

# International Bulldawg Newsletter

March 2007

Volume 2, Issue 3

## Welcome from the Center

### Aretha Jones – Cook Associate Dean and Director

President George Bush has issued a special proclamation for National Women's History Month, reminding the nation of the importance of women's historical accomplishments. The Holmes Cultural Diversity Center would like to invite you to attend the events we have scheduled for March in celebration of National Women's History Month. The theme for March 2007 is **"Generations of Women Moving History Forward."** The theme honors women for their achievements both internationally and nationally in promoting women's history. Recently, two international women accomplishments were noted in January 2007. Joanelle Romero, launched the Red Nation Media Internet and Television Channel, and Monique Mehta is Executive Director of the Third Wave Foundation. This month is celebrated by governments, colleges and universities, schools k-12, churches and other institutions in the United States. Enjoy!!

### The Chinese new year celebration Party



This Chinese New Year Party was successfully celebrated at the Wise Center auditorium on Feb-16th. There were many international students, faculty members, and American guests who were curious to learn about celebrating New Year in Asia. Over 400 people attended this big party. At the beginning of the party, traditional Chinese food was served, which included dumpling, Chinese beef and other delicious food. Unexpectedly a large number of guests attended the program. Some people were disappointed that they couldn't get to eat Chinese food as it ran out. One of the Chinese volunteer students said that he is truly sorry for those guests. However, the performance was entertaining enough to make everyone happy. The wonderful show began with a performance from the little swan group. The atmosphere in the auditorium was full of color and happiness. Students also performed a Chinese drama, which was based on the Chinese traditional story "The Romance of Three Kingdoms". The Chinese students added some 'humorous' elements to the drama making the story even more amusing with their acting skills. Although all the performers on stage spoke in Chinese, some of them made jokes in English so that the American audience could understand. Two beautiful exchange students from Beijing Institute of Technology, Trish and Carrie played some traditional Chinese instrumental music (Flute and the Erhu Fiddle). These students received the warmest applause from the audience. The melody of the instrumental music made many students feel homesick and sad to be away from their families. The performance ended with a spectacular dance from the little swan group. Lotteries added more fun to the evening show. The majority of the audience was Chinese, but some American students won the lottery. People clapped and laughed when an American student screamed with joy. *Contributed by Dong Lei and Jackie Park*

### African Night

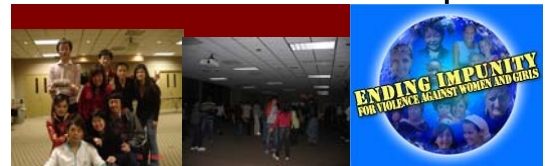


The African Student Association (ASA) put up their first African night at MSU after several years. It was a night filled with the beautiful music composed and choreographed by Dr. Robert Damm the Director of Music Education Partnerships. Playing on the drums were MSU's very own talented graduate students, Vitalis Wibald

## Special Days for the Month

March 2007						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Mar. 1 Bosnia and Herzegovina Independence Day
- Mar. 2 Morocco Independence Day
- Mar. 2 International Tax Workshop
- Mar. 6 Ghana Independence Day
- Mar. 8 International Women's Day
- Mar. 8 International Movie
- Mar. 9 International Tax Workshop
- Mar. 11 Cricket World Cup starts
- Mar. 12 Mauritius Independence Day
- Mar. 14 Andorra Independence Day
- Mar. 21 Namibia Independence Day
- Mar. 25 Greece Independence Day
- Mar. 30 International Tax Workshop



### Valentine's Day International Dance Party

February 17, Valentine's Day International Dance Party was successfully held at memorial hall. About 120 guests came in that night and enjoyed the party. At the beginning of the dance party, everyone was a bit hesitated to start dancing. However, when the lights got dimmer, more and more people started to dance. It was not difficult to find some great dancers on the floor. Many international students showed their amazing dance skills. It truly was a great night for everyone who participated. *Contributed by Jackie Park*

Temu from Tanzania, Appollo Luanje from Cameroon, Haniel Waithaka from Kenya, Comfort Ricketts from Nigeria, Peter Ampim from Ghana (also the president of ASA), Dr. Robert Damm and his daughter. The drumming was followed by several presentations on various countries represented by African students on campus. A Nigerian student from the University of Memphis and Vitalis Temu from Tanzania also sang during the program. An authentic African meal consisting of Jollof rice (rice cooked in tomatoes and mixed vegetables), Puff Puff (an African doughnut), grilled chicken, fried plantains and boiled eggs were served. The food was specially prepared by MSUs Nigerian Fulbright Scholar Ms. Anthonia Eseyin, Mrs. Marie Yogo, Mrs. Theresa Buza, Juliet Ndikum and Comfort Ricketts. The program ended with a colorful fashion show of various male and female attires from different parts of Africa. Over 200 students, faculty and staff attended the program.

### **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Bosnia and Herzegovina, also known as the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, is a country on the Balkan peninsula of southern Europe with an area of 51,129 km<sup>2</sup> (19,741 square miles) and an estimated population of around 4 million people. It is known in the country's official languages as Bosna i Hercegovina (Latin alphabet) or Босна и Херцеговина (Cyrillic alphabet), although the name is commonly abbreviated to Bosnia, BiH, БиН, БѸХ or БИХ. The country is a home to three ethnic "constituent peoples": Bosniaks, Serbs and Croats. Regardless of ethnicity, a citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina is often identified in English as a Bosnian. In Bosnia, the pan-ethnic distinction between a Bosnian and a Herzegovinian is maintained. The country is decentralized and is administratively divided into two entities, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska. (*wikipedia*).

### **Morocco**

The Kingdom of Morocco is a country in North Africa. It has a long coastline on the Atlantic Ocean that reaches past the Strait of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean Sea. It borders Algeria to the east, the Mediterranean Sea and a relatively thin water border with Spain to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to its west. There are also two Spanish exclaves, Ceuta and Melilla, bordering Morocco to the north. The border to the south is disputed. Morocco claims ownership of Western Sahara and has administered most of the territory since 1975. Morocco, a constitutional monarchy, is the only African country that is not currently a member of the African Union. However, it is a member of the Arab League, Arab Maghreb Union, Organization of the Islamic Conference, Mediterranean Dialogue group, and Group of 77, and is a major non-NATO ally of the United States. (*wikipedia*).

### **Ghana**

Ghana, officially the Republic of Ghana, is a country in West Africa. It borders Côte d'Ivoire to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, Togo to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south. Accra is the capital and largest city. The country's population in 2005 was 21,029,853. It was inhabited in pre-colonial times by a number of ancient kingdoms, including the inland Ashanti kingdom and various Fante states along the coast. Trade with European states flourished after contact with the Portuguese in the 15th century, and the British established a crown colony, Gold Coast, in 1874. It was the first black African country to obtain independence from colonial rule. Upon achieving independence from the United Kingdom in 1957, the name Ghana was chosen for the new nation as a reference to its ancient roots in the Empire of Ghana. (*wikipedia*).

### **Mauritius**

Mauritius is an island nation off the coast of Africa in the southwest Indian Ocean, about 900 kilometers (560 mi) east of Madagascar and about 3,943 kilometers (2,450 mi) southwest of India. In addition to the island of Mauritius, the republic includes the islands of St. Brandon, Rodrigues and the Agalega Islands. Mauritius is part of the Mascarene Islands, with the French island of Réunion 200 kilometers (125 mi) to the southwest. The flag of Mauritius has red, blue, yellow and green stripes. The red stripe represents the struggle for independence. The blue stripe represents the ocean around the island. The yellow stripe represents the sun and golden light of independence. The green stripe represents fruitful soil and vegetation. (*wikipedia*).

## Events and Announcements

### **International Tax Workshops March 2, 9 & 30**

Swalm Building Auditorium from 3:00 – 6:00 pm.

### **International Women's Day March 8**

#### **UN Theme: Ending Impunity for violence against women and girls.**

It is a major day of global celebration for the economic, political and social achievements of women. Started as a political event, the holiday blended in the culture of many countries. In some celebrations, the day lost its political flavor, and became simply an occasion for men to express their love to the women around them - somewhat similar to Western Mother's Day and St Valentine's Day mixed together. In others, however, the political and human rights theme as designated by the United Nations runs strong, and political and social awareness of the struggles of women worldwide are brought out and examined in a hopeful manner.

### **International Women's Day Film March 8**

Water: Indian film at McCool Auditorium 6-8 pm

### **Cricket WorldCup March 11**

All games will be televised at the OTC classroom from March 13- April 28. This worldcup has been sponsored by the Department of Housing and Residence Life, Student Association, Department of Recreational Sports and the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center. Check detailed schedule on <http://usa.cricinfo.com/worldcup2007/>

### **Namibia**

Namibia, officially the Republic of Namibia, is a country in southern Africa on the Atlantic coast. It shares borders with Angola, and Zambia to the north, Botswana to the east, and South Africa to the south. It gained independence from South Africa in 1990 and its capital city is Windhoek. Namibia is a member state of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the African Union (AU), and the Commonwealth of Nations. (*wikipedia*).

### **Greece**

Greece is a country in southeastern Europe, situated on the southern end of the Balkan Peninsula. It is heir to the heritages of classical Greece, the Byzantine Empire, and nearly four centuries of Ottoman rule. Regarded as the cradle of western civilization and being the birthplace of democracy, Western philosophy, the Olympic Games, western literature, political science, major scientific principles and drama (including both tragedy and comedy), Greece has a particularly long and eventful history and a cultural heritage considerably influential in Europe, Northern Africa and the Middle East. Today, Greece is a developed country, a member of the European Union since 1981 and a member of the Economic and Monetary Union of the European Union since 2001. Athens, Thessaloniki, Piraeus and Patra are the country's major cities. (*wikipedia*).

### **Andorra**

The Principality of Andorra (French: Principauté d'Andorre, Spanish: Principado de Andorra, Catalan: Principat d'Andorra) is a small landlocked country in southwestern Europe, located in the eastern Pyrenees mountains and bordered by France and Spain. Once isolated, it is currently a prosperous country mainly because of tourism and its status as a tax haven. (*wikipedia*).

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