

Colby·Sawyer College



LATITUDE

The International Newsletter

February, 2013

Office of International/Diversity Programs

International Perspectives

國際視野



Ryan Prothro

Ryan Prothro is a senior, environmental science major, who is returning to Colby-sawyer this

semester after spending the fall in Panama. Through the School of Field studies she traveled to Bocas del Toro where she stayed in the Smithsonian Research institute for the entirety of the semester. Ryan took five classes including a directed research class, resource management, tropical and coastal ecology, and a course focusing on the culture and language of Panama.

the beaches to snorkel and enjoy the sun. Ryan's favorite part about her study abroad experience was meeting and working along side new people, especially during the directed research projects. With no regrets, Ryan is able to assert with confidence that there is no draw back to studying abroad.

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In her free time, she and her friends went into town to hang out with locals in the parks and local pubs, as well as making frequent trips to

From the generous financial help she received to the fantastic change of scenery, her study abroad experience was time well spent.

Professor John Osambo, of Kisumu, Kenya, is here teaching Chemistry at Colby-Sawyer for a year, this being his second and last semester. He found himself in New England after taking part in an exchange program from Egerton University in Njoro, Kenya to UNH. There he studied and worked as a graduate teaching assistant in Chemistry.

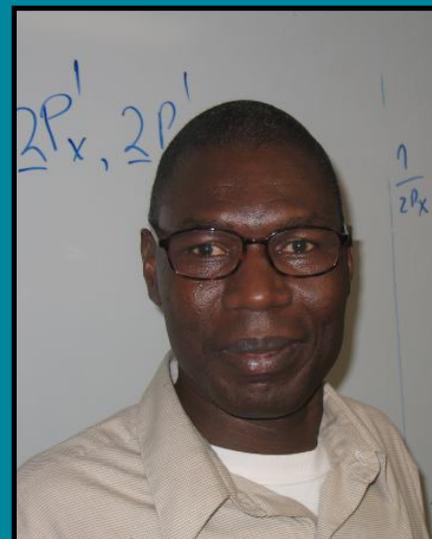
the High School level for 7 years, but teaching at the college level in New England, and especially at Colby-Sawyer has allowed him to grow and continue to evolve as an educator. To professor Osambo, Colby-Sawyer is an excellent learning atmosphere because of its small, quiet and close-knit community, but he has been challenged during his time teaching in this liberal arts college environment.

ject that they are not necessarily interested in. Though Professor Osambo misses the opportunity to inspire passion for chemistry as he did when he taught at the high school level, he still appreciates the challenges presented to him as he teaches Chemistry to students at CSC.

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He would eventually graduate from UNH with his PHD in Chemistry and move on to teaching at other New England colleges. In the past, professor Osambo taught at

Because Chemistry is only a minor and is often taken a required course for many other majors, he has found it difficult to engage students in learning about a sub-



Prof. John Osambo

Did You Know...?

The decorations, the clothing, the food, everything is as authentic as it can be. We have done the best we can to create a celebration that is worth looking forward to.

The Lunar New Year means so much to us Asian students that all of us involved in the preparation of this celebration are emotionally attached, and have looked forward to it since the start of the semester. We

basically instilled our pride for our culture that we represent and transformed all our homesick into passionate work.

From the round tables, shared plates of food, and chopsticks...to the lucky money envelopes, Chinese garlands, red lanterns, and FU characters...then to the music, the dance, and tongue twisters... We have tried all in our power to create

an atmosphere for our guests that would immerse them in the same joy as ours. In China, the Spring Festival is as important as Thanksgiving or Christmas is to Americans. It indeed is a season of family reunion, hearty meals, fresh starts, and also anticipation of fortune and wealth in the forthcoming year.



The red lucky money envelopes we handed out to guests are indispensable in all New Year celebrations, for it contains fortune with the blessing of others. The color yellow is also auspicious in Chinese culture, thus the yellow paper with the Snake print represents “Year of the Snake - accompanying wealth”. We prepared a full Asian meal that incorporated dishes from different regions within China, Vietnam, and Malaysia. Our holiday blessings are incorporated in efforts to amaze our guests’ taste buds. But one must not leave out the biggest part of the celebration - the performances. Entertaining performances are the key to every relishing meal, and our efforts in using this opportunity to show some aspects of Chinese culture through performances

have certainly paid off. I am very proud to say that all that we presented to our guests are as genuine as possible.

“ The Lunar New Year Celebration ”

This celebration was indeed a product of collective effort. Leah brought all these wonderful decorations back from China and carved the emblems herself; Windy worked hard on her celebratory tree; Bart put together the music video and Ziling organized rehearsals for all Chinese class student in putting on such a wonderful Chinese rap song; Cameron and Iris are very dedicated in presenting a breathtaking and

authentic oriental dance; Sharon was on frequent pipa practices; all Chinese upperclass students helped serve the full meal; the Chinese class helped set up the venue; Sodexo provided all the ingredients... the list goes on and on... everyone has been so supportive and so devoted into this celebration that I feel blessed to have worked with them and put together this memorable event. For those of us who had to leave home to live and learn elsewhere, this may be all one would ask for.

We want to continue our traditions here in Colby-Sawyer, where we consider a second home. Celebrating one’s own culture is never too hard, so long as one really try. Diversity is always celebrated, wherever and whenever.



What's Happening on Campus...

Unsung Sisters:

A performance celebration by CSC students, staff and faculty of Black women poets, writers, singers, and activists

in honor of

Black History



Month



Wednesday, February 20th, 7 pm

Wheeler Hall

music, poetry, and café treats to feed your tummy and your soul!

Dreams

James Mercer Langston Hughes

*Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.*

Thinn Thinn a senior Sociology major from Mandalay, Myanmar is here for her third, and second to last semester at CSC. She first came to the United States to attend Cottey College, a junior college for women in Nevada, Missouri. There she studied Anthropology for two years before transferring to Colby-Sawyer. She chose the college initially because she was eager to take part in the new Sociology department established that semester.

previously imagined. Through her education here Thinn has been inspired to take on a new perspective when viewing her culture. She remarked that Professor Burley's class on Aging was particularly eye-opening for her because she was able to not only relate the culture of her home country to the material in class, but she was also able to discover hard truths about what life was really like for the elderly in America and in Myanmar,

and culture wherever the future takes her. Look forward to seeing Thinn Thinn along with Zin Mar Hein and Kay Thwe Aung, also from Myanmar, in the upcoming International festival!

“ Professor Dexter Burley inspired her to pursue sociology beyond the boundaries that she had previously imagined. ”

It wasn't long after her transfer that Thinn met Professor Dexter Burley, who inspired her to pursue sociology beyond the boundaries that she had

when support systems are not enough to sustain them. Thinn has challenged herself with the goal of continuing to keep this global perspective on society



Thinn Thinn