



**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)**  
**Board Minutes**  
December 9, 2015

**ATTENDANCE:** Peggy Arbanas, Pat Barrett, Jan Bernsten, Stacey Bieler, Marion Chapman Freemire, Starla Dietrich, Rick Emerson, Karyn Goven, Mary Hennessey, David Horner, Mary Hennessey, Bernard Pope, Wendy Pope, Barb Sawyer-Koch, Dottie Schmidt, Jim Stedman, Carol Towl, Susan Ventocilla.  
Joy Walter, OISS.

**WELCOME: Stacey Bieler, President**

**SECRETARY'S MINUTES – Susan McDonald – M/S/A** (motion made/seconded/approved)

**TREASURER'S REPORT – David Horner – M/S/A**

Current Balance: \$13,417.00

CVIP Treasurer Report October, 2015

SUMMARY

Deposits:

\$125.00 Contributions to CVIP from United Church  
Women  
\$700.00 - cash contributions to scholarship (3  
people)  
\$295.00 - additional deposits for Yonker Books  
\$3,533.81 - cash/check gift shop sales - Final  
figures from Credit/Debit cards are pending  
\$2.38 - total dividends

\$125.00 Contribution to CVIP - IMMA

\$2.38 Total Dividends (\$2.20 – IMMA; \$.18 –  
scholarship)

Additions to Scholarship Fund:

\$3,533.81 Global Festival Gift Shop  
cash/check sales

\$700.00 Contribution(s) to scholarship  
fund

\$295.00 Yonker Book Sales

Balance:

\$13,417.37 IMMA (27)

\$ 5,092.37 Scholarship (70)

\$ 6.74 Checking (87)

**\$ 5.75 Shares (07)**

\$18,522.23 Total

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### **OISS – Joy Walter**

Sri Lanka family is needs help because Post Doc (father/husband) in hospital. Need microwave and furniture. Have 3 children.

Broad Art Museum is holding gathering on Friday.

Good feedback of On-Line Orientation modules.

Student Family Health Initiative – received money from Provost.

### **Admin Services – Pat Barrett**

Article in November 30, 2015 *State News* – mentions CVIP and IFP

Office is staffed Monday – Friday, open 2 hours, typically in the morning. Have three new office members (all ISC members!)

New MSU website will not be completed until January or February 2016

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Global Festival - Joy**

Very successful. Better partnership with Union this year.

MSUFCU – gave \$2500 support this year

Office of Study Abroad wants to be involved next year

Culinary/Food Court – didn't sell as much. Need better signage. Will not be doing it again next year.

Exhibitors loved being on 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.

World Gift Shop will be in same location next year.

Note: approx 140 rain sticks were made!

**Scholarship Report** – Peggy and Dottie sending letters to previous cash donors.

Working with OISS to contact eligible students

#### **Lending Center - Stacey**

Will ask Director Dorsett of grad student “needs”. They do receive financial support from their Departments

VIPP are here 1 year. Will pursue a conversation with Director of VIPP

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Discussed Working Committees 2015-16 Handout

Ask that all Committees meet in January

**GLUNA** (Greater Lansing United Nations)

Executive Committee recommends joining GLUNA as an affiliate.  
Motion on floor to join GLUNA as Affiliate, Seconded. Brief Discussion  
Voted and passed

**Committee Reports**

Shared stories from Global Fest and World Gift Shop  
Scholarship database

**January Food** – Starla, Dottie, Barretts

**IMPORTANT DATES**

January 13 – Board Meeting

Submitted by Secretary, Sue McDonald

## 2015-2016 CVIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **ADMINISTRATION – Pat Barrett**

**Office:** We continue to use the CVIP Office for about 2 hours per day, Monday to Friday. Mail, email and telephone messages are answered and/or forwarded to the appropriate person. Regular workers consist of Katayoun Bahrami, Ou Ni, Bernard Pope, Carol Towl and Pat Barrett. Recently we have interviewed eager volunteers from Brazil (Caroline Silva), Nepal (Pratigya Paudel) and Sri Lanka (Kukapalini Mathialakan). We are hopeful that a schedule for covering the Office during the first few months of next year will be available soon.

We have recently received updates to our office printer/scanner from the IT department. This has enabled us to prepare materials for the Fall Newsletter and the Global Festival. Office volunteers were given instructions from Pat in sending out an email blast to the CVIP membership list.

*Submitted by Bernard Pope, Office Manager*

**Publicity:** Stacey Bieler brought a Lansing area map to the October meeting and asked board members to sign up for an area where they would be willing to put up Global Festival posters, including libraries, ethnic restaurants, etc. Thanks to those who participated.

The State News had several articles on international students in its November 30, 2015 edition. Both CVIP and IFP were mentioned in the article titled “Technology helps international students stay connected with their families around the globe.” Larry Karnes and Man Ling Hsieh, who participates in IFP, were interviewed.

CVIP had a table just outside the performance room at the Global Festival. People who came up to talk included two persons interested in I Speak.

*Submitted by Stacey Bieler, Publicity Manager*

**Membership:** There are currently 976 records in the CVIP membership list, about the same as last month. Most new applicants this month favored VETP and IFP, which is consistent with the trend during this fall.

We are fortunate to have a new committee member, Pratigya Paudel, who will assist Ou Ni, Membership co-Manager. in keeping the data base up to date.

*Submitted by Pat Barrett, Membership Co-  
Manager*

**Website:** The revision of the CVIP website has been slow work. Because of some delays in the scheduling of classes in web construction offered by the outside contractor, we no longer expect to have the website finished by the end of the year.

At this time, we need some high quality pictures to enhance the pages of our new website. We have adequate photos from Global Festival and the Gift Shop, IFP and ISC, but a few new high quality pictures from Home Visits, I SPEAK, Scholarship, Lending Center and VETP would be appreciated. Thanks for your help!

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### **INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP – Larry Karnes**

Applications are being reviewed and interviews are being conducted for new friends and students who have applied to the program for participation beginning with Spring semester.

*The State News* had an article during the past month about CVIP and the International Friendship Program. We'd like to thank the student(s) who provided their kind comments to the reporter regarding their participation in the program.

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### **ISC (INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE CONNECTION)– Jan Bernsten (Cheryl Highstreet)**

We had three fascinating meetings in November, with the last week off for Thanksgiving. Our members from Mexico, Araceli and Gabriela, gave a multi-media presentation on the celebration of Day of the Dead in their country. We learned all the ways in which traditional Mexican customs and beliefs have been woven into the Roman Catholic aspects of the celebration. Our second meeting was devoted to making crafts with autumn leaves that the members had collected. We made both placemats and tile decorations which will preserve the leaves so that members can take them home--many to countries which lack deciduous trees and don't have colorful leaves like ours. Our last meeting featured a DVD from Stanford University "Women in a New Land" which talks about the challenges of international spouses finding their place in the United States.

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### **I SPEAK – Carol Towl**

Kunti Adhikari from Nepal gave two presentations this month, one to the International Interest Group of the MSU Community Club and one to the Kiwanis Club of Lansing. Both were well received.

Ramziya Muborakshoeva from Tajikistan spoke for the Senior Citizen coffee hour at Allen Neighborhood Center.

With final exams coming up, followed by winter holiday vacation, only one more assignment is scheduled in 2015. Dr. Antoinette Tessmer, an MSU professor of finance who is originally from Belgium, has volunteered to tell the members of the International Interest Group of the MSU Community Club about her homeland and to demonstrate the preparation of authentic Belgian waffles at their December 16 meeting!

We already have requests for Spring Semester speakers from Pinecrest Elementary School in East Lansing and from Holt High School for their annual World Language Week. In both of these cases, the requestors sought us out at the recent Global Fest.

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### **Scholarship – Peggy & Dottie**

We are happy to report that we were able to award two tuition scholarships to help two deserving married students continue studies in Lifelong Education. We are so thankful for the funds raised at the successful Global Festival in the World Gift Shop.

Some of you may remember one of the student volunteers in the World Gift Shop.

Liang Wang from China who is working towards gaining a Master's and then go on for a Ph.D in Biostatistics and Epidemiology. His wife, Weijui Wang, is a Research Assistant in Plant Genetics and working towards a Master's Degree.

Our second awardee is Shaimaa Elzeini from Egypt who is an Electrical Engineer from Egypt and the mother of five children. She plans to use technology to develop software for educational programs for Arabic speaking children. She plans to continue studying game design in the College of Communication and work towards a Master's Degree in the College of Education. Her husband Sherif Ibrahim is in the Department of Genetics and expects to receive his Ph.D in 2016.

This December we will send a letter to previous scholarship donors hoping to raise our funds for next year. Here is one paragraph in the letter you may be interested in.

Recently we completed a database listing all the previous awards given since the early 1970s. The first scholarships were awarded in Fall of 1970. The first two wives (until 1983 all recipients were wives) were Shamina Islam of Pakistan working toward an MA in "social education" and Hyo Kim of Korea, a Piano MA student. In those days the award fully covered tuition for one 3-credit course. Since 1970 we have been able to give 395 tuition scholarships.

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#### **VETP (Volunteers for English Tutoring)– Mary Hennessey**

I was out for a while after having my knee surgery, but computers make it easy to do things from home! In all, I worked 27.75 hours for VETP during November. In November we had a total of 204 students attend 8 classes. The average number of students in a class is 7.

46 conversation partners met this month. Of those, 22 were community members, 21 were undergrads and 3 were grad students.

I put together a new class schedule for Spring 2016. Many people are continuing leading VETP classes, and a few new people have expressed interest, too.

I enjoy putting announcements on the VETP Facebook page, telling people about fun things to do in the Lansing area, and making announcements about class cancellations and MSU information. We now have 208 "likes".

Peggy Teoh continues to help with office work and interviewing international students who want a conversation partner.

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#### **World Gift Shop – Wendy Pope**

This year the World Gift Shop was held in the Lake Huron Room on the 3rd floor of the Union. Although it was a smaller room than our basement room of last year, it was a better location. We felt that we were more connected to the Global Festival. Cathy Fitzpatrick and her staff were very helpful in setting up the room to our plan. Bernard had spent several hours devising the layout. The tables were covered and skirted and easels and a clothes rack were assembled. On Friday, Carlos transported our items which totaled 71 regular boxes and 9 extra containers with larger items and packing materials. Many community and student volunteers plus board members helped unpack and lay out the items. This took about four hours. On Sunday, we opened at 1pm. Sales were busy and proceeded steadily for three hours. By 5pm, it was slower. After 6pm, the remaining items were repacked by volunteers. Carlos took everything back to the Lending Center. Many thanks are due to Joy, Dottie, Gengen, Mona and many others for their hard work connected to the sale. Also, thanks to David, Larry, Karyn, Rick, Ann, Marge and others who were cashiers. Sales from debit and credit cards are increasing each year.

I would like to thank Stacey and all board members for their support.

The donor forms with a thank you letter were mailed on December 3rd.

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