



ELI ACROSS THE GLOBE



ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
INSTITUTE
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

ELI HOSTS GROUP FROM J.F. OBERLIN UNIVERSITY, MACHIDA JAPAN

For more than 15 years, the ELI has hosted students for a semester-long program at VSU. The students live in Reade Hall with Honor's students and study in our intensive English language program for one semester. They also participate in the Conversation Partner's program twice a week and visit the Japanese classes to lend the teacher a hand and give VSU students a chance to practice Japanese with native speakers. In addition to this program, VSU sends students to J.F. Oberlin on exchange every year to study Japanese.



VALDOSTA STATE FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS VISIT SEOUL, KOREA

Seoul, Korea in November is cold, but some hearty VSU administrators braved the cold weather to make a visit to meet our partners and recruit more international students. Important for the ELI was a visit with Menntee Education to discuss a partnership for bringing students to the ELI and then VSU in the future. VSU had a very successful collaboration with this agency before COVID, and more than a hundred Korean students attended VSU through this collaboration. Dr. David Starling, the director of the English Language Institute, Dr. Mike Savoie, the Dean of the University College and Director of International Programs, Dr. James LaPlant, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Dr. Minsun Song, Professor of Political Science and Public Administration attended. Dr. Starling reports that we can expect to see dividends from this recruitment effort in the spring of 2025.



MCL AND ELI VISIT TO COLOMBIA

The Department of Modern & Classical Languages and the ELI visited Bogota for an international student recruitment fair, and high school recruitment fairs. The delegation also visited universities in Bogota and Tunja to work on collaborative programs with our partners. Discussions included recruitment of students for our master's program in FLED and sending Colombian students and teachers to VSU for short-term intensive English training programs. Dr. Ofelia Nikolova, Dr. David Starling, and Dr. Beatriz Potter represented Valdosta State. The goal of the trip was to increase the number of international students studying at VSU and create opportunities for our students going abroad.



CZECH STUDENTS FROM PALACKY UNIVERSITY IN OLOMOUC TAKE CLASSES AT THE ELI

Every fall and spring semester, VSU hosts ten Czech Students from Palacky University for one month. Dr. Jiri Steltzer has created a fantastic program for these students to come and practice their English, sit in on classes in their majors, and get to know American culture. Dr. James LaPlant lectured on American conspiracy theories, and Dr. Joseph Robbins lectured on disinformation campaigns in social media and Tik Tok,. Additionally, students were able to take trips to Orlando, the Okefenokee, St. Augustine, and go camping at St. Simons Island.



VSU ATTENDS FORUM IN HONOR OF JIMMY CARTER & THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

At the invitation of the Atlanta International Education Group, Dr. Mike Savoie and Dr. David Starling were able to attend the Carter Center for a series of lectures and forums on U.S.-China relations. China is an important economic partner for the United States. This conference was to emphasize that, although we have some very different political philosophies, it is urgent that we find ways to work together to maintain global stability. Dr. Savoie and Dr. Starling are shown here posing for a picture at the Carter Center with the Mayor of Jackson, Mississippi.





ELI STUDENTS VISIT ORLANDO

For a lucky three day weekend, students were taken to Disney Springs, and had the choice of going to two different locations in either one of the 4 parks in Disney World, NASA Space Center, or Universal Studios Florida. On the way up, they got to experience Bucky's famous BBQ brisket sandwiches, which they really enjoyed. Students were seen wearing Mickey Mouse ears and various kinds of merchandise from the different parks. On the way back, they got a chance to also experience Orlando Outlet shopping.

ELI STUDENTS VISIT ATLANTA

Students this spring enjoyed visiting Atlanta and seeing the Georgia Aquarium, World of Coca Cola Museum, and in particular, eating Japanese food at an authentic Japanese restaurant! The aquarium is one of the largest in the world and had a large number of whale sharks! The World of Coca Cola features over 100 different coke flavors from all over the world which they could sample.

They also enjoyed going to a giant Asian Market center to satisfy a craving for their own Japanese, Chinese, and Korean foods. These three are waiting on a big bowl of ramen!





ENGLISH USA FAIRS IN MEXICO & COLOMBIA

Dr. Beatriz Potter visited recruitment fairs in Mexico and Colombia organized by EnglishUSA. She attended fairs in Merida, Mexico City, Bogota, and Baranquilla. These fairs were attended by students seeking English language programs and degree programs in the United States and other countries.

Dr. Potter also visited our partners at the Autonomous University of the Yucatan to discuss future collaboration between our two universities.



- Individual study - Standard programs
- Length - two months to one year
 - I-20 for visa
 - Intensive English Classes - four hours per day five days a week
 - Conversation partner participation - 2 days a week
 - Easy transition to VSU Academic programs
 - Partial scholarships available.
 - On campus housing
 - Single room in shared apartment
 - Shared room in traditional hallway
 - Weekend excursions to Atlanta, Orlando, St. Augustine, etc., for an additional individual fee. (Students pay hotel costs and cost for activities)

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