Newsletter of Lakeland Community College on International and Intercultural Education

**FALL 2012 / SPRING 2013** 

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Dr. Jennifer Nalmpantis
Director

### Welcome

The editor welcomes news items and photographs of cultural or international events. We also seek articles about international education.

Please submit your materials to:
Dr. Jennifer Nalmpantis,
Center for International
Education: B2043,
or email: jnalmpantis@
lakelandcc.edu.

## Lakeland Students Participate in International Programming Competition

By Becky Grasser, instructional technology and computer science faculty and perpetual student

In the summer of 2012, during a trip to France with the photography department, I began work on establishing a relationship between the IT&CS department and two schools in Rouen, France. As a direct result of those "on-the-ground" discussions, we now have a professional relationship with the University of Rouen and CESi (a private engineering and technology/CS school with branch campuses all over France).



Over the fall (2012) semester, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CESi and began right away to explore ways to engage and benefit students. Our first project came to fruition in December 2012 when we had two teams of students from ITCS2120-JavaScript Programming I participate in Game Jam 2012. There are 14 centers around the world, and LCC is the only U.S. center.

So, what is Game Jam? During the fall term, schools that will be participating form teams of programmers and designers who are interested in game development and design. Teams are made of three to five college students. On a Monday in December the organizers chose, from a random list, three articles from Wikipedia.fr. Teams build games that are based on themes from those articles. Teams work until Friday morning (less than one week total time) when a Champion of the Center is chosen. The Champions of the Centers face off in an online competition in February (all voting is done via Facebook to insure some degree of fairness).

The University of Portmouth (UK), Exia. CESi (Fr), and Lakeland Community College form the core leadership, each leading the centers in their respective countries. (continued on page 5)



## A Note from the Director

As the academic year comes to a close in May 2013, I am pleased to report that the Center for International Education sponsored a number of successful programs, including the launch of a new relationship with The Ohio State University's Center for East European and Slavic Studies. Speakers for the 2013-2013 academic year included Dr. Bruce Cline (LCC), Dr. Becky Grasser (LCC), Dr. Tim Scarnecchia (KSU), Professor Sevin Gallo (LCC), Professor Ian Johnson (OSU), and Dr. Jenny Suchland (OSU) on topics ranging from France to current Russian feminism.

The International Film Festival had another successful run. Three films were screened in early 2013: "No Man's Land" (Bosnia and Herzegovina), "A Separation" (Iran), and "Whale Rider" (New Zealand). Special thanks to my former assistant Stephanie Nunley, Dr. Steve Oluic, Dr. Gary Eith, and Professor Sevin Gallo for their help with the series.



Continued from cover

Both Lakeland teams did a great job, but only one could represent LCC in the final voting. Lakeland's winner is Team.trigger(). You can see their game at: http://itcs.lakelandcc.edu/InternetSpecialist/GameJam/2012\_Dec/index.html. In the final voting, the winning team was from Exia Bordeaux. They had 230 votes. LCC held their own, even with the language and time zone issues.

We are currently recruiting teams of Lakeland students to participate in Game Jam 2013. Team members need to be students at Lakeland and do not need to be programming wizards. However, this is a programming competition so there is some significant expectation of comfort in computing. If anyone is interested, please contact Dr. Grasser at bgrasser@lakelandcc.edu.

#### LINKS:

Follow the IT&CS Department on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lakeland-Community-College-Dept-of-InfoTech-and-CS/200032110040302

Exia.CESi: http://exia.cesi.fr/ (in French)

*Univ. of Portsmouth School of Creative Technologies:* http://www.port.ac.uk/departments/academic/ct/

**YouTube Interview** "Interview Neil Dansey & Andy Bain @Exia Rouen - Game Jam 2012" http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHfxgGWH8Kw

**YouTube Interview** "Interview Roland Coma @Exia Rouen - Game Jam 2012" (in French) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_en\_EZSskOI

#### News Articles

- http://www.port.ac.uk/update/2013/01/game-jam-is-a-huge-success/
- http://news-herald.com/articles/2012/12/13/news/ doc50ca0afa742fd202580166.txt?viewmode=fullstory

### **CRYPTO COLORS**



Go to the website below to play CRYPTO COLORS - it's fun!

http://itcs.lakelandcc.edu/ InternetSpecialist/GameJam/2012\_ Dec/index.html





## Stephanie Nunley

Assistant to the Center for International Education

Growing up in Cleveland, Ohio, I have always had an interest in traveling and experiencing new cultures. I just knew that I wanted to see the world. As an undergraduate at Bowling Green State University, I became fascinated with the how different cultures mix here in the U.S. and in Europe. These fascinations lead me to study Spanish and ethnic studies where I focused on Spanish, Native American and Latino populations. During my time at Bowing Green, I also was involved in many multicultural and international clubs. In addition, as a part of my degree, I was able to live in Spain for a year and experience Spanish culture first hand. This study abroad experience was one of the most educational and rewarding periods in my life.

In 2010, I enrolled at Lakeland to retrain in the IT field; little did I know that I would become more involved in international affairs. I began working at the Center for International education, started working on an international studies certificate, became a vice-president for the International honors society Phi Theta Kappa, and joined and became the Vice-president of Model UN/NATO club. Through these affiliations, I have been able to experience so much, from hosting a French delegation from University of Rouen to traveling to Washington D.C. for the International Model NATO conference.

As you might expect, my position as the staff assistant for international education and being able to bring an international point of view to the students has been very rewarding. Although, this is a temporary position I thoroughly enjoy the work and will be pursuing international education as a career when I graduate in May, 2013. I understand firsthand how very important a global perspective is in educating our future leaders and I will work to foster this in all the students that I encounter.



Stephanie Nunley (to the right) pictured with visiting Indian musicians.



My name is Gemma Lascio and I have been a student at Lakeland Community College since 2009. I'm currently the president of Lakeland's International Student Club.

This past summer, I was given an amazing, life changing opportunity to travel to a faraway country whose culture I love so dearly, Japan! I have had an intense passion for Japanese culture for a long time and have always dreamed of visiting this country.

For the past few semesters, I have been taking cross-registered courses through Lakeland at John Carroll University for Japanese language. When John Carroll announced they were having a three-week study tour and volunteer trip to Japan, naturally, I jumped at the chance to hop on board! Being only a cross-registered student limited certain things for me, but the passion to travel and constant support from a variety of people made it all possible.

Before this trip, I had never been out of the country, let alone on an airplane. After 13 hours, I finally landed in the faraway country. It took a few days to let it all sink in that I was really in Japan, amongst all the famous places and cities I have heard so much about.

Japan really is an amazing place and nothing about it disappointed me.

The cities are very busy and crowded, but walking amongst the beautiful, natural scenery and tall buildings made it all worthwhile. Plus everywhere I went, the food was exceptionally good.

My favorite thing about Japan though, was definitely the people. Everyone is just so sweet, friendly, courteous, and respectful. Furthermore, if you're a foreigner, they will sometimes even try to speak English with you.

I got the chance to visit some of the most beautiful places in Japan like: Kyoto, Tokyo and Ishinomaki. Among these places, I got to see some of the famous Buddhist and Shinto temples. We did lots of shopping as well in the Ginza, Harajuku and Akihabara districts. However, the best part of the trip was when we went to Ishinomaki and did volunteer work for the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami.

Overall, going to Japan has changed my life, and I'm happy that I'm able to share my experience with you. If you're interested in hearing more, please attend the ISC Knowledge Exchange on Nov. 20th!









# Lakeland's Model UN/NATO participate in five conferences





By Dr. Christopher Skubby, advisor, Model UN/NATO

Lakeland Model UN/NATO participated in five conferences during the 2012-2013 academic year involving a total of 11 students – all of whom were participating in MUN/NATO for the first time. As in previous years, Lakeland was the lone community college representative at each of the conferences.

The highlight of the year was the 28th Annual International Model North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) conference held in Washington, D.C. February 14-17, 2013. Lakeland students – representing Hungary – began the conference with a visit to the Hungarian embassy and participated in a special briefing given by Hungary's political-military affairs officer.

Once the conference sessions began, Lakeland students collaborated with students from nearly two dozen colleges and universities from around the world including, University of Birmingham (UK), Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), the University of British Columbia, Université Laval (Quebec), Université du Québec á Montréal, and the Royal Military College of Canada. American colleges included The Citadel, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Mercyhurst University, Howard University and Northeastern University. Students focused most of their time on the conflicts in Syria and Mali. Other issues under discussion included the war in Afghanistan, NATO-Russia relations, the proliferation of WMD and missile defense.

A few weeks prior to the Washington trip, Lakeland hosted its own conference – inviting several local colleges - in preparation for the Model NATO conference. This conference (Northeast Invitational Model UN or NEIMUN) staged a meeting of NATO's highest authority – the North Atlantic Council – to deal with the French intervention in Mali. Current and former Lakeland MUN/NATO students organized and staffed the conference, developed the crisis situation, and provided periodic news updates throughout the day to heighten the tension and urgency of the crisis.

The Model UN/NATO season began in the fall with two Mid-Atlantic Model UN Consortium (MAMUNC) conferences at Mercyhurst University. Students participated in simulated NATO, UN General Assembly and Arab League meetings discussing the Iranian nuclear program and the civil war in Syria.

In November, Lakeland students took part in the 19th Annual Lake Erie International Model UN (LEIMUN) conference. The LEIMUN conference - one of the more prominent regional MUN conferences in the country - involved over a dozen colleges including Case Western Reserve University, Baldwin-Wallace, University of Miami (Ohio), Ohio Wesleyan University, Youngstown State University, Marietta College, Earlham College, and Mercyhurst University. Five LCC students represented the interests of countries such as France, India and Netherlands on the UN Security Council, and the UN's Commission on Sustainable Development.

Concluding its thirteenth year, Lakeland MUN/NATO has provided opportunities for 145 students to participate in 56 model conferences. Further, due to their hard work and commitment,

Lakeland students have been recognized with 145 individual and 21 school awards. Preparations for the 2013-2014 MUN/NATO season are already underway.

Any student interested in participating in Model UN or Model NATO should contact Dr. Christopher Skubby (cskubby@lakelandcc.edu) for more information.



Lakeland's Model UN/NATO team at the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, D.C.



Lakeland student Vivian Stropki at the International Model UN/NATO Conference in Washington, D.C.



The Model UN/NATO team on the Mall in Washington, D.C.



## A Note from the Director

(continued from the cover)

In the upcoming academic year, the Center will sponsor a number of activities dedicated to an examination of contemporary and historical China, culminating in April 2014 in a display in the Library on the history of Chinese calligraphy. Among the featured events will be a discussion of the modern Chinese economy by Dr. Rolando Santos, a talk on Hong Kong and China by Professor Irene Yuen, a documentary called "Nu Shu" about a secret lost Chinese women's language. Please visit our web page or call for an updated list of events. In addition, the Center will also this fall sponsor a talk on Soviet political propaganda posters (Prof. Michael Furman, OSU) and documentaries on the relationship between U.N. forces

and human trafficking in Bosnia ("The Peacekeepers and the Women") and the disappearance of children during the Salvadoran Civil War ("Children of Memory.")

Finally, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Stephanie Nunley, our talented assistant in the Center for International Education. Stephanie received a much-deserved nomination for the "Student Worker of the Year" award. Although she already has a bachelor's degree, Stephanie graduated this May with her associate's degree and the International Studies certificate. We will miss her creativity, dedication, and hard work, not only with the Center but also with Model NATO. All the best to Stephanie as she starts the next chapter of her life.

Thank you all for your support. Best wishes, Dr. Jennifer E. Nalmpantis,

## **Human Rights Documentary Film Festival 2013**

Films are shown at 9:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. in Room T-129 • Free and open to the public • Subtitled or in English



"Nu Shu: A Hidden Language of Women in China" Thursday Oct. 3



"The Peacekeepers and the Women" Thursday Oct. 10



"Children of Memory" Thursday Oct. 17

For more information call 440.525.7508.

## Faculty SPOTLIGHT By Stephanie Nunley, assistant, Center for International Education



### **Stephania Byrd**

Instructor of English Creative and Liberal Arts Department at Lakeland

**Academic credentials:** 

B.A. Michigan State University (Humanities)
M.A. Cleveland University
(Urban Education)

Professor Stephania Byrd was born in Richman, Indiana and has been a professor at Lakeland since 2001. She received her undergraduate degree from Michigan State University in humanities focusing on Latin, English and African studies. She went on to study Zulu culture and language and received her master's degree in English specializing in poetry. She also completed postgraduate study in urban education at Cleveland State University.

In 1990, Professor Byrd made her first trip to Africa at the invitation of Dr. Patricia McChatten. There, she visited Senegal and worked with a non-profit organization in a small settlement outside Dakar. She went on to focus her studies on African literature and completed research on the ways in which literature broadens our understanding of global cultures. She later returned to Africa on a service mission to improve the book collection in the Swaziland public library, taking with her a large number of books that she donated to the main library.

Professor Byrd has been published in Saphera, an African-American literature magazine. In addition, she currently teaches multicultural literature and English composition, focusing on the ideal of human security highlighting feminism and its place in African culture.

The main objective of international education is to broaden one's world view and improve understanding of global issues. Professor Byrd believes that international education is chiefly important in today's global business world. As the globalization of business expands into more areas, it is necessary to have a broader understanding of cultures and languages. Professor Stephania Byrd is a great example of educators who strive to share their international experiences with Lakeland's students.



VIE SIGHT

#### **International Campus Connections**

By Stephanie Nunley

This year was deemed the "Year of the Educated Woman" by Lakeland's Women's Center. As part of this yearlong celebration, the Center hosted two movie night events that featured films about strong international women.

During the fall semester, the Center showed "Desert Flower." The film narrates the journey of super-model Waris Dirie

from a girl wounded by genital mutilation to a strong powerful woman, international super-model, and advocate in the fight against the physically destructive and emotionally devastating cultural practice of female genital mutilation.

The second film, "The Lady," told the story of Aung San Suu Kyi and her commitment to the cause of democracy and peace in Myanmar (Burma). While conducting a campaign of non-violence against a hostile and violent regime, she was placed under house arrest in 1988, where she was held for nearly 20 years. Despite the painful clash of love and loyalty in her life, Aung San Suu Kyi and her family remained steadfast and ultimately changed the course of history.

Gloria Lane, the director of the Women's Center, choose to show these two films because of their compelling stories and lessons to be learned from these brave women.

Lane had this to say about the impact that the screening of these movies has had on Lakeland's student body, "In both cases, they are women, currently alive, that most of our students had never heard of, living lives that our students have no idea about, in parts of the world that seem distant and foreign. These movies have helped us expand their knowledge in a way that helps them feel a sisterhood with women who they might previously have simply disregarded."





Here is what Lakeland students had to say about the movie, "Desert Flower:"

"This movie is very touching - my life is better for having been here tonight! A must-see for ALL Americans/WORLD!"

"One person's courage can change the world!"

"Unbelievable that this existed in the world to this day. This needs to get out to everyone!"

"It was great being with the Women's Center and others watching this outstanding movie."

"Hopefully, I will walk out of this room knowing I can somehow, someway help women around the world."

"I enjoyed the movie and will look forward to learning more about this very urgent matter."

"I appreciate LCC and the events it brings to enlighten our minds!"

"This evening I saw the beauty of a diverse group of women, respecting and learning cultural differences."

#### Below are some reactions to the movie, "The Lady:"

"As a mom, this movie grabbed me! Could I have done what she had to do? Would I have it in me? The questions posed by this movie have stayed on my mind ever since I saw it! Everyone should see this movie!"

"Aung San Suu Kyi is an amazing example! She discovered she had the power to do something great. So graceful and elegant, yet fiercely determined! In the movie they call her the 'Steel Orchid.' It's true. That's a beautiful way to describe a lot of women, actually."



## South African Visitors from Sedibeng College

## International Education Week - Nov. 12-16, 2012













International Student Club members mark International Education Week (November 12-16, 2012).

Interested in the Fulbright Scholar Program? Please contact Dr. Steven Oluic, Dean, Mathematics, Natural and Social Sciences at soluic@lakelandcc.edu or call 440.525.7079.





#### "Follow us on Facebook!"

Search for Lakeland Community College for updates on all Lakeland programming and events!

Interested in housing a foreign exchange student?



Call 440.525.7508.

## Center for International Education



## FOII 2013 EVENTS



Dr. S.
Irene Yuen
of Lakeland
Community
College will
present
"Hong Kong"
Thursday
November 21,
2013
at 2 p.m.
in the CLI /

A-2100



Dr. Rolando Santos
of Lakeland Community
College will present
"Recent Trends in the
Chinese Economy"
Thursday, September 12, 2013
at 2 p.m. in the CLI / A-2100



Ph.D. student of The Ohio State University will present "Down with Drunkards" A Critical Discourse and Semiotic Analysis of Early Soviet Propaganda Posters Tuesday, October 22, 2013

at 2 p.m. in the CLI / A-2100

**Michael Furman** 

