

# INTERNATIONAL SHEPHERD

## FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER



## International Student Center Grand Opening

The International Affairs Department held on November 14 a ribbon cutting ceremony which marked the official opening of the International Student Center at Shepherd University. The center was implemented in August 2018 and has since been a place for international students to seek support from the university. There is a lounge, a classroom for Intensive English language, and two administrative offices. The lounge is equipped with a library for students, faculty, and staff to check out materials in French, Spanish, German, and English. The department also offers language learning lunches, with conversational French and Spanish sessions held on Mondays and Wednesdays. Tuesdays are Reading Café days where students are encouraged to read in other languages and share what they have learned. Thursdays are for Language Discovery. Chinese Mandarin was taught by one of the international students for 6 weeks. The Department of International Affairs is grateful to Bob and Tia McMillan for their gift of sponsorship.



*International Student Lounge*

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- International Student Center Grand Opening
- Intensive English Language Program
- Recruitment Highlights
- Global Shepherd Students
  - ⇒ International Cultural Diversity Week
  - ⇒ Voices On Campus: Black Male Experiences
- Phi Beta Delta
- Dean's List Recognition
- Semester in Pictures

# Intensive English Language Program (I.E.L.P)

## The English Corner

Students and staff in the Intensive English Language Program had a busy and productive fall semester! Our small class sizes allowed students to take a participatory role in their English language learning. We studied vastly diverse subjects throughout the semester.

From the mid-term election, to the ever-evolving realm of social media (its unprecedented influence on us as language learners and as human beings!), to the new phenomenon of “sleep texting”, Shepherd University’s IELP students worked diligently to master the four skills of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. We went on trips to the Rumsey Monument in Shepherdstown, Antietam National Battlefield, Washington, D.C., and New York City, and students attended lectures about the U.S. Constitution, the religion of Islam, and met a Congressman newly elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

IELP students met local community members while helping with International Shepherd’s Día de

los Muertos table at Shep-o-Treat and they marched for the Intensive English Language Program in the Founder’s Day parade.

In December, students were thrilled to answer questions about their home cultures on the radio; they were interviewed by WEPM’s Mike McCullough on “Panhandle Live.” IELP students also presented information about their home countries of Niger, Myanmar, the Ivory Coast, and Pakistan, and answered questions from faculty members and classmates.

Students improved their language skills immensely in the short four months of the fall semester, and several have returned for further study this Spring. IELP students continue to journal their daily activities and experiences at Shepherd (in English, of course!), and they continue to study grammatical structures and writing techniques through the Whole Language literacy philosophy.



## Looking ahead:

- Potential partnership between Shepherd University and Jefferson Adult Learning Center
- Further recruitment for the IELP in local high schools
- IELP final presentations: scheduled for Thursday, April 25 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in the Cumberland Room

## Students will:

- Visit the Berkeley Senior Center in Martinsburg; they will read short stories and do a Valentine’s craft with senior community members
- Attend the Shepherdstown Film Society’s event on February 22; the film is to be Timbuktu and will participate in the post-film discussion (facilitated by Shepherd University’s Dr. Liz Peregó)
- Travel to Washington D.C., as well as Harpers Ferry, WV and Antietam Battlefield
- Read more advanced novels and will discuss more complex themes in English literature
- Continue to develop their English language skills and will focus on composing collegiate research essays



# Recruitment Highlights

## New International Students on Campus:

From the fall 2018 through spring 2019, the International Admissions Officer recruited five (5) international students from Niger, and Cote D'Ivoire. From the get go, these international students were assisted with their application processes: from their acceptance to enrollment and arrival on campus. It has been amazing talking to the students while they were in their respective countries and going through the Intensive English Language Program (IELP) assessment and the visa process.

## Ambassadors visits to Shepherd University:

In the summer of 2018, the International Affairs department invited the ambassador of Niger, H.E. Professor Hassana Alidou, to Shepherd University. During her visit, Professor Alidou signed an agreement with Shepherd University in an effort to bring more students to Shepherd University and strengthen the relationships between the two institutions. Similarly, in the fall 2018, we had the honor of welcoming His Excellency, Ambassador, Hector Posset, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Benin to the United States of America. The visit of the Benin Ambassador was marked by a conference with the topic: The Socio-economic and political development of the Republic of Benin. It was then followed by a reception sponsored by the Ambassador and his delegation. In general, Shepherd University student body and in particular, Political Science students learned a lot about Benin and its rich culture.



*Ambassador of Niger visits Shepherd University*



## Vision into the Future:

- Our goals are to increase international enrollment at Shepherd University.
- We will be hosting the Ambassador of Gambia at Shepherd University in the Spring 2019
- Developing new recruiting strategies focused on:
  - ⇒ Refining the market message
  - ⇒ Focusing on recruitment in specific region
  - ⇒ Differentiate our campus
  - ⇒ International partnership with educational institutions



# Global Shepherd Students

## G.S.S

### What is G.S.S.?

Global Shepherd Students (G.S.S) is a Shepherd Student Organization, founded in 2017 by Henry Stanley Navarrete Mendez, who currently holds the position of President. The purpose of G.S.S is to create diversity on campus and to educate the community about different cultures.

G.S.S is part of the Affinity Groups on campus, which are under the wing of the Multicultural Student Affairs Office. Dr. Lois Jarman, Director of International Affairs at Shepherd University serves as the advisor for this organization.

Dr. Jarman and G.S.S. strive to provide the campus and the community with multicultural events. Hence, every year, G.S.S. organizes a Cultural Diversity Week in the Fall semester and strive to provide events from around the globe.

Moreover, as part of the Cultural Diversity Week, G.S.S. in partnership with Mr. Siriki Diabate who is the International Student Recruiter at Shepherd University, invites Embassies and their delegations to visit the campus and offer presentations and reception to showcase their different cultures.



*Students and Faculty/Staff attending the Chinese Learning Lunch*



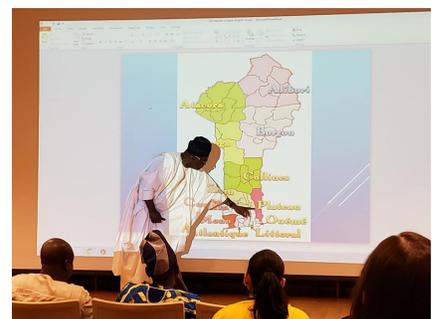
*Language Cafes*



### International Cultural Diversity Week

G.S.S. held their 2nd annual International Cultural Diversity week from October 22-26. Every day of the week represented a different region or continent of the globe.

- Monday: Africa—Ambassador of Benin on campus. The ambassador gave a presentation about Benin, followed by a reception and a Western African cooking competition.
- Tuesday: Middle East and North Africa (M.E.N.A) - A presentation on Islam held by Imam Faruq Post of the Hagerstown Mosque, followed by a reception sponsored by the Islamic society of western Maryland.
- Wednesday: Americas—Shep-O-Treat. G.S.S. represented Latin America by educating participants about Dia de los Muertos.
- Thursday: Europe—Pan's Labyrinth movie showcase, followed by a discussion on the history and context.
- Friday: Asia and the Pacific—Chinese Lunch with a lesson and presentation on Chinese Holidays.



*Presentation on Benin by Ambassador Hector Posset*



## Voices on Campus: Black Male Experiences



On October 22, the Multicultural Student Affairs office and the International Affairs department sponsored the Voices on Campus series, which is a continuous series on campus that gives a voice to those who may otherwise not have the opportunity.

As part of the International Culture Week, this session explored the experiences of Black male individuals on campus raised in the United States compared to the experiences of Black male individuals on campus raised in West Africa.

The individuals raised in the United States included Da'Shawn Long, Anthony Gabourel, and Dr. Andro Barnett. On the other hand, the individuals raised in West Africa included Siriki Diabate, Abdoul Nasser Achirou Alassane, Jean Emmanuel Kouadio, and Ernest Brownell.

Although both groups identify as Black males, there were a lot of differences shared based on cultural, social, and socio-economic status.

## Dean's List Recipients

# CONGRATULATIONS

Laura Castro Vargas

Yunsik Kim

Ja Seng Nsang

Luis Prado

Frank Luis Santiago

Diana Villalobos



### Phi Beta Delta

Phi Beta Delta is the Honor Society for International Scholars. It recognizes and encourages high professional, intellectual and personal achievements in the field of international education, international exchange, and internationalization. Phi Beta Delta also encourages interdisciplinary and intergenerational contacts and promotes the exchange of ideas and information among students, staff, and faculty of Shepherd University, the community, and other institutions and organizations. Every year, in the Spring semester, new members are inducted in the society. This year, we are proud to announce that 2 international students—Valentina Preciado Bello and Carlos Castillo—and 1 staff member, Eva Olsson were nominated and will be inducted in April 2019.



*International Students at the  
Founder's Day Parade*

# Semester in Pictures



*Trip to New York City*



*Students at the Rumsey Monument*



*Students at the Radio Station*



*Presentation on Islam by  
Imam Faruq Post*



*Students at the Founder's Day Parade*

