

Office of International Programs



Clarion International Association on stage.

AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE NIGHT

“Around the World in One Night” was the theme for the 2011 Cultural Night presented by the Clarion International Association on Friday, November 11, in Gemmell Multi-Purpose Room. The evening featured a variety of cultural entertainment and international foods. The event was well attended by students, faculty, staff, and community members, including many families with children of all ages. Acting as Master and Mistress of Ceremonies were Tumie Mphatse from Lesotho and Tobias Siegler from Germany.

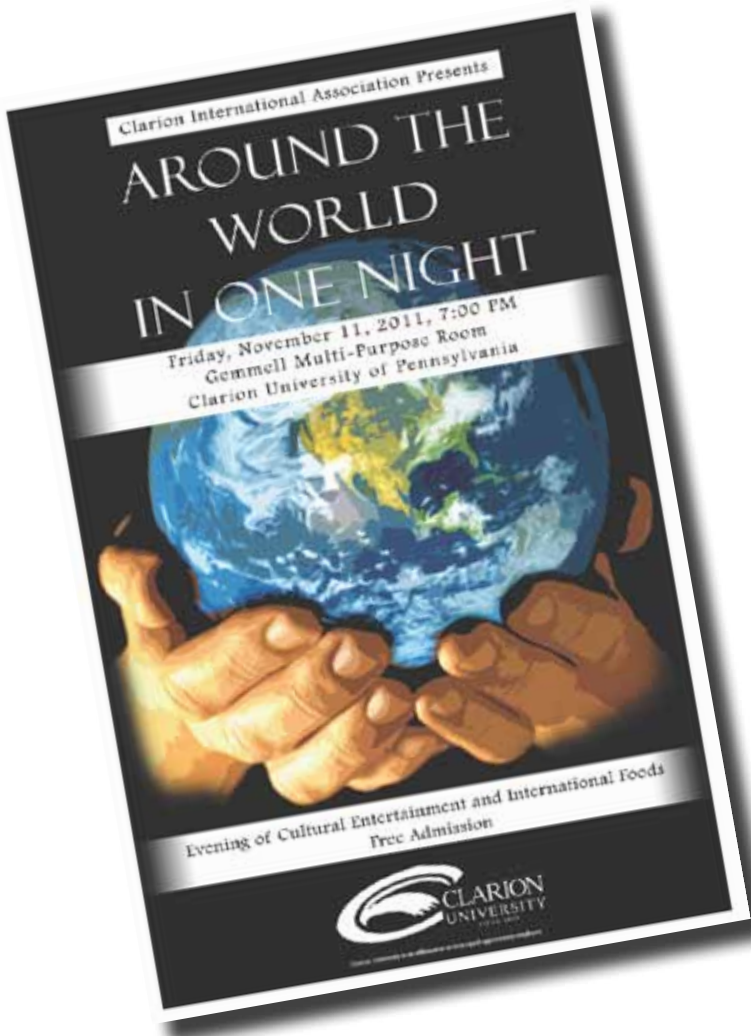
The program began with a global fashion parade featuring international students dressed in traditional attire. This was followed by performances and presentations from various regions of the world: The Americas and Caribbean; East Asia; Middle East; Africa; Europe; and South Asia. The evening’s entertainment included a Latin and Caribbean dance and Mexican fashion display; Chinese song and kimono demonstration; Saudi Arabian presentation; African video followed

continued

**Learning...
and then some.**

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Origami demonstration by Rie Kawanishi.

Cultural Night, continued

by a poem "I Am an African Child;" a lesson in French; and an Indian cultural dance.

Following the stage show a buffet featuring international cuisine was served. Foods included Jamaican jerk chicken, curry chicken, beef samosas, beef with potatoes, vegetable biryani, fried jasmine rice, basmati rice, vegetable mini egg rolls, crepes with nutella and fruit, and baklava.

The Clarion International Association seeks to enhance better understanding between the American and international communities, while at the same time educating both American students and the community through cultural performances and events from different parts of the world.

Article written by Vincent Lutta (Kenya), Clarion International Association Executive Board member.



Indian culture dance by Mohammed Haris Khan and Vanisha Miglani.



Elisabeth shows a classic Mexican dress from the state of Jalisco.



African poem by Tumie Mphatse, Geraldine Jones, and Vincent Lutta.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SUMMIT HELD NOVEMBER 4 IN HARRISBURG

Several Clarion University staff attended the Fourth Annual Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) International Education Council (PIEC) hosted by Chancellor John Cavanaugh and held at the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg November 4, 2011.

Dr. Jocelind Gant, CU assistant to the president for Social Equity and associate vice president for International Programs, served as the Planning Committee Program co-chair along with Dr. Mark Usry from Bloomsburg University.

On the agenda were remarks by Dr. Cavanaugh, a panel discussion with the PASSHE Governing Board President, Pennsylvania General Assembly and Senate leaders, and business executives, and a plenary session presented by Arlene Jackson, AASCU director of International Education.

There were also break-out sessions on developing international program and study grants, developing effective risk-management policies, and “nuts and bolts” regarding

the development of dual/joint degree programs.

Dr. Cavanaugh acknowledged the tight budget situation and stressed that PASSHE supports smart, effective methods to involve our students in study abroad as well as hosting international students in the 14 PASSHE universities.

Also attending from Clarion University were Dr. Vasudeva Aravind-Rao of the Physics Department and Dr. Ray Feroz, Study Abroad and International Education Coordinator, from the Office of International Programs. David Hartley, assistant dean, COBA, was one of the presenters on the break-out session on dual/joint degree programs.

Members of the PASSHE International Education Council from Clarion University in addition to Dr. Gant are Dr. Stephen Agyei-Mensah, professor of Computer Information Sciences, and Dr. Rachelle Prioleau, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

STUDY ABROAD: KOREA

James Kronmiller

While studying in Korea, I was able to see and experience Korea's many incredible sites. I've been to Haeinsa, a UNESCO World Heritage temple that, while it is one of the 10 great temples of the Hwaom set, it is best known worldwide as the repository of the Tripitaka Koreana. Carved wood blocks (81,340) contain the complete Buddhist scriptures, as well as many illustrations remarkably like those in Nepal. This set of blocks was completed in the year 1232. I was actually able to get a print of one of the blocks of scripture on traditional Korean paper. Yep, it is definitely a keeper!

I also managed to make it to Gyeong Ju. It is home to many interesting sites, including the Cheomseongdae Observatory. It is the oldest observatory in Asia. It is also home of the Royal Tombs of Daereungwon, and the Royal Tomb of King Hyogong. Interestingly, they use burial mounds rather than placing the deceased into the ground as in many western cultures. In the "Dynasty" era, when a king died, all of his servants and the servants families were buried with him (including the servants' children). Talk about a lousy job with no benefits!

Gyeong Ju is one of the cities that I believe is a "must see." From incredible temples and the ancient stone astronomical observatory, to modern towering buildings, this city has something for everyone.

The Bulguksa Temple is both inspiring as well as breathtaking. It was begun by the Prime Minister Kim Dae-seong in 751, the 10th year of the King Gyeongdeck's regime. The temple was restored in 1973 to its former splendor. Representing the mastery of Buddhist art of the "Silla" era, the pagodas and temple compound symbolize the "pure Land of Perfect Bliss."

The experience of studying and living in South Korea was the highlight of my college life. From meeting great new friends to tasting some truly different foods, the memory is so overwhelming that it is hard to believe I actually lived it. I cannot stress strongly enough that any student having the opportunity to study abroad anywhere should do it. Imagine yourself sitting in a class with other students from eight or more countries with their different ways of speaking and living, and becoming a class of friends who share great times and great stories. From sharing a meal in a local restaurant to marching in downtown Daegu South Korea in a huge parade honoring Buddha's birthday, it's all in a day abroad!



1 James Kronmiller and Cara Powers with Korean students.

2 Kronmiller and the hostess at a local restaurant.

3 Kronmiller with a student from China.

4 Kronmiller at Venango Campus with students from China, Japan, and Korea and their Korean Teacher (second from right in dark blue dress).



STUDY ABROAD and career FAIR HELD OCTOBER 20

The joint Study Abroad and Career Fair was held in Carlson Library, Level A, October 20 from 4 p.m.-6 p.m. This was the second consecutive year that Career Services and the Office of International Programs (OIP) teamed up to produce one grand event.

More than 125 students attended the event. Many stopped by the various tables to learn about opportunities to study abroad. Vendors included College Education Abroad (CEA), International Student Exchange Program (ISEP), and Torino Study Abroad. Dr. Elisabeth Donato from the Department of Modern Languages, Dr. Ray Feroz from the OIP, and Study Abroad Club representatives also shared information with students.



1 Dr. Elizabeth Donato and Dr. Katherine O'Donnell, Department of Modern Languages.

2 Rebecca James, CEA Global Education with Dr. Ray Feroz, OIP, in the background.

3 Sofia Pedrana and Nicole Gable, Torino Study Abroad.

4 Jonett Maurer, Peace Corps.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLAR AWARDS PRESENTED

The International Scholars Committee of the Advisory Council for International Education and Programming awarded scholarships to six Clarion University students for study abroad during the upcoming Spring 2012 Semester.

The recipients were:

- Joan Cullen for studying biology and Spanish in Argentina for one semester;
- Miya McKnight for studying biology and Spanish in Lithuania for one semester;
- Mariel Sobol for Studying Spanish in Argentina for one semester;
- Megan Werwie for studying international business in three European countries for two weeks;
- Else Camarana for participating on a medical trip to the Dominican Republic as part of a week-long independent study;
- Katelyn Koschoff for also participating in the Dominican Republic medical trip independent study.

Congratulations to all the award recipients.



Plaza de Mayo, May Square, Buenos Aires, Argentina.



Dominican Republic.



Parliament Building, Lithuania.