

*A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step 千里之行，始於足下 un voyage de mille lieues commence toujours par un premier pas 천리 길도 첫걸음부터 un viaje de mil millas comienza con un solo paso*

Greetings!

I am pleased to welcome you to our fourth volume of the *Journal of International Students* (JIS) and share with you the history of our success! This academic journal emerged from my research on international students and a collaborative research project on international student retention few years ago. The project served as a research outlet on international students' issues and concerns at Arkansas State University. After reading several journals that publish occasional articles related to international student topics, my colleague Charlotte Foster and I noticed an academic need for a journal devoted to international student studies. Along with the first publication in the spring of 2011, my first opportunity to participate as a thematic interest group (TIG) leader at an international conference at Harvard University gave a new direction to this journal, and established an academic outlet. Several friends and scholars that I met at the conference supported this project by working together on the editorial board.

The Journal is listed with Cabell's journal directory, and indexed with EBSCO publishing, the largest academic database. We were recently recognized by NAFSA: National Association of International Educators. Our editorial office has received timely intellectual and academic support from the Center for Excellence in Education at Arkansas State University. Regular emails and inquiries from graduate students, professors, educators, and library members have encouraged the entire Journal team to be more professional and rigorous in reviewing and accepting the submissions.

Our editorial board includes about 75 published authors as editors, assistant editors, and peer-review board members from various institutions across the globe. I am thankful to all the team members of the JIS who have voluntarily spent many hours reviewing and editing the articles to ensure the highest quality research. In spring 2013, we will have Dr. Erlenawait Sawir, co-author of *International Student Security* (2010) and Dr. Susan C. Pearce, lead author of *Immigration and Women: Understanding the American Experience* (2011) as volume guest editors. The editorial team is excited to work with them in our spring edition of the Journal.

As in our previous volume, this current edition also includes a wide variety of articles written by faculty members and doctoral students from various institutions across the United States. Altogether, I believe that scholarly articles of this volume from various disciplines will contribute positively to the field of international student studies. As in the past, we have continued our tradition of sharing free digital copies and print copies with students, faculty members and libraries in the United States and abroad. We are also preparing to publish three times a year in the near future. Finally, I would like to thank the reviewers, copy editors, assistant editors, and editors for their voluntary contributions to the Journal.

Happy reading!

*Krishna Bista, Founder/Editor-in-Chief*



Krishna Bista is doctoral research assistant at Arkansas State University. His research and professional interests include educational statistics, global and international education, cross-cultural expectations and experiences of international students in the United States. His academic papers appear in *College Teaching*, *The Educational Forum*, *International Journal of Research and Review*, and *International Journal of Multicultural Education*. He is on the editorial board of *Perspectives on Undergraduate Research & Mentoring*, *Current Issues in Education*, *Journal of International Education and Leadership*, and *Learning and Performance Quarterly*. Krishna has been actively participated in many professional organizations such as American Educational Research Association and POD Network in Higher Education as a member and reviewer.