A Welcome Message from the Dean of OIEGI

On behalf of the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives staff and the students we serve, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your support, encouragement, and positive collaboration.

Indeed, it is this spirit of openness, collaboration, and partnership that is helping to make Bellevue College a positive learning environment for our students.

Each international student has a unique perspective and experience and brings to BC a rich historical and cultural background. These students help to add to our diversity and contribute to the broader concept of education. They also often provide us with an opportunity to travel around the world without ever leaving the campus.

International students also contribute to the college environment through volunteer opportunities and through working as tutors, mentors, student ambassadors, and leaders.

Interacting or meeting with new people from different cultures can be both exciting and challenging. We strive each year to provide the necessary training to our staff in the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives to equip them with skills necessary to help the growing number of international students from various countries and backgrounds.

The ongoing cooperation, collaboration, and exchange of information and expertise with the Center for Career Connections, Student Programs, Academic Advising, Faculty, Student Success, Enrollment and Registrar Services, Finance, Office of Instruction, and Administrative Services are essential. Through partnering with these departments, we are collectively better able to understand and address the needs of our international students. In cooperation with the OIEGI, these departments contribute greatly to creating a supportive and welcoming environment.

We would like to invite all BC Community to join us in this spirit of cooperation and collaboration, because we believe that serving the holistic needs of the student requires the input and expertise of the entire college community.

If you have any questions or you need advice about specific cultural perspectives on any particular issue or challenge you may be facing with international students, please do not hesitate to call our office.

We look forward to working with all of you to support our students and to help provide them with new opportunities of learning at BC.

Warm Regards,

Jean D’Arc Campbell
Dean of International Education and Global Initiatives
A Report from the Director

The Office of International Education (OIE) was quite busy in Winter 2015 to say the least. To name a few items, the OIE admissions and marketing teams worked collaboratively to reevaluate the international admission requirements and procedures with the aim to shorten the review time. They redesigned the application form, updated website contents, implemented application deadlines, and streamlined review procedures. As a result, OIE admission team processed 28.2% more applications and accepted 17.8% more students compared to Winter 2014. Seventy-five percent of the accepted students enrolled in Winter 2015. Turning accepted students into enrolled students is a key factor to increasing enrollment. By maintaining communication with the accepted student, we hope more of them become enrolled students. (Continued on page 3.)

Admissions Highlights for Spring 2015

From Perri Schodorf, Assistant Director of International Admissions and Outreach

- Increase in NEW international students (see chart at right)
- Simplified and shortened the international application to two pages
- Simplified and re-organized the international application website, so that it is clear and easy for low-level English speakers to understand
- Working with the tech team on an online application for international students
- Reduced processing time from three weeks to 48 hours (after an application is complete)
- Working with the Assistant Director of Student Success to revamp and reorganize the new international student orientation to be more student-service-centered, some of the changes were already implemented in the spring quarter orientation
- Helped increase the number of students who participated in new international student orientation for spring quarter through increased and better pre-arrival communication
- Working on a local recruitment plan. Will begin visiting:
  - Local companies (like Microsoft, Amazon, Boeing, etc.)
  - Local English language schools (like ELS language centers, Kaplan, ALPS Language School, etc.)
  - Local high schools (like JFK Memorial, Bellevue Christian, Bellevue High School, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spring 2014</th>
<th>Spring 2015</th>
<th>Increase %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admitted</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Redesigning the international admission packet and admission materials
- Implemented application deadlines so students have the necessary time to apply for a U.S. visa and are better prepared when they arrive at orientation
- We also hired two new student workers: Grace Bosango (below left) and Iuliia Denysova (below right).
International Student Success/Advising Team

The OIE advising team was fully staffed for the first time after nearly a year of being understaffed. They embarked on the advisor assignment system (about 275 caseload/advisor), daily walk-in advising, and the new student welcome session. This welcome session included a personal invitation to all new students assigned to them, for a 15-minute face-to-face welcome. The main goal of the session is to help new students feel more comfortable with their advisor and familiarize them with OIE services. While this is not a business-transaction oriented meeting, advisors went through a checklist which included identifying the students’ academic intent, their universities of interest, their credit load, how well they are adapting to a new environment, introducing campus resources, and reminding them to communicate via BC student e-mail. Approximately 60% of new students took advantage of this welcome session in Winter.

Assistant Director of International Student Success co-presented with the Center of Career Connection on a popular yet mystifying topic of “Curricular Practical Training”, one of the legal employment opportunities for F-1 visa holders. The roomful of F-1 students paid their full attention to the presentation, taking notes, and asking questions. OIE acknowledges that one of the biggest worries among international students is securing a good wage employment upon graduation. OIE will continue providing workshops and information pertinent to legal employment opportunities for international students.

Presenting at the Faculty Development Day

Huge thanks to Dr. Deepti Karkhanis, BC Psychology instructor, for her warm invitation, OIE had a valuable opportunity to deliver an informative and interactive presentation at the Faculty Professional Development Day in March. Topics included the OIE priority initiatives, introduction of the OIE and English Language Institution (ELI) programs, facts about international students, common concerns facing F-1 visa holders and tips to help them. Listening to the rewards and challenges the faculty experience on a daily basis with the international students, and exchanging ideas to better serve the population, was truly a remarkable experience for OIE staff. BC’s English language proficiency requirement (e.g., TOEFL) is already higher than most other two-year colleges; however, many instructors expressed the need for more assistance with writing skills for international students. OIE will explore ways to provide the service.
Hosting Students from BC’s Partner Schools

**NAGOYA COLLEGE**

OIE hosted a group of 11 students and a professor from Nagoya College for a four-week English language and cultural immersion program in mid-February. Nagoya College is a private two-year women’s college located in Nagoya, the third largest city in Japan. This is the fifth consecutive year they sent us the group. Students stay with local host families to practice their English skills firsthand, acquired the taste of local foods, and learned to navigate the public transportation system. Program included about 15 hours of weekly ESL instruction, a series of themed workshop and guest speakers from Associated Student Government, Disability Recourse Center, OIE Ambassadors, educational visits to the Early Learning Center and Japanese classes at a local public high school as well as sightseeing. Short-term customized programs are often a stepping stone for students to consider a long-term study abroad option. Currently two students from Nagoya College are studying in the intensive ESL and associate level programs as a result.

**BUSINESS ACADEMY SOUTHWEST (BASW)**

Welcome Business Academy South-west (BASW) students from Esbjerg, Denmark! BASW has been promoting BC specifically to their technology-track students since 2010. Six students joined us in Spring 2015 for one quarter of study, taking Digital Media Arts, Database Administration, Programming, Philosophy, and Physical Education courses. According to the students, climate in Esbjerg is similar to Seattle, and they find living Seattle/Bellevue just like home. Upon graduation, they hope to find job as a software developer or anything in the IT field.

**ASO COLLEGE**

Aso College is another long-standing partner school of BC located in Fukuoka, Japan. They send us students for 9-months (3 quarters) of intensive English language/University Preparation training. Risa Sato and Hitomi In join us this year, and they are studying hospitality and airline programs in Japan. Both of them hope to land careers in the airline and hotel industries to work as customer service specialists. Aso College is taking advantage of the recent study abroad scholarship funding opportunities through Japanese government to subsidize the expenses for these students. If approved, students will receive approximately $800 every month to offset the cost. Aso College also holds an impressive job placement rate of 99.5%!
The International Business Professions (IBP) Program

The IBP Program enjoyed a fantastic February graduation ceremony and farewell for 58 IBP50 students in front of 130 guests that included BC faculty, staff, and homestay families. There was dancing, fine dining, and wonderful performances by our own students. Who knew IBP50 students can sing and dance and show Vegas style presentations!

**Good luck IBP50!**

The IBP Program is getting bigger! **BC accepted the largest group ever (IBP Group #52) this Spring 2015.** IBP52 has 68 students coming from Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, China, and the Czech Republic, where students will learn English and Business skills and experience an internship. Orientation was fun and informative, despite some jet lag, but these students really are bursting with smiles and energy. OIE and BC can’t wait to meet and learn more about these wonderful and dynamic students during the next year. **Welcome IBP52 students!**

---

**For SPRING 2015:**

- **409** new students were accepted
- **1,177** students enrolled who represent **75** countries & **6** continents

### NUMBERS OF ENROLLING STUDENTS COMPARED TO SPRING 2014:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10th Day of Quarter</th>
<th>SPRING 2015</th>
<th>SPRING 2014</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Progs</td>
<td>804</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>12.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Preparation/ESL</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Int’l Business Professions</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,177</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,043</strong></td>
<td><strong>134</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.85%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Congratulations to Scholarship Recipient Josephine Djaja

Every quarter the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives awards scholarships to students for academic excellence. Students typically must achieve 4.0 GPA in order to qualify. In this issue of the GloBelleView newsletter, we are featuring an interview with one of the award winners: Josephine Djaja. Josephine is from Jakarta, Indonesia. She has been with us since Fall 2013 Quarter and has been awarded the scholarship every quarter since, except for one. Here is what she has to say when we asked about her secret to success.

Tell us about yourself. I grew up in Jakarta, Indonesia, and came to Bellevue College to study in Fall of 2013. I am currently working towards an associate’s degree in Accounting. My plan is to transfer to University of Washington in Fall 2015 after I graduate from BC. Outside of class, I enjoy volunteering at the various clubs and events at BC, such as International Night, International Student Orientation, Bellevue College Winter Open House, Club Fair and Caucuses. In my spare time, I keep myself busy acting as the Secretary for the Indonesian Fellowship Club and the Social Media and Marketing Officer of the Business Leadership Community. I am also an active member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. I have learned many valuable skills such as leadership, management, teamwork, communication and networking through participating in these extracurricular activities.

Have you always been an excellent student? I would say overall I have always tried my best to be an excellent student. I have this drive to succeed and give my best in everything that I have to do. Of course there were moments when I felt tired and wanted to give up, but somehow I always managed to persist and keep giving my best.

What are some of the biggest challenges you’ve had studying abroad and how did you overcome them? Being an international student is one of the most challenging things that I have encountered in my life so far. Being thousands of miles away from my parents, suddenly I was on my own and forced to grow up and deal with adult responsibilities. It is especially challenging since English is not my first language. I needed to juggle between fitting into my new environment and dealing with language barrier. However, worst of all was being physically away from my friends and family in my home country. I found that connecting with other people was essential in helping me get through my tough first few weeks. I know that almost all international students experience the same thing in their first few weeks or even months coming here. But overcoming these challenges and succeeding in one’s studies as an international student is not impossible as long as we have faith in ourselves and are willing to put the extra effort in achieving our goals.

What is your secret to success that you would like to share with other students? Having a solid goal and keep working towards it really helps motivate me to strive for excellence. Be organized and manage your time well. Keep track of timelines for course assignments and campus activities so things don’t get out of control. Don’t forget to reward yourself a little after long hours of studying. Also, be honest with yourself if you are having a hard time and need help. Don’t hesitate to seek help from your instructors. You will be surprised what useful information you will get if you are willing to ask. Try best and enjoy the process as much as possible.

APAHE Conference

Two International students, Shota Mizogushi (from Japan, on the left in the picture) and Joao Tapel (from East Timor, on the right in the picture), were selected to attend the Asian Pacific American concerns and issues in higher education (APAHE) in San Francisco on April 8-11. This is the third year that BC students have attended the APAHE conference. CONGRATULATIONS Shota, Joao and all other students who attended APAHE!!!
J-1 Exchange Visitor Program Coming to Bellevue College

The J-1 Exchange Visitor program is authorized and monitored by the US Department of State (US DOS) allowing US schools to host foreign nationals in the US, to teach, study, conduct research, demonstrate special skills, or receive on the job training for periods ranging from a few weeks to several years.

OIEGI has filed a petition with the US DOS to become a sponsor of the J-1 Exchange Visitor program in these categories: Professor, Research Scholar, Short-term Scholar, Specialist, and Student. We are expecting to receive approval this June or July.

Once Bellevue College is approved, any department or division can host their own Scholar or Specialist starting Fall quarter 2015.

Would you like to learn more about the J-1 Exchange Visitor program for your department?

Please contact Diem O’Rourke or Jean D’Arc Campbell in the OIEGI.

Diem O’Rourke
(425) 564-3052 or Diem.ORourke@bellevuecollege.edu

Jean D’Arc Campbell
(425) 564-3160 or JeanDarc.Campbell@bellevuecollege.edu

Study Abroad

Want to earn a 5-college credit class and travel to China for a week?

The Study Abroad department offers Health 295: Global Health, China/US course in the Fall of 2015. This course will include a pre-quarter trip to China from August 21st thru September 3rd for a five-day excursion in Beijing – the Great Wall, Emperor’s Summer Palace, Heavenly Temple and Tibetan Temple for cultural immersion. You will also hike around the world renown Stone Forest for natural wonder and meet with local Chinese professionals with on-site visits to local hospitals, traditional Chinese medicine stores, and fitness classes.

For course-related questions, email Faculty Lead: Ray Butler at ray.butler@bellevuecollege.edu. To start a Study Abroad application, email Study Abroad Coordinator: Li Liu at li.liu@bellevuecollege.edu.

OIEGI Staff’s Mission to Turkey

In April 2015, Brad Huggins, Assistant Director of International Student Success, travelled to Istanbul, Turkey to attend the MEZUN Education Fair and to share Bellevue College program offerings with potential students and partners in Turkey. Seen here are Brad Huggins after meeting with Perim Akguner of the U.S. Commercial Service in Taksim Square, Istanbul.
Another successful International Night was celebrated at Bellevue College on May 2, 2015.

Bellevue College hosted a Study Tour for the Afghanistan University Support and Workforce Development Program (USWDP) on May 4, 2015 (pictured left).

In late March 2015, Jean D’Arc, Dean of OIEGI, had a recruitment trip to Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. At the Democratic Republic of Congo, Jean D’Arc met with Mr. Maker Mwangu, Minister of Education and New Citizenship, and students at Lycée Bosangisi school (pictured above).

Interested In Becoming a Host Family?

The OIEGI works with three companies to provide housing services for our international students. If you are interested in becoming a host family, contact these companies.

- **Intercultural Homestays & Services, Inc.**
  Contact: Ms. Eileen Beaupre
  Tel: 206-367-5332
  Fax: 206-367-5320
  ihincusa@aol.com
  www.ihincusa.com

- **USA International, Inc.**
  Contact: Ms. Emi Khosraw
  Tel: 425-483-5974
  Fax: 425-485-1891
  info@ushomestay.com
  www.ushomestay.com

- **American Homestay Network**
  Contact: Ms. Michelle Harden
  Tel: 425-285-4466
  Fax: 925-396-7063
  info@homestaynetwork.com
  www.homestaynetwork.com

---

**The Office of International Education & Global Initiatives**

www.bellevuecollege.edu/oiegi
oie@bellevuecollege.edu
(425) 564-3185 phone
(425) 641-0246 fax

Find us on: