

**Lawrence Sister Cities Advisory Board
2010 Six Month Progress Report
June 8, 2010**

In our application for city funding for calendar 2010, we listed three goals. Progress on these three goals is described following each goal.

1. Send a delegation from Lawrence of approximately 20 persons to mark the 20th anniversary of the sister city relationship in 2010 and host a similar delegation from Eutin for a visit in Lawrence.

A subcommittee chaired by James Hilliard is planning the 20th anniversary delegation visit to Hiratsuka which will occur in the first week of October 2010. Based on discussions with our partners in Japan, we are putting together a delegation of approximately 15 persons, representing local government, educational and cultural institutions as well as members of Lawrence Sister Cities. The visit to Japan will last about one week with a program of activities jointly organized with the sister city group in Hiratsuka. Our delegation will present a special sculpture to Hiratsuka by local Lawrence artist Jan Gaumnitz at the time of the visit. We are looking forward to the visit of a similar delegation from Hiratsuka to Lawrence in October 2011.

2. Continue to expand scholarship support for the school exchange programs by developing better fundraising techniques. Target goal for scholarship fundraising in 2010 will be \$7,500.

At the end of 2009, the advisory board transferred its scholarship funds to the Douglas County Community Foundation. We anticipate that this will offer us the opportunity to enhance our scholarship fundraising in general and make it easier for donors to contribute in a variety of ways, including by credit card. We have already made plans for our annual, and quite successful, scholarship fundraiser at the Castle Tea Room on October 21, 2010. In addition, we are pursuing a theatre evening and reception at KU in conjunction with a performance by the KU Theatre students who will have attended the summer institute in our new sister city Iniades, Greece, this summer. The event is scheduled for August 28 in Murphy Hall on the KU Campus.

3. Continue to increase the number of Lawrence students participating in the annual school exchanges. A target goal would be 40 students in 2010.

Unfortunately, with the resignation of the coordinator of the Eutin student exchange late last summer, we have been faced with rebuilding that part of our student exchange program. We were able to recruit a business teacher, Jason Crawford, who has just arrived in Eutin with six students for a four-week stay this summer. On the other hand, we have been able to increase the number of professional interns going to Eutin from Lawrence to ten this year, thanks in large part to the support of Hans Wilhelm Hagen, one of the bank presidents in Eutin who visited Lawrence with a delegation last fall. Together with the KU summer institute in Eutin, we have 28 persons from Lawrence in Eutin this summer.

The Hiratsuka student exchange again has 20 students and three chaperones going to Japan from Lawrence this summer. We are in the process of recruiting a replacement for long-time organizer of this student exchange, Cathy Hilliard.

Respectfully submitted,
William Keel, Chair
Sister Cities Advisory Board
Lawrence, Kansas

