

July - September 2013 CVIP Committee Reports

Administrative Services

Office: The CVIP Office was staffed at least twice a week during the summer months, and we wish to thank Office volunteers John Alzubaydi, Ruby Bato, Richard Hesse, Iris Horner, and Carol Towl. Thanks also goes to our President, Pam Seivers, who often helped staff the Office this summer. We are actively looking for at least one new office volunteer for the coming year, preferably someone who is familiar with CVIP and its programs. Please inform the Leadership chairs, Iris Horner and Stacey Bieler, if you know of any good prospects.

Membership: The current number of families and individuals on the CVIP Membership list stands at 945. However, the list contains a large number of inactive volunteers, many of which are former CVIP participants who are not presently engaged in any CVIP program. There are also a number of applicants who have not yet been assigned volunteer positions.

The Membership list was used in August to send the Scholarship Program letter soliciting international items for the World Gift Shop. The letter was sent to 905 members for whom mailing addresses were available.

Thanks to the program chairs who updated their program volunteer lists and informed us of members who have relocated or deceased. We were also grateful to receive any changes in email or mailing addresses, phone numbers or program participation.

Website: Numerous small changes and additions were made to our website this summer. Many new pictures illustrating International Spouse Connection program activities during the spring and summer of 2013 were added to the ISC pages.

All of our program chairs are encouraged to scan the text and pictures on their website pages with an eye to updating them. If you come up with any changes, please let Pat Barrett know of them and send him the new text and pictures by email (ralph.pat.barrett@gmail.com).

--Submitted by Pat Barrett

Global Fest

Mona Brandou, Gengen Chan, Mickie Marx & I have met & done more pricing & packing for this year's event - November 17 at the Brody Center. Also, we met with Joy Walter earlier in the summer to see the site of the Gift Shop which is on the ground level of Brody.

Mickie met with some Japanese friends of Lillian Kumata who helped her price the numerous items donated from Lillian's possessions. Pat Barrett & I have worked on the letter to friends of CVIP asking for donations. I was grateful to Dottie Schmidt who provided last year's figures required for this year's letter. The letters should soon be mailed. We plan to continue to collect, price & pack through September & October.

--Submitted by Wendy Pope

Lending Center

June, July, August 2013:

Business has been booming since we closed at the end of May and since the end of our annual reporting time in April. We had a limited staff working at the Center during their usual working hours throughout the summer, but we were not open to everyone. We guided the donors, departing students and brand new students only to those hours when we had volunteers there restocking. That reduced the need for appointments every other day. It worked out very well.

We had a record number of donations come in this year already. By the time we opened in early August, we had the shelves full as well as our shelves in the back and the hallways. It's a good thing too. By the end of August, we had seen as many people and given out as many items as we had by the end of the 2008 - 2009 school year. Now we do not track how many students return items, but I can guarantee that a larger percent of students returned their items, since we had people there to receive them, and we had more students donating their extra items as well.

Our biggest problem right now is workers. We have lost four out of 18 just at a time when we need more workers instead of fewer. A couple of our board members have helped us out in August thankfully, so we were able to temporarily meet the need. Thank you.

We have had several people interested, but when it came right down to the details, each one was eliminated for one reason or another. One was working the hours we needed, another took a job instead, another is going to be out of the country most of the fall and half of the spring, etc.

So it still stands: We need volunteers.

Our other problem is the need to restock after every opening. By the time 20 to 50 people come through per opening, our shelves are in serious disarray and need to be straightened and restocked.

Several of our workers are sensitive to this problem and have helped immensely, but not all are available to spend another hour or three to do what it takes. I have tried a couple different approaches to this problem, but responses are spotty.

The Lending Center Hours were:

May - 52 hrs 35 min.; June - 56 hrs, 10 min; July - 63 hrs, and August - 117 hrs, 30 min.

--Submitted by Erika Larson

Volunteer English Tutoring

The Volunteer English Tutoring Program continued over the summer. Six conversation classes were held, and six individual tutors met with students for one-on-one conversation. There were approximately 50 - 60 students who attended various classes. Classes varied in size according to vacations, but occasionally a class had as many as 20 students!

In July I organized a get-together on Wednesday evenings for tutors and students to attend the outdoor carillon concerts together. Attendance was small, but enjoyed by those who did come.

At the end of the summer, I attended many orientation sessions with CVIP to publicize VETP and our classes. I also passed along information to instructors at the English Language Center and VIPP, also.

Our individual tutors were swamped with emails of students looking for one-on-one tutoring. So a new procedure is in place: students email vetp and I keep their names and assign them to tutors. Eventually there will be an application for students who want individual tutors on the VETP web site.

There have been many inquiries from people asking about becoming a tutor. I have been answering emails and scheduling meetings and interviews. Many are graduate students who have tutored for other programs like VETP at other universities. So far we have 13 classes scheduled and 9 individual tutors.

--Submitted by Mary Hennessey

A+ English (ESL Board Report)

We have made it to another year. Federal Grant budgets were cut and we have been busy making budget adjustments, but we will be open and running this school year.

Our fall classes began the day after Labor Day, and we will continue registering for the fall session up to Thanksgiving. There are still a few spaces left in our child care program for children of parents enrolled in our program.

-- Submitted by Jo Pamment

International Friendship Program Report

The first orientation will be held on September 15 and the second on October 20.

Applications from both new friends and new students were received during the summer months and have been processed. All new friends and students were interviewed by members of the IFP committee. During August and September, members of the committee attended several university sponsored or related events to discuss the IFP program. These included the international student resource fair, international graduate student resource fair, international family resource fair, new spouse orientation, and "East Lansing Welcomes the World."

Information about the IFP was sent to the Lansing State Journal, community newspapers, several local churches, and Montessori schools. Additional outreach to recruit new friends continues, including contact with local high school foreign language programs. Follow-up calls to friends who were matched in previous years also continue. Thanks to Pam Sievers for contacting the friends from last year.

The IFP committee met in late August to plan for the orientation meetings during the Fall semester, at which time the students and local friends will meet

--Submitted by Larry Karnes

I SPEAK,

Last year's list of international volunteers for I SPEAK is being edited to remove students who are no longer at MSU (thanks, Joy Walter and staff!), as well as to add new volunteer speakers recruited at fall orientations and at the first International Student Coffee Hour. These coffee hours are now being held in the lower level lounge of McDonel Hall rather than at the International Center.

Since the beginning of Fall Semester, we have provided speakers for Bickford Assisted Living and Memory Care Facility in Okemos, Crossaires Elder Care, Allen Senior Citizen coffee hour, and Church Women United.

A welcome, orientation meeting and pizza supper for I SPEAK volunteers is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24, at 5:30.

--Submitted by Carol Towl

Leadership

Stacey and Iris met with Dr. Mona Friede and Maisha Yeboah from the Grace International Outreach Church. They are interested in partnering/volunteering for CVIP and helping with international student needs.

We have been in contact with three other possible volunteers and will be setting up an orientation time with them.

The Leadership Committee is in need of a couple more members to help with recruiting, training and equipping future CVIP leaders. In addition, we try to provide a slate of candidates to fill officer and chair positions to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting in May. Please give this serious consideration.

--Submitted by Iris Horner

**CVIP Treasurer Report -June 30 - August 31, 2013
(David Horner)**

Date	Shares	IMMA		Checking	Ending Balance
		Dividend	Balance		
30-Jun-13	\$5.75		\$12,575.33	\$592.74	\$13,173.82
31-Jul-13	\$5.75	\$2.14	\$12,577.47	\$592.74	\$13,175.96
31-Aug-13	\$5.75	\$2.14	\$12,579.61	\$592.74	\$13,178.10
