



CCIS NOTES

July/August 2026

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

So what does the CCIS Board wrestle with when they meet for a Board meeting/ Retreat?

In late August the CCIS Board met as a group (there are nearly 25 of us!) and we discussed a myriad of topics.

Among the most important topics were:

- (1) How we need to continue to appreciate and say thank you to the more than 200 volunteers who support and engage with our Internationals. It is because of our wonderful volunteers that we are able to deliver on the 11 programs that we offer here at Stanford. Many of these folks invest their time, some with their gas money and some with simple donations, and all of them with their hearts,and we need to remember to thank them and appreciate them.
- (2) maintaining our collaborative relationship with Bechtel,
- (3) understanding how to evolve many of our programs to address the critical needs of our Internationals in 2026-2027,
- (4) developing a closer relationship by regular communication with our alumni network and all those families who have returned to their host countries,
- (5) recruiting new and energetic talent for the CCIS Board,
- (6) building revenue streams from the greater donor community that could include sponsors and even local companies.

Our Board spent the day looking ahead to future challenges.

We went through Budgets for the year ahead, discussed how spending might remain constrained through perhaps even FY 2028, and how we might want to strengthen and re-invigorate the products and offerings in our Loan Closet in Escondido Village at Abrams 63 in the basement.

If these kind of topics sound like something that you might enjoy discussing, wrestling with, coming up with solutions and approaches that could be creative and forward-looking, we would love to hear from you. Give me or any of us on the Board a call. We would love to hear from you.

Thank you.

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

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INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE COFFEE

Wednesday Morning Fun

Who doesn't love ice cream?

The August 5 coffee featured a special treat-that of ice cream. Why ice cream? Kumud Jain, the program coordinator stated, "because it's summertime." Vanilla, chocolate, strawberry and sorbet (for a dairy free option) were the offered flavors. A large crowd of 80 people enjoyed the frosty treats.

For over 250 years ice cream has been a favorite dessert of Americans. A few of the founding fathers were especially fond of ice cream. Thomas Jefferson acquired a taste for ice cream while serving as ambassador in France. He copied by hand a recipe for vanilla ice cream. He often had his staff at Monticello prepare the concoction. Ice houses on the property kept ice ready to be used for making ice cream whenever Mr. Jefferson wanted a dish.

George Washington's love of ice cream was well known. He purchased elaborate molds used to shape ice cream, some in the shape of a basket of fruit. His wife Martha liked to add pureed fruit (from their farm) to the mixture.

James Madison also was a lover of ice cream. His wife Dolley famously served a wonderful strawberry ice cream creation at President Madison's second inaugural banquet at the White House in 1813.

The next time that you enjoy ice cream- remember the long history of this special frozen concoction!



Annual Board Retreat - a great day of brainstorming & planning



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

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