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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

SOLVING GLOBAL CONFLICTS: WHAT IS U.S. ROLE?

Every day, new post-Cold War conflicts—ethnopolitical, ecological, economic—force Americans to re-evaluate the nation's role and responsibility in managing global turbulence. On Friday, May 3, the State of the World Conference, 1996, will give St. Louisans an opportunity to learn about and discuss the challenge of SOLVING GLOBAL CONFLICTS. The program will be held on the UM-St. Louis campus, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The registration fee of $37.50 includes lunch. For information, call 314-516-6910.

Conference participants will survey emerging global trends—the forces bringing us together and those pulling us apart. UM-St. Louis faculty will present briefings and lead discussion of topics including ethnic hostilities, environmental clashes and the global institutions for resolving these conflicts. Other sessions will consider democratization and nation building in Africa and the new conflicts created by global economic integration and transitions to market economies.

Speakers include faculty members Germain Gros, Lance LeLoup, Martin Rochester, Eduardo Silva and Ken Thomas from UM-St. Louis and Robin Remington from UM-Columbia.

The conference closes with a luncheon address on The Limits of U.S. Intervention in Global Conflicts. The UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies, Alumni Association and World Affairs Council of St. Louis sponsor the annual conference to provide a forum for informed debate of critical global issues affecting the U.S., the region and the St. Louis area.

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION EXAMINES U.S.-GREEK RELATIONS

On Friday, March 29, 2:00-6:00 p.m., the Greek studies program at UM-St. Louis will commemorate 175 years of Greek independence with a public program on Greek-U.S. political relations. Experts from the U.S. and Greece will discuss U.S.-Greek relations in the post-Cold War era and Greek-American political activism. The program and reception will be held in the J.C. Penney Conference Center at UM-St. Louis. Although there is no registration fee, reservations are requested. For information, call 314-516-6910.

"Greece lies at the doorstep of two conflicts—in the Balkans and the eastern Mediterranean—that involve the U.S. deeply." — Dr. Joel Glassman, a political scientist and director of the Center for International Studies at UM-St. Louis, which is sponsoring the event.

Speakers include Dr. Theodore Couloumbis, professor of international relations at the University of Athens, Greece and senior fellow at the U.S. Institute of Peace; Dr. Van Coufoudakis, professor of political science and associate vice chancellor for academic affairs at Indiana University-Purdue University; and Dr. Christos Ioannides, director of the Speros Basil Vryonis Center for the Study of Hellenism.

In January 1995, UM-St. Louis completed a fundraising campaign to establish an endowed professorship for academic affairs at Indiana University-Purdue University; and Dr. Christos Ioannides, director of the Speros Basil Vryonis Center for the Study of Hellenism.

The professorship was funded by the St. Louis Greek community, the Greek Government and the University. "The program will be followed by viewing and sale of photographs in the exhibition, The Hellenes, by Elaine Koumparakis Moss. Proceeds will benefit the Hellenic Studies Scholarship Fund.

Mr. Ikuhiro Morita, the new senior trade adviser for the Japan External Trade Organization and the state of Missouri, spoke to St. Louis businesspeople at a January reception hosted by the Center for International Studies, UM-St. Louis. Morita will work to encourage exports from, and investment in, Missouri. In May he will address a seminar on The Japanese Market: Opportunities for Missouri Products to be held at UM-St. Louis. For information call 314-516-5753.
ANTHROPOLOGIST INVENTS ‘BODY CULTURE’

“"You have some new ideas that will be twisting round and round in my brain for quite some time to come," said one student’s evaluation of Susan Brownell, assistant professor of anthropology at UM-St. Louis. One of these new ideas is “body culture,” a term coined by Brownell and introduced in her book, Training the Body for China: Sports in the Moral Order of the People’s Republic, which was published last year.

Training is the first book on Chinese sports based on fieldwork conducted in China by a Westerner. Brownell’s fieldwork included her personal experience competing on the Beijing University track team in 1985-86. In China’s National College Games in 1986, she set a national record in the heptathlon. Today, Brownell is an internationally recognized expert on Chinese sports.

Brownell traces the importance of sports in China back to the modern Olympic movement, established in 1896. Success in international sports competition became an important vehicle for combating the world’s perception of China as “the sick man of East Asia.” Brownell contends that the Chinese linkage of sports and nationalism, much stronger than in the U.S., emerges directly from the country’s national humiliation at the hands of Western imperialist powers. By 1981, popular enthusiasm for international competition had become so great that the names of every member of the Chinese women’s Olympic volleyball team were common knowledge throughout the country, even in remote villages.

In her book, Brownell defines body culture as “everything people do with their bodies and the elements of culture that shape their doings,” including dress, manners and etiquette, adornment, dance and systematic ways of training the body. She shows how the Chinese Communist government has used body culture to promote a collectivist, militarized society and how today, new elements of body culture, such as the popular body building movement and disco dancing, have become a force for social change.

Brownell is spending the spring semester in Beijing researching “the body in consumer culture.” Her work will focus on fashion models, advertising, cosmetic surgery and the recreation and fitness industry, as she pursues the question, “Why are Chinese women becoming more concerned with their appearance?”

She surmises that this change in body culture is not simply attributable to the European standards of beauty conveyed by the international advertising that is now allowed in China. In fact, indigenous Chinese concepts, e.g., the association of large eyes with intelligence, may play a role, she says.

Brownell traces her interest in China back to the stories told by her grandmother, whose father was governor of Mississippi, a civil rights proponent, and lawyer for the Mississippi Chinese Association in the 1910s and 20s. Her passion for anthropology was instilled by her college teacher, Victor Turner, the creator of the field of symbolic anthropology.

JOINT CENTER CREATES TAIWAN STUDIES GROUP

The Joint Center for East Asian Studies of UM-St. Louis and Washington University has received a grant from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation to create a Taiwan Studies Group that will serve scholars and students in the Midwest. The group is convening the first of three seminars funded by the grant March 21-23 on the Washington University campus. The development of Taiwanese law will be the focus of the first session, organized by Washington University Professor of Law William Jones.

Professors of law, history and anthropology from the U.S. and Taiwan will deliver papers on the Westernization of law during the Japanese occupation; marriage and family law; commercial law; and the role of the legal profession in Taiwan’s democratization.

The second and third seminars will meet in fall 1996 and spring 1997. For information about the seminars, which are open to the public, contact Dr. Michele Shoresman, associate director of international studies at Washington University at 314-935-5958.
JAPAN NETWORK TO INTERNATIONALIZE MISSOURI COMMUNITIES

This spring, fifty 4-H youth will visit Japanese-owned companies in Kansas City; teachers in southeast Missouri will learn about today's youth culture in Japan; Japanese visitors to Springfield and their hosts will star in a video depicting a “day in the life” of a homestay; and in Perryville, the Chamber of Commerce will learn how other towns have integrated Japanese-owned companies. All are projects of the Missouri Japan Network, a statewide consortium for improving U.S.-Japan relations at the grassroots level.

The Network was organized by the Center for International Studies at UM-St. Louis with funding from the Center for Global Partnership of the Japan Foundation. In December UM-St. Louis held a second workshop for teams of community leaders from Hannibal, Kansas City, southeast Missouri and Springfield.

“We are going to ‘internationalize’ the Ozarks,” said Tony Toste, leader of the Springfield team and president of the local sister city association at the first Network meeting. The Network grew from the shared conviction that local interest in Japan could be a key for making Missouri communities more culturally, socially and economically international.

Missouri’s expanding economic interaction with Japan, (with growing trade and over fifty Japanese-owned companies in the State), has not always increased our understanding of each other, explains project director, Dr. Joel Glassman, director of the Center for International Studies. He cites a lack of information, resources and the broader perspectives required to understand both our common interests, and the potential for cooperation, and our differences.

The Center for International Studies and the Japan America Society of St. Louis created the Missouri Japan Network to share resources and information with local teams, which would plan and implement programs for their communities.

At the December workshop, the teams learned from UM-St. Louis political scientists Ken Thomas and Michele Hoyman how the changing global economy is affecting the U.S. and Japan and local communities in the Midwest. Talks on U.S.-Japan relations, Japanese youth culture and the acculturation of Japanese nationals in Missouri helped the teams refine the strategies of local projects aimed at improving grassroots understanding and interactions between Missourians and Japanese.

The U.S. and Japan must re-start the clock,” said Dr. Jackson Bailey, professor of Japanese history and director of the Institute for Education on Japan at Earlham College, at a December 2 workshop for the Missouri Japan Network. Bailey believes Americans and Japanese can no longer allow feelings about each other to be dominated by a sense of past victimization— at Pearl Harbor, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. “As a generation of war-time leaders is succeeded by a new generation,” says Bailey, “we confront some of the same domestic and global challenges.”

Left photo: Roy Morinaga (left), former senior trade adviser for the Japan External Trade Organization; Yoshiaki Shibusawa, president, Japan America Society of St. Louis; Dr. Chikako Usui, assistant professor of sociology, UM-St. Louis.
Right top photo: David Knight (left), economic development coordinator for city of Springfield, and Dr. Jackson Bailey, professor of Japanese history and director of the Center for Educational Media, Earlham College.
Bottom right photo: Missouri Japan Network members and speakers at the network’s December 2 workshop at UM-St. Louis.
HUNGARIAN PROFESSOR TEACHES IN HONORS COLLEGE

During the spring semester, UM-St. Louis students have, for the first time, the opportunity to learn about the culture of contemporary Hungary. Eniko Harmati, professor of Hungarian literature at Kossuth Lajos University (KLU) in Debrecen, Hungary, is teaching the course Contemporary Hungarian Literature for the Pierre Laclede Honors College. Harmati has designed the course to provide students insight into Central European life through the study of Hungarian literature.

Harmati earned her credentials in Hungarian and English literature and language through a five-year program at KLU, that is the equivalent of a U.S. Master's degree. She teaches English literature in the Department of English and American Studies at KLU. Harmati also teaches Hungarian language in the University's Language Institute, where she worked with several UM-St. Louis students last summer. Harmati is now working on her Ph.D. on Fantasy in Literature, which will focus particularly on dystopian fiction.

Harmati's visit builds on a growing relationship between UM-St. Louis and KLU, one of Hungary's leading universities. During the current academic year, four students from each university are participating in an exchange program funded by a grant to the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Information Agency. The partnership was developed by Dr. Rita Csapó-Sweet, assistant professor of communication and fellow of the Center for International Studies.

Harmati's arrival follows the visit last fall of another Hungarian professor, Gyorgy Jenei, deputy chairman of the Public Policy Program at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences. Jenei was the guest of UM-St. Louis students may study at any of the Utrecht Network's twenty-two member universities throughout Europe.

CENTER TO COORDINATE EXCHANGE NETWORK

UM-St. Louis has been selected by Mid-America Universities International (MAUI) to coordinate its student exchange program with the Utrecht Network, Europe's largest international student exchange consortium. MAUI is a consortium of sixteen universities in seven states that promotes the development of cooperative international programs, with a focus on international student and faculty exchange.

In 1993, MAUI linked with the Utrecht Network and its twenty-two member universities. The program, which had federal funding in its first year, allows students to spend a semester or year abroad while paying tuition to their home institution. UM-St. Louis students have studied at Utrecht Network universities in Belgium, England, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain.

The Utrecht Network began working in the 1980s to promote the internationalization of higher education in Europe through student and staff exchange, joint curricula, double degrees, joint Ph.D.s and summer schools. The Network also has affiliations with African institutions.

The Center for International Studies will coordinate participation on the U.S. side of the MAUI-Utrecht Network, with the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands performing a similar function for the European side. The two universities are responsible for meetings and communications and for finalizing student placements in a manner that maintains a balanced exchange within the Network.

A POETIC GLIMPSE INTO HUNGARIAN CULTURE

A public lecture by Eniko Harmati, Kossuth Lajos University, Hungary
7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 27
Convocation Hall, Pierre Laclede Honors College
University of Missouri-St. Louis • For information call 314-516-6870
NEW STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Summer in France

A new four-week summer program in Lille, France makes study abroad more feasible than ever for UM-St. Louis students. This summer, ten students will participate in the program, which provides an introduction to the European Union through lectures and excursions related to economics, geography, and culture. Because lectures are conducted in English, students are not required to have foreign language training. However, intensive French language courses are available for those who are interested.

The new program has been well received by students. They cite the low cost, short duration, absence of a language requirement, and the relevance to their academic programs. The Lille program makes study in a foreign country more feasible for non-traditional students, whose family and work responsibilities allow less time to devote to study abroad. For other students, this experience can help prepare for a future semester or year in France.

The summer program is an expansion of the existing academic year exchange program between UM-St. Louis and the Universite des Sciences et Technologies de Lille in economics, business and the natural sciences. Lille developed the summer option to increase the number of Americans studying at their university.

Business Studies in Top Export Markets

Missouri's growing trade with the NAFTA countries makes it essential for students planning careers in international business to learn about the State's top two export markets. A new exchange program gives UM-St. Louis students the opportunity to study business administration in Canada or Mexico for a summer, semester or full academic year, while paying tuition to their home institution. Scholarships and financial aid are available for students participating in this exchange.

Students may select from among nine universities in Mexico and six in Canada, which, along with ten in the U.S., are members of the business administration exchange group of the Regional Academic Mobility Program (RAMP). RAMP is a consortium of over fifty universities organized to encourage student exchange among the NAFTA countries.

UM-St. Louis also participates, along with three Mexican and six Canadian and three U.S. universities, in an exchange for students in environmental studies.

Eric P. Baumer, (center), who earned a Fulbright Fellowship as a UM-St. Louis graduate student in criminology and criminal justice, was the first student awarded a Fulbright to Malta. Baumer conducted research during the 1994-95 academic year at the University of Malta, where he studied the recidivism rate of released prisoners. His work was sponsored by Dr. Silvio Camilleri, deputy attorney general of the Republic of Malta (left) and Dr. Vincent DeGaetano, supreme court justice for the Republic of Malta, both of whom are members of the Faculty of Laws of the University of Malta. Baumer was one of only fifteen Fulbright alumni selected by the U.S. Information Agency to attend the annual Fulbright Foreign Student Seminar in Denver this semester. He received his M.S. degree from UM-St. Louis and is now a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at the State University of New York at Albany, where he was awarded the Presidential Fellowship, the most prestigious fellowship granted by the State University system.

UM-St. Louis currently has exchange/study abroad programs at 63 different locations in 22 different countries around the world. Students of almost any major can participate for a summer, semester or academic year. In most cases, students pay UM-St. Louis tuition and are eligible for financial aid and scholarships. Contact Study Abroad Coordinator Peggy Dotson at 314-516-6497 or visit the Study Abroad Library in room 349 Social Science and Business Building.
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS/EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

AFRICA FOR EDUCATORS

The Eighth Annual Geographic Education Conference will provide educators information, lessons and resource materials for teaching about Africa in elementary, middle and high school. Africa: Making Connections will be held Wednesday, April 24, 3:45-8:00 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center at UM-St. Louis. The $35 registration fee includes dinner.

UM-St. Louis anthropologist Dr. Sheila Clarke-Ekong will give the keynote address. Clarke-Ekong, who taught in Nigeria for ten years, spent the last semester teaching and conducting research in South Africa. Her ongoing research in Ghana focuses on the use of festivals to sustain cultural traditions.

Emphasizing Africa's multidisciplinary connections to the curriculum, the conference will present lectures and workshops on topics including contemporary cultures, human origins, economic development, population and environment, geography, and current events. Sessions will focus on Senegal, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Southern Africa.

At the pre-conference exhibits, participants can learn about community resource organizations and innovative teaching materials. Special tours will be offered of the UM-St. Louis Anthropology Department's Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity, a new interactive laboratory for students, grades 5-9, about cultural diversity and the African origins of humankind.

The conference is sponsored by the UM-St. Louis Continuing Education and Outreach, Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education and Center for International Studies; the Washington University Office of International Studies; and the Missouri Geographic Alliance.

For information call 314-516-6910.

NEW MULTICULTURAL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

In February, the Worldways Children's Museum, a new multicultural exploratorium for youths ages four to twelve, opened in West County Shopping Center. The non-profit museum's two major exhibits, Oaxaca Village and Gateway to China, allow children to learn about the everyday lives of children in Mexico and China through hands-on activities and role-playing.

The Oaxacan exhibit replicates an actual grocery store, house and marketplace. The Chinese exhibit includes a four-room home, pharmacy, Buddhist shrine, pavilion and puppet stage. Children can play dress-up, create puppet shows and learn arts and crafts. Museum guides explain how traditions, such as birthday celebrations, differ among cultures, and also discuss similarities in everyday life.

Worldways plans to highlight various festivals and holidays throughout the year, as well as bring storytellers and performers to the museum.

The museum is open 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is $3.75 for adults and children over two. Special group rates are available. For information, call 314-909-0408.
Established in 1968, the Center for International Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis supports teaching, research and community service in international studies. For more information, contact the Center, 366 Social Science and Business Building, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4499, telephone: 314-516-5753, e-mail: intstud@umsystem.edu.

The outreach program of the Center for International Studies maintains a library of books, audiovisual materials, exhibits, cultural artifact kits, and other classroom teaching aids which are available on loan to schools and other institutions. For more information, contact Kathy Cochrane, Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for International Affairs.

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Spring 1996 Programs

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April 10 Conflict Resolution in Korea
April 16 Mexico's Multiple Crises
April 24 Africa for Educators
May 3 State of the World Conference: Solving Global Conflicts