

# cosmicos

A publication of the Valdosta State University Center for International Programs | February 2001

**Fall 2000 International Students**

Ninety new international students enrolled during the fall and spring semesters, with 58 countries being represented.

Albania .....	1
Azerbaijan .....	1
Bahamas .....	6
Bangladesh .....	1
Barbados .....	1
Belize .....	23
Brazil .....	3
Bulgaria .....	6
British Virgin Island .....	1
Canada .....	5
China .....	4
Colombia .....	9
Croatia .....	1
Cuba .....	1
Cyprus .....	2
Denmark .....	3
France .....	1
Gambia .....	1
Germany .....	12
Ghana .....	11
Guyana .....	3
Hungary .....	2
Iceland .....	2
India .....	6
Ireland .....	1
Israel .....	2
Jamaica .....	1
Japan .....	15
Jordan .....	1
Kazakhstan .....	1
Kenya .....	7
Korea .....	3
Kuwait .....	1
Lebanon .....	1
Mexico .....	3
Netherlands .....	3
Nigeria .....	4
Norway .....	3
Pakistan .....	1
Palestine .....	1
Panama .....	1
Philippines .....	1
Poland .....	1
Romania .....	1
Russia .....	1
Pakistan .....	1
South Africa .....	1
Spain .....	1
Sweden .....	1
Tanzania .....	1
Thailand .....	2
Trinidad .....	2
Turkey .....	2
Turkmenistan .....	4
Uganda .....	2
Ukraine .....	3
United Kingdom .....	7
Vietnam .....	2

## Greetings from Valdosta



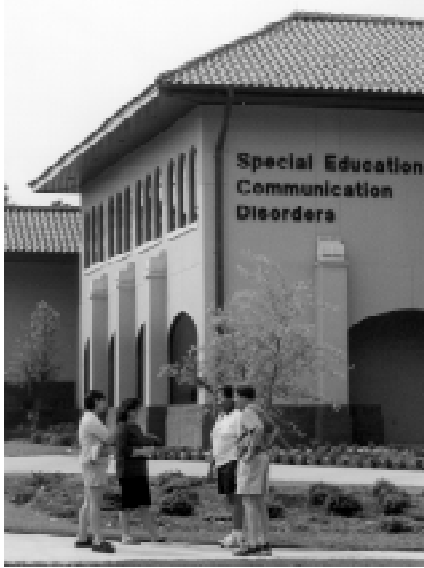
**Today, 212 international students attend VSU, representing 58 countries.**

**g**reetings from Valdosta! And welcome to the fifth edition of the VSU International Alumni Newsletter. Valdosta State University enrolled its first international student over thirty years ago. Today, two hundred twelve international students attend VSU, representing fifty eight countries. The Center for International Programs has designed this newsletter as a way to share with you campus news and information about the lives of international students who completed all or part of their studies at VSU.

This issue focuses on recent events in Valdosta and alumni updates from the most recent graduates. We invite each of you to return the last page of the newsletter to the Center for International Programs. If you give us information about yourself, we can share it with your fellow alumni in the next edition of Cosmicos. We would also like to receive your comments about the newsletter. For now, just sit back, and let the memories of your days at VSU begin.

### inside this issue...

- 2 OIP gets new name and location
- 3 International alumni notes
- 4 Stay in touch with us



# Campus & Community Clips

## New Name & Location

The OIP started the year 2001 in a new location and with a new name, "Center for International Programs" (CIP). We are now located on Georgia Avenue close to the President's house and the Cooperative Education Office. Six offices, a training room, an international library, and a camellia garden in the back with plenty of space for picnics and outdoor events, are some of the building's features. The new renovated building gives us more than twice the space we used to have in Carswell Hall.

## Campus Construction

Valdosta State University is expanding rapidly as campus construction projects totaling more than \$50 million are pursued.

### Odum Library expansion

There are plans to remodel the Odum Library. The 95,000 square-foot addition will double the size of the library at a cost of about \$14.2 million. According to Dr. George Gaumond, director of the Odum Library, the four-floor expansion will feature additional room for materials and an emphasis on technology. However, no construction start date has been set.

### Biology/Chemistry Building

The construction on the \$22.4 million structure is in its final stages. The facility, approximately 135,000 square feet, is located between Powell Hall and West Hall. The new Biology/Chemistry Building is three stories tall and features 70 laboratories, an auditorium with seating for 275, several lecture halls and greenhouses on the roof. Science classes are being taught in this building, starting Spring 2001.

### Student Recreation Center

The new center is a \$9.75 million project that will include an indoor pool and other recreation facilities. The center will be built down the street from the P.E. Complex, on Sustella Avenue. According to the director of Campus Recreation, Richard Hammond, the construction started last July.

### Special Education and Communication Disorders Building

Last spring classes began inside the \$3.3 million facility located across the street from the University Center at the site of the former Lily Building. The 24,000 square foot building is two stories tall and features added clinic and classroom space. The Special Education Building consists of three technology classrooms, 11 therapy rooms and a Speech and Language Hearing Clinic, among other features.

# International Alumni Notes

**Thomas Tarnowski** (Denmark) is currently working with Salomon Smith Barney. He is one of the youngest financial consultants hired by the firm. He was hired at 23, when the average age for a financial consultant is 38.

**Alberto Villanueva** is San Pedro's (Belize) new City Manager. He received his Master's Degree in Business Administration from VSU. He then moved to Paris, France to study International Business and French. In 1999, he returned to Belize and was employed for 18 months by the University of Belize. Both he and another former VSU student, Marcia Mahler, are City Managers for two of the main cities in Belize: San Pedro and Belize City.

**Nicoleta Avgousti** (Cyprus) graduated with a degree in Art Education in 1997. She is currently employed by the Ministry of Education in Cyprus. As an active artist, she exhibited artwork in four art exhibitions and she sold some pieces! (Oil on canvas and mixed media paper works)

**Loreto Gonzales** (Chile) married Claudio Riveros - Chilean fiancé that came to VSU for her graduation- on March 14, 1998. They live in Santiago, and she works as a training officer for BellSouth Telecommunications Chile.

**Michinobu Imai** (Japan) works as the English Department Coordinator for EST Culture School. He published a book on the TOEIC test ([www.asuka-g.co.jp](http://www.asuka-g.co.jp)), and together with a colleague he developed a correspondence course for English learners in Japan. ([www.musasisakai-ds.co.jp/est-cc](http://www.musasisakai-ds.co.jp/est-cc))

**Leidy Reyes Burgos** (Belize) works as the Office Manager for Burgos Technology Services Inc. She married in Orange Walk Town, Belize in 1999. After working in Dallas (TX) and Chicago (IL), she moved to California with her husband.

**Irina Polishuk** (Russia) is studying at Syktyvkar State University. She takes English classes and continues with her studies in Economics. She helps the International Office at Syktyvkar in their work with international students.

**Lhackdon Beck** (Nepal) moved to New York City and worked as a Sales and Marketing Rep. For a NY designer in Soho for two years. She married in 1998, and moved to Switzerland (where her husband is from). She now works for Swisscom - the major telecom operator in Switzerland!

**Marcus Johansson** (Sweden) graduated in 1998 with a degree in Marketing. He then worked as a trainee at Volvo. Currently, he is a professional golfer.

**Naoko Ikeda** (Japan) graduated from Barry University in Miami with an MS degree in Biomedical Science. She is currently studying medicine in Nova Southern University. She is expecting to become a doctor by 2003.

**Brad Crossman** (Canada) received an MS degree in Sports Administration from the University of Miami and he is currently working for Contemporary Services Co. in crowd management for sporting events and concerts.

**Leonardo Laverde** (Colombia) works as the manager for the Educational Department "Future Leaders" that he created within the company (Los Nomadas Travel Agency). The mission of this department is to help students study and play sports abroad.

## Graduate Degrees Online

### Master of Business Administration Online

Valdosta State University's College of Business Administration has expanded its Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to better serve the needs of working students. The WebMBA program, which is taught entirely online, enables business professionals to earn a master's degree without interrupting their professional and personal schedules.

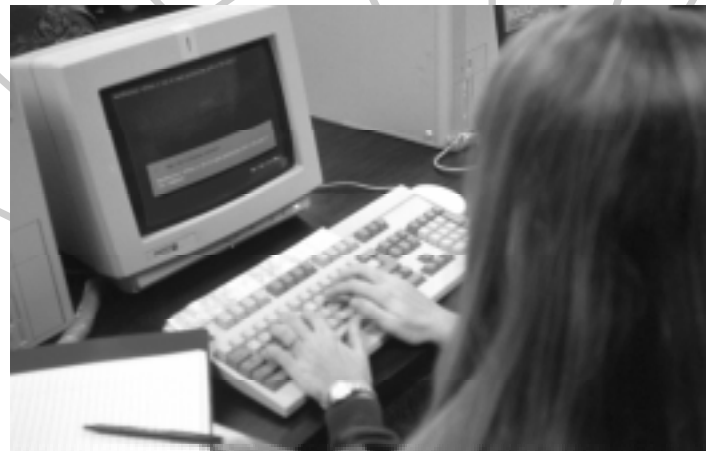
WebMBA is offered through a consortium of five Georgia universities. In addition to Valdosta State University, the participating universities are Georgia Southern University, Kennesaw State University, State University of West Georgia and Georgia College and State University.

For more information, check the following url: <http://www.valdosta.edu/coba/webmba/>

### Master of Public Administration Online

The MPA degree, City Manager Track, is offered exclusively via the internet. Candidates for this track must be currently employed in a governmental (including military) or non governmental organization, or have appropriate experience in such an organization. Candidates with private

sector experience who are interested in a career in the public or non governmental sectors may be considered. For further information regarding the City Track Manager degree, please visit the online website: <http://www.valdosta.edu/mpa/online>





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**Change Service Requested**

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**International Alumni Feedback Form** | Please send us the latest news and information about yourself

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Major at VSU \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position \_\_\_\_\_ Current Employer \_\_\_\_\_

You may give my name to prospective students in my area so that they can contact me with questions.

Other information we can publish about you |  Announcements  News  Life Changes

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Enter your comments about Cosmicos on the lines below |  Complaint  Problem  Suggestion  Praise

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