In recent years, the Visiting International Professional Program (VIPP) has been going through a strategic process to expand the program in key areas that geographically align with MSU’s strategic directions. An important outcome is meeting the complex participant needs and expanding participant program evaluation.

The International Studies and Programs (ISP) Dean’s Office has announced Michael Miller’s new role as Senior Adviser for Participant Relations. Michael comes with years of experience in developing and administering programs focused on international professionals. His responsibilities will include participant relations and evaluation, alumni engagement, and VIPP endowment fundraising.

Ravi Ammigan has also been appointed as the VIPP Interim Director. Ravi has over 10 years of experience in international education and international student/scholar support services. Ravi will serve in this role until the appointment of a new VIPP director, while continuing as a part-time assistant director in the Office for International Students and Scholars.

Please join us in welcoming Michael Miller and Ravi Ammigan in these new positions.

VIPP Staff News

VIPP Cultural Experience: Cider Mill Trip

▲ Above: VIPP guests enjoy a hay ride (left) and roasting marshmallows over a bonfire at the Country Mill in Charlotte, Michigan.

VIPP will continue to offer American cultural experiences over the next few months. A special Cider Mill trip was held in October as part of the event series. Guests enjoyed apple cider and doughnuts, a hayride, corn maze, haunted cider mill, and ended the day with making s’mores over a bonfire. Upcoming cultural experiences include a Thanksgiving Dinner at the end of the month and a ski trip at the beginning of 2011. Visit the VIPP Facebook page or call the office at 517-432-3663 for more details.

VIPP American Cultural Event:

THANKSGIVING ~ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 AT 6 PM
at the Wesley Foundation - United Methodist Church (1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing (near Goodrich))

JOIN THE VIPP FAMILY FOR AN AMERICAN THANKSGIVING POTLUCK!

Please bring a dish to pass at the potluck where each person brings special food (enough for 10 people) to share with others. VIPP will provide the traditional American Thanksgiving food: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, and rolls, as well as beverages, silverware, and utensils.

** Please e-mail Tracy at richt@msu.edu to let her know if you will be coming and how many people will be joining you. Bring your family and friends!

Your VIPP Staff