



Winter 2007

Communiqué

<http://www.CCISstanfordU.org>

Community Committee for International Students at Stanford University



Potluck/Music Night

Sixty five internationals and CCIS volunteers met at the I-Center for a fun social evening. We brought food, talked incessantly about what it is like to live in America, attend Stanford Graduate School, and adjust to a new environment. Then we closed the evening with several music groups. Let the photos tell the story.



230 internationals have requested a partner for English in Action. 179 have been matched. Then the well went dry. That leaves 51 without a weekly partner who can help them with phrases like “making a beeline for...” or “plowing straight ahead”. They wonder what to take when invited to someone’s home. If they travel to San Diego, what should they see? Having left family, friends, and colleagues in their home country, they need someone they can trust to explain daily life in America without trying to sell them something.

EIA Volunteers Urgently Needed

It isn't hard to be an EIA partner, but it does take a commitment to spend an hour a week in conversation with someone from another country.

Please consider taking an EIA partner or another one. Talk with your friends. Perhaps someone recently retired who has more time and wants to give something back or someone thinking of travel — especially to Asia. Perhaps someone who likes children and does not have any in their life. Serving as a partner to a mother with pre-school children is a special need right now! There is no single pattern that describes the internationals we serve. Most likely we can find one who matches your need.

Call Marianne Dieckmann at 650/857-0793 or Mary Lyn Moseley at 650/949-0711.

The President's Column

A Busy Fall

CCIS has been very busy this fall with the arrival of the new international students and scholars on campus. After a quiet summer we started off with the Community Advisors welcoming about 600 new students and giving them information about Stanford and living in the US. Homestay families hosted students for several days before student housing opened and showed them American life firsthand. The Loan Closet ladies worked hard to accumulate necessary items for setting up house-keeping and were able to help students save money by loaning them many things for the duration of their stay here.

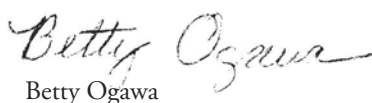
The Academic Luncheon, one of the highlights of the "orientation week," gave the students an opportunity to meet with a student representative from their academic department. This year 400 students enjoyed a buffet lunch prepared by CCIS volunteers, while learning the "inside scoop" about their departments.

The Bay Area Bus Tour, always very popular, sold out quickly. 53 students and 2 CCIS guides visited the Berkeley campus and brunched at the International House there before touring San Francisco, complete with a trip across the Golden Gate Bridge.

After the orientation period finished and Stanford classes started, many of our other CCIS programs began as well. Our free weekly English classes have been extremely popular. There was such a large response that many of the classes had to move from the classroom to the dining room to accommodate all the students. English in Action, EIA, had lines of students and spouses waiting to sign up for an English partner. Our Co-chairs have been working hard to match up the students with partners but many are on the waiting list due to a lack of enough volunteers. If you would like a partner, an additional one or have a friend who might be interested, please let us know. Hospitality, which entails meeting with a student occasionally for cultural exchange, is currently matching up families and students. More volunteers are needed for this program as well. The Spouse Fund reviewed applications for scholarships for continuing education. Our very popular Potluck/Music Night held on November 19th and February 11, will take place again on May 6. Thanks again to all the volunteers who helped to make orientation a big success and to those who participate in EIA, Hospitality and classes. You make all the difference in the lives of Stanford international students and their families. We are off to a great start!

Have you been to the International Center recently? It was really hopping this fall. There are some great activities taking place. Various language and cooking classes, salsa dancing, karaoke, films, discussions and cultural events are held regularly. Friday coffee and special activities like the German Students Association's Oktoberfest are always fun. "Culture Sunday", a new program with different countries introducing their culture, has been very popular. CCIS members and friends are always welcome to attend I-Center events. We try to highlight some of these programs in the Communicate but if you would like to know more about the I-Center events please join their weekly email service. There are many wonderful events planned for winter quarter. Don't be shy! Bring your family or friends and come on over to the I-Center. You don't want to miss these unique opportunities to experience different cultures firsthand and to meet some wonderful people.

See you at the I-Center.


Betty Ogawa

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Go to this web address:

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International Center Director's Report

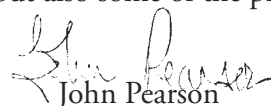
SOME THOUGHTS ON INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATES

You may have seen articles in the press about Stanford's new fund raising campaign. One goal is to raise funds so that need blind admissions can be extended to international undergraduates. This could mean an increase both in the numbers of international undergraduates and those that have Stanford financial aid.

This prompts me to reflect on the I-Center's relationship with international undergraduates. There are now over 400 international undergrads. The I-Center works with New Student Orientation and student coordinators to plan a two day orientation for new international undergraduates. While the number of new graduate students is far greater than the number of new international undergraduates, there are still over 100 new Int'l frosh each year. They have to comply with the same federal regulations as graduate students but our goal is to work more closely with them as students to strengthen the relationship between the I-Center and the undergrads. It is still surprising to many of us that some international undergraduates still think the I-Center is focused only on graduate students. We need to do all we can to change this perception and encourage participation in our programs and use of our services.

To this end I wonder how CCIS might become involved with this community of undergraduates. Their needs are different to that of graduate students but I am sure many of them would appreciate not only the welcome that CCIS gives to new students and scholars but also some of the programs. Food for thought?

With very best wishes,



John Pearson

Bernice Silber

CCIS mourns the passing of Bernice Silber, who died Dec. 28, at age 94. She was a longtime volunteer for CCIS and had been a past president and an EIA partner. She maintained warm friendships over the years with visiting scholars and international students.

Jun Wako, a visiting scholar from Japan, said Ms. Silber was not only his wife's EIA partner, she was a mentor and role model during their years at Stanford.

Bernice's children said they always had a stream of foreign students coming for dinner..and it was really cool to be exposed to that. She was a very special lady and will be missed. At her request CCIS was one of the organiza-

tions specified for donations in her memory. ~Karen Sortino



EIA Corner

English in Action has more volunteers than any program at CCIS. As a weekly resource for our international partners, it is highly valued by them. By establishing an EIA Corner as part of the Communiqué we hope to provide a variety of resources that you can use.

The other day Meg Morris, a new EIA volunteer and an ESL teacher by training, met with me over coffee to discuss materials she uses in her classroom, and she was kind enough to make a copy of her notes. ~JMH

Conversation Resources

Here are some suggestions of materials that can be used to start, facilitate, or enhance conversation with non-native English speakers.



Photographs of volunteers' family and of speaking partner's family

(The sample family trees in the picture dictionaries listed below are helpful.)

Maps showing partners' home country

Local maps showing areas partner might want to visit

Local newspapers with articles that may interest partners, e.g. current events relating to the home country, such as the visit of a home country's official to the U.S.

Magazine articles about an interest of the partner

Library book about an interest of the partner, especially those with illustrations

Children's books are often appropriate to talk about with any age of partner; for example books by Gail Gibbons about holidays. (See below.)

Community resources information, for example a newsletter about Shoreline Park, Filoli, or the DeAnza-Foothill catalog of short courses.

Books about Stanford

Comics or cartoons

Picture dictionaries (see below)

Conversation cards with questions, e.g. Cathy's Cards (see below)

Some Specific Books and Resources

Cathy's Cards. Set of 270 conversation cards \$32.95 from Alta Book Center, online, or 650-692-1285, 14 Adrian Court, Burlingame, CA 94010. This is a great place to visit and look at "the largest source of ESL books and materials in the world." Or order the free catalog.

The Everything American Government Book by Nick Ragone 2004 F+W Publications Company \$14.95.

Available from your local bookseller or Amazon.com

Oxford Dictionary of Idioms, Oxford University Press, 2004 \$15.95. Available from your local bookseller or Amazon.com

The Oxford Picture Dictionary by Norma Shapiro and Jayme Adelson-Goldstein, Oxford University Press, 1998 \$15.50. Available from Alta Book Center

The Oxford Picture Dictionary for the Content Areas by Dorothy Kauffman and Gary Apple, Oxford University Press, 2000 \$14.75. Available from Alta Book Center

The Heinle Picture Dictionary, 2005, Thomson Heinle Publishers, Available from the publisher, see website <http://www.heinle.com/>



Valentine's Day Is, by Gail Gibbons, Holiday House, New York, 2006 \$16.95.

This book and five others about holidays celebrated in the U.S. are available at your local bookstore, notably at Linden Tree children's bookstore in Los Altos. Each book has illustrations and text about the origin and old customs and symbols, as well as modern customs of its current celebration in the U.S. ~ Meg Morris

Photos of the Neighborhood

We thought that you might like to see what the area surrounding the Bechtel International Center looks like now that construction is completed. We share a mini-garden instead of a parking lot. Our neighbors provide various services to students, and there is the Clayman Institute for Gender Research. We also have a new walking street called Capistrano Way.



CCIS volunteers welcome at Stanford activities.

And that means that you are welcome to the I-Center's activities as well. That includes the special language courses taught by fluent speakers in Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, and Mandarin. In fact any language where an international spouse has volunteered to be a teacher. Like CCIS's classes, there is no tuition. The classes are small and informal. Look over the bulletin board in the hallway just beyond the reception desk in the lobby.

International Women's Day Potluck

How about a Stanford recognition of International Women's Day? Chula Morel-Seytoux tells us that at noon



on Friday, March 9th there will be Potluck luncheon at the Bechtel International Center. Everyone is welcome! Please bring a dish of food to share.

Waty, a Stanford student Fulbrighter Language Teacher will perform a dance from her home country of Indonesia. No RSVP is necessary...just come and bring a friend.

Chula, our chair and Friday Morning Coffee co-host, gives warm support and community contact with the many international spouses who come to the I-Center for companionship.

I-Center Events

It's hard to keep up with their calendar. Look over this list to see if these are the kind of topics that interest you. If so, go to http://www.stanford.edu/dept/icenter/new/this_week.html

International Discussion Series, Tuesdays Jan. 23 to Feb. 20. 12- 1 P.M. Free. Lunch provided.

Feb. 13 - Gender Differences and Health Care in South Asia. Vinny Bhutani, India, U.S., Professor of Pediatrics (Neonatology) at the Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital

Feb. 20 - Decentralized Government a Solution of Afghanistan? Eisa Khan Ayoob Ayoobi, Afghanistan, Fulbright Scholar at Stanford

Turkish and Hellenic Film Series, Thursdays, Jan. 18 – Mar. 8, 7:30 pm. Free.

Feb. 15 - Eternity and a day, (Mia aioniotita kai mia mera) Greece, 1998.

Broadening Horizon Series, Thursdays 3 pm. Free.

Feb 15 & Feb. 22. - The Archaeology of Southeast Asia, with Joy Alimurung.

Sunday Cultural Series, Persian Music Evening, Sunday, Feb.18, 7 pm, sponsored by the Persian Students Society.

Indian Craft Workshops Fabric decoration with pearls and sequins, with Sapna Rami, Thursdays, March 8 – 22, 3:00 – 4:30. Register in advance; space is limited.



Exchanging Slang

Finally, we are fortunate to have this list of words and phrases that Sheng Chen and his wife Bori collect from overheard Stanford conversation, TV soap operas, and other reputable sources. Sheng is completing his Ph.D. in computational mathematics — and, no, that is not supposed to be redundant.

sticking his neck out
ground breaking
put it on my tab
anything goes, but he'll take it personal
she needs a cause
I don't kiss and tell
diamond in the rough
have a blast
that'll teach you
don't tell on me
don't repay a kindness, pass it on
we'll go with that

Ask your EIA partner for an equivalent.



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Winter/Spring Calendar

CCIS Activities

Associates Day, February 23, 11 A.M.
CCIS Board Meeting, March 8, 9:30 A.M.
International Women's Day Potluck, March 9, 12 noon
Annual Meeting, spring
Potluck Music Night, May 6, 6 P.M.
International Week - May (Lots of events will be planned at the I-Center)

Campus Activities (you are welcome)

Aurora Forum: 7:30 - 9:00 P.M. (come early) Free.
Thursday, Feb. 22. Why Read Books? With Seth Lerer, Leah Price, & Han Ulrich Gumbrecht (moderator). Kresge Auditorium.
Wednesday, April 18. Exposures of Truth: Richard Avenon and Gordon Parks. Kresge Aud.
Saturday, April 28. Title IX at 35: A conversation with Billy Jean King. Maples Pavilion
For more information go to: <http://auroraforum.org/>

Cantor Arts Center

Feb. 14 – May 6. In the American West: Photographs by Richard Avedon
March 21 – July 1. Bare Witness: Photographs by Gordon Parks
For more information go to: [http://museum.stanford.edu/news_ room/Exhibition_Schedule.html](http://museum.stanford.edu/news_room/Exhibition_Schedule.html)



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