

Visiting Professionals and Students at MSU

Fast Facts

Visiting International Professional Program

The Visiting International Professional Program (VIPP) was created in 1991 with eight participants in a professional development program.

Since then, MSU programs have grown to accommodate more than 250 participants per year.

VIPP staff provide four main services:

- Professional development through academic classes
- Cultural enhancement through special programming
- Information technology through lectures and seminars
- Global awareness through community interaction

Visiting Professional and Student Statistics

- Close to \$3.5 million was contributed to Michigan's economy in 2008 by visiting professionals and students.

- Nearly 200 visiting professionals took part in programs of varying length at MSU in 2008.

- More than 50 visiting students took part in programs of varying length at MSU in 2008.

- Close to \$2 million was contributed to local businesses in mid-Michigan in 2008 by visiting professionals and students.

- More than 15 countries were represented by visiting professionals and students at MSU in 2008, including China, Korea, Myanmar and Russia.

- Visiting students from China and Korea came to MSU in 2008.

- Highest enrollment numbers for visiting professionals in 2008 were in the colleges of social science, business and engineering.

- Highest enrollment numbers for visiting students in 2008 were in the colleges of social science, business and arts and letters.

- New programs are currently being developed in Argentina, Brazil, China, Korea, Lebanon, Myanmar, Morocco, Russia and Thailand.

For more information, trend charts or interview subjects on visiting professionals and students, see the contact information below.

 www.isp.msu.edu



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Visiting Professionals and Students

Fact File

Participant Statistics

Professionals: A total of 75 professionals took part in the semester long program in fall 2008, with more than 120 other professionals taking part in approximately ten other, similar programs of varying length.

Students: Nearly 50 students took part in the semester long program in fall 2008.

Countries Represented

Professionals: The majority of visiting professionals in fall 2008 came from China, South Korea and Turkey; others were from Algeria, Australia, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Myanmar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Thailand.

Students: All visiting students in fall 2008 were from either South Korea or China. Programs from Latin America and the Middle East were put on hold until the spring.

Fields of Study

Professionals: Highest enrollment numbers in fall 2008 were in the colleges of social science, business, engineering and agriculture and natural resources.

Students: Highest enrollment numbers in fall 2008 were in the colleges of social science, business and arts and letters.

Funding/Scholarships

Professionals: A series of endowments for professionals from underrepresented countries are now available, including funds for professionals from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, Mongolia and Central Asia. China and South Korea have established endowments that have been in operation for years.

Students: The majority of students receive funding from their government or school. New funding will become available with the establishment of the new Visiting International Student Program, slated to take over student operations in the future.

Major Events

American Culture Nights – Three or four times a semester, corresponding to holidays

Completion Ceremonies – Once per semester for participants receiving certificates

Orientations – At the beginning of each semester program and workshop

VIPP Tailgate – Started in 2007, once per year, Oct. timeframe

Talking Points

≅ Why do professionals choose MSU?

With the history of a land-grant university, and the commitment to global education, MSU has come to be known as the institution of choice for international education.

For professionals, this has become a unique opportunity to develop new skills while working with colleagues from other countries, thus promoting global awareness and connections through research.

≅ What do visiting professionals contribute to MSU?

With the arrival of visiting professionals from varying fields in various countries, members of the mid-Michigan community have the unique opportunity to experience a different culture through personal interactions, cultural events and volunteer opportunities, while at the same time creating a positive image of MSU.

International Studies and Programs

International Studies and Programs (ISP) is a university-level office, headed by a dean, that supports and encourages international activities throughout the institution.

ISP is made up of offices, centers and units including area studies centers focusing on Africa, Asia, Canada, Europe and Russia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Within ISP are offices responsible for study abroad, international students and scholars, international development activities and Peace Corps recruiting.

ISP also has strong ties to thematic international units across the campus focusing on international aspects of agriculture, business, education, gender, health and languages.

For more information, please see the ISP Website at www.isp.msu.edu