—a group not altogether open to supporting internationalism during the Cold War—and raised much of the necessary money.

A native of Austria, Walter came to the U.S. in the 1930s; he studied at Columbia and Cal Tech, and came to Scripps Institution of Oceanography as what Judith described as its “first foreign student,” ultimately leading to a professorship in geophysics and the prestigious Secretary of the Navy/Chief of Naval Operations Oceanography Chair at SIO.

Married in 2011 to community leader Mary Cockley Munk, Walter and Mary championed local La Jolla Shores improvements, and in honor of his 100th birthday, the La Jolla Shores boardwalk was renamed Walter Munk Way.

Friends send our sympathy to Mary and to Walter’s two daughters, Edie and Kendall.

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In Memoriam

Walter Munk in 2011 at IC’s 50th anniversary celebration
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