



Spring 2007

# Communiqué

<http://www.CCISstanfordU.org>

Community Committee for International Students at Stanford University



## Spouse fund grants \$8676

The CCIS Spouse Education Fund was created to assist International spouses who have interrupted their education or career development to accompany international students and scholars to Stanford. The Fund began in 1985 with its first grants made in 1987 to 2 spouses, which totaled \$542. Since then the Fund has awarded a total of \$85,602.00 to 265 women and men from more than 40 countries so that they may pursue their career and educational goals. We are grateful to the donors who have made these grants possible and we invite your new or continuing support.

This year the Committee awarded grants to 22 applicants from nine countries. However, in only one case were we able to fund the full amount requested. Grants ranged from \$300 to \$500 for a total of \$8,676. This included one \$500 grant from the Stanford Federal Credit Union and one \$500 grant from an anonymous donor.

The Spouse Fund Education Committee has made the following grants for 2006-07:

*Laura Puras Braceras* (Spain) for studies in teaching Spanish at the Center of International Education's Hemingway Institute. Laura is using these studies to guide her in teaching Beginning Spanish at the I-Center.

*Yuri Chang* (South Korea) for continuing art history

courses

*Yanhua Cheng* (China) for a Masters program in Statistics at California State University of the East Bay

*Kyoung Suk Jo* (South Korea) for continuing studies in Applied Statistics at San Jose State University

*Kyung A Kim* (South Korea) for continuing studies in cell renewal and cancer;

*Jie Liao* (China) for Masters program in Taxation at California State University of the East Bay

*Anna Swee Ling Lim* (Singapore) for pursuit of Level II courses for the Chartered Financial Analyst qualifications

*Xiaoman Miao* (China) to begin a Ph.D. program in Japanese Linguistics at Stanford University

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SOLICITATION

## Spouse Fund Annual Appeal

**\$7000 are needed each year to provide scholarships to the spouses of the international graduate students, post docs, and visiting scholars we serve. Members will receive a letter in the next week requesting a tax deductible donation.**

# The President's Column

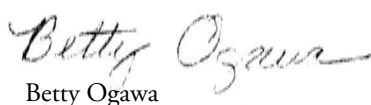
At our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the I Center we had a wonderful program. Four international Knight Fellows talked about "Journalism Around the World." They are distinguished journalists and we were very privileged to have them at Stanford this school year. Margarita Akhvediani from the Republic of Georgia, Kinley Dorji, from Bhutan, Christianne Gonzalez, from Brazil and Andrew Mwenda, from Uganda, talked about the media in their countries and the world. They are award-winning journalists holding important positions in their countries and have been invited to speak all over the Bay Area. We were lucky to have them spare some of their valuable time to be with us

CCIS is so fortunate to have so many volunteers.... the heart of our programs. This year at our Annual Meeting we would like to show our appreciation to the dedicated people who kindly donate their time and efforts to CCIS... YOU! Please plan to attend so that we can thank you in person.

International Week will be held at the I Center from May 12<sup>th</sup>. There are so many interesting events planned including several international BBQ's, films, seminars, music and dancing. Something for everyone. Don't miss out on this great international funfest!

On a personal note this spring has been a very busy one for the Ogawa household. We added a Canadian to our American and Japanese family, making us even more international. My younger son just married a young lady from Newfoundland, Canada. The wedding took place at a hotel in Half Moon Bay overlooking the Pacific Ocean. They planned an East-West marriage ceremony and reception. To honor his Japanese heritage, my son wore a formal Japanese kimono of black silk with the family crest displayed in white, topped by formal gray stiff trousers called hakama. He grew his hair long so that he could pull it back and up samurai style. With the help of his Japanese aunts who pulled, tucked, tied and straightened his garments into place, he managed to look surprisingly very dignified. The radiant bride wore a beautiful fairy tale western style white wedding gown with a lovely long train and veil. Japanese origami cranes and cherry blossoms were included in the decorations. Bagpipes played during the reception and after dinner the San Francisco Taiko Drum Troupe put on a rousing performance. Take home souvenirs for the guests included black lacquered sake cups and jam, hand-carried by the bride's family, from Newfoundland, wrapped in the official Newfoundland tartan of gold, white, brown and red on a green background. Family and guests came from all over... Canada, Japan, East Coast, West Coast and points in between. The happy couple was duly celebrated. After weeks of guests, touring, dining, translating and celebrating we are all finally getting back to our normal daily routines. It has been a glorious spring, busy but memorable.

As I write this I look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Reception as well as at the International Week events. Happy Spring!

  
Betty Ogawa

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Go to this web address:  
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## International Center Director's Report Spring at the I-Center

Spring quarter is always a busy time at the I-Center. We are planning a week long series of events for International Week and information will be mailed directly to you as CCIS members.

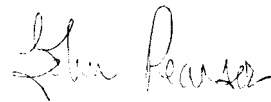
We are also beginning to prepare for next year's Orientation: documents are being produced for new international students and scholars and orientation materials are being updated. Stanford remains a very popular destination for international students and scholars. Already we are receiving the e-mails from new students with questions about arriving in September.

Remember the days when all correspondence was by post???

In a previous column I mentioned our goal of working more closely with international undergraduates. In April we coordinated an evening meeting between 8 international undergraduates and a faculty member, Professor David Abernethy. The purpose was to foster a dialog about how the students see their futures and how they have changed by being at Stanford. It was very successful and we hope to expand on this in the next academic year.

We were also provided with a generous donation by Bill Lane, former Ambassador to Australia, to help with programs for international undergraduates who remain on campus during winter break. We are excited about both of these programs.

With best wishes,



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## Sheila Spaeth

CCIS mourns the passing of Sheila Spaeth. She was a founding member of CCIS and our second president. Born in England in 1906, as a young woman she modeled for a London department store before moving into the theater. Introduced by her Scottish uncle and aunt to Carl Spaeth, she married the Rhodes Scholar in 1931.

After appointments at Northwestern and Yale and two years in Uruguay in World War II, the Spaeth family moved to Stanford in 1946. She was active in university activities and politics. Family photos show her with Eleanor Roosevelt, Adlai Stevenson, Jimmy Carter, Sandra Day O'Conner, Tom Campbell, Byron Sher and others.

She is survived by her son, Grant Spaeth of Los Altos; her daughter, Laurie Spaeth of Stanford; two grandchildren

and other family in England.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sheila Spaeth Memorial, CCIS.

— Thanks to the Palo Alto Daily Online for help with this article.



Photo: Steve Gladfelter

## Spouse Fund

From page 1

Annica Nederberg (Sweden) for continuing studies in Political Science at Foothill College.

Eunjung Park (South Korea) for studies towards an MBA at the Santa Clara University

Ling Ren (China) for continuing the Masters in Finance program at Santa Clara University

Silvia Castro Segura (Peru) for classes to research new theories to adapt to the Peruvian education system

Shilpa Sharma (India) for pursuit of a Master's program in Nutritional Science at San Jose State University

Jung Mi Sohn (Korea) for studies towards receiving a Chartered Financial Analyst certificate

Sarvin Tabatabaei (Iran) for studies leading to a Master's in Transportation Engineering at San Jose State University

Maria Vaccaro (Italy) for course work in Stanford Continuing Studies for Hands-on-Graphics Products for the Web

Xirui Wang (China) towards at Master's program in Chemistry at California State University of the East Bay

Pinghua Wu (China) for Accounting courses at San Jose State University

Shangxuan Zhang (China) for studies towards a Sun Unix Certificate Level I and II at San Jose State University

Ting Zhang (China) for a Master's program in the School of Education at Stanford University

Yuye Zhang (China) to study for a Master's in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University

Caifeng Zhu (China) for coursework at Foothill College for studies to become a Registered Nurse

Here's what some of these folks say,

*This class will help me greatly in my*

*future career choices.*

*This course is just perfect. I'm having so much fun. Thank you so much!*

*Thank you for giving me this chance to continue my education. This fund is very important and meaningful to us spouses. As far as I know, this is the only fund that we spouses can access to. Therefore, this Spouse Education Fund makes me feel that we spouses are also part of this community.*

*I know many people around me are helping me and you community committee as well. I would remember this and make good use of my grant.*

*My goal is to be a prominent educator in China. (These classes) will definitely be invaluable to my whole life and to my future career as well.*

*I would like to say you that I am very grateful for your support and I tried to do this course as better as possible.*

*I would like to thank all of you again for your kind support.*

*I learnt some important approaches that I will include in the guide that I am developing for teachers. I will adapt these approaches to the reality of Peruvian educational system.*

*I very appreciate this grant to help me reach my dream much closer.*

*I really appreciate the Spouse Education Fund very much!*

~Charlene Ward

## Annual Meeting elects officers, hears Knight Fellows

On April 15, CCIS unanimously elected the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee chaired by Joyce Garbutt. For 2007–08 they will be

President: Betty Ogawa

Vice president: Dave Gustavson

Secretary: Martha Enthoven

Treasurer: Carolyn Gannon

Four international journalists, Knight

Fellows at Stanford for a year, spoke about journalism in their respective countries.

Margarita Akhvlediani, from the Republic of Georgia in the Caucasus Mountains, impressively speaks several languages including Georgian, Russian, and English. She began her career as a newspaper reporter when Georgia was part of the Soviet Union in 1985. Since then she has been an editor-in-chief, a radio and TV broadcast reporter, and currently manages 150 journalists from the Caucasus regions. Journalism is very dangerous in her country. Two of her colleagues

## The I-Center's Mystery Room

Many of us know that the I-Center was built as a fraternity in 1917. Maybe some one can explain the strange room on the third floor. Third floor? Yes. Check the drawing on the masthead. Here's a photo. It has no stairway — just a ladder attached to the wall of the second floor that reaches up to a window. Yet, the facade looks very inviting like some kind of Italian villa. What's the story?

and personal friends have been killed and one is jail.

Kinley Dorji from Bhutan is a very gentle man who speaks English with a wonderful British accent. He earned a bachelor's degree in Australia and a master's degree from Columbia University. He suggested an interesting measure of success, a Gross National Happiness index to replace the more material oriented Gross National Product. The four pillars of GNH are the promotion of equitable and sustainable socio-economic development, preservation and promotion of cultural values, conservation of the



natural environment, and establishment of good governance. Bhutan, Mr. Dorji explained, is a rural, Buddhist country high in the Himalayas and has had an absolute monarchy. In 2008, the king has called for the country's first parliamentary elections. The journalist's job is to prepare the people for the transition.

Christianne González was born in Salvador, Brazil and earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and a law degree from Catholic University of Salvador. Naturally vivacious, she has a passion for the internet and believes that it will benefit literacy and democracy.



Andrew Mwenda, another English speaker with a marvelous Afro-British accent, was born and educated Uganda. He also studied at the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies.

He noted the conflict in images between what we see via the media of the brutality in parts of Africa and the daily lives of people who are concerned just as we are about their children, their parents, and their own future. Uganda, which has had its own problems, is surrounded by countries that currently are suffering from genocide. Yet, in listening to Mr.

Mwenda we realize that the pictures we see on TV don't reflect the life of ordinary people who try to maintain a normal existence of human caring and happiness.

We were fortunate to be able to share this time with these outstanding journalists. Stanford is such a rich resource for CCIS volunteers.

## English in Action honored

The Office of Public Affairs of Stanford University selected English in Action to receive a Community Partnership Award. On April 15, Marianne Dieckman and Mary Lyn Moseley, co-chairs of EIA, accepted the award at a luncheon at the Garden Court Hotel in Palo Alto. Mickey Winkler, an EIA partner herself, made the presentation of both the Stanford award and certificates from the California State Assembly, Senate, and the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors. Marianne and Mary Lyn were accompanied by eight other CCIS leaders at the luncheon.

It is a honor to be recognized for the work that each EIA partner does every week. The certificates will be framed and you can see them in the CCIS office at the I-Center.

## Potluck/Music Night a Big Success

About seventy-five internationals and Americans came together for the last Potluck/Music Night of the year on Sunday, May 13.

The musicianship was outstanding. It began with Huawei Chen, from Shanghai, China, who played an intricate piece on the Pipa, a triangular-shaped, stringed instrument plucked like a guitar.

Saaku Saar, from Senegal in West Africa, who is an elementary teacher in San Jose, played his drum which is an amazing instrument. Its pitch can be adjusted by the amount of pres-

sure put on the strings that tighten the drum head. Saaku explained the different rhythms that are commonly heard in villages in Senegal. One, for example, is a simple rhythm that is played when a child is lost, or separated from his or her parents. When villagers hear this particular beat they look around for unaccompanied children, and when one is found he or she is taken to the drummer. Sounds like a good idea.

The last performers were an outstanding cellist, Lana Gruen from Germany, and her pianist, Emiliya Serebrennikova from Russia. They played several by Piazzola tangos. To those familiar with Yo Yo Ma's recordings, it was wonderful music.

Our thanks to Dee Gustavson and Joy Rewick for the great job they have done this year.

## EIA Corner

Finally we have another list of slang and strange usage collected by Sheng Chen, an EIA partner from Beijing.

"I was struck by..."

Are you hit or impressed?

"It takes an ape to ape."

Two uses of the same word.

"A tad on the big side."

A euphemism that can begin a conversation about tactful phrases. Don't forget to ask for translations in the language of your partner.

Parts of the body can be fun:

Headed toward the bar.

Pain in the neck.

Got the cold shoulder.

Shot in the arm.

Gave me the elbow.

Back of his hand.

Kick in the pants.

Put his foot down.

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