Dear Friends of VIPP,

It gives me great pleasure to again greet you as the Director of VIPP. It has been a year since my arrival and many exciting new events are taking place. As ever, VIPP is busy providing professionals with world-class training and a better understanding of cultures both here in the US and throughout the world.

Over the past year, VIPP has experienced a great deal of change and with these changes have come positive and exciting growth within our program.

In terms of our professional programs, VIPP has never been busier. This summer alone we hosted 8 Global Workshops for professionals from China, Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Malaysia. You can read about these workshops and see pictures of them in this newsletter. VIPP has also expanded the scope of its reach and programs to encompass more of the globe. VIPP will still work with professionals from our traditional areas, such as Korea, China, and Japan. But for the past few years, we have been diversifying our global partnerships and traveling to new areas of the world. This year VIPP will be traveling to destinations such as Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Iraq to create new partnerships and meet new participants. As we bring in new faces from new places, VIPP will become ever more global and provide an even broader educational experience to our participants while they are here at MSU.

The past year has also seen the arrival of many new faces to VIPP so as The Green and White Gathering will bring together our alumni from around the world to celebrate VIPP's accomplishments. Our alumni have always been important for us.

The Green and White Gathering will feature Provost Kim Wilcox who will speak on Michigan State University's international initiatives. Through the conference, participants will receive cutting-edge education on leadership with the opportunity to attend a range of home coming events along with past and current VIPP participants.

The Green and White Event

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Visiting International Professional Program and to celebrate this occasion, VIPP will be hosting a Green and White Gathering Workshop from October 11-14, 2012. The Green and White Gathering will take place during MSU's official Homecoming Weekend and VIPP will host a conference on "Innovative Global Leadership" just for our alumni. We will combine cutting-edge education on leadership with the opportunity to attend a range of home coming events along with past and current VIPP participants.

The conference will feature Provost Kim Wilcox who will speak on Michigan State University's international initiatives. Through the conference, participants will receive cutting-edge insights into the future of practical leadership in international communication, business, education, and more.

The Green and White Gathering will bring together our alumni from around the world to celebrate VIPP's accomplishments. Our alumni have always been important for us.

The schedule of events is as follows:

October 11-13: Green and White Gathering
October 12: Innovative Global Leadership Workshop
October 12: Homecoming Parade
October 13: Homecoming Game - MSU versus Iowa Hawkeyes

Every VIPP alumni and participant are invited to attend. For more information, please e-mail vipp@msu.edu.

Dennis Hart, Ph.D.
Director, Visiting International Professional Program

VIPP Fall 2012 Courses

It's that time of year again -- fall has come to Michigan State's campus, and VIPP is happy to announce its fall semester courses. Each course is worth three credits unless otherwise specified, and the class size has been limited to 12 students.

VIPP 410: Pronunciation
Instructor: Charlotte Poston

VIPP 414: Idioms
Instructor: Mariah Shafer

VIPP 415: Conversation
Instructor: Ingrid Gharai

VIPP 440: Current Events: The 2012 American Elections
Instructor: Dr. Charles S. Matzke

VIPP 451: American Culture
Instructor: Dr. Joe Cousins

VIPP 460: Global Leadership
Instructor: Dr. Erika J. Butler

VIPP 461: Globalization and East Asian Popular Cultures
Instructor: Dr. Mina Shin

VIPP 462: Global Leadership
Instructor: Dr. Y oung-Tae Kim

VIPP 467: Food & Environment Issues
Instructor: Jessica DeForest

VIPP 478: Mass Media: History, Policies and other Issues
Instructor: Dr. Consuelo Campbell

VIPP 485: Communication Skills
Instructor: Ruth Mendel

VIPP 487: International Leadership
Instructor: Dr. Young-Tae Kim

VIPP 824: Smart Growth
Instructor: Dr. Kiwon Kang

VIPP 841: Current Macroeconomic Issues
Instructor: Dr. Ingrid Gharai

Classes coded higher than 470 are considered advanced courses.
VIPP Workshops and Events

Workshops for Korean Government Officials

This summer the Visiting International Professional Program (VIPP) was busy conducting various short-term workshop programs including three workshops for Korean Government Officials. These three workshops include the Global Professional Workshop on Public Finance & Economic Development sponsored by Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG Workshop), the Global Executive Workshop on Cyber Security & Privacy sponsored by Korean Ministry of Public Administration & Security (MOPAS Workshop), and the Global Professional Workshop on Cross-cultural Communication sponsored by Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRD Workshop).

From June 4 – 14, 2012, a total of twenty SMG officials attended a short-term workshop. In the beginning, the program participants attended a series of professional seminars on public finance and economic development and took professional field visits to Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency and Michigan Economic Development Corporation. After finishing the Michigan portion of the workshop, the group visited various agencies in Chicago, New York, and Washington DC. These agencies include Chicago Department of Finance, World Business Chicago, New York City Department of Finance, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, (HUD), International Monetary Fund (IMF), and World Bank. VIPP established a cooperative relationship to provide overseas training and educational programs with SMG in 2009. In addition to the short-term workshop program, VIPP is currently hosting three SMG officials in its 1 year specialized program called “Sustainable Urban Development & Policy Program (SUDPP).”

Sichuan University Higher Education

From July 18th to August 7th, 2012, a group of 37 deans and directors of different colleges and offices from Sichuan University, the strategic partner of MSU, participated in a three-week workshop on higher education leadership training. Kim Wilcox, MSU Provost, and Jeffrey Riedinger, Dean of International Studies & Programs, gave welcome remarks at the program orientation and expressed their interest to deepen the collaboration between the two universities. The following week, program participants attended intensive lectures about faculty and leadership development, given by Assistant Provost Debra Dezure.

The group also learned about Academic Human Resources introduced by Theodore H. Curry II, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President, and Human Resources for Supporting Staff introduced by Sharon Butler, Assistant Vice President. The group toured dorms around campus to gain a better understanding of college life and attended a presentation on Campus Residential Living and Life led by Karen Corley, Assistant Director of Diversity and Engagement in the unit. They attended lectures on topics about US Higher Education, Adult Career Development and Student Affairs by three professors from College of Education.

The group visited many offices on campus to understand their functions and practices, including MSU Budgeting, MSU Technology Transfer, Career Services, University Services, Student Affairs and MSU Alumni Foundation. They had a chance to visit a few labs in College of Engineering.

Leadership Training Workshop

Leadership Training Workshop sponsored by Seoul University of Social Science (SHRD Workshop).

From June 4 – 14, 2012, a total of twenty SMG officials attended a short-term workshop. In the beginning, the program participants attended a series of professional seminars on public finance and economic development and took professional field visits to Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency and Michigan Economic Development Corporation. After finishing the Michigan portion of the workshop, the group visited various agencies in Chicago, New York, and Washington DC. These agencies include Chicago Department of Finance, World Business Chicago, New York City Department of Finance, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, (HUD), International Monetary Fund (IMF), and World Bank. VIPP established a cooperative relationship to provide overseas training and educational programs with SMG in 2009. In addition to the short-term workshop program, VIPP is currently hosting three SMG officials in its 1 year specialized program called “Sustainable Urban Development & Policy Program (SUDPP).”

A group of twenty Korean government officials from 16 different central government agencies participated in a ten-day workshop from June 23 - July 2, 2012. The participants were able to learn various topics on cyber security and personal information protection through a series of professional lectures offered by MSU faculty members and experts. The participants also had valuable opportunities to exchange their knowledge and experiences with US experts and government officials by visiting various agencies in Michigan and Washington DC. They visited two Michigan agencies including Michigan Office of Enterprise Security and Merit Network. The group also took a trip to Washington DC to visit the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This was the fourth short-term workshop sponsored by MOPAS after VIPP established a cooperative relationship with the agency two years ago.

The SHRD workshop hosted ten SMG officials for three weeks from July 15 - August 4, 2012. The main purpose of the workshop was to provide the program participants with an opportunity to improve their English language and cross-cultural communication skills. The participants took English language courses based on their English proficiency level while participating in other professional activities including professional lectures and field studies. The participants also had an opportunity to improve their practical English conversational skills through the conversational partner program. VIPP matched each participant with a conversational partner to meet with one-on-one for language support and cultural exchange.

After completing the program at Michigan State University, the group took a backpacking trip to different parts of the United States on their own. This was the first workshop with SHRD and VIPP hope to continue its cooperative relationship with SHRD in the future.

At the program completion ceremony, the group leader, Mr. Liu, Dean of Electronic Engineering, expressed great satisfaction of their visit and training on behalf of the whole group, and hoped to visit again the next year. They were mostly impressed by the efficiency of the university; the passion of their colleagues at MSU, and the positive lifestyle of the people they met in the East Lansing community. The exchange of ideas between administration leaders from two universities will deepen their mutual understanding and expand the collaboration on different areas.
Nine business students from Jazan University in Saudi Arabia attended a four week workshop at VIPP. They were accompanied by Dr. Khalid Hassan Al Qadi, the Dean; Mr. Ahmed AlMgriashi, the Vice-Dean; and Mr. Bivas Bose, the Head of International Cooperation. The program was run by Kari Kammel, with the assistance of Ashiyr Pierson and Ihab Hassan.

The primary goals of the program were to explore future careers in various fields of business and management, study cutting edge technology and future trends of global business and management, and engage in cross-cultural communication with experts and professionals in their fields by providing opportunities to improve their understanding on English and American culture.

VIPP hosted a welcome picnic at Hawk Island Park, eating classic American barbeque food, and playing sports outside. The group also toured the Michigan State Capitol building, went shopping at Somerset Mall, visited the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, took a trip to Cedar Point Amusement Park in Ohio, went to a Tiger's baseball game in Detroit, and lots of movies at the cinema.

After Michigan, they went on the road to Chicago, Washington DC, and New York City. In Chicago, the group visited the CME Group, World Business Chicago, Chicago Booth School of Business, Morningstar, and Technori Pitch. The group also went on a river/lake boat tour, visited the top of the Sears (Willis) Tower, went to Navy Pier and shopping on the Magnificent Mile, and visited Millennium Park.

In Washington DC, they visited the Federal Reserve Bank. The group took a tour of the city by bus, and also went to the White House, the Capitol, the Lincoln and war memorials, the Smithsonian Museum & National Art Gallery, and the fabulous outlet malls at Potomac Mills.

In New York City, the group toured several great spots in Manhattan, such as Thomson Reuters, Deloitte Consulting, and the United Nations; they took a tour of Manhattan by boat showing the island and the Statue of Liberty, China Town and Little Italy, and Times Square.
Accounting Bridge Program

VIPP and the Department of Accounting & Information Systems worked together to create a preparation program to help 13 incoming Chinese graduate students in the M.S. Accounting program. The three-week program helped students prepare for their academic work in MSU and future career development in the field of accounting. Students attended morning lectures on the topics of accounting, auditing, taxation, and information systems taught by different faculty members with expertise in their respective fields from the Department of Accounting. The students attended afternoon lectures on Language and Culture taught by a faculty member in the English Language Center. Students visited downtown Lansing, the Capitol Building, and the Historical Museum, and were able to experience the annual Jazz Fest in Old Town.

The students had a one-day trip to downtown Detroit, the riverfront park, the GM Renaissance Center, and the Henry Ford Museum. They visited one of the Big Four accounting firms, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and talked to the campus recruitment manager and partners in the firm who gave a presentation of the company’s mission and tasks.

As part of cultural experience, the students tasted ice cream in the Dairy Store and participated in an American-style BBQ in Lake Lansing Park on a Saturday afternoon, joined by several accounting alumni working in Detroit area. Students raised questions and received feedback from alumni on topics, for example: finding a job after graduation, surviving the graduate student life, and deciding on a track or major. To help students prepare for on-campus recruitment in fall, they visited Leer Career center and talked with the experts there about writing resumes and being successful in the interview.

At the end of the workshop, students provided feedback on the training, and said that they thought it was very helpful for their future study and career development. They appreciated the opportunity to arrive on campus early, and get more help and learning through the preparation workshop. The students felt that they would be able to transition to their graduate program smoothly and successfully.

Arrivals and Departures

VIPP’s faculty and staff underwent a few changes during the 2011-2012 year. Below are the new arrivals and departures from VIPP.

New Additions
Dr. Enkhee Diffendal, Assistant Director
Ms. Kari Kammel, Program Coordinator for the Middle East
Ms. Emily Williams, Financial Officer
Dr. Erika Butler, VIPP Faculty in Cultural Intelligence

Departures
Michael Miller, Senior Advisor for Participant Relations. After many years of service to VIPP, Mr. Miller is no longer with MSU. We wish him the best in his new endeavors.

Dr. Dennis Hart Meets with Mayor Won-Soon Park

On July 10, 2012 the Honorable Won-soon Park, Mayor of the city of Seoul, Korea, met with Dr. Dennis Hart, Director of VIPP, to discuss possible collaborations and professional education programs. This year VIPP hosted multiple professional programs for administrators and workers from the Seoul Metropolitan Government to help them enhance their skills and knowledge. As part of their programs, the participants from the Seoul Metropolitan Government also conducted site and professional visits to the Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency, Michigan Economic Development Agency, World Business Chicago, and important centers.

Image: Dr. Dennis Hart, director of VIPP, shakes hands with Mayor Won-Soon Park.
Congratulations to the VIPP Softball team “Team Internationales” in its inaugural season. Many staff members and participants played recalling former days of glory in softball and baseball. Although many teams we played were younger and faster, no one had more team spirit or fun than VIPP!

Participants included: Young Ho Lee, Tay Ford, Shaniqua Davis, Kathryn Kota, Kari Kammel, Emily Williams, Hy Ryan Cho, Dennis Hart, Young-Tae Kim, Kiwon Kang, Mike Miller, Lee, Sang Min Shin, Chang Youb Kim, and Yong Sun Heo. Guest appearances by Pam Farran and Chen Wang.

Thanks to everyone for coming out! See you next season!

Participant Voice: Xu Li

After I came to MSU in September 2011, I have audited a specialized course named Labor Relations & Labor Market Policy, which was taught by Professor Woodbury. For the reason that my English hearing ability was very poor at that time, I couldn't understand the professor entirely.

In the course Ruth taught, called Communication Skills, she told us if we had any difficulties in our academic study, she would help us. So I went to Ruth and told her about my trouble.

On the morning of October 20, she went to attend my course and sat next to me. After the class was over, we went to the Panda dining room in the International Center. Ruth told me that listening to the professor was more important than reading the notes in class, because I could read them later.

Then she explained the notes to me patiently, concentrating on the sentences I couldn't understand and the use of the vocabulary. She sat with me until 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

After several days, Ruth sent me an email which included a copy of notes she had arranged for me. The copy of notes included 8 pages and 10,000 words!

Xu Li was a visiting scholar between the period of 09/2011 to 09/2012 from the Capital University of Business and Economics in Beijing, China.

VIPP Softball Team

VIPP has several events coming up this semester! Be sure to mark your calendars for the following events. Please contact VIPP for any questions regarding the events of this semester by phone or sending an email to vipp@msu.edu.

- **Monday, September 24**
  - VIPP Staff Retreat

- **Thursday-Saturday, October 11-13**
  - Green and White Days

- **Saturday, October 13**
  - VIPP Homecoming Tailgate

- **Tuesday, November 20**
  - VIPP Thanksgiving

- **Friday, December 7**
  - Last day of classes

For news about events, please visit http://vipp.isp.msu.edu/news/

Did You Know?

Facts About VIPP

Image: During the 2011-2012 year, VIPP welcomed a total of 77 long-term participants from six different countries. The chart above represents the percentage of participants from each country.
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Giving to VIPP
If you would like to support the Visiting International Professional Program through a financial contribution, please visit the Giving To MSU web site at http://www.givingto.msu.edu/give.html, or the “Support VIPP” page located on VIPP’s website.

You may also send a check to:

University Development
University Advancement
Spartan Way
535 Chestnut Road, Room 300
East Lansing, MI 48824

Please make check payable to “Michigan State University” and be sure to include the name of the fund you wish to support on the memo line of your check. You may also find a list of the VIPP Endowment Funds on the “Support VIPP” page of the VIPP website.

Special Thanks to Our Contributors
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