



The Center for International Education

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

CSU Honored to Have Fort Foundation Visiting Scholar in Communication and Film Studies

During Spring 2017 Columbus State University proudly welcomed Dr. Doru Pop, Associate Professor in the Department of Cinematography and Media, Faculty of Theatre and Television at Babeş -Bolyai University, Cluj Romania, as the 2017 Mildred Miller Fort Foundation Visiting Scholar in Communication and Film Studies. An internationally recognized scholar and researcher, Pop's primary areas of interest include new wave film production and film production in general.

Pop's interest in film and communication can be credited to his movie going experiences as a youth in Romania. During the 1980s, Pop visited a local movie theater in Romania that played French and Italian movies from the 1950s and 1960s. Pop remembers finding his love for cinema while sitting in those screening rooms as a youth in Romania.

Although Pop loved cinema, he never thought he would actually become a film teacher. Initially, upon graduating from college, he became a journalist, taking great pride in his work. Following his work as a Romanian journalist, Pop decided to travel to the United States where he earned an M.A in Communications at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Upon returning to Babeş -Bolyai University he helped create a new film studies program for the university while earning his Doctorate. At the time there was only one film studies program in Romania.

While being interviewed, Pop joyfully noted that "after 2000, Romanian cinema boomed. Romania had a bunch of great film directors that made it into the interna-

tional film festivals, so all of a sudden Romanian film was a hit! So I started studying them and in 2014 I published my first book in the States on Romanian New Wave Film." Pop is also widely published in premier Romanian academic journals, and is Editor in Chief for *Ekphrasis*.



Dr. Doru Pop, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj Romania.

While working at Columbus State University Pop has had the opportunity to teach European Cinema and to lecture for CSU's International Learning Community. His first movie going experience in Columbus was a trip to Carmike 15 to see the current remake of *Beauty and the Beast*. With a big smile, he recounts, "The movie was great! I really wanted to have the full American cinema experience so we watched it in 3-D!"

Although Pop taught European Film at CSU, he believes everyone should be exposed to both European and American film, since a healthy

balance between the two could help open the minds of movie viewers to entertainment and serious matters that characterize both European and American film. Pop noted, "I am interested in the cultural and political aspects of movie making. Movies are not only a tool we use to waste time, or a tool we use to go into another world and escape from this world. Movies are, I would say, a tool through which we understand reality. It's how we understand society, and how we understand relationships."

Pop has enjoyed meeting and having great discussions with students while at CSU. He believes the mind is the most beautiful thing in the world and it needs to be fed. A major focus of his media class was to challenge each of his students with new ideas and perspectives on real things happening in the world today.

Pop says that he loves being a professor because, "I am not here to 'clock in'. I do not come to work dragging my feet. Some of the best moments in class were had while discussing movies. When the students would say, 'Oh! I was not thinking about that!' Those 'aha!' moments, for me, are invaluable." When Pop returns to his home university in Romania, he plans to tell everyone about the things he learned from teaching and experiencing relationships while here at Columbus State. He thinks of America as his second home.

The Mildred Miller Fort Foundation Visiting Scholar has been funded through the generosity of the Fort Foundation since 2000.

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- **Dr. Shamim Khan**, Interim Assistant Director, and Professor & Director of Graduate Programs TSYS School of Computer Science

- **Dr. Daniel Ross**, Oxford Program Director

- **Christine Shaw**, Administrative Coordinator

- **Janet Crane**, International Student and Scholar Coordinator

- **Kory Saunders**, Study Abroad Coordinator

- **Branden Printup**, Study Abroad and Publications Graduate Assistant

- **Jathin Yalamanchili**, International Programs Graduate Assistant

- **Jac Cooper**, Student Assistant

About the Center for International Education

The Center for International Education (CIE) promotes campus internationalization by working with international students, students interested in studying abroad, and providing international education.

CIE is committed to infusing international perspectives

throughout curricula, promoting international faculty development, providing quality study abroad programs, ensuring the success of international students, supporting the exchange of international scholars, and stimulating awareness of international issues and cultures.



Departure of Executive Director and New Personnel at the Center for International Education



Dr. Neal McCrillis

The Center for International Education would like to express our deep gratitude to Dr. Neal McCrillis for his years of work and dedicated service as Executive Director for the Center for International Education at Columbus State University. In spring 2017 McCrillis accepted the position of Vice Provost for International Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Nearly twenty years ago in 1998, he came to CSU as the Mildred Miller Fort Foundation Eminent Scholar Chair of International Education and Executive Director of the Center for International Education. As the title implies, McCrillis had a major role in building CSU's strong study abroad programs and on campus international education opportunities. He served in multiple roles within the University System of Georgia, including Chair of the System Council on International Education, and has received high honors for his work and advancement of international education. Under McCrillis's leadership, CSU received the 2014 Paul Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization. The impact of his work will continue to be felt by our scholastic community for many years to come.

In Dr. McCrillis's absence, Dr. Becky Becker has assumed the role of Interim Executive Director of the Center for International Education after having served as Assistant Director for two years. Becker joined the CIE as International Studies Certificate Coordinator in 2013 while continuing to teach and direct in the Department of Theatre. Prior to that time she was very active in the International Learning Community, international faculty development opportunities, leading and teaching study abroad courses.

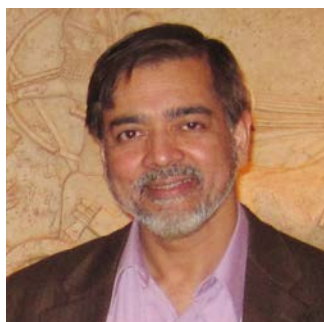
Stepping into the role of Interim Assistant Director is Dr. Shamim Khan. Khan is currently a professor of computer science at CSU. He has taught many different courses in computer science in the United States, Asia, and Australia. He has led CSU Study Abroad courses as well, and was the founding Chair of the CSU Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors (SRACE) Committee. Khan has received multiple awards for his contributions to computer science, and he has volunteered numerous hours in the community for science and technology events around Columbus. He is a welcome addition to the CIE.

Finally, the CIE is pleased to welcome Dr. Dan Ross, who accepted a new position as Oxford Program Director during spring 2017. Ross began his career as a professor of English at CSU in 1990. His fields of interest are Irish Literature, Victorian Literature, and Modern British Literature. While at CSU, Ross has served as site director for CSU Study Abroad Programs in Japan and England. He has received multiple awards for his work and contributions to the literary world. The CIE is excited to welcome two new staff members, Dr. Ross and Dr. Khan.



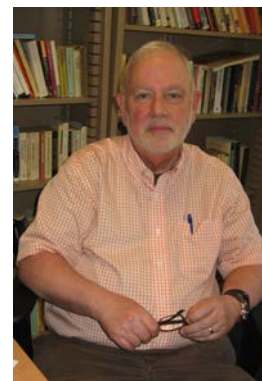
Dr. Becky Becker

Interim Executive Director of the Center for International Education, International Studies Certificate Coordinator and Professor of Theater



Dr. Shamim Khan

Interim Assistant Director and Professor & Director of Graduate Programs
TSYS School of Computer Science



Dr. Daniel Ross

Oxford Program Director



New Short-Term Study Abroad Opportunities During 2016-2017

Columbus State University and the Center for International Education work diligently to provide students with multiple opportunities to study abroad. Studying abroad allows students to become globally minded as they strive to earn credits towards their degrees.

This year the Center for International Education offered two new spring break programs and one new Maymester program respectively: The Intercultural Leadership Service Learning Program in Costa Rica, The Ireland Leadership in Education Program, and The CSU in Southern Spain Spanish Immersion Program. All three new programs have been successful.

Of the three new programs, the Intercultural Leadership Service Learning Program was a unique program that combined three units on campus: the Center for International Education (CIE), The Office of Diversity and the Servant Leadership Program. The goal of the program was to continue to increase student diversity in study abroad programs and to expand the types of programs offered. Led by Ms. Kory Saunders, Program Director



CSU in Costa Rica 2017

and Study Abroad Coordinator at the CIE, Dr. Wendi Jenkins, Site Director and Director of the Servant Leadership Program, and Ms. Johniqua Williams, Student Development Specialist for Diversity, this program was in partnership with Global Visions International (GVI). All three served as faculty for the program.

Twelve Students explored diversity and

servant leadership through a cross-cultural lens while abroad. Students engaged with the GVI staff, volunteers, and local community as they completed various service projects throughout the week spent in Costa Rica. Students also interacted with native school teachers, community leaders, and volunteers while experiencing the cultural diversity of Quepos, el Cocal and Manuel Antonio. The students sanded, primed, and painted the community center, expanded a playground, and built shaded areas around the center, and created a mural that they conceptualized, drew and painted. What made the mural so special is the palms of the tree

were the palms of the study abroad students' hands, the GVI staff, local children and others in

the community. All of the participants enjoyed shared fellowship and conversation with the locals during traditional Costa Rican meals, and explored Quepos, Costa Rica's rich history during their free time. The most rewarding aspect for the faculty was having the students ask if this program would be offered again as some were considering participating a second time.

International Students and International Student Athletes are High Achievers

Columbus State University welcomes students from all over the world. Each semester CSU hosts approximately 140 students from over 40 different countries. Exchange students may study for one or two semesters while the majority of the students complete degrees at CSU. At the end of Spring Semester 2017 twenty-eight international students graduated from CSU during three separate ceremonies. A large majority of these students were student athletes and Computer Science Master's program students.

Columbus State University's men's and women's tennis team included 13 international students this past semester. The CSU NCAA Division II fourth ranked Women's team made it all the way to the National Quarterfinals this year. They closed out the season 25 -3 overall which is the third highest win total for them in 16 seasons under Coach Even Isaacs. The women's team also matched the longest run in program history by reaching the quarterfinals for the fifth time.

The CSU NCAA Division II third ranked Men's team made it to the National Semi-Finals this year. They closed out the year at 25 - 4 overall which is the most wins in the 16 year tenure of Coach Evan Isaacs. CSU matched its longest ever postseason run.

Another important CSU team is the Women's Soccer team. It includes 3 international students. The CSU NCAA Division II 4th ranked Lady Cougars made it to the semifinals this year. One of our international students, Hugrun Elvarsdottir from Gardabaer, Iceland was named a D2CCA All American for her achievements on and off the field. Congratulations to these outstanding students and their teams.



Kiongozi Award Winner: Saravinder Pannu of New Zealand

The word “kiongozi” means “leader” in Swahili. Each year the Center for International Education selects an international student who has shown outstanding leadership, has excelled in the classroom, and has assisted in the internationalization of the campus. The Kiongozi Award recipient is a person who cares deeply about the international student population as well as advancing issues of internationalization both on campus and in the Columbus community.

This year’s Kiongozi Award was presented to Saravinder Pannu. As an International Student Services Scholarship award student, Pannu was always available to assist the Center for International Education for events. She was a member of our high achieving CSU Women’s Tennis Team. Pannu was a Communications major from New Zealand. She graduated during Spring 2017 but her contribution to the CSU campus will long be remembered.



Saravinder Pannu: 2017 Recipient of
Kiongozi Award

International Studies Certificate Gateway Course Eligible for Core Credit

Columbus State University’s International Studies Certificate completed its fourth year of implementation during 2016-2017. Under the coordination of theatre professor, Dr. Becky Becker, now Interim Executive Director for the Center for International Education, the certificate has grown relatively quickly to include approximately 55 students since its inception in 2013. Becker has taught INTS 2105 Introduction to International and Cross-Cultural Studies, the gateway course for the certificate program, every fall since 2013, later offering one section of the course each spring semester.

During fall semester 2016, the CIE submitted a proposal to the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) requesting that INTS 2105 be included as an option within CSU’s general education core curriculum in Areas B and E. Following approval by the UCC, the proposal was sent on to the USG Council on General Education for review. In mid-March, Becker received word that the request had been approved, meaning that INTS 2105 will officially be offered in Areas B and E during fall 2017. Until now, INTS 2105 was the one course within the ISC curriculum that could only be counted as an elective. According to Becker, “This change will allow students in majors with very few electives to earn the International Studies Certificate more easily. For anyone hoping to bring global learning to their degree path, this is great news.”

COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Semester Exchange Programs

Oxford Visiting Student Program

Oxford, England

Edge Hill University

Ormskirk, England

Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

Galway, Ireland

ISEP Exchange Programs

Multiple locations

Kansai Gaidai University

Hirakata, Osaka, Japan

Kingston University

London, England

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai

Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Technology

Beijing, China

Heilbronn University

Heilbronn, Germany

Pukyong National University

Busan, South Korea

Student Teaching Abroad

Quito, Ecuador

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Seoul, South Korea

Bangor University

Bangor, Wales

Spring Break Programs

CSU in Andros Island, Bahamas - Ecology

Drs. Clifton Ruehl and Daniel Holt

CSU in Andros Island, Bahamas- Contemporary Health Issues

Dr. Lauren King

CSU in Costa Rica- Service Learning

Dr. Wendi Jenkins, Kory Saunders, and Johniqua Williams

CSU in England - Education Leadership

Drs. Tom McCormack, Victor Salazar, and Heather McKeen

CSU in Ireland - Nursing

Dr. Dona-Lee Ferguson

Honors in Berlin - Memorializing the Holocaust

Drs. Neal McCrillis and Mariko Izumi

CSU in Belize- History

Dr. Doug Tompson

Maymester Programs

CSU in Denmark- Music & Art

Dr. Kristen Hansen

CSU in Ireland - Business

Drs. Tesa Leonce and Neal Thompson

CSU in Japan - Computer Science & Business

Drs. Rania Hodhod and Laurence Marsh

CSU in Italy- Art/Art History

Drs. Claire McCoy and Orion Wertz

CSU in Southern Spain - Spanish

Dr. Bobby Nixon

Summer Programs

Africa Council

Argentina (America Council)

Berlin, Germany (European Council)

Chile (America Council)

China (Asia Council)

CNU (ISS--Exchange)

CSU in Mexico - Spanish

Dr. Alyce Cook

CSU in Oxford Summer Session I - Art & History

Dr. Gary Sprayberry & Prof. Michele McCrillis

CSU in Oxford Summer Session II - Communications

Dr. Elliot Rendleman

CSU in Oxford Summer Session III - Theatre

Prof. David Turner

CSU Irish Sport and Culture

Mrs. Casey Cornett & Dr. Jeanine Wert

Edinburgh, Scotland (European Council)

Independent Study

London (Internship/Int'l Studies)

Dr. Becky Becker

London, England (European Council)

Madrid, Spain (European Council)

Dr. Bobby Nixon

Paris, France (European Council)

St. Petersburg, Russia (European Council)

Taiwan/Hong Kong (Asia Council)

Teikyo University (Exchange)

TESOL Internship (Busan, Korea)

Dr. K. Seon Jeon

Waterford, Ireland (European Council)

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