For comments on this newsletter, please contact Uyen Nguyen at unguyen@pugetsound.edu

International Programs

Newsletter

November 2010

Greetings from the Editor

Happy November to everyone!

November in the Northwest comes with heavy rain and icy wind. You often find yourself putting on your favorite raincoat or bring along an umbrella whenever you go outside. On occasion does it throw out a lovely sunny day. Yet November here also comes with a special holiday – you all know what I’m talking about – yes, Thanksgiving.

Last year I had a chance to celebrate Thanksgiving with my roommate’s family in Salem, Oregon. That gave me more reasons to love Thanksgiving besides the post-season sales! I remember that everyone spent the entire afternoon preparing for the dinner, and we had almost all traditional Thanksgiving dishes that I’d ever known of: mashed potato, cornbread, cranberry sauce, gravy, pies, and a big, big roasted turkey. The food was so delicious that we didn’t have leftovers! But better than that was... the holiday atmosphere and the laughter accompanying our chats. I just met her grandmother for a couple of days and talked to her younger sister a few times (all about food and Glee). Yet everyone’s friendliness made me feel as if I had been a long-time friend. Joining my roommate’s family for Thanksgiving was truly the right decision as it was a wonderful cultural experience.

So to some of you who have-n’t celebrated a true American Thanksgiving, I suggest you do that. Have a great break and rest well before we come back for finals!!

*Uyen

Note from Sally

Halloween, Day of the Dead, Thanksgiving means we are truly in the Holiday season! As a person who loves spring-time and all that season brings, I sometimes have to remind myself without the limited daylight of fall and winter, we’d never experience the wonderful awakening of spring.

For me, this season of parties and celebration and the opportunity to show gratitude is reason enough to embrace the longer nights. It’s not always easy to get up in the pitch dark and head out with my friends for a walk, but exercise and keeping active is a good counterbalance for all the treats that seem to flood offices and households for the party months of November and December.

My family always celebrated a very traditional Thanksgiving; the turkey, cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes that make a classic meal. One year when I was living in Mexico, I recreated the authentic meal, missing only the cranberries, which was eaten with enthusiasm by friends on the beach!

Another year I spent $30 to send a can of pumpkin to my daughter who was celebrating her first Thanksgiving in France and wanted to treat her friends to a pumpkin pie. She delighted in making a pie but her friends quietly moved it to the edge of their plates, uneaten, because it was not “classic” to make a pie with vegetables.

However you plan to celebrate, I hope you’ll join us on the 21st at my house for the ISM pie party. Have a great holiday!

Sally
USCIS Corner

Question and Answer Session with an Immigration Attorney. One of Sally’s colleagues at University of Washington Tacoma has invited advisors and staff from Puget Sound, PLU, TCC and Pierce College to a meeting around the issues of H1B visas. Here’s an opportunity to ask questions about what happens after Optional Practical Training (OPT) the 12 month work visa that many F1 students choose following graduation.

The meeting is next Wednesday, November 17, from 12:30 to 1:30 at UWT. If you have an interest in attending, send me an e-mail at: ssprenger@pugetsound.edu

I’ll arrange transportation. Anyone considering working in the U.S. beyond the OPT experience should definitely plan on attending this workshop.

Travel Signatures -
Before you get caught in the end of the semester rush, take a minute to check your I-20 to make sure that Sally signed it within the last 12 months. In order to reenter the U.S., you must have a valid, I-20. J-1 students much have their DS-2019 signed every 6 months.

The Office of International Programs will be closed for Thanksgiving November 24th through 29th and for Christmas, December 22nd through January 3rd,

OPT fee increase -
The I-765 fee will increase from $340 to $380 on November 23, 2010.

We all wish you a great year. And may your wishes will come true!

Happy Birthday to Andrea Figueira! 11/30

Pie Party—ISM Program Event

For the 3rd year in a row, and as a warm-up for all the Thanksgiving celebrations with food, ISM is hosting a PIE PARTY at Sally’s house. We invite all international students, mentors, and programmers to join us for a get together and delicious pies!

Host: International Student Mentor Group

When: Sunday, November 21 from 07:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Where: Sally’s House 3718 North 8th St. Tacoma, WA 98416
Campus Events

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**Arts & Lectures**

**Collins Memorial Library Exhibit**
Local Conditions: Solo exhibit and debut of Chaler O'Leary's latest artist book, featuring Mount Rainier

**Kittredge Gallery Exhibits**
Nov.22-Dec. 11

**Art Students Annual—Large and Small Galleries**

**Symphony Orchestra Concert**
Fri, Nov. 19 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Live Bluegrass!**

**Sat, Nov. 20, 2010 @ 8:30pm, Club Rendezvous**

**Student Chamber Music Concert**
Mon, Nov. 22 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Jazz in the Rotunda**
Sun, Nov. 21 @ 7:30 p.m.

**"Why Prints Matter" by Guest lecture Mark Pascale**
Tue, Nov.16 @ 4:30 p.m., WY 109

**Health Professions Night**
Tue, Nov. 16 @ 6:00pm, WSC Rotunda

**The 'Real' World of Mexican Migrants: New Issues in the Immigration Debate**
Lecture by scholar Dr. Judith Adler Hellman
Wed, Nov. 17 @ 5:00pm, WSC Rotunda

Thu, Nov. 18 @ 7:30 p.m., Kilworth Memorial Chapel

**Screening of Ellen Weissbrod's Feature Documentary about Artemisia Gentileschi: "A Woman Like That"**
Thu, Nov. 18 @ 5:30 p.m., Mc 103

Fri, Nov. 19 @ 4:00pm, MC 309

**Abby Williams Hill: A Living History Performance**
Sat, Nov. 20 @ 3:00pm, Collins Memorial Library, Room 020

**Guest Lecture by Seattle Poet Sibyl James**
Tue, Nov 30 @ 11:45a.m., WSC Murray Boardroom

By Media Relations
Sharing Box

Jere (aka Aleksandar Jeremikj) comes from Macedonia, and he is currently a sophomore at Puget Sound. He has been involved in the varsity swim, and he is highly recognized for his performance and contribution to the team. Let’s hear what Jere shares about his Thanksgiving.

My plans for Thanksgiving are not very exciting. I am going to stay on campus and train for the most important swim meet for the Fall semester. Also I am probably going to hang out with the people that are not going back home for Thanksgiving break. I have to admit that Thanksgiving is one of my favorite American holidays, for I am a big fan of food and just being at the dinner table and chatting and enjoying the company of my friends.

What I am thankful for is having a family who supports me in every decision I make; I am thankful for my friends who are like a second family to me they will always be there for me to cheer me up when I am having a bad day.

Fun Facts about Thanksgiving

- A turkey under 16 weeks of age is called a fryer. A five to seven month old turkey is called a roaster.
- Turkeys can drown if they look up when it’s raining!
- Turkeys are known to spend the night in trees! (Maybe to escape the Thanksgiving table?)
- The “wishbone” of the turkey is used in a good luck ritual on Thanksgiving Day.
- Domesticated turkeys cannot fly, however wild turkeys can fly up to 55 miles per hour over short distances.
- A turkey’s field of vision is 270 degrees—one of the main reasons they’re able to elude some hunters.
- The Guinness Book of Records states that the greatest dressed weight recorded for a turkey is 39.09 kg (86 lbs), at the annual “heaviest turkey” competition held in London, England on December, 1989.
- Turducken, a turkey stuffed with a duck stuffed with a chicken, is becoming more popular in Thanksgiving (originated in Louisiana). A turducken is a de-boned turkey stuffed with a de-boned duck, which itself is stuffed with a small de-boned chicken. The cavity of the chicken and the rest of the gaps are filled with, at the very least, a highly seasoned breadcrumb mixture (although some versions have a different stuffing for each bird).
- Corn is one of the popular symbols of Thanksgiving. It came in many varieties and colors — red, white, yellow, and blue. Some Americans considered blue and white corn sacred. The oldest corns date 7000 years back and were grown in Mexico.
- Cranberry is a symbol and a modern diet staple of Thanksgiving. Originally called cranberry, it derived its name from its pink blossoms and drooping head, which reminded the Pilgrims of a crane.
- The different nicknames for Thanksgiving Day:
  - “Turkey Day” (after the traditional Thanksgiving dinner), “T-Day” (an abbreviation of either “Thanksgiving Day” or “Turkey Day”), “Macy’s Day” (this is exclusive to New York City – it is a reference to the Macy’s Day Parade),
  - “Yanksgiving” (Canadians sometimes call the Thanksgiving in the US as “Yanksgiving” to distinguish it from the Canadian Thanksgiving holiday.)

*Sources: Coolest Holiday Parties and 1-800-Flowers*

A last note: Special thanks for Jere’s contribution to this newsletter!

For any comments or suggestions on our newsletters, please contact Uyen Nguyen at...