

# global dimensions

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY'S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- Exchanges
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## Georgia State University's International Engagement Highlighted During International Education Week Celebrations

By Leigh Essex Walker and Heather Housley

Georgia State University joined hands with the U.S. Government and educational institutions in the United States and around the world to celebrate International Education Week November 18–22, 2002. Throughout the week, students, faculty, staff and guests participated in several events that recognized exemplary international achievement, discussed the critical issues impacting international education and celebrated the presence and importance of Georgia State's international student population.

In its third successful year, the Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures Photo Competition and Recognition Ceremony provided an exciting opening for the weeklong celebration. Following a dramatic dance performance by *Pasión Flamenca*, President Carl Patton kicked off the program with inspirational words of support for international educational exchange. "From Atlanta to Africa to Asia, providing educational opportunities to help people reach their fullest potential is the most important work that can be done," Patton said. "Cultural and ethnic intolerance are factors in many conflicts we see today throughout the world. By internationalizing education, we help build understanding and respect for others."

Other speakers included Associate Vice President and Dean of Students Rebecca Stout, Professor Ray Miller, Rosalyn Mayfield, study abroad student to Mexico and Cuba, and Weimin Lin, international student from China. After recognizing Board of Regents Study Abroad Scholarship recipients, the program concluded with the announcement of the photo competition winners, including both study abroad and international students. A reception and presentation of the new photo exhibit immediately followed the ceremony.

At the International Issues Forum, William Stacy

Rhodes, Vice President for Global Development at the Institute for International Education, spoke about current issues impacting international education, including the effects of the September 11, 2001 terrorists attacks on study abroad and the new international student monitoring and reporting requirements imposed by the INS.

Dr. Robert Oxnam, Robinson College of Business Distinguished Global Scholar, Dr. Douglas Podoll, Director of International Programs, and Dr. Dona Stewart, College of Arts and Sciences Director of the Middle East Center for Peace, Culture and Development, also participated in the forum.

Tom Lewis, Georgia State's Vice President for External Affairs, recognized members of the university community for their significant contributions to international education at the first annual International Excellence Awards ceremony. Twenty-eight faculty members and seven students were honored for their work, including international scholarly publications, developing and leading study abroad and exchange programs, and promoting intercultural understanding within the Georgia State student body. Ambassador Andrew Young, a faculty member of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and guest speaker for the event, stressed the important role educational institutions must play in preparing our students to become global leaders and the future architects of world peace. For more about the awards and recipients, please see our website at [www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/](http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/).

Finally, the International Student Association Council (ISAC) added a special touch to International Education Week celebrations with their first-ever International Day on campus. The 22 international student groups joined forces in the morning to present a Carnival and Cultural Display in

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SPRING 2003

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PROVOST

As this issue of **Global Dimensions** goes to press, the community of nations is struggling to identify a pathway to global peace and security. Whether we choose military force or diplomacy to address the world's most serious short-term challenges and threats, over the long term, expanding global knowledge and building cross-cultural sensitivity and understanding through international education will be key ingredients in achieving sustainable peace.

It is within this context, and in an environment of impending international conflict and instability, that the Office of International Affairs dedicates this issue of **Global Dimensions** to the 1,500 international students and scholars from 135 countries who study and enrich the educational experience at Georgia State University. In this edition, we share some of their most notable activities over the past year. Many American and international students from around the world participated in the third annual Photo Competition and Awards Ceremony. As a part of Georgia State's first celebration of International Education Week, the international student community staged the university's first international day and President Patton and his delegation met with recent Georgia State graduates in Pretoria, South Africa.

The care and attention given by International Programs to installing and implementing the new government mandated Student Exchange and Visitor Information System (SEVIS) is indicative of the importance Georgia State attributes to its international students and scholars. Designed to monitor and track their status at U.S. institutions, SEVIS places onerous requirements on both our visitors and the colleges and universities they attend. More insights into the SEVIS requirements along with attendant challenges are reflected in the article entitled "International Education Goals Challenged by Security Measures." It is particularly gratifying to acknowledge the indispensable leadership and hard work of the International Programs staff in getting Georgia State's system in place. It is our commitment to fully comply with SEVIS' reporting requirements while at the same time providing a responsive, user-friendly service to



our international students and scholars. I am proud to highlight the inauguration of Georgia State's International Excellence Awards last year. Featured as a part of International Education Week, the International Excellence Awards Ceremony will be held annually to recognize faculty, staff and students who have contributed substantially to international education at Georgia State. The process of selecting the first recipients of these awards revealed many impressive accomplishments. The awards provide important recognition of their efforts and hopefully will encourage others to take advantage of the many opportunities at the university to become more globally engaged.

Finally, as we pursue our internationalization agenda, safety of all members of the Georgia State University family is of paramount concern. Led by our Study Abroad Crisis Prevention Committee, we constantly review and assess the international environment in order to offer the best possible guidance. Our crisis policy and international travel guidance can be viewed on the Office of International Affairs website at <http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/>. Also, please feel free to contact our office directly if you have questions or concerns.

On behalf of the Office of International Affairs, I would like to thank you for your continued support and assistance in strengthening international education at Georgia State University. Through our combined and committed efforts, we can succeed in preparing our students for the formidable global leadership challenges awaiting them.

**John F. Hicks**  
Assistant Provost and Director of International Affairs  
Georgia State University

## International Education Week *continued from cover*



**Andrew Young and Tom Lewis at the International Excellence Awards Ceremony.**

Atlanta's Hurt Park. Students, faculty, and staff were invited to have their hands tattooed with henna, dress up in traditional Chinese clothing, taste

international snacks, and join in many other fun activities. That evening a large, lively crowd gathered in the Student Center ballroom to enjoy ISAC's International Talent Showcase, complete with a Caribbean steel band, African drummers, Chinese ribbon dancers, and Indian folk dancing.

Other events included a forum hosted by Georgia State's Center for International Media Education featuring CNN journalists from around the world, and a seminar sponsored by the International Business Institute of the Robinson College of Business entitled



**William Stacy Rhodes, keynote speaker at the International Issues Forum.**

"Asian Business Forecast: Giants, Tigers and Turtles."

Mark your calendars now and plan to participate in this year's celebration of International Education Week scheduled for November 17-21, 2003.

# International Education Goals Challenged by Security Measures

By Heather Housley

Georgia State University views international exchange as an important part of our institutional mission, and a priceless resource in promoting goodwill among all peoples. In the current environment, Georgia State's 1,500 international students and scholars face new challenges as the United States wages its war on terrorism. Recent changes in immigration rules and regulations in response to the events of September 11, 2001, have caused our international guests to undergo new government tracking systems, security checks, and monitoring. The changes include more difficulty and delay in obtaining visas, men from certain countries being fingerprinted, photographed and interviewed, and the introduction of a new computer tracking system which reports daily to INS any student or scholar's change of address, major, class schedule, and many other data items. As the national security climate continues to challenge the objectives of international education, Georgia State's Office of International Affairs (OIA) has redoubled its efforts to educate, support, and advocate for our foreign students and scholars.

OIA's International Programs staff has been diligently communicating with the campus community about the many changes in immigration rules and regulations. Town Hall Meetings are being held every month for students, faculty, and staff to explain the latest updates and answer questions. Monthly newsletters are sent via email to all our inter-

national students concerning the changes and what action they must take. The staff is available to speak to any and all campus offices or groups that wish to know more about these changes and how we must all work together in their support. The International Programs website ([www.gsu.edu/ip](http://www.gsu.edu/ip)) is also constantly updated with new information, including workshop schedules related to immigration issues. An additional staff member will be added to the office team to help with the INS reporting process, and a new software system has been purchased to assist with the required daily communications between Georgia State and INS.

Hundreds of business and political leaders around the globe were educated in America's colleges and universities, including UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, and presidents of countless countries from Argentina to Zimbabwe. Who knows which future world leader is currently studying among the halls of Georgia State? As NAFSA: Association of International Educators has written, "when the next generation's crises occur, and the United States seeks the assistance of its friends and allies, we will look to the world leaders of that time who are being educated in our country today."

Program director Ben Hung (center back) and international student orientation leaders gather at the 2002 Fall International Student Orientation Barbeque Party.

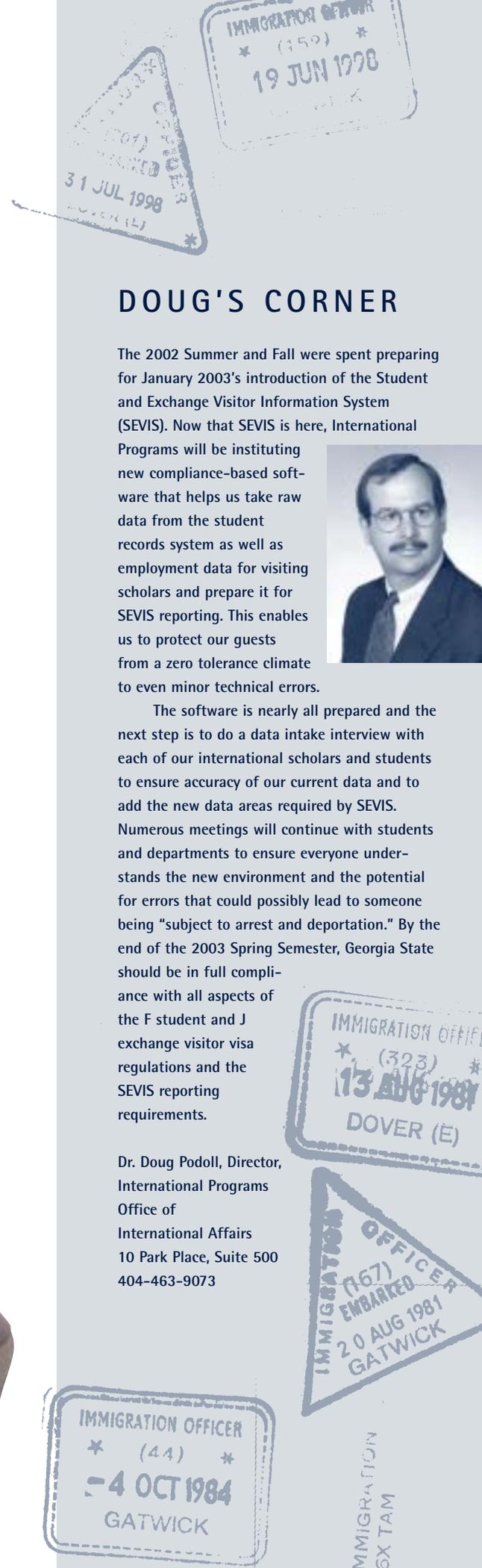


## DOUG'S CORNER

The 2002 Summer and Fall were spent preparing for January 2003's introduction of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). Now that SEVIS is here, International Programs will be instituting new compliance-based software that helps us take raw data from the student records system as well as employment data for visiting scholars and prepare it for SEVIS reporting. This enables us to protect our guests from a zero tolerance climate to even minor technical errors.

The software is nearly all prepared and the next step is to do a data intake interview with each of our international scholars and students to ensure accuracy of our current data and to add the new data areas required by SEVIS. Numerous meetings will continue with students and departments to ensure everyone understands the new environment and the potential for errors that could possibly lead to someone being "subject to arrest and deportation." By the end of the 2003 Spring Semester, Georgia State should be in full compliance with all aspects of the F student and J exchange visitor visa regulations and the SEVIS reporting requirements.

Dr. Doug Podoll, Director,  
International Programs  
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# President Patton Visits South African Partners

By John F. Hicks

On a trip that led his senior delegation from the cosmopolitan first world cities of Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town to the poor rural capital city of Tohoyondou in South Africa's Northern Province, Georgia State University President Carl Patton took a firsthand look at his university's extensive involvement in that country.

Patton was accompanied by Thomas Lewis, Vice President for External Affairs, Sidney Harris, Dean of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, Fenwick Huss, Associate Dean of the Robinson College and John Hicks, Assistant Provost for International Affairs. The delegation focused on the collaborative activities being jointly implemented by Georgia State University and two South African institutions—the University of Pretoria, and the University of Venda for Science and Technology. With U.S. government funding totaling nearly \$6 million, these partnerships are enhancing the business skills of South Africans and building institutional and human capacity within the University of Venda's business school.

The centerpiece of the partnership with the University of Pretoria and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is the Ronald H. Brown Institute for Sub-Saharan Africa (RBI). The program was established to help strengthen African business skills through internships, workshops, seminars and exchanges across the continent of Africa. Presently active in South Africa, Mozambique and Zambia, the RBI soon will be expanding its programs to the West African nations of Ghana and Niger. The delegation visited the field office in Pretoria and held meetings with Georgia State resident Director Dr. Georgia Bowser and her staff. Dean Harris, in commenting on the opportunity to witness directly the work of his college in South Africa, felt that what he had observed reinforced his view of "what a powerful force education can be in improving the quality of life throughout the world."

The delegation's five-hour road trip to the University of Venda afforded them the opportunity to witness the size and stark diversity of the country. It prompted Dr. Patton to remark that he was struck by the incredible beauty of the country and the significant impact Georgia State's involvement could have in supporting the country's national development plans. Georgia State's efforts at Venda are concentrated on developing and strengthening curricula in business information systems, entrepreneurship and tourism and hospitality management.

Dr. Patton's reception for the Nelson Mandela Scholars, who had recently returned to South Africa after receiving masters' degrees in economics and public policy from Georgia State's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, was a special highlight of the visit. Each of these individuals is employed in key managerial and policy level positions in the South African government's economic departments. VP Thomas Lewis, on his first visit to the African continent, said he was "encouraged by the country's many resources, especially its tremendous human capital, and its prospects for economic development and stability."

Georgia State's collaborative relationships in South Africa are expanding with dynamic exchanges being developed with South African institutions in psychology and education.

Georgia State University President Carl Patton (far left), Assistant Provost John Hicks (top right), and Dean Sidney Harris (far right), join Nelson Mandela Scholars (front, left to right) Percy Moleke and Gabriel Dsenyana, and (rear, left to right) Lesley Fisher, Veronica Mafoko, Malele Mogoane, and Vuyelwa Vumendlini



# International Cooperative Education/Internship Program



Dr. Hazel Scott, Georgia State's V.P. of Student Services, and Dr. Hans-Joachim Wenner, Head of Department (Berufsakademie) Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts in Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany sign as witnesses to renewed exchange agreement.

By Michael Daniels

Are you a sophomore or upper-level student in good academic standing with foreign language skills? If so, the Office of Cooperative Education's International Cooperative Education/Internship Program coordinated by Michael Daniels may be right or you.

The cornerstone of this program is Georgia State's agreement with the Berufsakademien (University of Cooperative Education) located in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany. Students can work eight to twelve weeks in a German company. Participants receive pay while learning job skills and improving their foreign language skills. Companies such as Mercedes-Benz, Bosch and more than 25 others have provided work opportunities. Agreements with countries like Argentina, England and others are expected in the very near future. Reciprocal agreements with universities in these countries would allow placement of their students in internships with companies in the Atlanta area.

Are you up to the challenge? Stop by the Office of Cooperative Education, 400 One Park Place and speak with Michael Daniels to find out more about the program.



# CROSSING PATHS, CROSSING CULTURES

The [Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures Photo Exhibit](#) is currently on display at the Institute of International Business, 8th floor of the Robinson College of Business and will be moving to the College of Arts & Sciences, Department of Modern & Classical Languages in April. The exhibit can also be viewed on line at the Office of International Affairs website: [www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/](http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/)

## Traveling Spirits

By *Chalmers Niemeyer*  
MBA graduate in Marketing  
Class of 2002

Having recently finished an eight-year career at GSU, which encompassed three programs and two degrees, I can tell you that studying abroad in China was by far my most rewarding educational experience. I have never learned so much and had so much fun at the same time. What many students do not realize is that nothing can replace the educational experience gained from studying abroad, the experience of living and experiencing it first hand. Enjoying the culture and mingling with the natives of whatever country you may be visiting is an absolute must. China Program Directors, Dr. Marta Szabo-White and Dr. Tad Ransopher both realize the importance of this experience and go to great lengths to make your study abroad experience complete. The programs are designed to allow the student to fully understand the culture in which they have been immersed, not only from a business point of view, but also from a day-to-day life perspective. I would go so far as to say that in order to understand a culture you must think in that culture's terms, much in the same way that you think in whatever language you may be speaking. Dr. White and Dr. Ransopher really help you learn to think in a Chinese manner, allowing you to communicate effectively and to get the most out of China. Beijing, Xian, Shanghai and Hong Kong all have so much to offer and are growing rapidly as major players in the global economy. It would be a shame for any business student to pass up the China study abroad opportunity. I feel that in order to become an enlightened person, one must look at the world from all angles and understand and respect the dynamics of all cultures. Studying abroad is an imperative part of a complete education and, in my opinion, the best educational experience GSU has to offer.



### Best of Show Yi Dian Hong (A Little Red)

Nicolas Alarcon, University System of Georgia Program to Yangzhou, China

"Yi dian hong" translated means "a little red." That is the name of a Chinese fish with a white body and red forehead. What does that have to do with this photo? Well, the children in the picture are my primary school students in China, and as you can see from the sea of uniforms and flowers they are a little red. China is associated with the color red, as is communism, which I find really interesting because even though China is officially socialist these days, they are still a little red viz., the red uniforms of my students. But before you go making old Cold War associations, check out all the peace signs!



### The Sufi Dance

Wafa Istambouli, American University  
in Cairo, Egypt



### Kids Can Fly

Alice di Certo, International  
student from Italy



### Maria Luisa

Marisa Salcines, Georgia State  
University's "Cuba Today" program

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Georgia State  
University

## LET'S STUDY ABROAD

Almost without exception, students who have studied abroad say again and again, "It changed my life!" They emphasize that it was the best decision they have made. Now, more than ever before, your college education is not complete without an international experience to prepare you for the world in which we live today. In light of current events, it is essential to learn about and to understand other cultures. In fact, since the tragedy of September 11, 2001, the numbers of Georgia State University students studying abroad have increased dramatically by 30%. This astounding increase is also a national phenomenon.

Just as our international student population is a critical and vital part of our student body, so are our increasing numbers of U.S. students who have studied abroad. Just as our international students are future leaders of the world, so are our U.S. students who have expanded their boundaries and studied abroad.

Whatever your discipline, now is the time to explore the possibilities. Georgia State University is here to assist you. Change your life — study abroad!

Leigh Essex Walker, Assistant  
Director, Study Abroad Programs  
Office of International Affairs  
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404-463-9073

"I am not the same having seen the moon shine on the other side of the world."

—Marianne Radmacher-Hershey

## WHAT'S AHEAD

- April 1, 2003 Freeman Asia Scholarship/Fall & AY 2003-2004/Application Deadline
- March 31–  
April 4, 2003 International Spring Festival, Georgia State University
- April 15, 2003 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Deadline for Fall and AY 2003-2004
- May 25-30, 2003 NASFSA: Association of International Educators National Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah

## Georgia State University Study Abroad Programs 2003

Spanish Studies in Madrid, *Summer*  
Dr. José Montero

Spanish Studies in Mexico, *Summer*  
Drs. Fernando Reati and Héctor Fernandez L'Hoeste

Cuba Today, *Maymester*  
Drs. Victoria Rodrigo and Fernando Reati

Joint Studies Program in British &  
American Cultures, England, *Academic Year*  
Drs. Tanya Caldwell and Paul Schmidt

Sculpture Workshop, Scotland, *Summer*  
Professor George Beasley

Art and Architecture in Renaissance Italy:  
the Court Centers, Italy, *Maymester*  
Dr. Amy Wright

Studies in Visual Art, Italy, *Summer*  
Associate Dean Pam Longobardi

Heritage Preservation and Memory in Germany, *Maymester*  
Professors Richard Laub and Joe Perry

Academy in International Commercial  
Arbitration (Law), Austria, *Summer*  
Dr. E.R. Lanier

Economic Studies in South Africa (Georgia State  
University/ Morehouse College), *Maymester*  
Dr. Glenwood Ross (404) 215-2618 and Ms. Caroline Griffin

European Management, UK, *Maymester*  
Drs. Marta Szabo White and Charles Burden

Studies in Management and Accountancy, Russia, *Summer*  
(alternates yearly with South Africa & China)  
Drs. Marta Szabo White and Tad Ransopher

Management in Different World Regions:  
The Case of South America  
Brazil and Argentina, *Summer*  
Dr. David Bruce

Financial & Managerial Issues in France and the EU,  
*Maymester*  
Drs. Pierre-Yves Lagroue and Sebastien Pouget

MBA/MIB Studies, Toulouse, France, *Maymester*  
Dr. Karen Loch and Ms. Rose Jones

Executive MBA, Thailand and China, *Maymester*  
Professor William Woolery

Comparative Models of Educational Leadership,  
England and Ireland, *Maymester*  
Dr. Lucretia Payton-Stewart

🌐 Comparative Issues in Higher Education:  
South Africa and the US, *Summer*  
Dr. Marybeth Gasman

European Teacher Network, Denmark, Sweden and  
the Netherlands, *Fall and Spring*  
Ms. Jessica Holstun

🌐 denotes program that is new this year.

Detailed program descriptions are available online at [http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/StudyAbroad/university\\_programs.htm](http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwoia/StudyAbroad/university_programs.htm)

To sign up for a general information session on study abroad, please give us a call: 404-463-9073