

# International Students



Photo: Courtesy of Nick Kelley; Namibia

# Newsletter

January 2012

## IN THIS NEWSLETTER

NOTE FROM SALLY.....2

ACADEMIC CALENDAR.....3

USCIS CORNER.....3

OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING  
.....3

ISM NEEDS YOU! .....4

WELCOME BACK NIGHT.....4

CAMPUS EVENTS.....5

# GREETINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome back, everyone!

I hope all of you had a great winter break, and are re-freshed and ready for a new semester. This month, the newsletter highlights some useful information regarding internships and Optional Practical Training as you start planning for the summer, or next year. We're also happy to invite you to the Welcome Back Night for scrumptious refreshments and cultural exchanges sponsored by the International Programs.

All the best in your spring semester and 2012!

\* Uyen



## NOTE FROM SALLY

**Welcome back to spring semester! Best wishes for the Year of the Dragon!**

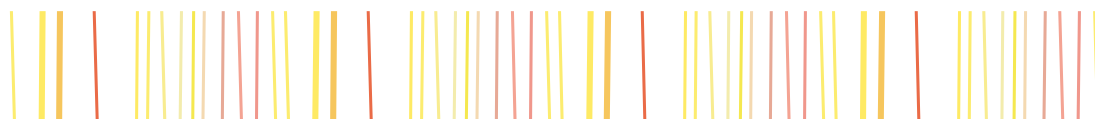
I'm pleased to welcome you back to campus and the start of what has been an "interesting" beginning to the new year. Most students reported feeling a little disoriented as they returned to campus for a day and then were hit by "snowmagedon" and slipping and sliding around campus instead of attending classes. The ice storm and ensuing damage to the campus landscape was a phenomena seldom seen in the Northwest.

I appreciate the number of students who have dropped by our office to check-in after the holiday, and it's been great to hear about your adventures in cities like Las Vegas, NYC, and Washington D.C. For those students who were able to return home to spend time with family over the break, it's good to hear that you came back to campus ready for the new semester.

I encourage all of you to take part in some of the activities to celebrate Chinese New Year. Uyen has included a schedule of activities in the newsletter along with other on-campus activities.

Recruiting efforts in Asia have been successful as we have received more international student applications than in the last few years. We are stepping up recruitment efforts to bring more international students to campus.

Sally



## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

**Tue., Jan. 17:** ADD/DROP begins

**Thu., Jan. 26:** Last day to ADD or Audit

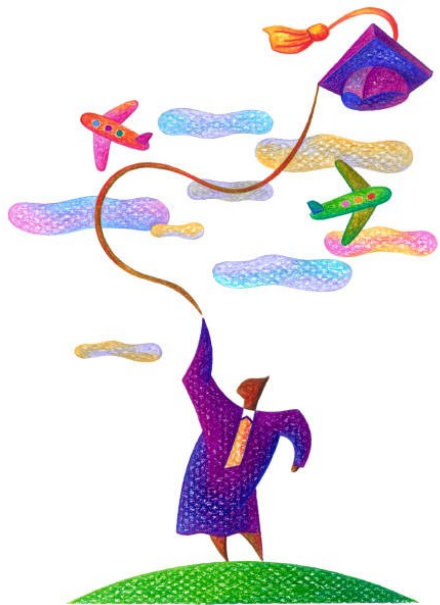
**Wed., Feb. 1:** Last day to DROP without record

**Mon., Feb. 27:** Last day to DROP with automatic W

# USCIS CORNER

In addition to the OPT possibilities that are described below, the U.S. government also offers the possibility of internships prior to graduation. This option is Curricular Practical Training or CPT and differs from OPT in that it offers the possibility of working off campus prior to graduation. CPT must be taken in conjunction with an academic class that requires an internship making this a good option for students in the BLP program or with a Business major. Check with Sally if you are interested in learning more.

## OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING



### For Graduating Seniors

If you are interested in remaining in the U.S. for another 12 months, stop by the International Programs to file your application for **Optional Practical Training**. All in-status F-1 students who have been in school for a year may qualify for 12 months of work related to your major after graduation.

Because the recommendation for OPT takes approximately 60-90 days to process, **it is recommended that you file your application before the end of March.**

For those of you with an OPT application in progress, please remember that from the time you file your application for OPT until you receive your employment authorization card, **you may not leave the country or the USCIS will assume that you have abandoned your application.** If you have plans to travel outside the U.S., please complete it before you file for OPT. Travel within the U.S. has **no** restrictions. For questions, or to set up an appointment for OPT, please call Sally at x2871 or email [ssprenger@pugetsound.edu](mailto:ssprenger@pugetsound.edu).

# ISM NEEDS YOU!

International Student Mentor (ISM) Program is looking for current students interested in mentoring or coordinating events for incoming international students and third-culture students. This opportunity is a great way to enrich (and share) your experiences abroad as well as support the international community on our campus.

It would be wonderful if you could help us spread the words out as well. Applications are available online at [www.pugetsound.edu/ISM](http://www.pugetsound.edu/ISM) or [www.pugetsound.edu/ISMapp](http://www.pugetsound.edu/ISMapp). For any questions, please contact Christina Miller at [cmiller@pugetsound.edu](mailto:cmiller@pugetsound.edu).

# WELCOME BACK NIGHT

Hello everyone,

We would like to invite you to the **Welcome Back Night**— sponsored by the International Programs and organized by the International Club and the International Student Mentor Program. With some delicious desserts from various countries, we will take you on a tour around the globe and share stories about different parts of the world. Mark this event on your calendar and invite your friends as well!

**Date: Thursday, Feb. 2nd**

**Time: 6 pm** (meeting lasts about 45')

**Location: Student Diversity Center** (across N. 15th from Diversion Cafe).

Please RSVP by contacting Uyen Nguyen at [unguyen@pugetsound.edu](mailto:unguyen@pugetsound.edu). We'd like to make sure we don't send you home with an empty stomach.

Meanwhile, if you are interested in cultural celebrations, please stop by:

- IC & ISM team



**University of Puget Sound  
Dragon Celebration**

**Friday, January 27**  
5 -7 p.m.  
Wyatt 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Atrium

**Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
5 -7 p.m.  
Wyatt 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Atrium

Lantern Festival Cultural Tables  
Chinese Spring Character Cut Outs  
Paper Lanterns  
Festival Desert Making

Cultural Display Set Up Party  
Calligraphy  
Ink Painting  
Dragon Kite Raising  
Authentic Szechuan Food

Events sponsored by Asian Studies, Taiwan Study Abroad and the Chinese Language House

# CAMPUS EVENTS

## Athletics & Outdoor Programs

### *Basketball vs Pacific (OR)*

Jan. 28 — Fieldhouse — W. team @ 6:00pm; M. team @ 8:00pm

### *Puget Sound Outdoors Weekly Pre-Trip Meeting*

Feb. 1 @ 8:00pm — The Expeditionary

For more information come by the Expy between 2-6 p.m., M-F or call at x3403.

## Music & Dance

### *Folk-Inspired Cello*

Fri., Jan. 27 @ 7:30pm — Schneebeck

David Requiro, Maria Sampen, and Tanya Stambuk perform

### *Bluesion - Tango (week 1)*

Mon., Jan. 30 @ 7:00pm — Fieldhouse, Dance Studio 228

Five-week series on tango, but don't worry if you miss a week! No dance experience is required!

## Visual Arts

### *Kittredge Gallery: Eirik Johnson and Nathan DiPietro*

Exhibit open: Jan. 16–Feb. 11

## Lectures/Seminars

### *Menu for the Future*

Jan. 29 @ 12:00pm — Library 020

A community discussion course at the university. Explore food systems and their impacts on culture, society, and ecological systems. Gain insight into agricultural and individual practices that promote personal and ecological well-being. Consider ways to create and support sustainable food systems.

### *Extraction, Consumption, and Indigeneity in Peru*

Jan. 31 @ 4:30pm — WSC, Murray Boardroom

Professors Maria Elena Garcia (Anthropology; History of Ideas) and Jose Antonio Lucero (International Relations; Latin American and Caribbean Studies) from the UW, Seattle will give a public talk on new trends in the shape and focus of local and transnational indigenous politics in Latin America. Sponsored by Latin American Studies Program.

### *Beyond Accessibility: Moving Toward Full Inclusion in Our Faith Communities*

By Rev. Dr. Brett Webb-Mitchell

Feb. 2 @ 7:30pm — Kilworth Chapel Swope Endowed Lectureship on Ethics, Religion, Faith, and Values.

Check out the Annual Asian Cinema Series this semester!

All films will be shown at 7pm.

January 26th  
**Last Life in the Universe**  
(Thailand, 2003)  
In Bangkok, a suicidal Japanese librarian finds love in the unlikely places.  
RAUSCH AUDITORIUM

February 1st  
**Adrenaline Drive**  
(Japan, 2000)  
In this romantic comedy, a shy Japanese couple try to stay one step ahead of the yakuza.  
RAUSCH AUDITORIUM

February 9th  
**3 Idiots**  
(India, 2009)  
A Bollywood bromance that mixes social commentary with a hilarious road movie.  
WYATT 109

February 15th  
**Perhaps Love**  
(China, 2005)  
Life is a movie, in this lavish and wistful musical romance.  
WYATT 109

ASIAN CINEMA 6

perhaps Love

presented by the ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM