

FORT COLLINS INTERNATIONAL CENTER HIGHLIGHTS 2006 - 2007

Executive Committee

This year continued the process of visioning, planning and encouraging new ideas. There were many leadership changes and we welcomed several new volunteers. Accomplishments included improving the monthly bulletin process and revising our website with updated content using the new logo and presentation style. In February Shawna Magtutu left her position as Program Coordinator to pursue her career in counseling at Loveland High School, leaving a major void in leadership. Her successor was recently named and we are thrilled to welcome Jenn Chris, one of our fabulous volunteers, to the position!

FAC

- This weekly event continues to benefit by collaborating with the Office of International Programs, Apartment Life and Central Programs as co-sponsors. This relieves us of much programming responsibility and allows us to interact more often with the exceptional student leaders at CSU.

International Friends

- The International Friends committee (~14 active members) meets the 1st Monday at noon at the clubhouse of Jean & Carroll Hughes' residence complex. Our main task is recruiting & matching international students with community friends. In addition, this year we coordinated community volunteers to participate in the CSU Intensive English Program's Conversation Partners, twice a week during the IEP terms.

Outdoor

The Outdoor committee changed leadership this year also, with Mark Oberschmidt assuming chair and Mike Doyle continuing to support outings. Many leaders helped plan and lead the various trips. The family-oriented emphasis added last year continues and draws good attendance.

Conversational English Classes

Conversational English Classes continue to be popular and are offered at both Aggie Village and University Village. They are open to all levels of ability and to both men and women, but mainly serve the women who accompany their husbands who come from many countries to CSU as students or researchers.

International Women

The International Women's group at both University Village and Aggie Village disbanded at the end of the Spring semester last year. We are in the process of reviving this important program. Interested in helping?

International Night at the Library

A different fascinating program is held monthly, with most offered twice, first at the Fort Collins Library and then at the Harmony Library.

Sponsored Programs

FCIC also has two sponsored programs this year.

PeaceJam The 'Monday' group changed its name this year to the 'Fort Collins International Center PeaceJam' group and moved our meetings to the Office of International Programs. Last September we sent 6 youth to the 10th Anniversary Celebration of PeaceJam conference in Denver where they met with and heard 10 Nobel Peace Laureates speak on a variety of issues and met youth from around the world.

Creating Connections, a project begun at the 2005 PeaceJam conference with Jose Ramos-Horta, welcomed three visitors from East Timor this spring. Jose, Arno and Betty spent 5 weeks learning a variety of skills and meeting numerous people. Many FCIC members and friends supported the project by volunteering as ambassadors, host families and "network facilitators".

Books for Development is in the process of closing down operations after more than 15 years. We still need to raise funds to ship a 40 ft. container to Kenya. Books are in temporary storage at the old Fort Collins airport.