



Global Learning Center Inc. Wichita

501c3 Non-profit Organization EIN 48-1058052 Incorporated April 20th 1988

Annual Report for 2013

Mission

The mission of the Global Learning Center is to provide opportunities for learning about peoples and cultures of the world in order to promote a peaceful future.

Events

In 2013, as per our mission, we staged 10 monthly educational events on topics ranging from Turkey, the Chinas, Cuba and Sister Cities to GLC History, Holocaust, Islam, Fragile States & Nation Building & the Crisis of Democracy in the Arab World. The events were combined with buffet meals at various locations and were generally well attended. The UN Banquet attracted more than 50 students, who enjoyed the event at no charge due to generous sponsorship of student tables. Note that students can attend any GLC event for free and are charged only the cost price of meals, if they wish to eat at those events. Any member can attend for free, without the meal.

January - *What is the GLC* - Glyn Rimmington & Maher Musleh

February - *Economic & Political Transformation of Turkey* - Gretchen Eick, Doris Chang & Mike Poage

March - *Journey through Islam* - Maher Musleh

April - *The Righteous Gentiles on Holocaust Memorial Day* - Rabbi Davis

May - *Ecofeminism: Actors & Issues* - Glyn Rimmington

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August - *Crisis of Democracy in the Arab World* - Maher Musleh

September - *Two Chinas Compared* - Doris Chang, Fuchang Liu & Hsiang-Chi Alice Lin

October - 68th UN Anniversary Banquet, *Fragile States & Nation Building* - Abraham Joseph

November - *Cuba Today* - Jim Philips

December - *Wichita connects with the world: Sister Cities* - WASC Board Members

Finances

We began the year with **\$2,167.24** in our checking account and ended with **\$4,067.21** after recovering from extra expenses associated with the 2012 UN Banquet when the speaker's wife was taken to hospital for a heart attack, which necessitated some last minute air tickets in addition to the pre-booked tickets. Happily, we can report that we made some money on the UN Banquet. This year arrangements for the events went smoothly. Our expenses of **\$6,2829.77** comprised mostly catering and our income of **\$8,729.74** came from event tickets, memberships and donations.

Our endowment grew from **\$28,431.60** to **\$28,704.90**, or only **\$273.30** due to CD interest rates over our five accounts having an average of only **1.19%**. The board is currently reviewing investment strategies and would welcome input on how we can achieve higher rates of return.

The Board

Outgoing Members

Dr. Fuchang Liu, who has faithfully sent out emails about each of our events for the entire six years that he has served, will leave the board for one year, as is required by our by-laws and will be welcome to rejoin the board in 2015. During his tenure, Fuchang has made a number of presentations about China, being a native of Shandong province and has advised us on suitable Chinese buffet venues for our events.

We lost a long time member and former President in ***Maheer Musleh*** during the year because he moved to a new job in Connecticut. Maheer was an ambassador for Islam and the Arab world and during his tenure had given several presentations on the history and politics of the Middle East, as well as demystifying Islam for the general population. He would always invite us to join Ramadan and Eid events.

A current and past board member, former President and recipient of the Howard & Jeanne Johnston Global Community Citizenship Award, ***Dr. Vimal Goyle***, is leaving the board and Wichita to pursue interests on the East Coast. She will be sadly missed.

We bid farewell to Maheer and Vimal and wish them well in their new pursuits.

New Board Members for 2014

This year, we welcome back to the board, **Drs. Mara Alagic, Ikram Ahmed and Dorothy Billings**, all of whom are well known to us for their previous contributions to the GLC and we welcome two new members, **Dr. Ikram Ahmed** is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering, **Dr. Holger Meyer**, Professor of Physics at WSU specializing in particle physics and devoted environmentalist; and **Dr. Zhana Pataki**, a faithful member and contributor to the GLC over many years. Zhana is a strong advocate of good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle.

Mara a native of Bosnia in former Yugoslavia has already served a previous six-year term including as President in 2009 and 2010, Ikram, a former board member, is from Bangladesh, Dorothy, a former board member, is from Wisconsin, Holger is from Germany and Zhana is a native of Russia (former Soviet Union). As always, our board is like a mini-United Nations.

New Executive

Our outgoing Executive board members are:

President: Dr. Yonka Krasteva

Vice President: Dr. Glyn Rimmington

Secretary: Maher Musleh (Gretchen Eick and Walt Chappell)

Treasurer: Yukiko Hendrich

Our incoming Executive board members are:

President: Dr. Glyn Rimmington

Vice President: Gretchen Eick

Secretary: Shan Jabara

Co-Treasurers: Yukiko Hendrich and Sharon Eicher