

# PaCIE *News*

Spring 2004

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## PaCIE Celebrates 35 Years of Work in International Education

By Judy Pehrson

It's PaCIE's 35<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, and the organization has come a long way since its founding in 1969.

According to Dr. David Gray, one of PaCIE's founders and a former executive director, like many other volunteer advocacy groups, PaCIE originated from the informal work of a small group of concerned individuals.

"The initial group consisted of faculty members or international program administrators from four large research universities – Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Pittsburgh – and a smattering of representatives from other state and private colleges and universities known to have a commitment to international education," Gray stated.

The small original committee invited other interested colleagues to join, and the expanded group organized a statewide conference at Penn State in October of 1970. That conference, attended by representatives from 23 colleges and universities, became an annual tradition for the organization that continues to this day.

Over the years, PaCIE has carried out a wide range of projects and programs, including:

- Organizing state-wide high school and college collaboratives of language and social studies faculty members
- Awarding Penn PaCIE grants to 55 colleges and uni-

versities

- Offering professional regional workshops on current international education issues and developments
- Publishing a quarterly newsletter on the issues and forces affecting international education in Pennsylvania

- Organizing advocacy efforts at the state and local level on behalf of international education
- Recognizing outstanding international education leaders in the state with the PaCIE Lifetime Achievement Award and the David Portlock Outstanding International Educator Award.

This year, the organization extended membership to K-12 teachers and administrators involved with international education efforts.

"Opening membership to K-12 people was a move that made sense because we have been actively promoting linkages between K-12 schools and colleges and universities for some time," says David Prejsnar, former PaCIE president who now chairs the Board's Membership Committee. "PaCIE also this year created a new honor, the 'Bring the World to Pennsylvania Award,' to give support and visibility to international/multi-cultural collaborative projects between K-12 and higher education institutions."

## Presenters Wanted

PaCIE is seeking people to present at its annual conference slated September 23-24 at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College.

Organized around the theme "Bringing the World to Pennsylvania," the conference will cover topics ranging from internationalizing the K-21 curriculum to finding funding for international initiatives.

If you're interested in presenting or organizing a panel on any international education topic, contact Lewis Jillings at Penn State University. Phone: 814-863-3974. Email: [jillings@psu.edu](mailto:jillings@psu.edu) or [lxj9@psu.edu](mailto:lxj9@psu.edu).



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## PRESIDENT'S POST



As a professional in the field of international education, you know the importance of preparing

Pennsylvania K-12 students to be proficient in a second language and to be knowledgeable about the societies and cultures where this language is spoken.

Unfortunately, many individuals in key policy decision making positions in the Commonwealth do not share this same notion. We ask you to join members of PaCIE and the Pennsylvania Standard Modern Language Association (PSMLA) to advocate for a change in our current language standards. We need to build partnerships with representatives from business, government and education sectors to move this agenda along.

In the next few months, Governor Ed Rendell will select three individuals to fill vacancies on the State Board of Education. This is the same board that will determine if the proposed new World Language Standards should be approved. We ask that you contact Governor Rendell's office by phone, letter or email and let him know that you want individuals selected to serve on the board who share your vision of global competency and agree that international education for grades K-21 is a priority.

Also, we encourage you to build partnerships by contacting the state legislator representing your community and letting him/her know of

the importance of international education for our students and how this directly impacts the common good of the Commonwealth.

Please visit the PSMLA website at <http://psmla.mercyhurst.edu/> for additional information about World Language Standards and visit the PaCIE website to learn about other advocacy issues that PaCIE advocacy committee chair, JoAnn de Armas Wallace, Dean of the Center for International Education, Juniata College is working on that merit your attention.

Just think of the impact if all international education professionals in the Commonwealth called the Governor's office. Don't expect someone else to do it, pick up the phone and call today (717-787-2500) or voice your concerns by logging on at:

<[http://sites.state.pa.us/PA\\_Exec/Governor/govmail.html](http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Governor/govmail.html)>.

Sincerely,

Elaine Linn  
PaCIE President 03-04

## Please Return Your Ballot on Changes to PaCIE Bylaws

By David C. Prejsnar

If you are an institutional representative to PaCIE you should have received or will be receiving shortly notice of proposed amendments to the PaCIE Bylaws along with an official ballot. (Each institutional member of PaCIE selects one person to serve as its official representative with voting power.) I am writing to you on behalf of the PaCIE Board of Directors to urge you to read the materials on the bylaw revisions and return your ballot by the deadline. This is especially important since the PaCIE Bylaws stipulate that an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the representatives entitled to vote is necessary for the Bylaws to be amended. It is crucial that all representatives return their ballots. If any member of PaCIE needs clarification on the institutional representatives for your institution please contact the Executive Director Christina Good. Any institutional representative who would like more information on the proposed changes please feel free to contact me or any other member of the PaCIE Board.

## Send Us Your News!

*PaCIE News* is published three times a year. Copy deadlines are March 1 for the spring issue, July 15 for the fall issue, and November 15 for the winter issue. Submit articles and information to:

Susan Masson  
Villanova University, Office of International Studies  
800 Lancaster Ave. - Middleton Hall  
Villanova, PA 19085  
E-mail: [susan.masson@villanova.edu](mailto:susan.masson@villanova.edu)

Address changes/additions to the mailing list:  
Christina Good  
137 N. Tyson Ave.  
Glenside, PA 19038  
E-mail: [CEAGOOD@aol.com](mailto:CEAGOOD@aol.com)

## Take Advantage of New Membership Options

PaCIE members should have recently received their 2004-05 membership renewal letters, and will have noted some changes in benefits and structure.

Two different types of membership are now offered – **institutional** and **individual membership** on a sliding scale. In addition, membership has been opened for the first time to K-12 teachers and administrators who are involved in international education.

### Basic institutional membership -- \$100

Join at a basic institutional level and five people from the organization receive discounted conference registration fees, the PaCIE newsletter and other future publications, and are eligible to serve on PaCIE committees and the Board.

### Sponsoring institutional membership -- \$250

Up to 12 people within the organization can receive discounted conference registration fees, the PaCIE newsletter and other future publications, and are eligible to serve on committees and the Board. In addition, the organization will receive prominent mention in the annual conference program and on the Web site as a sponsoring member.

### Individual membership – Based on income.

People who join as individuals receive discounted conference registration fee, the PaCIE newsletter and other future publications, and are eligible to serve on committees or the Board.

### Sliding scale for individual members:

Student or income below \$25,000	\$20
\$25,000-\$44,999	\$35
\$45,000 and above	\$50

## Check out our new brochure!

PaCIE's new brochure – *Educating Pennsylvania across disciplines, across cultures, across continents* – was a real team effort involving most of the PaCIE Board members, with Judy Pehrson coordinating the project. Mindpower, a marketing and graphics design firm in Atlanta, GA designed the brochure as a pro-bono project.

If you'd like free copies to distribute to colleagues at your school or organization, contact Christina Good, Executive Director, at 215-884-9430 or [<ceagood@aol.com>](mailto:ceagood@aol.com).

The PaCIE Board believes that this new membership structure and benefits will allow and encourage all international educators in the state to participate fully in the organization's activities and initiatives.

Please take a minute to renew your PaCIE membership for your institution, or for yourself. Also note that now all the administrators and faculty at your institution who deal with and support international education in Pennsylvania can become members of PaCIE and work to strengthen international education here in the Commonwealth.

If you have questions on membership or how to get involved in PaCIE, please contact Christina Good, Executive Director at 215-884-9430, [ceagood@aol.com](mailto:ceagood@aol.com), or David Prejsnar, Membership Committee Chair at 215-751-8644, [dprejsnar@ccp.edu](mailto:dprejsnar@ccp.edu).

## Scholarships Available for Governor's Institute For World Language Educators

By Judy Pehrson

One hundred Commonwealth K-12 World Language teachers will have the opportunity to attend the Pennsylvania Governor's 2004 Institute for World Language Educators scheduled July 11 through July 16 at Villanova University.

Attendees will receive a full scholarship for meals, housing, materials and two graduate credits. The scholarship application can be downloaded as a PDF from the Department of Education Web site:

<http://www.pde.state.pa.us/languages/cwp/view>. Applications must be postmarked by April 30, although applications received after this date will still be considered if vacancies exist.

According to Pam Kolega, World Language advisor at the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Institute

activities will focus on:

- The Pennsylvania Proposed Academic Standards for World Languages and Classical Languages and the National Standards for Foreign Languages.
- Alignment of standards-based instruction and assessment
- Utilization of technology to support and globalize learning
- Comparisons of FLES, FLEX and IMMERSION systems
- A True World Language Connections standard that demonstrates an integrated curriculum where proficiency levels in literacy and mathematics will be increased throughout the Pennsylvania public school system.

For information, contact Kolega at 717-787-7098 or [<pkolega@state.pa.us>](mailto:pkolega@state.pa.us).

## University of Pittsburgh Welcomes First Students in Macedonia Program

By Jean Hale



**Pitt students gather in Macedonia for the GCPPM's second term.**

In September 2003, The University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) welcomed 18 students to their first official class session at the Graduate Center for Public Policy and Management (GCPPM) in Skopje, Macedonia.

"The establishment of the Center represents nearly a decade of joint planning with university, government, and business leaders from the United States and Macedonia," said Dr. William Dunn, Director of the Center. "It is the first graduate school of public policy and management in Central and Eastern Europe," Dunn continued. "Its primary mission is to create a critical mass of well-trained public servants to lead the process of administrative reform in the Republic of Macedonia."

"The center provides an opportunity to prepare current and future leaders for positions of public service," said GSPIA Associate Dean David Miller, who is also Co-Director. "At a critical time when countries in the Balkans are transforming their economies and reforming public administrations to better serve their citizens, experienced, knowledgeable leaders are essential to ensure that these changes are based on sound policy," said Miller.

The program attracts highly qualified students with five or more years of professional experience. Most students are employed in government

positions with significant responsibilities for policy-making and management in the areas of finance, education, governmental reform, security, environmental protection, and European integration.

"More often than not, universities go in 'thinly' to a new location," said Miller, "and we wanted to avoid that.

When the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs was considering a location that would be most appropriate for its mission of contributing to the process of administrative reform in Eastern Europe, it chose Macedonia and the Balkans, a country and region where professional relationships are deep and long-standing."

"A long history of collaboration between the cities of Skopje and Pittsburgh, who have a sister-city agreement, helped forge new educational partnerships, as did some 10 years of prior planning between GSPIA, the U.S. Mission in Skopje, and the Macedonian business and governmental communities," said Dunn.

Students may earn either the Master in Public Policy and Management for experienced professionals or a Certificate in Public Policy and Management for students with an undergraduate degree and limited

work experience. Courses are offered in English by a team of GSPIA faculty and adjunct faculty from Macedonian universities, who use traditional and Web-based, distance education to deliver lectures.

Leaders from business, government, and nongovernmental organizations frequently visit GCPPM for special lectures, engaging students in a variety of timely topics ranging from local government reform to accession to the European Union.

A hallmark of the program is the integration of existing and cutting-edge distance learning technologies. A partnership between UNET, an Internet Service Provider located in Skopje, and the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education created an innovative distance learning approach that provides live interactive education from Pittsburgh to Macedonia. The full multimedia experience of GCPPM's distance education lectures can be experienced by visiting their Web site at [www.mk.pitt.edu](http://www.mk.pitt.edu) and following the link for "Distance Learning."

### For Further Information:

Ms. Jacqueline Saslawski,  
Coordinator-Registrar  
Graduate School of Public &  
International Affairs  
Macedonia Program  
3J35 Wesley W. Posvar Hall  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
Tel: 412/383-8970  
[Saslawski@birch.gspia.pitt.edu](mailto:Saslawski@birch.gspia.pitt.edu)

## *From China to Ecuador: A Journey to Remember*

By Margaret A. Hadinger

This past fall semester I happened to see a brochure for a trip to China displayed around the Kutztown University campus. By chance I picked one up...and I ended up in Ecuador for three weeks just months later.

What may seem like a strange leap was just that. Every year the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and the individual universities sponsor a group of honors students to study and travel through a scholarship program during the first summer session. Long before I ever heard about the trip to China, the Kutztown Honors Program Director Dr. Guiyou Huang had been planning to take a group of 28 honors students, two chosen from each of the honors programs of the 14 state universities, to his hometown of Beijing, China for a three week trip as the culmination of a total five week program on the economics and politics of China. In years past the groups had visited countries such as Spain and South Africa. This year's trip was to be the first time a group had gone to Asia.

After a short essay and a friendly interview, I was lucky enough to be chosen, along with one other Kutztown student, Jackie Hartz, to be a part of the 2003 Summer Honors Study Abroad program. I was ecstatic about the opportunity, as was everyone else involved in the program.

Then the unthinkable happened. The SARS virus struck in China, and the infection was raging news in Beijing just as the directors of the program were trying to make last minute arrangements for our trip there. Everyone feared that there would be no solution other than to simply cancel or reschedule the program. Then at nearly the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, the decision was made that although we would not be the first honors group to visit Asia, we would be the first group to visit Latin America. Specifically, we were going to Ecuador!

After two weeks of intensive study under the direction of KU professors Dr. Arifeen Daneshyar and Dr. John Riley into the economics and politics of Latin America and specifically of Ecuador, we left for our journey on May 30. After a brief stop in Colombia we arrived in Quito, Ecuador our first destination in country. Over the course of three weeks, our group, comprised of 28 students from all over Pennsylvania, our professors, and a student photographer, traveled extensively throughout Ecuador under the guidance of our faithful tour guides.

Everywhere we went we were treated grandly and at times even like old friends, especially by the family of KU President Dr. Javier Cevallos. We visited Quito, Quayaquil, and Cuenca, the three most important cities in Ecuador. We traveled as far east as the edge of the Amazon rainforest and as far west as the Pacific Ocean. We traveled through a country of contrasts: imagine a rainforest, the Andes, the equator, and an eternally flat



**Kutztown students line up at the equator.**

coastline all contained in an area the size of the state of Colorado. We experienced a land of contradictions: a population with a high literacy rate coupled with high poverty, as just one salient example.

We witnessed firsthand the effects of "dollarization" on the Ecuadorian economy and we heard from a leading economist involved with that major transition. We learned that although the American way is a good way, and although it works well for us, our way is not the only way and might not be the best way for other parts of the world.

As we traveled by bus and had trouble making phone calls, we personally realized again and again the supreme value of stable infrastructure and the impact and correlation of politics, economics, geography and a thousand other factors necessary for building a democracy that works. We saw how a beautiful but formidable landscape can work against nation-building. On a more personal level, we met people and friends that we will never forget, and we gained memories that will last us forever.

I think it is safe to say that each one of us came home from our trip changed in some way. For some it was as simple as having remembered a few of their old high school Spanish lessons. For others, especially those of us who had never before ventured so far away from home, the trip gave us an enhanced world view that we will never again be so easily tempted to turn away from. I heard students and professors alike speak of returning to Ecuador to study, to travel, and even to help with some of the difficulties so prevalent there. All in all, although China would have been great, I will never regret having gone to Ecuador instead. This trip was a tremendous opportunity and a once in a lifetime chance. I know that I have grown from the experience and I have learned more than can be described at one time. I encourage other KU students to take the risk of joining next year's Summer Honors Study Abroad program because I know they will come back as changed as I am.

**PaCIE Board of Directors 2003-2004**

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