Welcome to my final “In the Loop.” OISP, now officially branded the “Home of the WorldCats,” courtesy of Bret Bleggi in CWU’s Public Relations Office has been “on the move.” Right now, that is more of a literal statement than a metaphorical one. The International Building is getting new carpet and new coats of paint so it is all torn up with everyone moving here and there as they make progress through the building.

**OISP Central**

So what has OISP been up to since the last In the Loop? As usual, quite a bit. Let’s begin with the lead story...OISP finally has a new permanent Executive Director, Ann Radwan. EXTREME GRATITUDE is expressed to Tracy Pellet, Staci Sleigh-Layman, Nicki Kukar, Meiqi He, John Swiney, Kevin Archer, Lori Sheeran, Rodney Bransdorfer, Theresa Wilson, Robert Lupton, Anne Cubile, Jesse Nelson, Terry Wilson, Michael Johnson, and Linda Hoff who all served in the various iterations of the search. While I have really enjoyed my time as Interim Executive Director, I think you will agree that Central Washington University is fortunate to have someone so accomplished in the international field. Ann will start her position April 1.

**Ann Radwan Short Biographical Statement**

Dr. Radwan received her BA degree in International Labor Relations from the School of International Service of the American University in Washington, DC. Her first Fulbright grant was to India and after returning to the US, she entered the University of Pennsylvania, receiving her Ph. D. in South Asia Regional Studies and Economic History. She has received both pre-and post-doctoral Fulbright-Hays grants to complete her dissertation research and to engage in comparative research in Egypt and India. She has also received grants for research in Pakistan.

At the University of North Florida she was an Associate Professor and Director of International Programs where she initiated internationalization with funding from the US Department of Education. Before moving to Egypt to be the Executive Director of the Bi-national Fulbright Commission, she served as Branch Chief in the Office of Academic Programs at the United States Information Agency (USIA) for the Near East and South Asia region. During her tenure at USIA, she expanded and administered the worldwide University Affiliation Program. Her international experience includes having worked at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University. While serving as the Associate Vice President for International Affairs at St. Cloud State University, Ann chaired the International Vision Task force which developed the strategic plan for internationalizing the university resulting in St. Cloud State University being awarded both the 2013 IIE Andrew Heiskell Award for Best Practices in developing international partnerships and the NAFSA Paul Simon Award of 2013 for Comprehensive Internationalization.

Kudos to Bobbie Peterson, who in addition to her myriad of duties, just got CWU SEVIS re-certified (translation: without it, Homeland Security would not allow any international students to come to CWU). If you know anything about dealing with the Feds, you know what a triumph that is. Congratulations Bobbie!
Speaking of new WorldCats, after a blow-out surprise baby shower organized by Program Assistant Rachel Gordon, we are all very excited to celebrate the Newest WorldCat kitty. International Advisor Kathy Gallentine welcomed Hailey on March 6. She was 8lb 8oz and eager to see the world. For now she is content to sleep and eat. Mom and baby are doing well and always looking forward to the next nap!

We were fortunate to be able to time the shower the day that Kathy Gallentine was in Ellensburg to shepherd the final stop in the process of putting through the In-bound International Student Insurance Mandate, effective Fall 2015. The Board of Trustees passed it unanimously. Way to go Kathy!

Not to be outdone by Rachel, UESL Instructor Meiqi He who also works with GSI has been supporting Asian students celebrating the Lunar New Year in which there were 150 participants from all nationalities as well as the Chinese Lantern Festival which Meiqi coordinated with Residence Life. Unlike the U.S. which celebrates for one day, Chinese know how to really do it and celebrate for 2 weeks with the Chinese Lantern Festival signaling the end.

At the last Faculty Development Day, Fulbright Presentation by Fulbright Officer, Jennifer Fox. Fifty faculty and staff attended to learn how to obtain a Fulbright opportunity to go abroad, and it was part of a coordinated visit across two states including private and public universities as well as community colleges.

This year is the 25th Anniversary of CWU’s relationship with University of Shimane Junior College. Our contact, Yoko Kodama, Professor in the Department of Arts and Sciences, has been working diligently to prepare a publication commemorating the Silver Jubilee of our relationship. David Hedrick, Michael Launius, Steve Horowitz, Bobbie Peterson are all contributors. We are all looking forward to its publication.
Rachel Gordon worked with librarian professor Dr. Ping Fu to bring a delegation from Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics to Central Washington University. They visited with the departments of Music, Art, Communications, Computer Science, Geography and Theater. The visit went really well, and the NUAA group came with visitation opportunities for CWU faculty that are compensated. Some faculty are already following up with plans to go to Nanjing this summer. No doubt they will enjoy themselves immensely.

International Advisor Roz Moe took a group of international students to Leavenworth. Shopping was apparently something that these students excel at. Roz was honored by being nominated for the inaugural CWU Diversity Award. Though she didn’t win this year, we know one year she will. Roz also co-hosted with Career Services a workshop on employment for F-1 international students on internships (CPTs), jobs post-graduation (OPTs), and on-campus employment.

Sara Cass, International Recruiter, has been out recruiting, recruiting, recruiting. Her job is interesting for so many reasons. Some days, she is recruiting at Green River Community College. Other days, she is recruiting in Korea.

University English as a Second Language (UESL)
Sara Cass and Sherri Fujita, UESL Director, have been cooperating in some joint ventures of their own….The Brazilians are coming, the Brazilians are coming. Seriously, Sara and Sherri applied to be one of the universities in the Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program in November. We already have applications. What a dynamic duo! I hear they want to take their act on the road. Watch out!!!

Speaking of entertaining, Sherri Fujita has been hosting representatives from Konan University in Kobe (Where’s the Beef?), Japan. Yukio Konishi, Deputy Director of the Konan International Exchange Center and Mariko Kobayashi, Coordinator of the Overseas Study Program were overwhelmed. Ms. Kobayashi said it best, “Now I can say CWU one of the most ideal places for our students to study English. We hope that our partnership will last long.”

At the suggestion of the College of Business Dean Kathryn Martell, CB and UESL had a social. What a mixer it was, masterminded by CB Event Coordinator Christopher Mendez, complete with The Burg DJ and a “scavenger” hunt allowing students to practice English as they looked for individuals who could “count to 10 in 10 languages,” “could speak 3 languages fluently,” etc. Prizes abounded. Word on the street is that French Professor Michael Johnson bought French majors and AUAP students who had just arrived that day from Japan got in on the fun.
All has not been light and airy with UESL however. Following Japanese custom whose beliefs are that on the 49th day after one’s passing, the soul departs for heaven, UESL hosted a 49th Day Remembrance commemoration. All were invited to gather to wish the deceased Yoshiko Hirooka and Saya Sonoda, who died in a car accident in Palm Springs over Thanksgiving, well on their journey. I do not believe there is a day that goes by still that we do not think about them.

Study Abroad and Exchange Programs (SAEP)
As of this writing, Assistant Director Steve Cook is off gallivanting in Europe with Music Department Chair Todd Shiver in Scotland and Prague. Though I have no doubt they are having fun, they are seriously working hard to solidifying relationships with our current partners and working on creating new partnerships.

While Kathy Gallentine worked on the logistics of the Inbound International Student Insurance, Steve worked in parallel on instituting a mandated Outbound Domestic Student Insurance program for those traveling abroad. Truth be known, we all owe a great deal to Toni Burvee, Program Manager, Business Services & Contracts, who was very helpful in shepherding the entire process.

Steve Cook has also been working with the United Faculty of Central Washington University, the CWU faculty union, to solidify terms and conditions of employment for faculty when leading students abroad. He also has been working with the CWU’s Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee to standardize credits received by students for faculty-led trips abroad.

There have been many successful study abroads this year. Highlighting just one, consider senior Finance major Tyler Frazier who wrote about his semester in Bilbao, Spain saying, “My experience abroad...taught me about myself, and I have grown as a person because of it. ”

Asia University of America Program (AUAP)
I wonder if a program ever gets tired of being so successful. CWU smoked the competition AGAIN!!! The test results for the last group of students who attended AUAP showed that the average total increase in test scores was 156 points for Central, followed by 138 points for Western and 109 points for Eastern.
AUAP Educational activities include the Career Fair where students practice their English in an interview setting. Events like these run on the deep roots that AUAP has with the CWU Campus as well as Ellensburg. Volunteers like Amy McGuffin (pictured) who is the Director of Tourism for the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, participate.

Indeed, Jessica McKean provided wonderful testimony when she said, “Brian and I decided to become part of the AUAP program to expose Hunter and Quinton to a different culture, but what we have gotten is so much more. They are family, they fit right into our life, they have become big brothers to the boys, they cheer for the Seahawks as if they grew up doing it and they make Brian and I feel as though they are our own kids. With only 2 weeks until they go back to Japan we are going to make as many more memories with them as they will allow.”

Fun activities include the Coming of Age celebration. The Japanese have an annual holiday on the second Monday of January to celebrate all those who have turned 20, the age of majority in Japan, during the previous year. Because it is such an important event in the lives of Japanese young people, AUAP hosts a celebration as well. There is the formal part where the students received their official certificate commemorating their adulthood and a reading of the congratulations letter of the President of Asia University. Following the official ceremony, there is a “Follies” type show by the students (and willing staff and teachers) featuring many acts. Intermission features poster presentations by those students who earned the Ambassador Award. To earn the Ambassador Award is quite a challenging feat consisting of 34 requirements including earning all A’s in classes, volunteering on campus AND in the community, actively participating in extramural activities, and leading activities. In the last class out of 55, 49 started the quest but only 8 earned it.
Well it is time for me to go...literally...I am being stared at by the “carpet guys.” My year at OISP has been an amazing odyssey and adventure of wonderful learning opportunities. I have to thank Staci Sleigh-Layman for seeing the possibility which allowed me the privilege of working with upper administrators like Marilyn Levine, George Clark, and John Swiney. It also allowed this Associate Dean to get to know another unit in depth. OISP is a great team to work with. Special shout outs to Bobbi Peterson and Rachel Gordon for guiding me through the labyrinth of trials and tribulations and always making it look smooth. Clearly there are those that labor quietly behind the scenes like Greta Herman doing the work to make miracles happen like getting international governments to pay their bills. Newbies like Stacy Soderstrom, who just got officially recognized by Homeland Security to act on CWU’s behalf in processing international students’ I-20’s, etc., keep the machine going. I will miss Ray Wells Bocci Ball report. While OISP with its 34 staff and faculty are in charge of over 700 international students and visiting faculty scholars, it would not be possible without support from all the external units like Admissions (Bobbie Broderius, Kathy Gaer-Carlton and their staff), Registrars (Stephanie Hubbard, Lindsey Brown, Rose Spodobalski-Brower and their staff), Student Success and Residence Life (Richard DeShields, Keith Champagne, Jenna Hyatt and their staff), Career Services (Vicki Sannuto and her staff); Financial Services (Marnie Fox, Amelia Black, Adrian Naranjo, Kelley Christianson, and their staff), Grants and Contracts (Heather Harrell and her staff), Business Services and Purchasing (Stuart Thompson, Toni Burvee, and their staff), Human Resources and affiliated (Staci Sleigh-Layman, Katelyn Jones, Joy Corbett, and Linda Waters), Labor Relations (Charlene Andrews) as well as Public Relations (Teri Olin, Bret Bleggi, Tami Sawyer, and their staff). Like all places, it is the people who make it special and these are all special people. Go WorldCats!!!!

Below are other funky, fun, and educational international things that may be of interest:

Out of the blue Shakira medley:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRWVMPnByzo

All about China:  
http://usa.news.net/article/2510250/chinas-wealth-finds-home-in-washington-state  

All about Saudi Arabia:  

Percentage of international bachelor’s-degree students studying business at American colleges:  
History of the Turkish New Year tree

A Turkish New Year tree, in Turkish Yılbaşı Ağacı, looks the same as a Christmas tree with Christmas ornaments. It is called a New Year tree because it is specific to the New Year and, with about 95% of Turkey's population Muslim, most Turks do not celebrate Christmas. After the modernisation of Turkey, the Islamic calendar and the fiscal calendar were replaced by the Gregorian calendar and New Year celebrations started in the late 1920s. The celebrations became popular in Turkey and Christmas trees were brought into the country as New Year trees. Since then, the custom of setting up a tree for the New Year is a traditional event in Turkey. It is usually put up between the beginning of December and the end of January, the mid date being New Year's Eve. Also, the habit of giving presents at Christmas was changed to the giving of New Year presents. The New Year tree can be considered an example of westernised Turkish culture or Turkified European culture.