

# Greenlee Gazette

Greenlee Graduate Program Newsletter March 2015

## Mark your calendars!

### March 23

Registration begins for summer and fall 2015 classes

### March 27

Request for final oral examination for spring 2015

### March 27

NREM Graduate Seminar  
Natural Resource Ecology and  
Management Department  
3:10- 4 p.m. 142 W Lagomarcino

### March 31

Lecture: Spring 2015  
Mary Louise Smith Chair in  
Women and Politics  
“How American women are  
changing politics”

### April 7

Lecture: Children, Technology  
and the Changing Definition of  
Play  
7 p.m. Sun Room, MU

### April 21

Last date for final oral  
examination for spring 2015

### May 8

Spring commencement

## Fifth Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

By Ruiqi Lin and Terigele



Faculty, staff and students at the Chinese New Year celebration.

Greenlee students, faculty and staff bid farewell to the Year of the Horse and ushered in the Year of the Goat, which began Feb. 19, with a celebration on March 6.

“This is a signature event in the Greenlee School,” said Dr. Michael Bugeja, Greenlee School director. “It has been and will remain one of our most important occasions because the Lunar New Year brings faculty, students and staff together to celebrate with and learn from each other, especially about one of the world’s oldest and richest cultures.”

The fifth annual Lunar New Year celebration included Chinese songs, poetry and musical instrument solos, a fan dance, games and a Chinese cooking demonstration, among other activities. Dr. Jonathan Wickert, Senior Vice President and Provost, and Rob Schweers, Director of Communications, also stopped by the event to celebrate with Greenlee students, faculty and staff.

Assistant professor Dr. Gang Han works with the School’s Chinese graduate students to organize the annual event. “For those students who travel far away from home, Chinese New Year, or the Spring Festival, is the most important holiday over an entire lunar year,” Han said. “The annual celebration at Greenlee has become a brand new and exciting experience for everyone from China to share the special cultural occasion with friends in the U.S. and from around the world.”

Each year Greenlee graduate students, over half of which are from China, work to provide a unique glimpse into their native culture. This year’s celebration featured a solo on a Guzheng, a Chinese musical instrument, a Chinese art paper-cutting game and a demonstration on preparing tofu with green onion.

“All the Chinese students transform from simply being master’s students to becoming cultural ambassadors, and they bring a great benefit to ISU and the state of Iowa,” said Dr. Daniela Dimitrova, the School’s director of graduate education.

The holiday, which is similar to Christmas in Western culture, is typically a time spent with family. Greenlee’s celebration allows international students who aren’t able to make it home to share their traditions with their family in the Greenlee School.

“Although Chinese New Year would be a time for homesickness without families around, the celebration makes me so happy, because I am so glad to know many friends here in the School who are interested in Spring Festival and Chinese traditions,” said Xiaowen Zhu, Greenlee graduate student.

“I really appreciate every Chinese student’s work on it,” said Haejung Shin, a first-year graduate student in the Greenlee School from South Korea, “Both Korea and China have tradition of Lunar New Year celebration. It is a good chance to know more about different Asian cultures.”



Chinese students showcased their many talents: cooking traditional Chinese dishes (left), paper cutting (center) and playing instruments (right).

## Student Profile

Shuo Li



*Shuo Li at her United Nations internship in New York City.*

Shuo Li, a Greenlee graduate student, is currently an intern with the United Nations. The internship involves getting a first-hand experience with the daily tasks at the United Nations TV station. The internship with the United Nations has given Shuo the opportunity to work with individuals from all over the world. Working as a multimedia intern, Shuo has been involved in editing scripts, participating in local and studio shooting, and helping with video editing of United Nations TV programs. The internship has been challenging for Shuo, but she says it has been a very rewarding experience.

## Greenlee Research Impacting Developing Countries

Every year in developing countries, like Mozambique, the National Agricultural Research Sectors (NARS) release new agricultural technology. The end goal of the technology reaching the farmers in these countries is still posing a challenge. Sostino Mocumbe, a first-year graduate student at Greenlee, works for the Communication Department at the Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique. “It was always one of my dreams to use science in influencing the innovations already available and those coming to benefit everybody,” said Sostino.

Sostino left Africa to attend Greenlee with the aspiration of learning about various theoretical approaches and techniques for introducing new agricultural technology. “My experience at Greenlee has been enriching. It is gratifying working with the most experienced professors in the classes I have taken so far and in those I intend to take in the following semesters.”

Sostino’s major professor, Dr. Eric Abbott, has a lot of great experience with what Sostino and NARS hope to do back in Africa. Dr. Abbott and Sostino are working on a USAID-funded project called “Farmer Decision-Making Strategies for Improved Soil Fertility Management in Maize-Bean Production Systems” and have been planning specific communication interventions both in Mozambique and Uganda.

This summer, Sostino and Dr. Abbott will be working in Mozambique and Uganda to test various types of communication tools to measure information processing and the power of visuals for learning purposes. Over spring break, Sostino had the opportunity to join the Scientific Animations without Borders team at the University of Illinois for training on how to make animations and mobile phone apps to potentially implement back home in Mozambique.



*Sostino Mocumbe works for the Communication Department of the Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique to help farmers utilize technology offered to them.*

