MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL is the newsletter of the Office of International Programs (Saúl Sosnowski, director; James Riker, associate director) and the interconnected group of offices under its auspices, including International Education Services (Valerie Woolston, director), Study Abroad (Michael Ulrich, associate director), the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs (Saúl Sosnowski, interim director; Michael Ma, executive director), the Confucius Institute at Maryland (Chuan Sheng Liu, director; Michael Ma, executive director) and the Maryland English Institute (Marsha Sprague, director). Our usual publication schedule is two issues during the spring semester, one during the summer, and two issues in the fall. This is our only spring issue this year, because of the staff time needed to launch our new website, www.international.umd.edu. To submit story ideas or subscribe, please contact the editor, Kelly Blake, at kellyb@umd.edu or 301.405.4771.
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photo credits/notes (by page)

front cover  Engineers Without Borders member Mai Le (center) with two Ecuadoran girls
opposite  The Bahá’í World Center in Haifa, Israel
By late August of this year, when a person flushes the toilet in Ilha das Peças, Brazil (population 400), the waste water will travel through a filtration process involving layers of plants, sand, and gravel carefully designed to reduce human contact with pathogens and improve health. Until 1997, this remote island village which lies within the Superagui National Park in southern Brazil had no sanitation system at all. The currently installed septic systems do not function well because of the high water table that allows contaminated waste water to float to the ground surface and into the ocean where villagers harvest oysters, causing water borne illnesses. The village also suffers from an inconsistent water supply during drier months of the year since the village gets its water piped in along a route shared by towns closer to the water source.

A group of University of Maryland engineering students wants to help. The 60-student Engineers Without Borders organization has raised money and designed a plan to construct a wetlands sanitation system and install a water holding tank in Ilha das Peças to store water during periods of low demand so that the community has a water source during dry conditions. The Brazil project team will spend about two weeks this summer to implement their system, one that project leader and civil engineering student Chester Feldmann calls “appropriate and sustainable technology that should function for that community for at least the next 50 years.”

Engineers Without Borders (EWB) USA began in 2000 when Dr. Bernard Amadei, a civil engineering professor at the University of Colorado, enlisted students to design a sustainable water delivery system for the village of San Pablo, Belize. Since then, EWB has grown to include more than 140 chapters that include both student groups and professional organizations who mostly play an advisory role to the student-led, sustainable engineering projects in developing countries. With guidance from chapter advisor Deborah Goodings, professor of geotechnical engineering, the University of Maryland chapter completed a project in Saamli, Thailand (2004), and Patadel, Ecuador (2005) (led by Peter Chang, associate professor, civil engineering), and has current projects slated for implementation this summer in Uduzhapa and Raric, Ecuador; Baan Bo Mai, Thailand; and Ilha das Peças, Brazil.

Most of the projects the Maryland chapter has pursued thus far involve creating water and sanitation systems in small rural communities, since clean water is fundamental to human health and

**LEFT** Villagers of Ilha das Peças, Brazil

**OPPOSITE RIGHT TOP** The EWB team hauls stones for a septic system built for a health clinic in Saamli, Thailand

**OPPOSITE RIGHT BOTTOM** The framed dome of a water tank EWB constructed in Patadel, Ecuador
sanitation in outlying areas is one of the key infrastructural needs in developing countries. In addition, the small scale of these engineering projects gives students the opportunity to play a leading role in all aspects: “We’re going to see the project all the way from initiation, to design, to materials acquisition, and to implementation,” Feldmann explains enthusiastically. “In school, we can get bogged down with ‘y=mx+b’ or something way too theoretical, but this is the real deal. We’re the ones putting it in the ground, laying the pipelines and everything. We can’t think in theory it will work, we have to know that it will work.”

The students also have to ensure that the local community is invested in the project and will take ownership of the new infrastructure. To do this, students make contact with community leaders during their assessment trips, get their approval for the project design, and keep them involved in the process. “We encourage the local community to become involved because it’s a project for them, and because we won’t be around to maintain it,” says Feldmann. “We have to ask, ‘Will some local person be able to figure this out…to turn a knob here to make the water flow that way if something stops working?’ We can’t bring in some fancy computer-controlled system, because once it breaks down, all our work would be for naught.”

Instead of computerized systems, the EWB Brazil team will “install” cattails (known as “hungry” plants) into a bed of sand, gravel and soils about 215 square feet wide by four feet deep to create a natural wetland sanitation system. The waste water will enter through piping placed near the plant roots so that the cattails can help oxygenate the upper layers of the soil and enable more rapid breakdown of pathogens. Once the waste water drains to the bottom, it is then safe to re-enter the water table. Although this system sounds ingeniously elegant, Feldmann explains that they can’t assume a quick fix: “The wetlands engineering is a biological system and creating a mini-ecosystem is not as straightforward as it may seem because there are many organic variables that we can’t model, but it has worked elsewhere and we think it’s the most sustainable approach for this community.” The practical aspects of their innovative design are guided by Albert McCullough, an alumnus of the College of Engineering and president of Sustainable Science, LLC, who will also oversee the work in the field.

In addition to environmental sustainability, EWB students learn about sustainability from a financial perspective...
since they must raise their own funds for engineering abroad. The group regularly makes presentations to potential donors, provides security at UM basketball games, and held an art auction in April that raised more than $2,000. Student and faculty connections to the countries where projects have been initiated help to bridge cultural and language differences and to make linkages with local governments that provide some logistical support and transportation expenses. For example, Javier Ordóñez, a UM civil and environmental engineering student, is from Ecuador, and Dr. Peter Chang lived in Brazil and has family there. Still, the EWB chapter must cover the majority of the costs, which run approximately $30,000 per project. Students meet the project challenges enthusiastically, knowing the long-term value of their EWB membership. “The experience is phenomenal,” says Feldmann, who graduates this May 2006. “I now know the level of detail that things have to be drawn to, how to create a professional image, work with others on the ground, and plan things out so that they happen on time.”

Perhaps the most important reason that students participate, however, is knowing that they are doing good work for people in neglected communities. “Helping our partner communities get clean and reliable water and to reach a decent standard of living,” Feldmann beams, “means that we are building a better world, one community at a time.”

Support Engineers Without Borders
You can support EWB projects by making a contribution to the “University of Maryland College Park Foundation” marked with EWB in the memo line. Send payment to: EWB-UMCP, c/o Professor Deborah Goodings, Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Maryland, 1173 Glenn L. Martin Hall, College Park, MD 20742 or go to www.giving.umd.edu.

For more information about the UM Engineers Without Borders organization, please visit www.engr.umd.edu/ewb

Water Rules:
UM Professor’s Award-Winning Book Details Global Struggles Over Essential Resource

Ken Conca, PhD, associate professor of government and politics and director of the Harrison Program on the Future Global Agenda, received two awards from the International Studies Association (ISA) this spring for Governing Water: Contentious Transnational Politics and Global Institution Building (MIT Press, 2005). His book garnered both the Harold and Margaret Sprout Award for the best book on international environmental affairs and the Chadwick F. Alger Prize for the best book in the field of international organization. Governing Water traces the emergence of water as a source of global political conflict and examines the role of international diplomacy, scientific expertise, and social activism in shaping water law, policy, and practices. For more information, contact Dr. Conca at kconca@gvpt.umd.edu or visit www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/conca.
Seeking to reaffirm and expand the University of Maryland’s ties to the Middle East, President C.D. Mote, Jr. traveled to Egypt and Israel in January 2006. President Mote was accompanied by Saúl Sosnowski, PhD, associate provost for international affairs and Office of International Programs (OIP) director; Shibley Telhami, PhD, the Anwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development; and Talaat Shehata, PhD, former OIP director. While in Egypt, President Mote met with Dr. Jehan Sadat, women’s rights and peace advocate and widow of Anwar Sadat, former president of Egypt, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1978 and was tragically assassinated in 1981.

The University of Maryland (UM) maintains a special institutional relationship with the Sadat family through the endowed Anwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development, based at UM’s Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM), that works to further the dialogue for peace in the Middle East and throughout the world. Mrs. Sadat pledged to continue to raise funds to sustain the chair and invited several prominent Egyptian and American donors to meet with President Mote and the University of Maryland delegation.

The University of Maryland has strong ties to universities, scholars, and leaders from key sectors in Egypt that have led to new educational initiatives. Over the last 20 years, more than 400 Egyptian graduate students, junior faculty members and officials have visited our campus to study, conduct research, or participate...
in academic conferences and over 200 Maryland students, faculty and campus administrators have visited Egypt to participate in joint research and training programs. Seeking to build on these relationships, President Mote renewed Maryland’s exchange agreements with Ain Shams and Cairo universities, which are large institutions with strong programs in engineering and computer science. Several Ain Shams faculty and graduate students, who are UM alumni, met with President Mote to discuss the development of a University of Maryland Alumni Club in Egypt. President Mote also met with leaders of Suez Canal University (SCU), with whom the University of Maryland and the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) currently have a civic education project funded by the US State Department, to discuss a possible new cooperative exchange agreement. Maryland and CCBC faculty are developing curricula on civil society, democracy, leadership and service learning issues that faculty with SCU’s College of Education will use to train high school and middle school teachers. At the American University in Cairo, hosted by President David Arnold, Mote spoke about the future of American education in developing innovative business and university partnerships in the global economy.

Enhancing UM’s connections with key universities in Israel, President Mote and Drs. Sosnowski and Telhami visited Tel Aviv University, where they were hosted by Dr. Itamar Rabinowitz, the university’s president and former ambassador to the United States. They also met with leaders at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the University of Haifa, and the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology. President Mote toured several laboratories, including the Kahn Medical Robotics Laboratory, which develops technology for advanced surgical devices, and discussed potential collaboration between the Technion and the UM School of Engineering’s new Robert Fischell Institute for Biomedical Devices.

During his travels in Israel, President Mote also visited holy sites, including the Western Wall in Jerusalem and the Bahá’í World Center in Haifa. The University of Maryland hosts the Bahá’í Chair for World Peace, whose mission is to develop alternatives to the violent resolution of conflict, and to advance global education, international development, and spiritual awareness. As of January 2006, Dr. John Grayzel, a former senior official with the United States Agency for International Development, became the Bahá’í Chair for World Peace, succeeding the inaugural chair, Dr. Suheil Bushrui, who retired after holding the position since 1992.

Following the trip to Egypt and Israel, Dr. Sosnowski traveled to Turkey to meet with university leaders from Middle East Technical University and Bilkent University, where he delivered a lecture on “Culture and Democracy: Lessons from Latin America.” With A. Yavuz Oruc, UM professor, electrical engineering, he explored closer relations with Tubitak (whose mission is akin to the U.S. National Science Foundation) and with Ankara-based institutions.

In Istanbul, Sosnowski met with the Turkey UM Alumni Club and celebrated the creation of their new leadership team (photo at left).
Imagine how frightful your morning commute would become if a group equivalent to the population of New York City (~eight million people) moved from rural U.S. communities to urban centers each year. While such a massive migration may seem inconceivable here, that is essentially what is happening now in China. Even by conservative estimates, China’s urban population is projected to expand by 10-15 million each year over the next 20 years. With China’s move to a market economy, people are heading to cities in search of jobs and opportunity. The government must accommodate this phenomenal growth by swiftly creating the infrastructure to serve urban China. Planning for this rapid urbanization must simultaneously balance economic development, transportation infrastructure, and housing demands with environmental concerns, food security, and health and human services.

Experts in land policy and urban planning at the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education at the University of Maryland initiated the China Land Policy Program in 2003 to provide training and technical assistance to Chinese government officials, scholars, and urban planners. The project is co-sponsored by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, a non-profit educational institution that helps policy makers plan for healthier communities. Chengri Ding, PhD, associate professor, urban studies and planning, directs the program, whose budget has jumped from $500,000 to $2 million in just three years to advise China on how to grow… smartly.

But what exactly does it mean to “grow smartly” and does it have the same meaning in China as here in the United States? “The concept of ‘smart growth’ is usually explained as an antidote to ‘urban sprawl’ – the low-density, car-oriented, unattractive, random development that we have seen in so many places. ‘Smart growth’ means building better cities that are more compact, walkable, environmentally friendly, and that have alternative transportation modes,” explains Gerrit Knaap, PhD, professor, Urban Studies and Planning, and director of the National Center for Smart Growth.

If China develops as we have here in the United States, there will be devastating worldwide implications...

The goals of smart growth may be the same here or there, but the stakes are clearly higher as China’s 1.3 billion citizens follow the trajectory of a market economy. “If China develops as we have here in the U.S., there will be devastating worldwide implications in terms of energy usage and environmental degradation. That is why it is in the world’s interest to help China grow in a way that is more environmentally sustainable,” Dr. Knaap explains.

While China has successfully emulated many American business and economic development models to its advantage, Ding and Knaap emphasize to their Chinese colleagues not to follow the U.S. urban development model. In Beijing, they are working with the Beijing Urban Planning Committee and Ministry of Construction on a comprehensive city plan based on quantitative analysis of urban growth trends. This enables them to project future scenarios and to plan accordingly to meet the city’s water needs or
to situate workers near employment centers. “One thing is clear, China cannot be car dependent like the United States. We are stressing transit-oriented development and the need to better coordinate public transportation with the location of employment centers,” says Dr. Ding. This model is not totally new to the Chinese, whose society was largely structured in the past by the traditional *danwei* system, with work units that functioned like a mega-family in which the company provided housing, education, and social services for its workers and everyone lived close to their workplace. “As things become more market-oriented, however, jobs and housing are farther apart,” Dr. Knaap laments.

Where does Ding look for models of healthy urban development that can be applied to China? “There is no utopian city, but we can learn from Tokyo, New York, Hong Kong, Singapore. I take the best aspects of these cities and combine what they have done well to make recommendations for Chinese cities,” Dr. Ding explains. “From both the environmental and economic perspectives, we need to encourage high density cities and discourage the development of satellite towns, which cause more problems than they solve” he urges. Satellite towns, which are consciously planned cities adjacent to a major city built to accommodate overflow, are part of the urban plans of Brasilia, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

Building more compact urban centers may also mitigate some of the loss of productive farmland to the encroaching urban development that has the Chinese government worried about food security. About one-third of China’s total land area can be utilized for agricultural production, an area roughly equal to that of the United States. Yet relative to its population size, there are fewer farms in China per capita than in almost any other country. Still, Ding says, “Food security is not an issue in the short term. People underestimate the impact of technology, and there is a huge excess labor supply in the rural areas.” He is working with the Ministry of Land and Resources to develop policies to increase farmland productivity and offset the net loss of farmland.

Ding and Lincoln Institute colleagues are also helping China develop a property taxation system. While China currently collects 24 types of taxes, private property ownership is a relatively recent phenomenon in China and no system of property taxation yet exists. Ding, Knaap, and Lincoln Institute colleague Yu-Hung Hong recently spent a week advising officials from the Ningxia provincial government on how to develop and pilot a property tax in their province, which has the second smallest economy in all of China. The central government’s State Administration of Taxation is committed to developing a property tax system, but it is still unclear exactly how the central or local governments will use the collected tax. As cities expand,
Knaap explains that one potential benefit of implementing the property tax would be to give local governments an ongoing source of revenue and potentially slow the trend of city developers displacing rural dwellers by taking their land in return for little or no compensation. Whether or not property taxation reverses this trend, Ding suggests it offers another benefit: “This is an important part of the movement to a civil society in China. I am really excited to be part of something that can promote public participation in government. Once we get a property tax in place, the whole society could look different. Property rights are intimately intertwined with democracy,” he says with a smile.

Ironically, until democracy emerges in China, Ding and Knaap suggest that there are some advantages to having decision-making power consolidated with the central government. “At the risk of sounding anti-democratic, the current lack of a public, participatory process could work in China’s favor in this area,” Knaap says cautiously. “Democracy has its downsides. Here in the United States, the ‘not-in-my-backyard’ (NIMBY) attitude often prevents us from implementing some of the better land use policies. No one wants to accommodate density, nobody wants to accommodate low-income folks, so it’s all sent elsewhere. In China, they have the potential to choose where people will live and plan much more effectively.”
Mindy Levine was one of thirteen UM students who traveled to the Netherlands for two weeks to probe the similarities and differences between the U.S. and European education systems by observing and interacting with European pupils and teachers during a typical school day.

The course, “Maastricht: International and Multicultural Perspectives in Europe,” taught by James Greenberg, PhD, College of Education, focuses on the study of multicultural perspectives, issues in education, and teaching methods. During the course, students visited several primary and secondary schools in the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium, including the Maasgouw Special Education School in Maastricht, which serves the needs of disabled children.

The school visits helped Levine better understand the European education systems and philosophies as well as the importance of international education and teaching approaches. Levine believes that in Europe as well as in the U.S., using student-centered teaching methods that encourage problem-solving enable students to develop their critical thinking skills and feel more responsible for their learning. “While observing in the international school, I also learned that a teacher should not be the sole source of knowledge in the classroom, but rather a person who guides the student to the next learning phase,” Levine said.

Kelly Scoville spent one month in Italy examining the interplay of culture, society and economy by visiting historically rich cities, such as Rome, Florence, Ascea, Stabia, Naples, Pompeii and Paestum. This was Kelly’s first trip outside the United States.

The “Italy: Culture, Heritage and Economy” course, taught by Clopper Almon, PhD, Department of Economics, is designed to examine the influence of cultural heritage on today’s Italian life. The pre-industrial European economy, the history of business in Italy during the Middle Ages, and the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) of the Europe Union (EU) were just a few of the issues researched by 22 UM students who took this course. With lectures at the Florence University of the Arts, students learned the significance of the Italian
economic system, particularly the economic integration process within the Euro-
pean Union, and how that process has influenced and transformed Italy’s society,
culture and economy. Following the lectures, students took a field trip to a small
farm in Ascea city to learn how EU regulations and policies have affected farm-
ners. “We learned that it is not easy to be a farmer in the EU countries because
strict laws control, for example, how many animals farmers can sell per month,”
Scoville said.

Scoville closely examined the political and social unification process, known
as the Risorgimento (means “rising again”), that unified the disparate countries
of the Italian peninsula into the single nation of Italy between the 19th and
early 20th centuries. “Going abroad has broadened my interest in international
aspects of governments, including security and economics,” Scoville says. The
course also increased her self-confidence. “Knowing that I can spend a month
in a foreign country and deal with any difficulties that I face along the way truly
strengthened my belief in myself,” she says proudly.

KIRSTEN DABELKO

COSTA RICA

The nineteen students who participated in “Costa Rica – Exploring Society and
Culture through Service Learning” course quickly learned that Costa Rica is
more than just the beautiful beaches and adventure destination advertised to
tourists.

Through lectures at Costa Rica’s Universidad Nacional in Nicoya, field
trips, and service activities with a local environmental group, El Tucan, students
immersed themselves in the local culture. This course was taught by Kirsten la
Cour Dabelko, director, Global Communities, and Johnna Schmidt, director,
Jimenez-Porter Writers’ House.

Students participated in planned evening Spanish conversations with a local
graduate student, and also initiated their own conversations with merchants,
bus drivers, hotel staff and new found friends. Reflection-writing workshops
centered on identity, perception, travel, culture, and time, and discussions on the
value and meaning of service were also key components of the course.

One of the most exciting and meaningful experiences for students was the
relationship with El Tucan, an environmental group formed by local residents.
Disappointed by the state of the local environment, especially the waterways
and ecosystems filled with trash, the group organizes clean-up efforts that send
members out to collect trash four to five days per week. The students worked
side-by-side with El Tucan. The joint support and assistance with local stream
and beach cleaning was inspirational to both the local Ticos (the nickname for
Costa Ricans) and the UM group, reaffirming shared commitments to protect
the environment.

Where UM Students Studied Abroad
(by global region)
WINTER TERM 2006

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<th>Region</th>
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<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
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<td>Asia</td>
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<td>North America</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>Africa</td>
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Total: 340 students

Source: Study Abroad

For more information on UM Study Abroad, visit
www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad
SMALL COUNTRY, BIG VISION:

Norway’s Ambassador Knut Vollebaek Discusses UN Reform, Immigration

HIS EXCELLENCY KNUT VOLLEBAEK, Norwegian Ambassador to the U.S, shared a vision for reforming the United Nations (UN) in the 21st century, during his March 7, 2006 lecture at the University of Maryland. Vollebaek’s visit was part of the Office of International Programs ongoing Ambassadorial Lecture series.

Ambassador Vollebaek, formerly a Norwegian Foreign Minister and Ambassador to Costa Rica, supports restructuring efforts to make the UN a more effective multilateral system that can address global conflicts and utilize new and stronger legal instruments to combat terrorism and human trafficking. “The UN cannot solve problems alone. The UN has to interact globally to fulfill its mission,” he noted. Norway, together with other member countries, has developed a proposal for improving the UN’s organizational structure, performance, and coordination among the various UN agencies and member states. The Ambassador cited that the UN does not fulfill citizens’ expectations because the organization is short of financial resources and has not adequately addressed the challenges of human rights, international security and global poverty.

One of the Nordic countries on the western portion of the Scandinavian Peninsula, bordering Sweden, Finland and Russia, Norway has been a member state of the UN since the organization was founded in 1945. Although its population only numbers 4.6 million people, Norway is the second wealthiest country in the world (by per capita GDP, after Luxembourg and before the United States) and the seventh largest contributor to the UN’s budget, contributing $516 million in 2004. Ambassador Vollebaek stressed the high value that Norway, as a small country, places on the United Nations and NATO as pillars of advancing international cooperation and security.

Students and faculty present at the ambassador’s lecture expressed interest in Vollebaek’s specific recommendations to strengthen the UN and about how Norway is dealing with immigration issues, particularly religious and cultural differences. He pointed out the need for the Norwegian and European governments to be more sensitive to immigrants’ role in the society, citing the recent controversy stirred by Danish cartoonists who angered Muslims worldwide for depicting the Prophet Mohammed in a series of scandalous cartoons. He also recognized the significant contribution immigrants make to society: “The US is an example of the importance of immigration to a successful society because without this, you would not have the flourishing of universities and the economy.”

Ambassador Vollebaek also shared his insights from the time when he headed the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) during the Yugoslavian war in Kosovo, where he played a key role in negotiating peace: “I learned the importance of religion and culture in negotiating agreements between conflicting parties from my travels in the Balkans. Religion can be a source of conflict, but it can also be used as a part of the solution to build bridges.”
Japan Recognizes Biotech Leader

Dr. Rita Colwell, distinguished university professor in microbiology and biotechnology, received the prestigious Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star from the Japanese government on March 14, 2006. Dr. Colwell was the co-founder and former president of the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute and the first woman to direct the U.S. National Science Foundation, during which time she championed international collaboration. Recently, she has worked on the Japanese Earth Simulator computer to track infectious diseases and correlate the biological data to climate models. The “Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver” was established in 1875 by the Emperor Meiji of Japan to honor a person for remarkable public service performance. Colwell was one of only six U.S. citizens to receive the decoration this year and the only one in the field of science and technology.

Smith School Becomes Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER)

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Robert H. Smith School of Business a CIBER grant to act as a national resource center for teaching, research, and outreach in international business. Already a recognized global leader, the Smith school will apply the new funds toward further internationalizing its programs, incorporating foreign language and world area studies, developing global e-business and technology, and providing a variety of resources to academic and business communities that strengthen U.S. competitiveness in global trade. Maryland is one of 31 recipients of CIBER funds and will receive $1.42 million in funds over a five-year period, with a more than 100 percent match from the Smith School and the University of Maryland.

Taipei Forum Celebrates UM’s 150 Years & Emerging Connections in Asia, U.S.

To culminate the year-long 150th anniversary celebration, the University of Maryland will convene the Asia Leadership Forum in Taipei, Taiwan from October 27-29, 2006. President C.D. Mote Jr., will join some of Maryland’s most distinguished faculty, alumni and friends, along with other prominent American, Taiwanese, Chinese and Korean leaders for a unique networking opportunity. The forum will address innovative directions in higher education, science and technology, international security, and efforts to combat hunger, disease and poverty. Dr. W.S. Lin, president of the Taiwan Alumni Association; Dr. Adisai Bodharamik, former minister of commerce and education, Thailand; Dr. Chan-Mo Park, president of Pohang University of Science and Technology, Republic of Korea; and Dr. Tung Shen, director of the Center for International Academic Exchange, National Taiwan University will be among the distinguished speakers. Dr. Cheng-i Wei, dean of Maryland’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, will address issues related to higher education, science, and technology in a panel discussion.

See www.asiaforum.umd.edu for more information.
The Office of International Programs (OIP) is proud to announce the launch of our new website, www.international.umd.edu. The newly designed OIP site now includes an international events calendar, a directory of international research experts and programs on campus, and resources specific to students, faculty, alumni, and visitors. You can also access current and back issues of *Maryland International* online. Through www.international.umd.edu, you can easily access the new websites of our related offices, including International Education Services, Study Abroad, the Maryland English Institute, the Confucius Institute at Maryland, and the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs.

Please visit us today at www.international.umd.edu and send us your feedback.

Thanks for helping us connect the University of Maryland community and the world!