Taiwan at Truman Seeks Host Families for Weekend Stay

The Taiwan at Truman program is in need of host families for a one-weekend homestay with local families during the weekend of July 7-9.

Thirty-one high school girls from Taiwan will be participating in the program from June 12 to July 17.

The girls prefer to be placed two to a home during the homestay because some speak better English than others. Some of the older girls could be placed one to a home.

Contact Shelley Begue at mnb314@truman.edu for more information or to volunteer.

Twenty-Eight Graduates Named Valedictorians

Twenty-eight graduates received top honors at Truman’s spring 2006 commencement ceremony May 13 at Stokes Stadium.

Each valedictorian had a perfect 4.0 grade point average for all subjects.

Valedictorians included Randy Beilsmith, Nicholas Beydler, Sarah Billing, Casey Copeland, Sarah Edwards, Jared Erwin, Megan Harney, Michael Hoeh, Christine Janson, Sarah Jones, Linsey Karwoski, Amanda Keener, Mary Klein, Sarah McDuff, Sara Miller, Samuel Murphey, Andrea Rabenold, Roberta Rader, Jessica Rasmussen, Elizabeth Robinson, Michelle Salzman, Sabrina Sandeen, Jason Showmaker, Kathryn Smith, Angela Soemo, Neil Stransky, Rebecca Vice and Kendra Woods.

Students Capture Honors at the National Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Championship

A group of enterprising college students from Truman received national honors at the 2006 Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) USA National Exposition, sponsored by the Kansas City Business Community, May 21-23 in Missouri.

The Truman SIFE Team was awarded a trophy for semifinal 4th runner-up in the 2006 USA National Exposition and received a $1,500 scholarship for future SIFE projects.

“TSU (Truman State University) SIFE finished in the top 20 teams in the country out of 950 nationwide,” said Todd Smith, the team’s former president. “This puts us in the top 2 percent of all teams nationally.”

During National Exposition, SIFE teams presented 24-minute multimedia exhibition of the educational outreach projects they developed and implemented throughout the year. They were judged by panels drawn from more than 750 of the nation’s top business and community leaders.

In addition to competition, Truman students had the opportunity to interview for jobs and internships during a two-day Career Opportunity Fair with representatives from more than 60 companies.

SIFE is an international non-profit organization present on more than 1,800 university campuses in more than 40 countries. SIFE teams create economic opportunities in their communities by organizing outreach projects that teach: market economics, success skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy and business ethics.

During this academic year, the Truman SIFE team dedicated more than 1,500 hours to improving the lives of community members throughout the Midwest. The team completed 11 projects, 10 of these projects were created by Truman SIFE members fulfilling all of five of SIFE’s teaching principles and impacting more than 208,000 people.

For more information, contact Jeni Long at jill707@truman.edu or visit http://sife.truman.edu.
A team of six business students from Truman State University presented their findings to management representatives of Kraft Foods (Adair Foods) April 25 at the Kraft Foods plant in Kirksville.

Brian Graham, a business administration major from Kansas City, Mo.; Carrie Nunn, an accounting major from Festus, Mo.; Bradley Martin, a business administration major from Overland Park, Kan.; Katie Parrott, an accounting major from St. Louis; Melissa Rhomberg, a business administration major from St. Louis; and Laura Staniulis, a business administration and mathematics double major from Algonquin, Ill.; completed a semesterlong team internship with Kraft by presenting a review of their experiences during the internship, the results of their findings, and their recommendations with Kraft. The team was able to make suggestions to improve a sanitization process that resulted in a one-hour savings in elapsed time for this process. Representatives of Kraft are pleased both with the results gained from implementing the recommended changes to their processes as well as the questions and the insights gleaned from their conversations with the students.

The team internship is a new opportunity for the Truman business students. The students were selected in a competitive process based on their résumés and their performance on behavioral-based interviews. They worked closely with Tim Anderson, the manager of human relations at Kraft Foods, and the two team leaders responsible for the sanitation process, Larry Baker and Jessica Triphahn. Internships provide practical experiences that allow the students to apply what they have learned in the classroom. Most internships are offered on an individual basis. However, many organizations have moved to more team-based processes and want to hire individuals with strong team leadership skills. Having experience in team-based problem solving is extremely beneficial for these students.

Betty Durflinger, R.N., was named NEMO Nurse of the Year at the May 4 Capstones of Nursing, co-sponsored by Truman State University Nursing Program and Rho Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Durflinger recently retired from her position as director of nursing at Chariton Valley Association for Handicapped Citizens Inc. after 16 years dedicated to serving individuals with developmental disabilities. Tim Tucker, Terry Combs and Debra Stroud nominated Durflinger for this award. The NEMO Nurse of the Year is an award given to a registered nurse in Northeast Missouri who exemplifies excellence in the practice of nursing.
Melissa Passe, Speech and Hearing Clinic director, attended MSHA Legislative Day Feb. 28 in Jefferson City, Mo. Graduate communication disorders students Cynthia Brady from Richland, Wash., Jenny Kertz from Oakville, Mo., Hilary Noll from Kirksville, Erin Plender from Florissant, Mo., and Amy Rapp also participated in MSHA Legislative Day activities. Graduate communication disorders students Cynthia Brady from Richland, Wash., Jenny Kertz from Oakville, Mo., Hilary Noll from Kirksville, Erin Plender from Florissant, Mo., Iris Gaerditz and Amy Rapp participated in an Intersdisciplinary House Calls Program during the spring 2006 semester. Students participated with Truman nursing students, Truman health and exercise science students and A.T. Still University’s Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine first-year medical students. The four-discipline, four-member teams completed two visits with an elder in the Kirksville community to discuss health care needs.

Ashley A. Walker, a nursing major from Odessa, Mo., has been awarded a Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad grant of $1,000 to help defray expenses while participating in a study abroad program.

Baker, Horton Named as Truman Nursing Acute Care Preceptors of the Year

Truman State University’s Nursing Program recently selected Pamela K. Baker, R.N.C. and B.S.N., and Chris Horton R.N., as its Acute Care Preceptors of the Year. Baker and Horton were honored at an awards luncheon at Truman on May 4. Both Baker and Horton work on the Obstetrics Unit at Northeast Regional Medical Center (NRMC) and have been preceptors for Truman nursing students for several years.

The Nursing Program at Truman selects highly qualified registered nurses to serve as role models, mentors and supervisors for senior nursing students in selected clinical areas of interest. These registered nurse preceptors assist the faculty and students in meeting course objectives in the selected clinical areas. Each year faculty and senior students select and honor an acute care and a community preceptor of the year.

Delaney Named as Truman Nursing Community Preceptor of the Year

Truman State University’s Nursing Program recently selected Catherine “Katie” Delaney, R.N. and B.S.N., as its Community Preceptor of the Year. Delaney was honored at an awards luncheon May 4 at Truman. She works at the Knox County Health Department in Edina, Mo., and has been a preceptor for Truman nursing students for several years.

The Nursing Program at Truman selects highly qualified registered nurses to serve as role models, mentors and supervisors for senior nursing students in selected clinical areas of interest. These registered nurse preceptors assist the faculty and students in meeting course objectives in the selected clinical areas. Each year faculty and senior students select and honor an acute care and a community preceptor of the year.
The Truman community is invited to a Retirement Reception for Carl Baldwin
1:30-3:30 p.m.
June 26
Student Union Building
Alumni Room

Pickler Memorial Library is now accepting donations for a book sale to take place in September. Donations of used books, magazines, art prints and audio and video recordings will be accepted. For details visit the library’s Web site at http://library.truman.edu/booksale.htm or call 785.4038.

NOTES

The Truman Today is a biweekly publication during the summer session. The next issue will be published June 20. Information must be submitted by 5 p.m. the Wednesday before publication. Entries should be submitted by sending an e-mail to kbest@truman.edu or by completing a Truman Today form available in the Public Relations Office, McClain Hall 101. The form may also be accessed online at http://trumantoday.truman.edu/submissionform.pdf. All submitted items are subject to editing for clarity and style.

French Major Students Complete Capstone

The spring 2006 French major capstone students gathered for a photo May 10.

(Pictured front row, left to right) Catherine Happ, Emily Callahan and mentor Betty McLane-Iles; (back row, left to right) mentor Patrick Lobert, Anne Bireta, Elizabeth Huster, Claire Maryniak and Kate Brown. Lobert and McLane-Iles are professors of French.