

Host Mom Visits Taiwan

Betty Parker, a host mother for many years, recently visited her former "host-son" in his native Taiwan.



Little did I know when I became a "Host Mom" what wonderful adventures were in my future. When Jason Hsieh was getting ready to return to Taiwan he said to me, "Betty Mom, I want you to see my country and meet my family." In March, 2006 I started my fifteen-hour flight. Jason and his business manager, Arthur, met me at the airport, and I stayed with Jason's parents and visited his wife and children.

Betty Parker with Jason Hsieh

I had the freshest fish in all my life. It was netted from a pond in a coastal restaurant kitchen, thrown on the kitchen counter, killed with a club, cleaned, deep fried, and delivered to our table along with many wonderful dishes. We had lunch in the "Grand Hotel" – the most beautiful hotel I have ever seen—and I saw the tallest building in the world, "101". We visited the Chiang Kai Shek Memorial Hall, and many gardens, shrines, and markets.



Jason gave me a welcoming party and there were over 40 friends and workers from his company. This by far was my favorite event because of the warm, wonderful, welcoming people of Taiwan. They are the country's true treasures.

Many students bond with their host families, and they return year after year to visit their American moms and dads. It is an experience that changes the lives of the students as well as the families.

The 101—Tallest Building in the World

LCSC

Volume 1, Issue 8

December 25, 2006

Special Points of Interest:

- ☺ LCSC Spring 2007 session begins January 16th
- ☺ IIE Spring 1 2007 term begins January 2nd
- ☺ Martin Luther King Day January 15th

This Issue:

IIE Mom	1
International Students Contribute to Campus	2
Host Families	3
Former IIE Student now LC Instructor	3
U. of Ulsan Business Exchange	4
Study Abroad	5
LCSC Ranked #1	5

International Students Contribute to Campus Life

Our top-ranked reputation is not the only reason LCSC is a good place to study. Our small campus offers great opportunities for international students to make an impact on campus life, and in so doing, learn important life skills. International students are school athletes, student club presidents, cultural performers at campus events and residence hall advisors, to name only a few leadership activities they participate in. Nowhere is this impact more evident than in *The Pathfinder* student newspaper, which frequently features articles written about or written by international students. This fall, a group of Japanese English language students appeared on the front page of *The Pathfinder* as part of an article featuring a story about their dance group. The story was written by a student from Nepal.



According to two international students, *The Pathfinder* management and editors are “very supportive of international students.” Students who write articles attend weekly paper meetings and must compete with other submissions for publication, but may get paid when an article is printed. The editors of the paper offer student writers suggestions to improve writing and offer free workshops taught by staff of the *Lewiston Tribune* city newspaper. International students gain exposure to a wide range of personalities on campus as they conduct interviews, and become fully immersed in campus life in a way that is much more difficult to do at a larger university. Until recently, a Nepalese student served as one of the assistant editors of *The Pathfinder*.

LCSC places great value on its international students. International student contributions to the college paper raise awareness of campus diversity, and give the international students a voice on campus. Our International Programs Office is excited to see so many international students taking advantage of the opportunities LCSC offers to become an active part of the campus community.



Host Families at IIE

IIE has a strong and vital host family system. There are approximately 40 active host families, and no two are exactly the same. They range from retired grandparents to single working mothers, and from well-to-do to not-so-rich. However, our host families have one thing in common: they are willing to open their homes and their hearts to our international students. They enjoy learning about our students' cultures and teaching them about American culture.

And what do our students gain? So much! They receive a safe and friendly place to live (which is less expensive than the dorm). They can practice their English with native speakers and learn first-hand about American traditions and atti-

tudes. For example, many of our students recently experienced a real American Thanksgiving dinner, complete with turkey, cranberries, and pumpkin pie. Christmas is coming soon, so students will be able to help decorate the family Christmas tree and see just how real Americans celebrate Christmas and the New Year.

Therefore, it is easy to see how both families and students benefit from this arrangement. Many students form such strong connections with their host families that they return year after year to visit their American moms and dads. It is an experience that changes the lives of the students as well as the families.

Former IIE Student Hired as LCSC English Composition Instructor

Naoaki Tai, has come full circle in his academic career. He started his studies at LCSC as an IIE student and ten years later has become an English composition instructor at LCSC.

Nao started his studies as an IIE (Institute of Intensive English) student in 1996. After six months of intensive English study, he began his college program. He explored different majors- first Criminal Justice and then Hotel Management- but was never sure of what was right for him. So Nao took a break in 1999 and returned to his home town of Tokyo, Japan to figure out what he wanted to do. He finally discovered the subject he wanted to pursue – English writing. He returned to LCSC and graduated in English with a Creative Writing emphasis in 2002. The day before he graduated, he got married to a college classmate. Nao and his wife now have a three month old son. His name is "Leaf Ryu" which means dragon in Japanese. In 2003, Nao completed his MFA (Masters of Fine Performing Art) from California State University and then taught English composition in Fresno, California for two years. This year he was hired by LCSC as an English composition instructor.

Nao encourages all of the international students to study hard and enjoy college life. As a student, he was impressed by not only LCSC's beautiful campus with its brick buildings and tall trees, but also the personal attention he received from the professors at LCSC.

Everyone on campus extends best wishes to Nao in his new teaching position and is happy to welcome him and his family back home to Lewiston.

University of Ulsan Business Exchange by Miki Johnson

This fall LCSC had a group of twelve wonderful students from our sister school, the University of Ulsan in South Korea. They studied part-time at the Institute of Intensive English and took a college level business class as well. All the students are business majors at their university. LCSC and IIE developed this course specifically for them. The college course, Business and Culture, was taught as a series of lectures by both the business department at the college and guest lectures from the business community. The topics, as varied as the lecturers, included finances, economics, job coaching, dressing for success and interview techniques, strategic and global human resources management, business across cultures, and generations in the workplace, among others. In addition to the lectures, the class took several field trips to businesses in town. Our first trip, to the Port of Lewiston, seemed especially interesting to the students. Most of them were quite surprised to learn that Lewiston, Idaho, is a seaport. At 465 miles up river from the ocean, Lewiston the west coast's furthest inland seaport. Other field trips were to the Lewiston Tribune, the local newspaper; Precision Machine, which custom makes items from as small as a pencil to 60-ton parts for the dams; and a walking tour of the historical area of downtown Lewiston.

I was their "bridge teacher", acting almost as a liaison. As business majors, they know the basics of business -- in Korean. My job was to facilitate their learning in English. They learned many cross-cultural

business tips for dealing with companies from other parts of the world. Some of the topics included how to run meetings American style, hand shaking, and gift giving. The students gave several presentations, including comparative SWOT Analyses of the auto industry and comparing criteria of different companies to determine which one they thought provided the best place to work. They also developed a "job opening" at a fictitious company, deciding on which criteria were important for an applicant, and then interviewing different students for the position. These presentations not only expanded their English and business skills, but also prepared the students for their final presentation in the college course: a five-minute PowerPoint presentation on what they learned in the class and what was especially important to them.

It was a lot of work for the students, but they all worked very hard to achieve their goals. It was very interesting for me to see them grow and learn. I think they enjoyed the class. I know I did! We are hoping to have this "experiment" turn into a regularly offered class. It may continue with business, but we are also hoping to expand into other departments as well, such as education or science.



Ulsan Students Enjoying Fall Activities



*Outstanding Fall 2, 2007 Business Student
Yu Jin Koh with Instructor Miki Johnson*

LCSC Study Abroad and Sister Schools

In 2006, LCSC students traveled to Italy, Japan, and Mexico through LCSC Study Abroad. In 2007, students also plan to attend schools in South Korea and Latin America.

Guadalupe Delgado's family emigrated from Mexico to the United States. She is an alumni of the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), an educational program that promotes migrants' college success through advising, scholarships, and tutoring in their freshman year of college. She decided to take a semester abroad in Guanajuato, Mexico, where she still has family members. It was a time to improve her academic Spanish and soak up her heritage. Guanajuato is a city rich in history, with beautiful colonial buildings and a modern university.



Guadalupe attended the University of Guanajuato, Mexico



Sophie Flynn, a sophomore education major at LCSC, developed an interest in Japan as a high school student, and began looking for opportunities to learn the Japanese language and culture. She is currently an active member of LCSC's Japanese Cultural Association, participating in Matsuri, the International Dinner, and the Japanese Film Festival. She spent last summer studying in Japan, and returned for a New Year's visit recently. Her experience in Japan and the many Japanese friends she has made have shaped her future goal—to teach English in Japan.



Sophie took classes at Mukogawa University, Japan

LCSC is working to promote cultural exchange through study abroad and sister school relationships.



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LCSC Again #1 in the West!

For the third time in six years, LCSC has been ranked #1 comprehensive bachelor's degree granting college in the American West, according to U.S. News and World Report's Best College rankings. LCSC scored high for low faculty to student ratio, excellent academic reputation, and high student retention and graduation rates.



LCSC provides a variety of high-quality two-year and four-year programs, and the small class size and attentive faculty give international students an excellent opportunity for success.

For more information about this honor, visit LCSC on the web at <http://www.lcsc.edu/collegeinfo>.