



CCIS NOTES

March/April 2025

CCIS volunteers continue to serve international graduate students, visiting scholars and their families at Stanford University. Read about some of our programs and events!



"Notes at the Top"

Jeff Greenwald - President of CCIS

See what we have done!

Providing meaningful programs and activities is what we do!

We have been able to share a number of events with the general members this past year, including the **Annual Holiday Luncheon**, which we traditionally hold at Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View. This last December we listened to three spouses who were recipients of the Spouse Education Fund grants. They shared with us how the funds were used, and how CCIS impacted their lives here at Stanford. We hope that you will plan to attend this year's Annual Luncheon which will be held **Monday December 1st, 2025** from 11:45 am-1:15 pm.

We continue to meet with both volunteers and members of our International Student Community for **Wednesday Coffee** from 10:30 am-12:00 noon. The regularly scheduled **Global Chefs** cooking events on a Friday afternoon are a popular activity.

Recently the **English-in-Action** committee hosted a "thank you" concert for both students and community members. Nearly 100 people listened to a wonderful quartet (two violins, a cello, and a viola). The music included songs from The Lion King, Moon River, Starry Starry Night, and a few classical pieces.

Being with such a great international community is what CCIS is all about. If you want to get more involved, we are looking for people just like you. We will need volunteers for the new school year in September to help with **Community Advisors**, **English In Action**, and to act as hosts and hostesses for the **Wednesday Morning Coffee**. And we also will need volunteers to help distribute items from our **Loan Closet** to students as they arrive for the new school year.

So don't be an occasional visitor, come get MORE involved and help me know how we can leverage your talents. Write me!

Jeff Greenwald
President, CCIS
650-888-9162

Thanks for being a part of CCIS and supporting our
International Community at Stanford.

president@ccisstanfordu.org



Save the date! Monday May 12

Annual general meeting

Details below

Each year in May, general CCIS members are invited to meet with the CCIS Board of Directors for the purpose of electing officers for the upcoming school year (2025-2026). The gathering (held in the Bechtel Center Assembly room) gives volunteers a chance to speak with the Board and discuss suggestions and comments related to our programs and services.

On **Monday May 12, 2025 (from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm)** you are invited to join the Board for a social hour of food and libations, and to vote on the incoming slate of officers. We hope you will join us, no RSVP needed, just bring your appetite and your ideas and feedback.

An interesting program will be included. Stories about participating in CCIS programs will be presented by several internationals. MaryAnn Saunders will serve as the moderator for the panel.

We look forward to seeing you on May 12.

INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE COFFEE

Wednesday Morning Fun

The International Spouse Coffee is a fun time for spouses and members of CCIS to gather together, especially when a special theme is featured.

This program is an ideal opportunity for internationals and local residents to meet each other and learn about programs, events and helpful resources in the Bay area. This weekly event is co-sponsored by CCIS and the Bechtel International Center.

Nowruz celebration March 19



The celebration of the arrival of Spring is observed in Iran, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. Nowruz, which means “new day” in Farsi, is celebrated by millions of people. A huge buffet was prepared. A traditional Haft Ssin table contained seven items that begin with the letter “S” in Farsi. Dance and music were presented to those attending.

Easter Eggs April 16



The Bechtel Assembly room was filled with people trying their hand at decorating plastic eggs. Paints and materials for dying eggs were displayed to illustrate how to dye eggs at home, either with packaged tablets or with natural materials, such as onion skins and purple cabbage.

The next special celebration will be commemorating the following-
Earth Day April 23

International Discussion Talk & Meal

Join **Gregory Gondwe**, Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford, on **April 30th** at 4 pm in the Assembly Room at Bechtel.

He will discuss Malawi's shift from one-party rule to democracy, highlighting journalism's role in exposing corruption, challenging power, and enduring repression.

Free entry and a free meal included. RSVP by April 23rd.

[RSVP](#)

INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION: THE INTERSECTION OF MALAWI'S DEMOCRACY AND INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM THROUGH THE EYES OF PIJ

📅 Wednesday, April 30th | 4 PM 📍 Bechtel International Center



GREGORY GONDWE

Lyle and Corrine Nelson International Fellow
Blantyre, Malawi

MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED

A word from the editor

As the newsletter editor, I hope you will enjoy learning more about what's happening at CCIS. Your feedback is welcome--send an email to notes@ccisstanfordu.org.

Pamela Baird

CCIS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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