GREETINGS INTERNATIONAL OWLS

Welcome to the ISSS Newsletter, a publication designed to keep international students and visiting scholars up to date on what’s going on around the FAU campuses and the world.

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

Last week, April 14th, the FAU community celebrated international diversity and the many cultures, countries, languages, and traditions at the 22nd annual Festival of Nations. The event included amazing cultural performances: international dance, music, and interactive activities. FAU students, faculty, staff, and their families/friends enjoyed tasting international cuisine. Many students participated in the traditional attire fashion show, wearing their national clothing that symbolized different cultures and countries.

Thanks to the planning committee and all those who contributed to the success of the 22nd annual Festival of Nations: ISSS, ODMA, Multicultural Programming, Student Government, Marketing & Communications, OwlRadio, Campus Recreation, Student Union, Navitas, multicultural student organizations, and volunteers.

Special appreciation to the Fushu Daiko Group, the Maharajah Flamenco Trio, and the New Century Dance Company for their professional conduct and performance in this open-air event. Thank you for the amazing performance and fantastic music that created a memorable and enjoyable evening for the multicultural academic community of the Florida Atlantic University.

“The quality of a person’s life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor”

- Vincent T. Lombardi
DATES TO REMEMBER

**Attorney Workshop**, Wednesday, April 27\(^{th}\) 3pm-5pm.  
(Information is available in the [ISSS webpage](http://www.fau.edu/isss/workshops/index.php)).

**End of the Year Breakfast Event** (April 28th) from 9am to 11am.  
(Information is available in the [ISSS webpage](http://www.fau.edu/isss/workshops/index.php)).

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 21 Thursday</td>
<td>7:00p.m.</td>
<td>The Jove Comedy Experience</td>
<td>Theatre Lab</td>
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<td>April 23 Saturday</td>
<td>10:00a.m.- 12:30p.m.</td>
<td>Peaceful Mind Peaceful Life Workshops</td>
<td>Student Activities Center House Chambers</td>
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<td>April 24 Sunday</td>
<td>9:00p.m.</td>
<td>Midnight Breakfast</td>
<td>Nations MPR</td>
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<td>April 28 Thursday</td>
<td>9:00a.m.-11:00a.m.</td>
<td>End of The Year Breakfast</td>
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For more information on upcoming events please visit:  
http://www.fau.edu/isss/workshops/index.php

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Three international students, Konstancja Szymanska, Debarshi Datta, and Alex Nikolic, presented at the first WeLead Conference on Cultural Identity, Culture Shock, and Cultural Awareness on Saturday, April 16, 2016. During the presentation students discussed how diversity and inclusion is at the core of effective leadership, practice and service. The Diversity Matters Leadership Symposium provided students the unique opportunity to co-facilitate their presentation in an area that has impacted their lives directly.

The English Conversation Group, scheduled on Wednesdays at the Boca campus, continues to have great success. This project is a part of the ISSS academic transition programing. Every week about twenty international students and visiting scholars, from various academic fields, meet with local
students, practicing communication/speaking skills and learning more about American academic milieu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

International Student Scholar Services no longer accepts emailed documents. For instructions on how to submit your documents electronically please visit: http://www.fau.edu/isss/New_Student_Documents.php

New Format I-20 Forms

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has changed the I-20 Form! As of June 30, 2016, the old version will no longer be acceptable for travel or other transactions.

Please stop by the office to pick up your new format I-20. If you plan to travel outside the U.S. this summer, you will also need to request a travel signature on this I-20.

GLOBAL NEWS

Why International Students Benefit from Going to College in America

“Education is all a matter of building bridges,” said the novelist Ralph Ellison. As the president of Franklin & Marshall College (F&M), I see such construction happening every day. More than one-third of our current first-year class comes from at least 1,000 miles away—and 14 percent of our entire student body is made up of international students, hailing from 55 countries. Such international reach reflects the increasingly global character of today’s American campuses. In the past five years, the enrollment of international students in undergraduate programs has risen 37 percent, approaching 400,000 students. Each year, I get to see hundreds of international students growing from the high-impact resources of my liberal arts campus: Small classes with faculty scholars who mentor students personally; an ethos of discovery; interactive residential communities; opportunities to integrate knowledge and experience; serious preparation for life after college; and participation in powerful networks of professionally-successful alumni.

Each of those students crossed oceans, borders, and cultures—infused with the belief that studying in an American college would be the
very finest way to develop their talent. They are proud to be challenging themselves to grow in the intellectual greenhouse of an American campus.

Each is making friendships with U.S. students—teaming up for research projects, traveling to their homes for vacations, exploring neighborhoods together, and learning about American culture and society. These friendships will be a lifelong resource and source of joy.

International Student Scholar Services

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