

CVIP Annual Report 2014-2015

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President's Message

Stacey Bieler

CVIP volunteers have actively engaged international students and scholars at MSU this year, providing many wonderful opportunities to make friends. These friendships build bridges around the world and enrich our lives.

Thank you to all the volunteers who participated this year in our various programs. At the Annual Meeting we recognized the following with CVIP Awards of Appreciation:

Marion Chapman, International Friendship Program (IFP)/Church Women United

Sue McDonald, Board Secretary and IFP

Wendy and Jake Rowan, IFP

Pam Sievers, IFP, Office, Leadership, Presidency

Other volunteer recognition this year: **Pam Sievers** received the Globie Award from the Office of International Students and Scholars and **Mitsuko Marx** received the Homer Higbee Award for CVIP Volunteers from International Studies and Programs.

Thank you to Carol Towl, who stepped into the role of Vice-President, which included being part of the Executive Committee as well as directing the luncheon at the Annual Meeting.

I enjoyed meeting with all the program chairs in September and October. It is great to work with such generous and creative people. Jim Stedman, a Board Member-at-Large, stepped up to direct the *Home Visits* twice this year with 21 host homes. The *International Spouse Connection* continues with a steady group of 15 spouses. The *Global Festival* was back at the MSU Union where Wendy Pope and her team set up the *Gift Shop* and raised over \$5,000 for scholarships. The *Lillian Kumata Scholarship Program* gave more than \$12,000 to six students from 5 countries.

The *Lending Center* gave more than 11,000 items despite the continuing saga about the future of Spartan Village Apartments. The *Volunteer English Tutoring Program* matched 83 tutors, including 24 tutors who were fulfilling a class assignment. The *International Friendship Program* matched 71 international students with American friends during the year. *I-Speak* international student speakers filled 45 assignments this year. All of the Program Chairs will be serving for another year.

The annual Planning Retreat was held in September at Brody Complex. We worked with the five parts of the Strategic Planning document and later wrote goals for 2014-5. (They are attached at the end of the AR.) Various committees met during the year. An ad-hoc committee met to update our Constitution and By-Laws. The Alumni group met twice for conversation, lunch and pie. An Evaluation committee updated the program evaluation form for all the program chairs and created an on-line evaluation form for student participants.

I am thankful for the continued support of the Office of International Student and Scholars (OISS). Joy Walter is our liaison from OISS. Besides underwriting the Planning Retreat and the programmatic costs, OISS helped pay for me to go to an archiving class in Connecticut, and for Jim Stedman to attend the Michigan Association of International Educators conference. In October we said good-bye to the OISS Director Peter Briggs after being at MSU for 13 years, and in March we welcomed James Dorsett as the new director. We look forward to many years of collaboration. A big thanks also goes to Pastor Fred Fritz of University Lutheran Church for hosting our monthly Executive and Board meetings as well as the Annual Meeting for another year.

The long history of CVIP has been at the forefront several times this year. I interviewed Dot Riley about CVIP's early years before she and her husband moved away from East Lansing. I returned from an archiving class in Connecticut in October to create a form so that present and previous program chairs could identify what materials they can turn in to be archived. I received several boxes of historical documents from Pat Barrett, former CVIP historian, and from Lillian Kumata's daughters. We have made substantial progress in thinning and organizing the records so they can fit in the CVIP office. The last time CVIP gave boxes of historical materials to the MSU Archives was following CIVP's 25th anniversary in 1986.

Thank you for all of your hard work to serve internationals at MSU. I look forward to serving as president for another enjoyable and fulfilling year.

Treasurer's Report

David Horner

Treasurer's Report, July 1, 2014 –June 30, 2015 (unaudited)

David Horner

Beginning Balance – MSUFC **\$13,338.05**

Revenue

Contributions to CVIP Operations	\$ 185.00	
Dividends	\$ 36.09	
Donations	\$ 550.00	
Yonker Books	\$ 405.00	
Global Festival Gift Shop	\$ 5,360.73	
Memorials	\$ 60.00	
CVIP - ET balance	\$ 30.00	
Total Revenue		\$6,626.82

Expenses

Operational	\$ 27.00	
CVIP Scholarship Fund at MSU	\$ 6,275.00	
Memorials	\$ 85.00	
Annual IFP Award	\$ 25.00	
Professional Training (S. Bieler)	\$ 100.00	
Total Expenses		\$6,512.00

Excess Revenue \$ 114.82

Ending Balance – MSUFCU **\$13,452.87**

CVIP expenses paid by OISS - July 2014 through June 2015

Executive Annual Retreat/Meeting	\$ 930.61
Global Festival	\$1,828.60
I Speak	\$ 323.35
IFP	\$ 184.28
Newsletter - printing and mailing	\$1,904.85
Professional Development	\$1,389.00
Operational	\$ 142.45
TOTAL CVIP	\$6,703.14

Additional Information:

1. Scholarships totaling \$12,538 were distributed. (See Scholarship, p. 9).
2. The Lending Center holds \$2,638.44 in cash assets. (See Lending Center, p. 8)

Global Festival Gift Shop

Wendy Pope

With my team of helpers, Gengen Chan, Mona Brandou, Mitsuko Marx and Betty Vlahakis, we began re-pricing and repacking the unsold items in April. After these were finished, we started on the new donations. We received a large donation from the Ishino family that included many Japanese and Korean dolls. We continued to price and pack through October and into November. With help from Pat Barrett, the letter to friends of CVIP asking for donations was sent out in September. We were finding storage space an issue and with help from Stacey were able to share the back room of the Lending Center for a time.

In October we met with Joy Walter and others at the Union to see the new location. The Gift Shop was assigned to Room 50 on the lower level of the Union. The room had only semi-circular tables to which we added some rectangular tables, easels, and clothing racks prior to the delivery of items.

Carlos Fuentes was contacted to confirm dates and times of transportation of boxes and larger items. Dottie Schmidt arranged for some volunteers and Joy supplied student helpers to unpack and display the items.

Friday November 21

Bernard & I were at the Lending Center to meet Carlos who came at noon with two helpers. The 114 boxes and other items were loaded into his van. Prior to this we had arranged the tables, easels and clothing racks with help from Union staff and Mona and Gengen.

There were several volunteers and student helpers to unpack the boxes and display items. Also note pads, pens, pencils, wrapping paper, bags and green bid forms were added to each section.

Saturday, November 22

Due to a home football game the Union was closed. However, Gengen, Mona and others were able to get in and check on arrangements.

Sunday November 23

We arrived mid-morning in preparation for the noon opening. Sales were quite brisk for the first two hours but tapered off after this. Again we accepted debit and credit cards. Also, donations were accepted. Many thanks are due to the volunteers and student helpers, and to Dottie, Joy and David Horner for their hard work. At 5 pm the remaining items were repacked into boxes. Carlos and his helpers packed his van and returned everything to the Lending Center. We were all finished by 6:30 pm. More items than usual were returned unsold. It seems a good time to consider donating some of our excess to a charity.

A final *Thank You Letter* was sent to donors with their list of donations to be used for their taxes.

The 2014 World Gift Shop was a success. Although less successful than in 2013, we raised more than \$5,200.

Home Visits

Jim Stedman

The Spring Home Visit on April 22 went very well with 17 hosts volunteering to open their homes plus 19 drivers and 2 additional drivers from ISpeak to accommodate 80 International English Students who took part in the program for the spring 2015. At one point during the planning process for the spring home visit we had over 90 students who wished to be involved which included 78 students from the Okemos English Program and 12 students from VETP. The day of the program the number dropped to 80 students but all enjoyed the program with comments such as the lovely landscaping, the size of the homes, the beautiful decorating, the numbers of bathrooms, the art work in the homes as well as interest in the cars that the drivers had and experiences in travel of the hosts and drivers. Due to the large number of host volunteers I dropped my home from the hosts list to give other individuals more students and then one host had to cancel because of a family situation. There were 4 hosts and 6 drivers who participated in both the spring 2015 and the fall 2014 Home Visit Program.

Comparing the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 programs:

<u>OCTOBER 2014</u>	<u>APRIL 1015</u>
10 Hosts	15 Hosts
9 Volunteer Drivers	19 Volunteer Drivers with 2 ISPEAK for a total of
21	
70 Students	80 Students Participated the day of the program
2 VETP Students	12 VETP Students

Student comments afterward is that they would like to be involved in the fall program and will definitely encourage their friends to be involved also. Some hosts or drivers who could not be involved for the April 2015 event asked to be kept on the list for the fall program.

International Friendship Program (IFP)

Larry Karnes

The International Friendship Program (IFP) had a successful 2014-2015 academic year. At the beginning of the fall semester, members of the IFP committee attended several university sponsored or related events to discuss the program. These included the international student resource fair, international graduate student resource fair, and international family resource fair. In February, we also participated in the celebration of the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year's) at Meridian Mall in Okemos.

IFP committee members reviewed all new students' and friends' applications. In-person interviews were conducted with each new student. New friends were interviewed by telephone, while returning friends were contacted by telephone or e-mail to update their information.

Two orientation meetings were held – in October and February – at which time 71 international students met the community friends with whom they were matched. The students' degree programs included Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D.'s, as well as participants in the Visiting International Professional Program and Fulbright scholars. A total of 25 countries were represented, including Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, China, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.

The IFP committee met several times during the year to plan for the application and matching process, as well as the orientation meetings. Minor changes were made to the on-line applications to facilitate the matching. Documentation of the year's student and friend matches was filed in the CVIP office and the database was updated. Committee members and other CVIP volunteers surveyed past IFP "friends" to identify those who were ready to be matched with new students. Efforts also continued to attract new volunteers to the program.

International Spouse Connection

Jan Bernsten and Cheryl Highstreet

This year the International Spouse Connection provided programming for spouses and partners from many lands. We received leadership support from CVIP members Paola Sanchez, Mitsuko Marx and Barbara Toman, as well as spouse leaders Stefanie Fares Sabbag (Brazil) and Araceli Mendoza (Mexico). We bid farewell and thanks to spouse leader Patty Mazariegos who returned home to Nicaragua after several years of service to ISC.

Our attendance this year ranged from 8-16 participants per week. Each month we tried to include programs with members talking about their countries, field trips, programs on American culture, and activities just for fun. For example, three of our members taught us about Indonesian history, culture and food while two others gave a wonderful slide show about Turkey. We took seasonal field trips to pick strawberries, select pumpkins from the field, and sled down Frandor hill. We took field trips to the MSU Museum and WKAR radio station. We decorated Christmas cookies and dyed Easter eggs. And we laughed at each other's attempts to win at Uno.

Our program will continue through the summer, and we look forward to greeting new spouses in September.

I SPEAK, International Speakers Program

Carol Towl & Mary Hennessey

During the past academic year, 167 international volunteers from 51 different countries - students, spouses and visiting scholars - were informed about requests for speakers and opportunities to speak in the surrounding community by way of e-mail blasts, Facebook posts and personal contact. Of these, 35 volunteers were actually matched with 45 assignments, some to more than one assignment. Schools, including the Alternative High School at Eaton County Youth Facility, hosted 22 of these assignments, and 23 assignments were for community groups.

Contacting international volunteers is still a challenge. We recruit volunteers at orientation activities at the beginning of Fall Semester and at Friday International Coffee Hours, with a few applications sent through our website. We rely heavily on e-mail communication and some telephoning to schedule and carry out individual assignments. We'll continue to work on improving our recruiting, scheduling, communications and public relations systems, with an eye toward sustainability and succession. Of course, parking on campus when picking up volunteers is always difficult!

Encouraging public school teachers to use our services more frequently is also a challenge. In past years, teachers began requesting speakers after their students were finished with the MEAP tests in November. MEAP tests have been replaced by M-STEP tests, administered in April, and we witnessed a decline in all requests from public schools. We plan to consult advisers from schools about meeting this challenge.

As in the past four years, we have scheduled one pizza party/ orientation session each semester with students sharing ideas about effective presentations and watching an experienced presenter in action. These events have helped in recruiting speakers for specific assignments, as well. In response to our Survey Monkey survey, one student suggested more frequent gatherings for sharing by volunteer speakers. We may try one such session in the fall, but in past years extra meetings attracted only minimal participation.

Joy Walter invited Mary and Carol to meet with her to share what she had learned at the NAFSA Conference this spring. We appreciate hearing new ideas from what other universities are doing as they involve volunteers in their international programs.

We thank the MSU Alumni Association for providing a 2-G flash drive to give to each speaker, along with the certificate of appreciation prepared by Joy, Kyra and OISS staff, to show our appreciation at the end of the year for the volunteers' service in sharing their cultures and themselves with Americans in our community. Thanks, also, to CVIP for providing a \$10 Speedway gift card to each of our volunteer drivers as a token of our appreciation.

List of Volunteers: Mitsuko & Bill Marx, Joe Hutting, Katharine Dennis, Fred Graham, Cheryl Highstreet, Rebecca Baughan, Stuart Sleight, Dorinda VanKempen, Charles Curry

Lending Center

Erika R. Nwankwo Larson

The Lending Center has been a very busy place this year. Usually by October the number of visitors begins to taper off, but this year the students continued to pour into the Center through November and into December. It was not unusual to see numbers in the 20's and 30's. I believe we hit our peak on August 28 with 39 visitors.

We again received many donations from CVIP members, the Zonta Club, Prime Time Seniors, Asbury United Methodist Church, Lansing Teen Challenge, Bohnet Electric Co., Kroger, Friedland Industries, and most of the Lending Center volunteers. The largest number of donations came through the efforts of "New 'n Crew at MSU", the people at The Department of Communication Arts and Sciences who collected items from campus for us. We also had one monetary donation of \$100 which came from the MSUFCU. Thank you!

Students and scholars who are able to take advantage of our services are always VERY GRATEFUL. They appreciate the huge help the Lending Center at providing for so many of their basic needs, for FREE! They always exclaim that there is nothing like this at the universities in their own counties. Some have even expressed a desire to start something like this in their own countries. Oh, but they would charge.

Our biggest struggle has been to keep the Center manned. By the very nature of who we serve, most of our volunteers have connections with internationals and are world travelers or their families live in other countries, hence they travel often. I have had to spend more than the average amount of time finding substitutes.

Our doors were always open on time due to our faithful volunteers: John Alzubadi Alice Deck Robert Larson Sue McDonald Dorothy West, Magelone Bollen, Jacquie Foss, Lois Lynch, Sharon Neuner, Peggy Champion, Carolyn Haines, Lee McAllister, Harsha Patel, Marion Cummings, Erika Larson, Tressa McAllister, and Ann Thompson.

The 2014 - 2015 totals were:

Hours worked: 492 1/2 (May 1, 2014 - April 30, 2015)

Items loaned: 11,676

Lamps loaned: 250

Lamps returned: 166

Donors: 155+

Total visits: 1,200

New visitors: 261

Inactive - Reported 92 Inactive - Assumed 248 # Workers : 17 Donations: \$100 \$ in MSUFCU: \$2,125.53 On hand: 467.91 At Center: (4/30/15) 45.00 Total \$: \$2,638.44* * This amount should be more than enough to refund all the lamp deposits.

During the months of June and July we will keep a modified schedule with the volunteers who agree to work through those months. We will work at cleaning, sorting, and restocking the shelves during their regular schedule hours, but the Center will only open the doors for donations, item returns, and new borrowers. We will open starting August 4, 2015.

Lillian Kumata Scholarship Committee

Dottie Schmidt and Peggy Arbanas

We are pleased to report that we were able to help six students with tuition scholarship awards this year.

In the Fall Semester scholarships were awarded to **David Formula** from Indonesia, an MBA student in Business Analytics and to **Mona Shaaban** from Egypt, in a Master's program in Horticulture.

For the Spring Semester four women were awarded the scholarship. Interestingly they are all married to husbands in PhD programs at MSU. During our interviews we heard about their personal goals and future ambitions that will certainly benefit society and their home countries. These students were able to attend the CVIP Annual Luncheon meeting in May and thank CVIP members for the tuition awards.

Clara Mwaba Kaputo from Zambia is a Master's Degree student in the Higher Adult and Lifelong Education (HALE) program. She has a Bachelors Degree in Agriculture Economics from the University of Zambia. She told us that when she returns home she wants to train the trainers (extension agents) who work with small-scale farmers in Zambia. Her mother is one of these farmers.

Shaimaa Elzeini is an Electrical Engineer from Egypt and the mother of five children. She is interested in using technology and developing soft ware for educational animation programs for Arabic speaking children in Egypt. She is currently taking Life Long Education classes and hopes to earn a Master's Degree in a new program Media and Game Design in the Telecommunication Department. She looks forward to making learning more enjoyable for children.

Meng Zhao from China has a Bachelor's Degree from Beijing Normal University in Management Information Systems. She is working on a Master's Degree in Statistics and Probability. Her goal is to be a Business Data Analyst and offer high quality and low cost service to Chinese start-ups and small businesses.

Fatou Faye from Senegal plans to finish her PhD in French and Francophone Literature this Spring Semester. Her dissertation is "Women and Islam in Senegalese Literature: Perceptions of Islam in Novels by Women Writers". She plans to teach and to share her knowledge with women who may be facing discrimination socially, culturally, economically and politically. She hopes to contribute to the training of many young scholars who will play a role in changing society in a positive way.

Thank you to CVIP members Wendy Pope, Carol Bryson and Christine Van Nada for helping with the scholarship interviews.

This year Dottie and Peggy have cleaned up the Scholarship file drawer in the CVIP Office. Information on students who received scholarships from the early 70s has been added to an excel file. The actual CVIP Annual Reports were critical in creating the excel file on

awardees. We are looking forward to using this trove of information to learn more about students from who received scholarships for the past 42 years.

(1) General Fund Balance May 1, 2014 **\$7729.39**

Income:

Contributions	\$295.00
Gift Shop	5,870.00
Yunker's Community Day booklets	<u>405.00</u>
Subtotal	\$6,570.00

Disbursements:

Fall 2014 Scholarships	1@\$2,500.00
	<u>1@\$1,269.00</u>
Subtotal	(\$3,769.00)

General Fund Balance April 30, 2015 **\$10,530.39**

(2) Endowed Fund Balance April 30, 2015 **\$50,000.00**

(3) Endowed Fund Interest Balance May 1, 2014 **\$ 6,847.21**

Income:

Interest	\$3,509.30
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Disbursements:

Spring 2015 Scholarships	1@\$2,500.00
	1@\$2,500.00
	1@\$2,500.00
	<u>1@\$1,269.00</u>
Subtotal	(\$8,769.00)

Endowed Fund Interest Balance April 30, 2015 **\$1,587.51**

Volunteer English Tutorial Project (VETP)

Mary Hennessey

VETP had a fun and successful year, with the number of students and tutors growing. This year, we had 83 tutors who either led a class or who were matched with a student as a conversation partner. Some tutors took on more than one student as conversation partners.

We received 132 applications for conversation partners and matched 88 of them.

Classes:

Summer 2014 6 classes
Fall 2014 11 classes
Spring 2015 11 classes
Summer 2015 5 classes

Approximately 218 students/scholars/spouses attended our classes this year.

Our Facebook page continues to grow, with 161 “likes”

New this year:

This year we partnered with a class from the College of Education: TE 348. Twenty-four students from this class were required to participate in VETP. They were matched with 24 international students and scholars from our waiting list. Feedback showed that many enjoyed being part of VETP, but many also found it difficult to find times to meet their partners. The instructor for TE 348 and I met to evaluate the program, and decided it was worth doing again, perhaps in the fall.

Peggy and Robert Teoh are two volunteers who have been indispensable in the VETP office. Robert helped with creating spreadsheets so I can keep track of students and tutors and class attendance. Peggy helps me interview students who would like conversation partners, and has been working hard on making the classroom more inviting. **Peggy also put together a very complete list of all the ESL classes in the Lansing area.** International students find this so helpful since they sometimes are looking for additional or more traditional classes to supplement our conversation classes. I have distributed this list to OISS staff, who have said it is very helpful, and it will be put on the VETP web site, also. I put together a **VETP Advisory Committee.** We met once and I told them the history of CVIP and VETP and sought their feedback on some issues. We will try to meet 3 or 4 times a year.

Leadership Committee

Barbara Sawyer-Koch

The CVIP Leadership Committee’s mission is to identify, recruit and help prepare future CVIP leaders. The Committee is also in charge of providing a slate of officers and chair positions to be approved at the Annual Meeting in May.

Members of the Leadership Committee were: Peggy Arbanas, Bernard Pope, Pam Sievers, and Barbara Sawyer-Koch.

The Leadership Committee presented the following slate of Executive Board candidates at the Annual Meeting held on May 13, 2015 which was unanimously approved.

President – Stacey Bieler

Secretary – Sue McDonald

Vice President – Rick Emerson

Treasurer – David Horner

Administrative Services

Pat Barrett

CVIP Office

Office Staffing: During the summer of 2014 the CVIP Office was checked twice a week by a team consisting of Office Manager John Alzubaydi, Pam Sievers, Pat Barrett, Carol Towl and Ruby Bato. For several hours each business day, the same team with the addition of Bernard Pope staffed the office during the fall semester. However, for the spring semester 2015, John Alzubaydi retired from the Office volunteer team and Bernard Pope and Pat Barrett took over as Office Co-Managers. Ruby Bato, Carol Towl, and Pam Sievers also served during the spring semester, along with Katayoun Bahrami, the newest volunteer who began in April. Many thanks to all for their dedication in carrying out their office duties.

On a daily basis, all were involved with handling the U.S. mail, CVIP email and phone messages.

This year the Office was used as a meeting place for interviews by the Lillian Kumata Scholarship Program and the Leadership Committee.

The Office Committee handled several mass mailings in cooperation with Membership, including two *CVIP Newsletters* and the World Gift Shop solicitation letters and thank you letters.

The Office now has two new computers, thanks to the ISP tech unit.

Hours spent staffing the Office: 2.5 hours/week x 5 staff x 20 weeks = 250 hours (Fall)
Hours spent staffing the Office: 2.5 hours/week x 5 staff x 20 weeks = 250 hours (Spring)
Hours spent staffing the Office: 2 hours/week x 2 staff x 8 weeks = 32 hours (Summer)
Hours spent making name tags for the Global Festival: = 6 hours
Total = 538 hours

CVIP Membership

The general CVIP Membership was managed by Pat Barrett and Ruby Bato. In addition, Ruby kept the records for the friends and students participating in the International Friendship Program (IFP).

Membership is charged with the responsibility for maintaining the CVIP membership list, which is kept on a data base (FileMakerPro 7). The list includes members' names, addresses, occupations, land phone and cell phone numbers, email addresses, membership status, and years of participation.

The membership list is used mainly for mailing the *CVIP Newsletter* and other mass mailings. An individual (or couple) is considered to be a member of CVIP if he/she has volunteered to participate in any of CVIP's various programs or has made a donation to CVIP or to the Lillian Kumata Scholarship Fund. In addition, a number of people in the MSU and greater Lansing communities have asked to receive the *CVIP Newsletter* or shown

support and interest in our programs. They have been given “inactive” status, in hopes that they will become active members in the future.

As of June 2015, CVIP had approximately 986 members (the exact number is difficult to determine because the number of members retiring from CVIP is not always up to date). Many of the new members are tutors in the Volunteer English Tutoring Program (VETP), many of these being MSU student volunteers. The IFP also claimed a large percentage of the new members.

Hours spent by Membership staff:	
Monitoring the CVIP email:	5 hours/month x 12 months = 60 hours
Handling volunteer applications:	5 hours/month x 12 months = 60 hours
Maintaining the Membership List:	8 hours/month x 10 months = 80 hours
	Total = 200 hours

CVIP Website

The CVIP Website (*cvip.isp.msu.edu*) has been in operation since July, 2009. The website has become the most often used means of receiving applications from prospective volunteers and student participants. On the *Applications* page of the website there are special online application forms for the International Friendship Program, the Volunteer English Tutoring Program and the International Speakers Program (I-Speak), as well as the more general Community Volunteers form used by those who wish to learn more about specific CVIP programs.

Other than changing deadlines and updating text and pictures as directed by the Program chairs or CVIP officers, the website has required little maintenance.

In May, the ISP administration announced that all websites under the auspices of ISP would undergo a complete format revision. Ruby Bato and Pat Barrett have done a preliminary audit of the contents of the CVIP website and will continue to develop ways to pour old CVIP wine into the new bottle. The website revision should be completed by late fall, 2015.

Hours spent maintaining the CVIP Website	10 hours/month x 12 months = 120 hours
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Public Relations (CVIP Newsletter) submitted by Stacey Bieler

Thanks to all of the program chairs for submitting articles and pictures. Thanks to Pat and Mary Barrett and Pat Kline for their excellent editorial teamwork.

Fall 2014 Newsletter. 685 emails were set to members that the Newsletter was available on the CVIP website. 283 newsletters were mailed to members. 30 extra paper copies were made to give out at the CVIP Table at the Global Festival, etc. Spring 2014 Newsletter. Extra copies for the Annual Meeting, the Leadership Committee to hand to prospective new volunteers, etc.

Global Festival: Gengen Chen and I distributed flyers and posters to businesses and restaurants.

CVIP Alumni Group

Mary Barrett

The rationale for the CVIP Alumni Group has remained the same since it began in 2011: to keep retired committee and program chairs connected to CVIP and to their retired friends with whom they served for so many years. Despite their advanced age, many members of the Group still serve CVIP by helping man the Welcome Tables at the annual Global Festival. The Group meets twice a year, in October and April, at the Grand Traverse Pie Company in East Lansing, which features abundant free parking. We generally meet for lunch from 1:00 - 3:00 pm in a private meeting room. At the October meeting, there were 19 attendees and in April, we counted 13. As we finished our pie, there was a presentation by Stacey Bieler, president of CVIP, who gave an overview of what is new at CVIP and how programs are evolving to meet the needs of the growing international student presence at MSU. The Group attendees paid for their own lunches, but we want to thank MSU OISS for treating each of us to a serving of pie.