



International Student Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2008 . International Programs .

From the Editor

I hope all your midterms went well. Now that we just had passed the half-way of the semester, I assume you all are getting excited for the holiday season, Thanksgiving break is just around the corner and finals are fast approaching. I would like to mention how nice it was to meet you all at Sally's office, and I hope we get the change to meet more often. Now that I have all your pictures, I will be working in our mural and I hope you all enjoy it!

-Carolina

Note from Sally

Happy Fall to everyone. I was pleased to see so many of you for our International Student meeting in late October. If you have any questions about anything that you have read in the Student Handbook, just send me an email and we can make an appointment to talk in person. As I mentioned in my last email, I'm traveling in Canada until Friday, November 21st. I really hope to see many of you at the pie party at my house on the 23rd. I encourage both new and returning students to join in, it will be a good pre-Thanksgiving chance to sample that American dessert tradition.

Also as many of you know, my older daughter is restoring a house in France and I will be leaving campus on December 13th for the Holiday Break to help her in this project. Please make sure that your I-20s have been signed in the last year.

Have a great Thanksgiving and I'm looking forward to seeing you when I return to campus next week.

- Sally

If you did not have the chance to meet them yet, here is a list of all the new International Students this fall:

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>MAJOR</u> | <u>CITIZENSHIP</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Steven Voges | Music Business | Netherlands Antilles |
| Adbullaziz Mohammed | Occupational Therapy | Saudi Arabia |
| Andrea Figueira | Occupational Therapy | Canada |
| Carolina Pinho | Business | Brazil |
| Mika Miyakogawa | Comparative Sociology | Japan |
| Minh Nguyen | Business | Vietnam |
| Riccardo Frisardi | Business | Italy |
| Vanitha John Thilagar | Occupational Therapy | India |
| Phuong La | International Business | Vietnam |
| Wibke Stolte | Occupational Therapy | Germany |

Just a Little Reminder:

The International Club meets every **Wednesday, at 6 pm** in the **Student Diversity Center.**

This is a great opportunity for you to share your experiences and learn more about cultures of the world!

USCIS Information Corner

Planning on working?

If you would like to work this year, please remember the following:

- Students who maintain lawful J-1 or F-1 visa status are allowed to work **on-campus** for **no more than 20 hours per week** while school is in session.
- International students are not allowed to work off-campus without prior written approval from International Programs **and** the US Customs and Immigration Service.
- *Employment* is any type of work performed or services provided in the exchange for money, tuition, fees, books, room, food or any other benefit.
- In a regulation effective October 2004, an International student may not apply for a Social Security number without a letter from his/her employer verifying you have a job. You may not receive pay for your on-campus work until you have a social security number. Make sure your social security number is on file with the University. If it isn't, contact the Office of the Registrar, basement of Jones Hall.

If you are planning on working this semester, please contact Sally at x2871 or at ssprenger@ups.edu to let her know.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Pie Party - In celebration of the Thanksgiving, the ISM is organizing a pie party for all the international students and mentors. We will meet on **Sunday, November 23** at 2pm at Sally's house. Don't forget to bring your pie!

Trip to the Tree Farm - on **Saturday, December 6** at 2pm, the ISM will take all of us to a Tree Farm. Although we won't be buying trees, it would be a fun to watch families pick out their Christmas trees for the year. They also have hot cider and little holiday gifts!

Writing Party - on **Saturday, December 13** the Center for Writing, Learning and Teaching will host a special event for the international students. Come work on your papers together and get help from writing advisers both with essay writing and English grammatical questions.

If you have any ideas for events you would like to do in the spring semester, please contact Kelly La Mar, the ISM Coordinator, at klamar@ups.edu.



International Student Mentor Program

The International Student Mentor Program provides an opportunity for new and returning international students to meet with student mentors through various social activities to ensure that their transition into the UPS community is a positive experience.

We encourage all of you who were at UPS last year to consider getting involved with ISM if you are interested. This is a great opportunity to learn about other cultures, as well as an excellent chance to support the international community at Puget Sound.

For more information, please contact the ISM Coordinator at klamar@ups.edu.