

NEWSLETTER ... 2007

# Oklahoma City International Visitors Council

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Website: [www.ivcokc.org](http://www.ivcokc.org)



*“Praise opens the door to accomplishment, and encouragement keeps it open. A pat on the back is the gentle shove that helps one through the door.”*

## NEXT IVC MEETING THURSDAY, December 6, 2007

11:00 – 12:30  
Ann Lacy Bldg.  
Oklahoma City University  
Corner of N.W. 24 & Blackwelder  
2501 N. Blackwelder

297-8973 or 341-3169

## Focus on Holiday Sharing..

Bring your favorite Christmas or Holiday story, poem, or music to share at the December 6 IVC meeting. Also, bring a holiday dish of food or sweets .

Paper goods will be provided.

Our program will be provided by members.

***Hope you all have a Merry Christmas/Happy Holiday Season.***

## January will bring new leadership for OKC's International Visitors Council

Dr. Ronald Paddock will assume the role of Chair of the Council. He will follow Tweet Coleman, who has served us for the past 2 years.

Ron is well known to all of us, having shared many stories and travel experiences over the years that he served as Director of International Students at UCO. He is also active in many other international organizations including Friendship Force and the Asian Society.

## OKC hosts two Department of State International Programs during November .

Melissa Graffigna coordinated a program for the Chief of the Anti-Terrorism Brigade, Romanian Intelligence Service (SRI) Romania. This was a second visit as he had studied at the FAA several years ago.

Also during November, OKC hosted a U.S. Foreign Policy and Counterterrorism group. They were from the following countries.

- Bulgaria – Executive Secretary for the Commission on Foreign Policy and International Relations for the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party.
- Hong Kong – Senior Superintendent of the Organized Crime and Triad Bureau.
- Lebanon – Chief of the Sidon Sector, ISF
- Luxembourg – Secretary General of the Grand Ducal Police.
- Pakistan – ASP, Establishment Division of the Police Service of Pakistan
- Palestinian Authority – Security Planning Counterpart of the Palestinian Security technical Team for Reform (TTR) in Ramallah and recently appointed to work at the UN Headquarters in Geneva.

While in OKC they were hosted by MIPT, Homeland Security, the Oklahoman, UCO Forensics, and the Department of Emergency Management. While here, they enjoyed home hospitality with Kay Bickham, and other IVC volunteers.

## Ms. Goli Ameri Nominated as Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs



President George W. Bush has nominated Ms. Goli Ameri, as Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). Pending approval from Congress, Ms. Ameri would replace Ms. Dina Powell, who left the position in early 2007, as the head of the ECA.

Born in Tehran, Iran, Ms. Ameri came to the United States in 1974 and earned an undergraduate and graduate degree from Stanford University. She is a former delegate to the UN Commission on Human Rights and is the founder and president of eTinium, a consulting and market research company which specializes in converging telecommunications and Internet markets with an international scope.

## CSIS COMMISSION ON SMART POWER

In 2006, the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) created the Commission on Smart Power to formulate a strategy to guide America's international engagement. Its findings, which can be found in the recently released [CSIS Commission on Smart Power](#), reveal a great deal about the changing nature of public diplomacy. The report notes that "by complementing U.S. military and economic might with greater investments in soft power, America can build the framework it needs to tackle tough global challenges."

Among the many important findings of the Commission, there is a great deal of emphasis placed on promoting the growth of "educational and institutional exchanges," including the International Visitor Leadership Program.

## Friendship Force Oklahoma

FFO Christmas party is scheduled as a holiday brunch that will be hosted in the home of Karen James ( 17200 N Western Ave, Edmond, OK

73003) on Saturday, December 15 at 11:30 AM with a fee of \$6 single/\$ 10 couple. Please send reservations to Donna Sieble ( 312 East 13th ST, Edmond, OK 73034) to arrive by deadline of Dec.10 . Look for balloons on mailbox on the east side of Western for the driveway. A volunteer will be directing traffic for parking. In case of rain, watch for directions to park nearby at the Goddard school. Please send or pay 2008 dues to Treasurer Judy Gibson \$ 20 single of \$30 Family. Her address is 601 NW 153RD ST, EDMOND, OK 73013  
**Southwest Regional Conference to be held here in Baton Rouge on January 11-13, 2008.**

## For your Calendar

### OKC Art Museum -- About Paris 1900

The OKCMOA will be the only venue for [Paris 1900](#), opening December 20, 2007. The exhibition is co-curated by Hardy S. George, Ph.D., museum chief curator, and Gabriel P. Weisberg, professor of art history at the University of Minnesota, and will focus on the emergence of Paris as the artistic center of Europe at the turn of the century. With emphasis placed on the art nouveau movement, which was at its height in 1900, the exhibition will include a number of posters, paintings, and sculpture as well as glass, ceramics, and jewelry. Look for some wonderful Toulouse-Lautrec large posters!

### 2 Days in Paris

Thursday, December 6--Sunday, December 9, 2pm  
The film follows two days in the relationship of a New York based couple; a French photographer Marion (Julie Delpy) and American interior designer Jack (Adam Goldberg).  
Director: Julie Delpy 2007 France/Germany 96min. R 35mm

### OCU's Film Institute will resume Sunday afternoon movies in January.

"We don't accomplish anything in this world alone... and whatever happens is the result of the whole tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual threads form one to another that creates something."

- Sandra Day O'Connor, former Supreme Court Justice

