

Friends of the International Center of Princeton University

Creating Understanding through Conversation and Friendship

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\$5 Million Gift Presented to IC

The wife and son of an alumnus of Princeton University has donated \$5 million to create an endowment for the International Center of Princeton University. 100 year-old Kathryn Wasserman Davis, the widow of Shelby Cullom Davis'30, and her son, University Trustee Shelby M.C. Davis'58, presented the gift to the International Center because, in her words, "the Center is dedicated to fostering dialogue at a time when misunderstandings between nations and cultures could pose a serious threat."

The Center, which will be called the **Kathryn W. and Shelby Cullom Davis'30 International Center**, works to familiarize international students and scholars with America—and to teach Americans more about the rest of the world. Paula Chow, Director of the Center, has called the gift "remarkable," and adds, "The gift will enable us to expand and invigorate our programs, as well as ensure that the programs flourish in perpetuity."

Group Participant Learns About Similarity in Values



Gozde Gulsah Uktem, a native of Istanbul, Turkey, joined the Friends' Group Conversation Program to improve her English, but Gozde gained more than she expected. "I found out that people from different countries all have similar values and customs in common. I also understand now that Asian people do not all have the same food, culture, and point of view. It depends on what country they are from."

Gozde's husband, Ferit Ucar, is a Ph.D. candidate in economics and will graduate in 2008. The couple hopes to work in the United States, but, if not, they will return to Istanbul. "I would like to thank the group tutors for sharing their time with us."

Host Program is "Great!" Says Student Participant



Dmitri Gurkins, from Riga, Latvia, a graduate student in mechanical engineering, has experienced host programs in other communities in America. In Princeton, he is participating in the host program sponsored by the Friends. "The program," declares Dmitri, "is great!"

Wendy and Tommy Williams are Dmitri's hosts and have helped him get to know Princeton, visit

Philadelphia, and celebrate Thanksgiving. They are also guiding him in his job search. According to Wendy, "It is imperative as part of every international student's education to spend time in American homes to get to know the heart and soul of this country." *We agree!*

"My Students are Delightful!"

Dongxia Qu and her English tutor, Loretta Beruck, have been working together for several months and both agree that the best part is their discussions. Says Dongxia, "I enjoy our talks, especially when we have similar views."



Dongxia is an electrical engineering graduate student from China. Loretta has been tutoring students for five years and finds all her students "delightful!"

The Friends in Brief

- As the volunteer wing of the **International Center**, the Friends provide funds to assist the IC in its activities on behalf of international students at Princeton. These activities include weekly Chinese lunches at Murray-Dodge Hall, social and cultural events, speaker programs, and the annual International Festival.
- **Two new members** have joined the Board of Trustees—**Carl Clough** and **Marc Wallach**. Both have been active as volunteer tutors. *Welcome!*
- **The annual meeting** of the Friends' Board of Trustees will be held at noon on Monday, May 7th, at Frist Campus Center. For details, call **Hanna Hand** at (609) 258-1170.
- **Anne Bolick** has served as president of the Friends of the International Center for the past five years, during which time she has brought her skills, creativity and warmth to a challenging job. *Thank you, Anne, for your untold hours of devotion to the FIC.*
- Learn about the history and formation of the International Center and the Friends of the International Center by logging onto the Friends' website at **www.princeton.edu/icfriends**. *Thank you to Alison Hankinson and Marc Wallach for their research.*
- **Communiversiity Day** will take place throughout downtown Princeton on Saturday, April 28th. For details, log onto **www.princeton.edu/~intlctr**.



Shown here are some of the guests at the Donor Appreciation Reception held this past fall.

Visit us on the web
princeton.edu/icfriends

President's Corner

This past academic year, more than 200 international graduate students, visiting scholars, and their spouses have participated in the tutoring and hosting programs at Princeton University sponsored by the Friends of the International Center. Through the dedication of our 180 community volunteers and Board members, international visitors have improved their English conversational skills and become more comfortable living in the United States.

Because of the generous contributions of our donors, the Friends can continue to sponsor programs, fund the *Excellence in Teaching Award*, and support the work of the International Center at Princeton University.

Thank you all for giving us the opportunity to make the world a better place.

Anne Bolick, President

A Look Back at 2006-2007

Total Volunteers — 157

Board Members — 23

Total Participants—212

Individual English Conversation Program

Students and Scholars — 57

Volunteers — 65

Group English Conversation Program

Students, Scholars and

Spouses — 100

Volunteers — 23

Host Program

Students, Scholars and

Spouses — 55

Volunteers — 69



Host Fay Reiter and her host participant, Yiyue Wu, are shown at the Host Family Party this past fall.

To Contact the Friends. . .

To volunteer, make a contribution, or learn more about us, call **Hanna Hand**, (609) 258-1170, or email her at **hhand@princeton.edu**.

Let's hear from Friends' alumni:

Tell us about yourselves in an email.