

Iowa International Center Newsflash - September 2014



Accessible ESL Program Students Thriving at Zion Lutheran Church!



The Iowa International Center is proud to partner with Zion Lutheran Church in Beaverdale on our Accessible ESL Program. More than 35 students are regularly attending and building English skills in the Wednesday evening classes we currently host on site at Zion Lutheran each week. Students in this class (pictured left) are from Burma, Iraq, South Sudan and Mexico, and are seeing great improvement in their verbal and written English skills thanks to support from donors to the Iowa International Center's Ray Resource Initiative, which is funding the program. We are pleased to welcome Sarah Thao as our professional ESL instructor and her 20 years of teaching experience to Zion Lutheran this semester. We thank our growing list of generous Ray Resource Initiative donors for supporting this program.

Watch the great story online at iowainternationalcenter.org/

We welcomed a new intern this fall!

Kristin Richert joined the Iowa International Center's team this month as the Marketing and Communications intern. She is a senior at Simpson College and is a double major in Integrated Marketing Communications with a Management focus and Political Science. Kristin is a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority and is very active on campus. Just last semester she was able to study abroad in Poland for a semester and described it as, "an adventure of a lifetime." This semester Kristin also got the chance to be a part of a new program at Simpson called *Plan for Success*. She is one of 80 Simpson students who will benefit from a paid internship during the 2014-2015 academic year thanks to a grant awarded from Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation. Simpson is one of only three Iowa colleges and universities to receive the grants. She is very thankful to have this opportunity to be able to do what she is passionate about and not have to working about more financial obligations along the way.



Community Connection Begins October 15!

Iowa International Center staff is working hard to recruit volunteers and develop a dynamic agenda full of learning opportunities for 9 professional visitors who will take part in our upcoming Community Connections program, from October 15 through November 4, 2014. These 9 construction educational and construction industry professionals are from Kazakhstan, and will spend three weeks in the Des Moines area learning about vocational and construction education from local industry leaders and college educators. We are still seeking volunteers who are willing to host these guests for stays of 4 nights to 3 weeks in your home during the program. Please contact Janet Norton, IVLP Program Manager, at 282-8269, ext. 12 with questions or availability.

We would like to thank our committed homestay host volunteers and corporate partners, including Staybridge Suites and Enterprise Rent-A-Car, for their support of the program!



The Sehgal Family International Visitors Center at the Iowa International Center supports our commitment to connecting emerging leaders from around the world with Iowans, enabling new partnerships, friendships and learning opportunities.

International Visitors: **Women in Politics!**



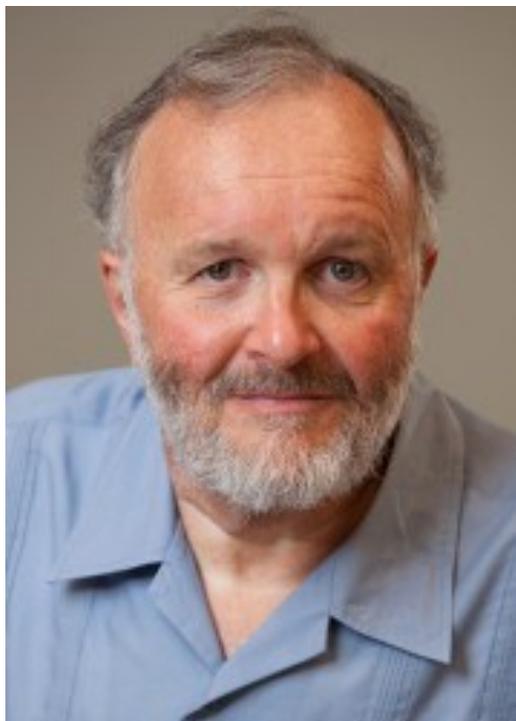
In mid September, Iowa International Center welcomed seven women from Zambia to Des Moines. These driven women are making several stops at different cities around the U.S. Along the way they are finding what voting and electoral strategies work here and discerning if these will also help the people of Zambia. These politically activists met with Sarah Reisetter and Jen Fagan on behalf of the Secretary of State's office and Rock the Vote. It was a fruitful discussion on the merits of the political systems of both countries. It was inspirational to hear these women so passionate about voting and politics in their country and willing to go to such great lengths to improve themselves. While here, they learned many great lessons of our country and

of Iowa, but there is also something for Iowans to learn from their country. In Zambia, there are many elected women holding very important offices, while here in Iowa, there has never been a U.S. congresswomen or a women elected governor. Hopefully we can take a page out of each other's books moving forward. Here at Iowa International Center, we wish these women the best of luck in their future political endeavors!

Save the Date! November Dialogue Series Event

Are We Up to the Challenge?

Presented by Gerard M. Gallucci



Tuesday, November 4, 2014 - Noon to 1 p.m.
Central Library, 1000 Grand , Downtown Des Moines

Gerard Gallucci is a retired US diplomat and UN peacekeeper. He worked as part of US efforts to resolve the conflicts in Angola, South Africa and Sudan and as Director for Inter-American Affairs at the National Security Council. He served as UN Regional Representative in Mitrovica, Kosovo from July 2005 until October 2008 and as Chief of Staff for the UN mission in East Timor from November 2008 until June 2010.

He was Diplomat-in-Residence at Drake University for the 2013-14 school year and now works as an independent consultant in Washington D.C. With Gerard's extensive background in foreign policy, he has become very knowledgeable in his field.

He will discuss the current global landscape and how that ties into America's vast foreign policy challenges moving forward in the ever-changing world. **Admission is free!**

All Iowa International Center Dialogue Series events are free and open to the public. Guests are welcome to bring lunch to the event. The Iowa International Center Dialogue Series, sponsored by DuPont Pioneer, is a monthly forum held each month at the Central Library, highlighting and explaining current international issues, offering perspective on current events and providing audience members the opportunity to ask questions and learn from experts. We thank Drake University, Des Moines Public Library and the Greater Des Moines Partnership for their ongoing support of the series.



Spread the Word: Iowa International Center Offers FREE 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline in 220+ Languages!



Thanks to generous support from Prairie Meadows, the Iowa International Center is able to provide non-English speaking Iowans, and those assisting them in a time of crisis, with access to a Free 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline. More than 220 languages are available. Our Free 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline is a great resource for

emergency responders, law enforcement officers and those assisting victims of domestic violence and abuse who are not able to communicate in English and are in a life-threatening situation.

For additional information, please contact the Iowa International Center at 515-282-8269 or visit our

The Iowa International Center is Hiring Qualified Interpreters!

The Iowa International Center is currently seeking qualified Spanish, Somali and Chin/Burmese interpreters who have experience in professional interpretation, flexible weekday schedules and can assist at medical, legal and school appointments in and around the Des Moines area.

Interested individuals are asked to send a resume, statement of interest, completed application and contact information to International Language Program Manager Rhonda Greenway at rgreenway@iowainternationalcenter.org.

The link to the application can be found under the “Get involved” tab on our website.

At the Iowa International Center’s website, you can also learn about the wide range of translation and interpretation services we provide.

Questions? Call Rhonda at 515-282-8269. ext.16.



Welcoming the world to Iowa.

The Iowa International Center

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**For news, events and program updates,
visit www.iowainternationalcenter.org**

**For multilingual resources in 80 languages,
visit www.WelcometoIowa.org**

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