April 17, 2013

International Week offers a world of opportunities

The nine-day Spring 2013 International Week at Sacramento State opens Sunday, April 21, with Japanese Culture Night and closes Monday, April 29, with a year-end celebration of the University’s 2012-13 One World Initiative: Global Perspectives on Water.

Some events are open to the public; others are designed for students and faculty. All are free.

“Changes in institutional accreditation guidelines emphasize the idea of ‘a new ecology for higher education,’ ” says Don Taylor, the interim assistant vice president for Academic Programs and Global Engagement in Sacramento State’s Office of Academic Affairs.

“This new environment places a significant emphasis on the global context for higher education. Our graduates will be competing for academic qualifications, workforce needs and career options in a global environment. Being involved in the international arena is no longer an option – it is an imperative and a growing measure of educational effectiveness. The idea of showcasing International Week every semester at Sac State is a major awareness-building strategy to move the campus toward greater participation in the new ecology of higher education,” Taylor says.

The schedule for Spring 2013 International Week:

Japan Culture Night: 2-5:30 p.m. Sunday, April 21, in University Union Ballrooms I and II. After the 2011 Japanese earthquake and tsunami, Sac State’s Japan Club and Japanese Language Program established a partnership with Keep Smiling Project 38. Sacramento State students have donated 140 “smiles” and messages of encouragement to children and their families affected by the disaster. Keisuke Ida, co-founder of the Keep Smiling Project, will talk about the program’s impact. In addition to information booths, Japan Culture Night will include a variety of performances beginning at 3 p.m. The event is for students and faculty.

Panel discussion by Sacramento State’s Fulbright Scholars: 10:30 a.m.-noon Monday, April 22, in the University Union, California Suite. The discussion is a rare opportunity to meet our Fulbright scholars and learn about their contributions to global engagement.
International Careers Panel: 6-8 p.m. Wednesday in University Union Ballroom 1. Presented in partnership with the World Affairs Council of Northern California, the event allows for members of the campus community and general public to learn about job opportunities in international organizations and settings.

22nd annual Africa and Diaspora Conference: Thursday, April 25-Saturday, April 27, in the University Union. The three-day event – with the theme “Africa/Diaspora Health and Human Security” – is packed with panel discussions, keynote sessions, entertainment, a health fair and, on closing night, an awards dinner and dance. The conference is presented by Sacramento State’s Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution and Pan American Studies Program, in collaboration with the California Black Health Network. It’s free and open to the public. For an events schedule, go to www.csus.edu/org/capcr.

Study Abroad alumni panel discussion and information session: 3-4 p.m. Thursday, April 25, in the University Union, Orchard Suite. Presented in partnership with the Office of Global Education, current Sacramento State students will share their experiences of studying abroad.

Everette Penn, a 2005 Fulbright Scholar at Cairo University in Egypt, will discuss Fulbright opportunities for faculty and students; 5-6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 25, in the University Union, Forest Suite.

One World 2013 End-of-Year Celebration: Begins at noon Monday, April 29. See the schedule below. For more information, go to www.csus.edu/one_world/One World 2013Celebration.html.

Sacramento State celebrates the end of its inaugural year-long global initiative, which focused on the theme “Global Perspectives on Water.”

- Student Symposium: noon-3 p.m. in the University Union, Redwood Room.
- Faculty Panel: 4-5:30 p.m. in the University Union, Hinde Auditorium.
- Keynote address by Maude Barlow, a world-renowned activist in the fields of social, economic and environmental justice; 6-7:30 p.m. in University Union Ballroom III. Barlow is the author of Blue Covenant: The Global Water Crisis and The Coming Battle for the Right to Water.

For more information on Sac State’s International Week, contact the Office of Academic Affairs at (916) 278-5933. For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156.

– Dixie Reid
dixie.reid@csus.edu

Sacramento State is making a difference in California’s Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their professions and communities. Our
professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation's most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

###

67-S13-DR