



What is your name? Where are you from?

July 2013

My name is Krishna Hariani. I am from India.

How long have you been at Stanford? And how long do you expect to be here?

I have been at Stanford from the end of August 2012. And I will leave in a month, at the end of August 2013.

Are you a student or a spouse at Stanford? What are you/your spouse studying?

I am a spouse at Stanford. My husband was doing his LLM (Masters) at Stanford Law School and just graduated last month.

How did you hear about the CCIS? What do you know about the work they do with Stanford students and spouses?

I first read about the CCIS from material sent to my husband when he got admission to Stanford. I heard more about their programs from other international spouses at the Bechtel International Center.

The CCIS is a community organization that welcomes international students and spouses to the Stanford/Palo Alto area, gives them resources and information to help them set up their new lives and organizes various events for international students and spouses.

Which CCIS programs are you participating in and in what capacity?

I have attended many of the Friday Morning Coffees cohosted by the CCIS, as well as the CCIS Swaps. I was also a recipient of the Spouse Education Fund in the 2012/2013 academic year. In addition, I have attended some special CCIS events, like the International Women's Day celebration and the screening of a film about Stanford international spouses.

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

I decided to participate in the CCIS programs because they were highly recommended by other Stanford spouses I know!

How has your experience been taking part in CCIS's programs?

My experience taking part in the CCIS programs has been great! I have really enjoyed the Friday Morning Coffees, which have been the place I made most of my friends at Stanford. The CCIS events and the wonderful and very friendly volunteers have made me feel like I always have someone to ask for advice. And of course the CCIS events are really fun! But I was especially grateful for the Spouse Education Fund provided by CCIS—it is so nice that the CCIS acknowledges that student spouses are an important part of Stanford, and encourages spouses to use their time at Stanford productively.

What message would you like to give to the CCIS?

Dear CCIS,

It is not easy to go from being a person in your own right to always being described only as a "spouse", at least it was not for me. But, by having programs especially for Stanford spouses, and by facilitating meeting between spouses at Stanford, you made me feel like I belong within the Stanford community. I can't thank you enough for that.

Internationally, America has the reputation of being a country heavily focused on the individual. As a result, people often think that there is not a great sense of community within America. Your wonderful work has shown all of us Stanford internationals that this perception is totally wrong; I have been so impressed by the way the community works together in America and how welcoming it is of outsiders.

So THANK YOU CCIS, for making Stanford, and America, feel like home this past year!

Krishna