

UCSD's International Center releases annual report

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UCSD'S INTERNATIONAL CENTER RELEASES ANNUAL REPORT

The International Center at the University of California, San Diego ranks fifth among U.S. institutions for the numbers of foreign scholars hosted during the past two academic years, according to the center's recently released 1994-95 Annual Report.

The center is positioned after Harvard University, UC Berkeley, UCLA and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), respectively.

Center director Mary Dhooge said, "The International Center hosted a total of 3,088 foreign scholars (researchers and faculty) and students (undergraduates and graduates) last year, from more than 85 countries. Because of the extraordinary support from the surrounding community, UCSD is able to provide extensive hospitality to this large population of international students and scholars."

Highlights from the report include which areas of academic study at UCSD have the highest concentration foreign students and scholars; participation of UCSD students in academic programs abroad; UCSD faculty involvement in international education, and community funding and volunteer support.

Of the 1,257 international researchers and faculty visiting UCSD last year, the report points out that 50 percent were from European countries, followed by 35 percent coming from Asia.

Most of the scholars' disciplines fell into the science fields, with 43 percent in the health sciences and 19 percent in the physical sciences.

Foreign students welcomed by the International Center last year numbered 768, with the majority of them studying in the fields of engineering, physical sciences, the social sciences, and history.

The University of California's Education Abroad Program (EAP) and UCSD's Opportunities Abroad Program (OAP)--both of which are administered out of the center--sent a combined total of 521 students abroad last year, a number exceeding any other UC campus. The University of California alone sent more students into overseas study programs (1,508 enrolled in EAP) than any other university in the United States.

According to the center's report, the State of California hosts the largest number of foreign scholars in the country. The report also disclosed that more than 87 percent of all foreign students in the U.S. received primary funding from sources outside of the United States. In fact, the report states, foreign students spent approximately \$7 billion in the U.S. last year on tuition, fees and personal living expenses.

The International Center's active volunteer program involves more than 800 individuals, and sponsors a myriad of services to foster international exchanges, including a Volunteer Tutors' American-English in Action Program (155 volunteers tutored 174 recipients), a Host Family Program (84 volunteers hosted 123 newcomers);

the International Cafe (a weekly luncheon with 275 community volunteers in 30 organizations hosting 5,602 attendees); a "Quest" Study Abroad Fair (90 volunteers assisted approximately 1,000 prospective study abroad applicants); the Friends' Resale Shop (25 volunteers generated \$26,850); Orientation Dinner (22 volunteers); and an International Coop Nursery School (nine volunteer board members).

Community support organizations housed at the center include the Friends of the International Center, with 402 members and the UCSD Oceanids, with 425 members.

Friends of the International Center have contributed a total of \$21,513 to UCSD through the International Center in 1994-95; UCSD Oceanids contributed \$1,817, and the Zonta Club of La Jolla supported the program with a total of \$1,050.

Study abroad scholarship donations from the community totaled \$15,300. The UCSD campus provided \$11,000 in scholarship funds, combined with special student financial aid and EAP donations, matching scholarship funds totaled \$17,640. Competitive national scholarship awards totaled \$70,400, for a total of \$114,340 in special scholarship support for international education.

International Cafe attendance for 1994-95 was 5,602. Thirty San Diego organizations contributed funds and volunteers to this program, including contributed food and catering, for a total of \$5,965. The International Cafe luncheon is hosted on Fridays when classes are in session. It is open to the public for a nominal fee.

More than 40 faculty members serve on the EAP selection committees. Nearly 50 faculty members serve as Study Abroad advisors in various UCSD academic departments. Four UCSD faculty members have served, or are serving, as overseas directors of EAP study centers. They are, Joseph Esherick, History, Beijing (1994-95); Fanny Howe, Literature, London (1993-94); Edward Reynolds, History, London (1994-96), and Benetta Jules-Rosette, Sociology, Bordeaux/Toulouse (1995-97).

For more information on the UCSD International Center, contact Director Mary Dhooge, (619) 534-3730.

Editors note: Visual opportunities: International Cafe, Fridays at noon (several hundred international diners); the Friends' Resale Shop (10 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.-Fri.), and 5-100 foreign spouses and children at Wednesday Coffee (10 a.m.-noon).

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