



**What is your name? Where are you from?**

July 2013

Ferah Kutlu from Istanbul, Turkey.

**When were you at Stanford? For how long?**

September 1987 – August 1992.

**Were you a student or a spouse at Stanford? What were you/your spouse studying?**

I was a spouse at Stanford and my husband was in the Aeronautics and Astronautics Dept. I worked for the Stanford Credit Union for a couple of years.

**Where do you live now and what are you doing?**

Menlo Park, CA. I am a local now. I have my own travel agency, Selin Travel.

**When you were at Stanford, how did you hear about the CCIS?**

The week I arrived at Stanford, my husband brought me to Bechtel Int'l Center. I met Gwyn Dukes who helped me so much and directed me to the right resources.

**Which CCIS programs did you participate in and in what capacity?**

I participated in various CCIS activities while I was a spouse at Stanford. I had an English-in-Action partner, my friend, who later became my neighbor until she passed away. I also applied for and received a Spouse Education Fund grant (I was among the first recipients of the fund, in 1987).

In addition, I participated in several Bechtel International Center activities, including the Women's Circle (we used to get together once a month in one of the spouse's homes), the International Speaker's Bureau (I spoke at different organizations about my country) and cooking classes.

After my participation in CCIS as a spouse, I really wanted to give back. So I have continued to be associated with CCIS as a local volunteer. I have chaired the Hospitality program and the Professional Liaison Program, and been a Member of the CCIS Board. I have also served 3 years on the Spouse Education Fund Committee.

**When and how did you decide to participate in these CCIS programs?**

The first day I came to Bechtel International Center, I saw all the programs offered and decided to make the best of my time on campus.

**How was your experience taking part in CCIS's programs?**

From day one, I knew I was so lucky to walk in that door, into the Bechtel International Center. I learned so much from each and every one I met there, very special people. The Bechtel International Center and CCIS programs introduced me to new ideas, showed me how to look at things from different perspectives.

**What message would you like to give to the CCIS?**

When I came to the US, volunteering was a new concept for me. I truly appreciated all the efforts of the amazing people whom I met through CCIS. They always made me feel at home. They became my friends, mentors. Thank you to all from the bottom of my heart!

Ferah