



**NEW CITIZEN** - On the day he became an American citizen, Behzad Izadbakhsh (center) is joined by family and friends at a Rotary International reception. They are, from left, Arian Izadbakhsh (brother), Ommehani Kasirian (mother), and Sonia Guerra (friend). Behzad was one of 55 people taking the oath of citizenship on January 17 in Pittsburgh.

## Pittsburgh World Affairs Council Wins Top National Award For Achievements

The World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh was named "the most dynamic World Affairs Council in the nation" in its category at the annual meeting of the World Affairs Councils of America on February 1.

For the first time, the World Affairs Councils of America recognized four councils across the nation with the President's Award for Outstanding Achievement, given for "extraordinary growth, innovation, and outreach."

The Pittsburgh Council received this first-ever award in the medium-sized council category, a group comprising approximately half of the 81 councils across the United States.

In presenting the award to Council President [Sky Foerster](#), WACA President Dr. Jerry Leach cited the Pittsburgh Council's record-setting pace of programs, last year reaching approximately 17,000 people, including some 12,000 students and teachers; its leadership role in strengthening outreach to secondary schools; its innovative programs to address difficult foreign policy issues facing the U.S.; its pioneering work nationwide in creating community partnerships that promote the internationalization of the region; its award-winning weekly radio program on KQV AM 1410, now in its 26th year; and its continued growth in difficult economic times.

For more information, go to [worldaffairspittsburgh.org](http://worldaffairspittsburgh.org).

## More Than 2,000 From Around The World Became New Citizens In Region Last Year

It's an event that most people know about but few have ever witnessed. It happens once a month in Pittsburgh and scores of times around the country. It's one of the few days when cameras are allowed inside a federal courtroom.

The event in question is the swearing-in ceremony for new Americans taking the oath of citizenship. It happens in the Federal Courthouse on Grant Street on the third Wednesday of every month.

"It's really a special occasion, which I think everyone in this country should see sometime," said Robert Whitehill, a Pittsburgh immigration lawyer who welcomed 55 new citizens during the January 2003 ceremony.

"We are joining the great family of citizens enjoying the cherished principles of freedom," said Behzad Izadbakhsh, a new citizen from Iran who addressed the group.

From its Pittsburgh office, the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Services oversees 19 locations in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia where citizenship oaths are administered, according to an INS representative. The office welcomed more than 2,000 new citizens last year, he said.

In the city of Pittsburgh, about 60 new citizens are sworn in each month. Each receives a certificate of citizenship and a small American flag. They are joined by family and friends.

To be eligible for citizenship, people must have lived in the U.S. for at least five years as permanent residents. They must speak basic English and pass a test of American history and government.

In 2001, the latest year for which total statistics are available, the INS welcomed 8,396 new U.S. citizens in Pennsylvania, according to agency records. During that year, the total number of new citizens sworn in nationwide was 608,205, one-sixth of them from Mexico.

For more information and statistics, or to answer sample questions on the naturalization test, go to the INS website at [www.ins.usdoj.gov](http://www.ins.usdoj.gov).

### Top 10 Countries Of Origin For Pennsylvania's New Citizens - 2001

India	1,001
Vietnam	861
China	627
Ukraine	523
Korea	400
Russia	290
Jamaica	217
Mexico	189
Philippines	174
Poland	171

Source: INS

## **UEC Technologies Acts Locally, Globally To Serve Clients, Attract Consulting Staff**

**U**EC Technologies, a subsidiary of U.S. Steel Corp., serves the world from its home base in Pittsburgh.

With hundreds of clients in more than 60 countries, UEC has its primary offices in Pittsburgh and representation in Montreal and New Delhi, India. UEC is a leader in providing technologies and services to the metals, manufacturing and process industries.

The three primary business units of UEC Technologies are UEC IT, UEC Labs, and UEC Tech Services. These business units serve industry through innovative engineering and consulting, information technology and laboratory services.

UEC's Met-Chem Canada subsidiary serves the mining industry through engineering, environmental, and geological studies and services, while its joint venture in India, USIT, provides cost-effective off-shore development and system implementation services.

UEC IT is a leading software provider for the metals and related industries. Products and services include order management and supply chain management systems, eCommerce solutions, business process consulting, staff augmentation and off-shore development.

Just as its clients are located around the world, UEC IT's staff of network engineers and systems consultants also has a noticeably international flavor.

Ruchir Kumar, a native of India who moved to Pittsburgh two years ago, manages some of UEC IT's consultants in India, and also helps UEC IT's consultants prepare for assignments in the United States and other countries.

"I am acting like a bridge between two islands," said

Kumar, who travels to India once a year and does the rest of his long-distance work by telephone, fax and e-mail.

"Pittsburgh is an excellent location," he

said. "From here we are able to maintain contact with our consultants and our clients, and we are able to travel, if necessary. It is also a good place to live. It is not a small city, but it is not a large city. I like it very much."

Kumar said that the consultants he works with have heard about Pittsburgh, and often tell him that they would rather be relocated to Pittsburgh than to New York, California or other locations.

"They have heard that it is affordable and safe, and that there is a large Indian community here," he said. "They feel very comfortable."

Igor Shcherbina moved to Pittsburgh from Ukraine 10 years ago after graduating from Kiev Polytechnical Institute with an electrical engineering degree.

His computer programming background led him to UEC

IT in 2000. He travels occasionally to service clients, but is always glad to return to Pittsburgh.

"I like it here," Shcherbina said. "I've been in most of the big U.S. cities, and honestly I'm glad to get back to Pittsburgh. It's a smaller city but it has many advantages of a larger city."

Pittsburgh's Russian community is not as large as in other cities, he said, although it's growing every year.

"But that is an advantage for me because in Pittsburgh you get mixed in with Americans much faster," Shcherbina said. "I have friends who have lived for years in New York City and they still don't speak English."

UEC Technologies employs about 500 people around the world, including 125 in India and 150 in Montreal.

For more information, go to [www.uec.com](http://www.uec.com).

## **Brother's Brother Receives Grants To Send School Supplies To Africa**

**T**he Pittsburgh-based Brother's Brother Foundation has been awarded grants totaling more than \$700,000 to send books and other supplies to schools in 10 African countries.

Two foreign aid grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of State totaling \$713,000 will be used to send more than 1.5 million schoolbooks, a million pencils and other supplies to needy students in South Africa, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Ghana and five other African countries. This grant represents more than 80 cargo containers of materials.

BBF's President Luke L. Hingson called the awards "the largest U.S. Government grant combination in the 45-year history of our Education Program."

"Hundreds of thousands of children will have better access to educational resources," he said.

Brother's Brother Foundation, a 45-year old Pittsburgh based international charity, has provided 67,850 tons of medical supplies, textbooks, food, seeds, and other humanitarian supplies to people around the world in over 110 countries using a combination of gifts from the general public, corporations and the US government.

In 2001, BBF provided 4.3 million pounds of relief help to those in need in Central America, Kosovo, Turkey, South Africa, Sierra Leone, Cuba, and the United States.

For information about programs and making donations, call 412-321-3160 or go to [www.brothersbrother.org](http://www.brothersbrother.org).





Rajeesh Pandav joined members of the North Hill Squares in spinning their partners while square dancing during a recent [Pittsburgh Council for International Visitors](#) potluck dinner. More than 200 people attended the dinner, which was held at Pitt's William Pitt Student Union. About half of those attending were international professionals and students. The next potluck dinner is scheduled for **April 27**. Please call PCIV's Alexandra Clochard at 412-624-7800 for more information.

### ***Ketchum Helps Alcoa Blend Fairchild Fasteners***

**W**hen Pittsburgh-based Alcoa acquired Paris-based Fairchild Fasteners in December, it faced a major challenge in combining the new company with its own Huck Fasteners under the banner of Alcoa Fastening Systems (AFS).

To address that challenge, Alcoa hired Ketchum, a global consulting firm, to help develop a communications strategy for integrating the two industry leaders quickly and seamlessly.

The new AFS business unit, comprised of more than 6,000 employees in North America, Europe and Australia, aims to become the world's leading manufacturer of fasteners for the aerospace, commercial transportation and automotive industries.

"We knew it would be critical to quickly and successfully integrate Fairchild Fasteners employees so that they could hit the ground running," said Phillip Morton, Alcoa's director of communication for aerospace and automotive products.

Led by Ketchum's Pittsburgh office, a team of Ketchum associates from Los Angeles, France, Germany, Portugal, Hungary and the United Kingdom worked with Alcoa and Fairchild Fastener employees to bridge cultural and geographic boundaries.

Following a "one great connection" theme, Alcoa kicked off its communications effort by reaching out to AFS management personnel through a series of activities, including a global webcast and leadership briefing seminars in Los Angeles and Paris.

After becoming acquainted with Alcoa's culture and goals for AFS, the management team held facility-level meetings with all employees to introduce them to the new organization.

Alcoa Fastening Systems represents approximately \$1 billion in annual revenue for Alcoa. For more information, go to [www.alcoa.com](http://www.alcoa.com) or [www.ketchum.com](http://www.ketchum.com).

### **Chatham College Honored For International Education Program**

**C**hatham College's Global Focus Program has been honored by the Institute for International Education as a leader in campus internationalization.

At a ceremony in New York City in January, Chatham President Dr. Esther Barazzone accepted the IIE's Andrew Heiskell Award for Internationalizing the Campus for 2002-2003.

The award recognizes Chatham's long-time commitment to international education through institutional exchanges, foreign study opportunities, hosting of international students and scholars, and most particularly, the Global Focus Program.

Each year, Chatham spotlights a country or region of the world in a campus-wide, cross-curricular approach to global learning, with the goal of fostering greater understanding of global citizenship. The focus for 2002-2003 is Understanding the Communities of Islam, which has been integrated into course work, assignments, campus activities and public events.

The IIE said it was especially impressed by Chatham's selection of the Communities of Islam as this year's Global Focus, noting the role of colleges and universities to inspire debate, and by its use of resources such as its collaboration with Pittsburgh area institutions to enrich the offerings available to the campus community.

"We are extremely proud to receive this honor for our campus-wide commitment to help our students understand the vastness and variety of our world," Barazzone said.

The Heiskell Awards are named in honor of noted publisher and philanthropist Andrew Heiskell, the former Chairman and CEO of Time, Inc. and a longtime advocate for international education.

For more information call 412-365-1100 or go to [www.chatham.edu](http://www.chatham.edu).



***Allegheny County's Hispanic population increased by 28% during the 1990s, while the nation's increased by 54%.***

Source: US Department of Commerce



## Local Group Provides Support To Immigrants

**S**tarting a new life in a new country presents many challenges, such as learning a new language and culture, finding schools for children, finding places to live and shop, and dealing with government agencies.

The Pittsburgh Regional Immigrant Assistance Center of the Jewish Family & Children's Service helps immigrants of all faiths adjust to a new life in America by providing a wide range of support services and access to affordable legal services.

The PRIAC is recognized by the U.S. government to provide immigration and naturalization services to foreign-born individuals with limited financial resources.

JF&CS has been helping immigrants and refugees make new lives in the United States since the agency was founded in 1937. Over the years, JF&CS has resettled survivors from the Holocaust, refugees from Southeast Asia, and several waves of Russian immigrants – resettling close to 2,000 refugees from the former Soviet Union and Bosnia alone since 1988.

"Our main focus is on the individual and the family," said the PRIAC's Linda Ehrenreich. "We've worked with over 2,200 people in the past 10 years, and the vast majority of them have stayed in the region. We feel that we have a very good success rate."

The JF&CS Refugee and Immigration Services Center has now grown to offer comprehensive programs and services to help immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers adapt and succeed in the United States, including bilingual case management, ESL (English as a Second Language) referrals and tutoring, immigration assistance, naturalization assistance and vocational counseling.

PRIAC helps immigrants find jobs and prepare for job interviews, and also helps local employers successfully integrate immigrant employees into the workplace by providing on-site ESL classes, cross-cultural workshops and recruitment services.

For more information, call 412-521-1737 or go to [www.jfcspgh.org](http://www.jfcspgh.org).

## TRADE OFFICE FOCUS



### Mexico Trade Office

Pennsylvania Trade Representative: Joaquin Frias Maurer  
c/o IBG, S.C.

Jose Maria Velasco #67

San Jose Insurgentes

03900 Mexico, D. F. MEXICO

Tel: 011-52555-660-1104 / Fax: 011-52555-660-3752

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### Welcome to globalpittsburghNEWS

GlobalPittsburghNEWS showcases Southwestern Pennsylvania as an attractive center for international communities, business and tourism. Please distribute it freely.

For information on global issues education, contact Sky Foerster at the World Affairs Council, 412-281-7970 or e-mail at [skyf@worldaffairspittsburgh.org](mailto:skyf@worldaffairspittsburgh.org).

For information on international business development, contact Roger Cranville at the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance, 412-392-1000, or e-mail at [rcranville@regionalalliance.org](mailto:rcranville@regionalalliance.org).

If you have story ideas, contact Thomas Buell, Jr. at 412-720-2218, or e-mail [tcuell@attbi.com](mailto:tcuell@attbi.com).

## New GlobalPittsburgh Network Launches March 12 At Rivers Club

**C**ome to the first gathering of GlobalPittsburgh Network on March 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Rivers Club.

The World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance are joining forces with the Rivers Club to host this new opportunity to bring together people from our region's various international communities along with anyone interested in those international connections.

The Council and the PRA will support the Network with programs, and the [Rivers Club](#) looks forward to hosting this recurring event. Cost is \$10. Drinks and a great spread of hors d'oeuvres will be available.

Call the Rivers Club at 412-391-5227 to make reservations. We look forward to seeing you there!

## ORGANIZATIONS

### Allegheny County Airport Authority

1000 Airport Boulevard, Suite 4000

Pittsburgh, PA 15231

412-472-3700

[www.flypittsburgh.com](http://www.flypittsburgh.com)

### Greater Pittsburgh

#### Convention & Visitors Bureau

425 Sixth Avenue, 30th Floor

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

412-281-7711

[www.visitpittsburgh.com](http://www.visitpittsburgh.com)

### Pittsburgh Council For

#### International Visitors

315 S. Bellefield Avenue #413

Pittsburgh, PA 15260

412-624-7800

[www.pciv.org](http://www.pciv.org)

### Pittsburgh Regional Alliance

425 Sixth Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

412-392-1000

[www.pittsburghregion.org](http://www.pittsburghregion.org)

### World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh

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Pittsburgh, PA 15219

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[www.worldaffairspittsburgh.org](http://www.worldaffairspittsburgh.org)

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