

Colby Sawyer College



LATITUDE

The International Newsletter
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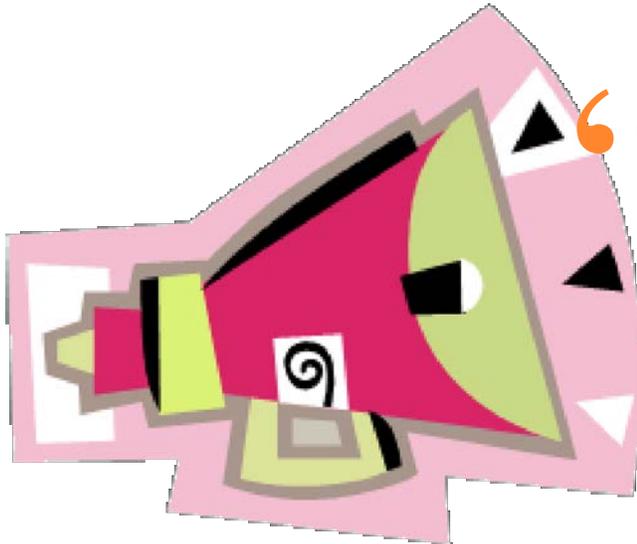
Office of International Diversity Programs

International Perspectives միջազգային հեռանկարներ

“ “ I would like to see the college encourage more internationals to live on campus after their freshman year and to make it so they can stay in their on campus housing year round if they so choose. I also hope we can improve transportation options, since most internationals do not have their own cars. All in all, though, I am so excited about how far we've come as an institution and think so highly of the international students we have now! ” ”

“ “ The college has a very diverse population, but there should be more initiatives to bring those diverse groups together ” ”

“ “ The college is doing absolutely great on its initiatives regarding diversity. I'd like to see more international students living on campus though. ” ”



“ “ The college has been successful in the sense that all, if not most, of the internationals students have been provided with adequate financial aid towards their tuition to pursue their education here at Colby-Sawyer College. I would like to see the college take initiatives to bring in students from other international countries that are yet to be represented at Colby-Sawyer College. ” ”

Voices of CSC Internationals...

“ “ I really like that the college hosts important events like International festival and Global Cafe. These events educate a lot about diversity from around the globe. However, I feel sorry for people who do not attend such events to learn about new cultures and traditions. It would be great if we could recruit more American students to those events. ” ”

“ “ I think the international program has been wildly successful over the years; not many colleges of Colby-Sawyer's size have such a diverse student body. However, I think the major problem most international students run into once they get here is the housing problem, and that is something the college should work to address to make the program even better. ” ”

Did You Know...?



I am defined by my culture, as is my worldview--the lens that I use to understand the people and events around me.

Asian”). Others may still define their cultural background relative to their religion (“I am Hindu” or “I am Jewish), while some may relate to the layer of their identity based on nationality (“I am American” or “I am Swedish.”). Is this all that our culture is about? The simple answer is no. However, understanding the many layers that impact who we are is anything but simple. I believe it is essential for each of us to first recognize the impact and experiences related to our multicultural identities because only then can we truly understand the experiences of others.

you may ask? This course will be the start of a new outlook for you as you critically compare the effect that culture has on human psychology. You will be able to reflect on your own cultural norms and behavior and consider how they may be similar or dissimilar were you to live in another society or culture. My students get the opportunity to expand their knowledge about culture, gain the skills to interact and communicate with those that they may perceive as different than themselves, and recognize commonalities between cultural experiences.

“ Understanding the many layers that impact who we are is anything but simple ”

Therefore, it is imperative that we as individuals understand the various layers of our cultural identity. For some, it may relate more to their ethnic background (“My family is Russian” or “I am Chinese), while others may identify themselves by their race (“I am black” or “I am

Understanding and relating to other people is what allows us to grow as human beings, practice perspective-taking, and increase our satisfaction in life. Who wouldn't want that!

I believe that everyone should take Cross-Cultural Psychology. Why,

My hope is that every student at CSC would take a course related to cultural diversity. I guarantee it would change their outlook and greatly increase their success in the world!

Dr. Sachi Horback,
Assistant Professor of Psychology





This past Friday marked the 2012-2013 academic year's International Festival held in the Ware Student Center's newly renovated Wheeler Hall. This special occasion was made even more remarkable by its record-breaking presentation of students and faculty from around the world, as well as the sheer scale of the event. In no previous year have so many students from so many countries participated in the designing and running of such an event.

Tables lining the outer edges of the room were covered in brightly colored decorations and nearly all of the

tables presented a dish or two from the country they represented. The majority of participating international students also wore traditional clothes as they as they kept themselves busy at their tables or while visiting the tables of other countries. Needless to say the festivities, along with the smell of delicious food, were more than enough to draw in a huge crowd of CSC students, faculty, guests from the Windy Hill School, and locals from the community.

After two hours of food sampling and socializing, the room's attention was brought to center stage for an interna-

tional fashion show. Any student wearing traditional dress from their country was welcomed to come to the stage; a representative from each country gave a small speech on the country's local dress and customs.

Afterwards a dedication to the work of David Elliot was given; he will be retiring at the end of this semester. The international students from each year offered words of thanks to their mentor and friend, followed by a video presentation and slideshow honoring Colby-Sawyer's ever-growing community of international diversity.



An impressive cast of International and American students participated in the talent show that concluded the evening's festivities.

spiriting as the next. Though only one of the acts was able to win the overall competition, the crowd was clearly enraptured from

with the members of the Cross-Cultural Club accomplished something amazing, through teamwork and dedication even in these final weeks of the

“International Festival 2013”

Acts from China, Nepal, Japan, Myanmar, Vietnam, and a host of countries from Africa competed for the top three places in the talent show, judged this year once again by a panel of CSC faculty. Talents ranging from cultural dances to musical performances were given, each as powerful and awe in-

start to finish by the talented students who performed on the stage with passion, dedication, and smiles that conveyed to everyone watching the unmistakable love they had for what they were doing. All in all the festival was a great success. The international students along

semester when workloads are heaviest. All those in attendance at the international festival were able to walk away with a sense of community and joy, thanks to the talented students who made this event possible.

| Hannah Raddatz

