From the President

Dear Friends and Colleagues,
At the threshold of 2012, on behalf of IAICS and myself, I wish each of you and your families a very happy new year of greater joy and success!

This is the time of the year when the embrace of the immediate past and future gives us much to reflect upon and expect. Each of us has a story to tell and a dream to fulfill. Yet we all share the same interests in intercultural explorations and the common goal for living in harmony within diversity in the global village. This intercultural part of our lives is a gift to be cherished and celebrated.

After having worked in the US for four months since fall of 2011, one thing I feel more strongly than ever is how blessed we are as intercultural scholars and as members of the IAICS family. In the era of globalization and multiculturalization, nothing is certain but change. And with change being the constant or norm, it is of paramount importance to be able to cross borders and to function with flexibility and ease in among peoples of different languages, ethnicities, beliefs and ways of life. Many of you would probably agree with me that we may not have yielded our personal intercultural growth without IAICS. IAICS has created an ideal intercultural space with openness to interethnic, interracial and interdisciplinary pursuit of truth.

Having been with IAICS for more than a decade, and having been working in close contact with people from other cultures, I’ve learned to appreciate diverse cultures and ways of life which has in turn made my work more meaningful and my life happier. My past four months’ teaching (continued on page two)

For conference details, please see page three.
experience in the Chinese Studies Program at the University of Louisville led me to realize how much I have benefited from my own intercultural growth and how as intercultural persons, we can not only enjoy changes in our own lives but can also make a change in the lives of many others. The following words from my American students echo exactly my feelings about intercultural growth:

Ultimately, learning about the ethnicity and religions of China has opened my eyes to a whole other world that I never knew existed. Moreover, it has made me appreciate the nuanced cultures that I experience in America and encouraged me to think differently about how things are the way they are here in America.

Learning about the Chinese culture and traditions has enlightened me to a culture that I knew very little about previously.

These three courses have enlightened me to another side of China, but also left me questioning the sort of impression that America and Americans leave on people from other cultures, and I have started questioning how exactly American are viewed by outsiders.

Isn’t it a blessing to be enlightened in a world of tension and conflict? Isn’t it a pleasure to be able to enlighten others who are also in search of a common space for peace and harmony beyond tension and conflict? With its three decades-plus of growth and remarkable breadth and depth of (inter)disciplinary inquiries, as well as its truly intercultural/international representations, IAICS has endowed us with such blessing and pleasure. While we welcome the New Year, I’d like to invite you all to celebrate the opportunity that IAICS has created for us for intercultural dialogues free of cultural prejudices and hegemony, and the power to take challenges, both academically and personally, for finding peace and harmony within and between ourselves.

I’d also like to welcome you to come to the 2012 IAICS international conference hosted by Yuan Ze University in Taiwan and make your contribution to an engaged intercultural dialogue on Cultural Convergence and Conflict in Global Context: Rethinking the Phenomenon of “Glocalization.”

Once again, I wish you and your family an abundance of health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year of 2012! I look forward to seeing you in Taiwan at IAICS 2012.

SONG Li
University of Louisville, USA
Harbin Institute of Technology, China

Dr. Song left her mark on the beach in Miami, Florida, in December. Then, she and her family rang in 2012 in Times Square in New York City.

The Centennial Times Square New Year’s Ball.
The 21st century is the era of convergence and conflicts. We see the convergence of new communication technology and at the same time we see the conflicts emerge among different nations and cultures. War and disasters continue to bring threat to human lives and the sustainability of the globe. Facing this dilemma of human society, the theme of the 18th IAICS conference focuses on building a harmonious global community in which to understand and develop intercultural knowledge and skills, most critical for a productive and successful life in the 21st century.

Conference Registration
Register early and save! Conference registration fees are as follows:
Early Bird Registration by March 30, 2012:
- Member NTD 4,200 (= US $140)
- Non-member NTD 5,400 (= US $180)
- Student/Spouse NTD2,100 (= US $70)

Late registration by April 30, 2012:
- Member NTD 4,800 (= US $160)
- Non-member NTD 5,700 (= US $190)
- Student/Spouse NTD 2,700 (= US $90)

IAICS Membership
IAICS members save on conference registration, so for the best savings be sure to join IAICS before you arrive. Membership rates are as follows:
- Regular member: $60 (1 year); $115 (2 years) $170 (3 years)
- Student: $40 (1 year)
- Organization: $100 (1 year)
- Retired: $50
- Lifetime member: $1,000

At this time, IAICS is only able to accept advance membership registration by PayPal or check made out in US dollars. Otherwise, join IAICS on site at the conference. For further information about IAICS and advance registration, please follow this link:
http://www.uri.edu/iaics/index.php

Hotel Registration
It is strongly recommended to register for a room at the official conference hotel, Hotel Kuva Chateau, by April 30. Regular rates vary for the 248 guest rooms according to which plan a guest selects, but the average rate is $4,000 Taiwanese dollars (or $132.00 U.S.). However, conference organizers have arranged for a generous discount, with a room for two persons at $2,800 (about $93.00 U.S.); and a room for one is discounted to $2,500 (or $83.00 U.S.). Follow this link for hotel registration to receive the discounted rate: http://140.138.168.79/2012iaics/hotel.htm

According to the hotel’s website, all rooms are “decorated in a fusion of classical Chinese and modern European styles. Chinese and Western antiques placed in corridors and in corners contrast nicely with the “Personalized” business facilities in the rooms, including private safety box, ironing board, satellite and cable channels, mini bar, refrigerator writing desk, two direct international lines and broadband Internet line. Separate shower and bath, refined bathroom accessories, and plan. A five-star choice of arts and culture. It is within easy distance of Taoyuan International Airport (20-minute ride), the seven key industrial parks in the Taoyuan area, Taiwan High Speed -Taoyuan Station (10-minute ride), and several tourist sites as Yinko, Daxi, Shihmen Reservoir, Leofoo Village and Window on China. The hotel Kuva Chateau is the first of its class in Jungli, Taoyuan County and is ideally located nearby the Guang Ming Park, the Sogo Department Store, the Jungli night market and the Jungli Terminus commercial district. (http://www.kuva-chateau.com.tw/en_index.asp#)
Yuan Ze University
Established in 1989, Yuan Ze University may be young by traditional standards, yet it has been recognized as a model for newly emerging universities within its short 20 years. As the first and only university to win the National Quality Award in 2003, Yuan Ze received an award from the Ministry of Education for the Teaching Excellence Project in 2005. Further, the university has been designated by the MOE as one of the top 12 universities in Taiwan since 2005, receiving an award for the “Aim for the Top University and Elite Research Center Development Project.” Granted with the highest honor in teaching, research and administration, Yuan Ze has become a model of higher education, in Taiwan. Located in Chung-Li City, Yuan Ze has the advantage of easy access to other major cities in Taiwan. The university is only 20 minutes away from Taipei and 20 minutes by car from Taoyuan International Airport.

Yuan Ze University Contact Information
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Taiwan
An island on the western edge of the Pacific Ocean, Taiwan’s total land area is about 36,000 square kilometers (14,400 square miles). It is shaped like a leaf that is narrow at both ends. It lies off the southeastern coast of mainland Asia, across the Taiwan Strait from China. To the north is Japan; to the south is the Philippines.
Conference Organization
IAICS and Yuan Ze University (YZU) are jointly hosting the conference. Yet, credit goes to YZU for providing the conference site and taking on primary organizing responsibilities. Anyone who has ever been involved in event and conference planning knows how much work is involved in presenting a high-quality experience for attendees and guests. IACS thanks the following for their hard work:

Conference Chair
Tsong P. Perng, President, Yuan Ze University

University Organizers
- The College of General Studies
- The College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Office of Research and Development
- Office of International Affairs

Organizing Committee
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Lin-Wen Wang, Dean, College of General Studies of Yuan Ze University

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- Deng-Wang Hsieh, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Yuan University
- Yoon-Wah Wong, Director of the Center of International Language and Culture, Yuan Ze University
- Yi-Ming Sun, Former Director of the Office of Research and Development, Yuan Ze University
- Allen N. Yu, Former Director of the Office of International Affairs, Yuan Ze University

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- Feng-Yung Hu, Assistant Professor, College of General Studies, Yuan Ze University; Adjunct Assistant Professor, National Taiwan University
- Ming-De Feng, Deputy Director of Lifelong Education of Yuan Ze University

Secretary
- Edith Chien, Secretary of Arts and Design Graduate School
- Hung-Chin Chiang, Assistant of the College of General Studies of Yuan Ze University
- Chia-Jou Lee, Assistant of MOE’s Quality Teaching Program for the College of General Studies, Yuan Ze University

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- Shwu-Huoy Tzou, Associate Professor, Department of Art and Design; Chair of Arts Center, Yuan Ze University
- Hsiao-Hui Wang, Associate Professor, Department of Information Communication, Yuan Ze University
- Fei Wu, Professor, College of Journalism and Communication, JiNan University; Researcher of Guangdong Provincial Government

Graduate Affairs and Information Section
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Public Relations and Cultural Advocating Section
Wei-Ren Chen, Assistant Professor of CGS, YZU

Reception and Information Section
Jia-Chi Liang, Assistant Professor of CGS, YZU

Publications


新年快樂
šťastný nový rok
Bonne année
شاشه توبه
สวัสดีปีใหม่
Mwaka mzuri / Heri ya mwaka mpya
Щасливого Нового Року / 3 Новим роком
A gut yohr
عام سعيد
Happy new year!
**Personal**

Chen, G. M. (2011, December). *The impact of new media on intercultural communication in global context*. A keynote speech delivered at the 6th International Conference on Intercultural Communication at WuHan University, China.


Jiang, Zhaofeng M. (2012, February). *Teaching speaking for college students from minority groups in China*. A 45-minute presentation for the 8th Annual CamTESOL Conference to be delivered in Cambodia.


Young, P. (2011, November). *The impact of an individual’s spirituality on communication in the workplace*. Paper delivered at the National Communication Association (NCA) annual conference. New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.
**Remembering Dr. Noreen M. Schaefer-Faix**

We are saddened by the loss of former IAICs member and colleague, Professor Noreen M. Schaefer-Faix of Defiance University, Defiance, Ohio (USA). Professor Schaefer-Faix was a former classmate of Dr. Guo-Ming Chen (executive director of IAICS) in the doctoral program at Kent State University. The late Dr. D. Ray Heisey was the director of the program at that time. Dr. Heisey was a former president of IAICS.

Dr. Schaefer-Faix died on June 16, 2011, at her home in Defiance. The obituary, below, prepared by the funeral home provides a brief sketch on the professor. ([http://mastmockhoffman.com/obituary/m3ly](http://mastmockhoffman.com/obituary/m3ly))

She was a beloved grandmother, mother, sister, friend and teacher to all. She lived life with vigor, to the fullest and was happiest while on an adventure. She loved to travel and visited Japan in a day when women weren't supposed to wear pants, sailed across the Atlantic on the QE2, ate chocolate croissants in Paris, danced jigs in Ireland, visited all 50 states and most recently, hiked on the Great Wall of China. Of all the places she visited, Disney World was her favorite. In her last weeks of life she was able to return there and smiled the whole time. Her favorite places in Disney were Small World and Epcot because she loved the variety of cultures. She always encouraged everyone to always try one bite of something new, especially if it was chocolate. She loved conversation, meeting new people and reading books.

She was the consummate professor, educator and negotiator. She was persistent, driven and pushed everyone to do better. She received her Ph.D. from Kent State University and was formerly a tenured professor at Defiance College and had also taught at Northwest State, Kutztown University and other colleges in Pittsburgh. She will be loved and missed by her countless students, her many friends and her family.

She is survived by her three children, Honora Handley of Atlanta, Ga., Eileen Slattery of Denver, Colorado and Phillip (Tripp) Faix III of San Francisco, California, as well as four grandchildren and her sister, Joan Zallnick of Fayetteville, N.Y. Her final wishes were for her life to be celebrated and that she be cremated and buried alongside her parents, William and Julia Schaefer of Euclid, Ohio.
Say Peace in all languages!

The people of the world prefer peace to war and they deserve to have it. Bombs are not needed to solve international problems when they can be solved just as well with respect and communication. The Internet Internationalization (I18N) community, which values diversity and human life everywhere, offers "Peace" in many languages as a small step in this direction.

Let's show the world how people of many nations can cooperate to accomplish something small, which can be a first step towards accomplishing something bigger. IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SAY "PEACE" in a language that is not listed or filled in below (or that needs correction), please send it in and we will add it to the table (please also let us know whether you wish to be given credit).

Follow this link: http://www.columbia.edu/~fdc/pace/
(Source: Website of Columbia University, New York City)