

# International Students and Scholars

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

## IN THE OFFICE:

**Sue Songer** -  
Director of International Admissions

**Marilyn Holmes** -  
International Student Coordinator

**Marilyn Thomas** -  
Admissions Coordinator

**Marcus Ricci** -  
Office Manager

**Evan McWhirter** -  
Graduate Assistant

**Bria Phillips** -  
Graduate Assistant

**Payge Schagemann** -  
Student Worker

**Katie Schwartzlose** -  
Student Worker

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## AIS Sounds of the World

The Sounds of the World dance was hosted by the Association of International Students on Friday November, 6, 2009 in the University Ballroom of the Union. It was a successful turnout with 87 people in attendance. Students came together to share and enjoy the sounds of many different cultures. Special entertainment was presented by Samyukta Ghimire and Sweta Joshi performing the Nepali dance, and Jenn Yap, Minh Bui, Minh Ha Nguyen, Solomon Nathi, Sumanth

Gadde, and Rohit

Gupta performing

the Indian dance. The performances were greatly enjoyed by all. The AIS officers and Victor Lee devoted a great deal of work into planning and organizing the event, which made for an exciting and fun-filled night.

While making friends and memories that will last forever, the students danced until the early morning hours.



## USBT Campus Visit to EIU- Sue Songer

On Wednesday, November 4, 2009 EIU hosted a campus visit for USBT advisers. These EducationUSA advisers visited several colleges and universities in the area. The College Board administers the program. Visiting EIU were Bradley Gorski (Russia), Lucy Felipe (Philippines), Martha Huaman (Peru), Salim Al-Badi (Oman), and Gunay Masimova (Azerbaijan). These advisers return home to provide information to students contemplating study in the United States. While on campus, the USBT advisers visited Booth Library, Doudna Fine Arts, MLK Jr. Student Union, and the EIU Recreation Center. The five guests also receive additional information on the admission process, orientation programming, and academic advising.





*“In the power  
to change  
yourself is the  
power to change  
the world  
around you.”  
-Anwar*

## *Christmas Around the World : International Quiz*

1. Who is the god or priest in Japan that closely resembles Santa Claus?  
**A. Hoteiosho                      B. Hoty                      C. St. Japan**
  
2. On the sixth day of December Sinterklass or Saint-Nicholas is celebrated in Belgium, which is an entirely different holiday from Christmas.  
**True or False**
  
3. Except for snow and high temperatures, which country celebrates Christmas pretty much the same as it is in the United States?  
**A. Mexico                      B. Brazil                      C. Japan**
  
4. The birthday of Jesus Christ known as “Kito” is one of the four main annual festivals to which country?  
**A. Russia                      B. China                      C. Vietnam**

Answers on Page 5

*“Christmas is  
one of the most  
celebrated  
holidays with  
many different  
traditions  
around the  
world.”*



## *OISS Holiday Banquet*

The annual Holiday Banquet was hosted by the Office of International Students and Scholars on December 2, 2009 in the University Ballroom of the Union. Students, faculty, and community members were invited to celebrate international education at EIU. The evening was kicked off with a welcome from Sue Songer, the Director of the Office of International Students and Scholars, which led to the engaging conversation while enjoying a delicious buffet dinner. The night continued on with entertainment provided by Jenn Yap,

Following the dinner and performances, Marilyn Holmes, International Student Coordinator, took a moment to recognize the IEC members, the AIS members, the Conversation and Family Friends partners, and the December '09 graduating students. Following the recognitions of everyone that helps international education thrive at EIU, Sue Songer took a moment to recognize Vice President of External Relations, Dr. Jill Nilsen, who is retiring after December of this year. The evening was full of good food, good entertainment, and good company.



## Current International Education Council (2009-2010)

### Voting Members

Dr. Ronan Bernas	Sciences
Dr. Stephen Canfield	Council of Chairs
Dr. Marilyn Coles(Chair)	Arts and Humanities
Dr. Marko Grunhagen	Business and Applied Sciences
Shaukat Sheik & Jenn Yap	AIS Co-Representatives
Dr. Tesa Leonce (Vice-Chair)	Sciences
Dr. Ralph Marshall	Education and Professional Studies
Dr. Regina Nganga	Education and Professional Studies
Angie Norris	Study Abroad Representative
Dr. Richard Sylvia	Arts and Humanities
Dr. Deborah Woodley	Business and Applied Sciences

### Ex Officio Members

Dr. Robert Augustine	Dean of Graduate School
Pam Collins	School of Continuing Education
Marilyn Holmes	Office of International Students and Scholars
Sara Schmidt	Honors College
Sue Songer	Office of International Students and Scholars
Wendy S. Williamson	Office of Study Abroad

### Invited Guests

Farhan Aziz	Office of Study Abroad
Marilyn S. Thomas	Office of International Students and Scholars

### Recorder

Marcus Ricci	Office of International Students and Scholars
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### Area Represented

### Department/Office

### Department/Office

### Department/Office



Answers to International Quiz:

1.A 2.True 3.B 4.C

Office of International  
Students and Scholars   
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Newsletter by Bria Phillips