

Boise State International Insider

News for International Students

February 23, 2012

International Student Services

Coming Events & Activities

Every Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00pm - Coffee & Conversation in the Student Diversity Center. Free refreshments!

Every Thursday, 6:00 to 7:00pm - T.E.A. Time (Thursday English Afternoons). Join us in the Writing Center (LA200) to practice your English skills.

Every Friday, noon to 1:00pm - Wisdom Café in the Student Diversity Center. *(See below for details)*

February 24th, 3:00pm - Food, Song & Dance Festival planning meeting in the SDC.

COME HELP US PLAN THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL -- Refreshments will be served!

The International Food, Song and Dance Festival is a community favorite every year. 400+ guests attend it each year. This year's festival will take place on March 17th. We need YOU to help us plan it. Please join us every Friday at 3 pm here at ISS. We need assistance with advertising, entertainment, decorations, food preparation, and more.

2012 Career Fair is February 29th

The Career Center will host the 2012 Career Fair from Wednesday, Feb. 29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. All students, alumni, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

In today's competitive job market, networking is more important than ever. At the fair, students and alumni can:

- Set themselves apart by making a personal connection with employers
- Learn about full-time, part-time, internship, summer and career opportunities
- Get tips on how to be more marketable to employers

For more information, including a list of participating organizations, visit career.boisestate.edu or call 426-1747



As promised, our new feature: **The Student Spotlight . . .**

Student Spotlight

Written by Cindy Fernandez



Sulmer Fernandez is an international student from Venezuela. She is doing a PhD in Electrical Engineering. Sulmer speaks Spanish and English. She decided to come to Boise State because it has a good graduate program in her area. Her favorite thing about Boise is the landscape. She loves to dance salsa and Latin music in her free time.

The two things that she misses the most from her country are her family and the tropical weather. Something funny that happened to her in the US was that she once got stopped by the police because they thought that she was talking on the phone, when in fact she was singing a song. When the police officer found this out he started laughing and let her go. Sulmer has visited Brazil, Colombia and Canada. Something interesting about Sulmer is that she loves to write short stories.

WE WANT TO HIGHLIGHT YOU IN THE NEWSLETTER!

ISS has started a new feature in the International Insider. Each week we will present an article about one of you, our international students. We invite you to be interviewed by an ISS staff member; share a personal story with us and/or share interesting facts about your home country. If you wish to participate, send an email to internationalinfo@boisestate.edu to set an interview time.

We are also looking for a name for this new feature. Our ideas include "Student Spotlight" or "Student Portrait", but we want to hear from you. Send us an email with your thoughts and ideas.

IT IS TAX TIME! You can get FREE assistance filing your tax refund forms by visiting:

VITA at 2717 S. Vista Avenue, Boise, ID 83705

They are open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 - 8pm, and Saturday, 10am - 4pm. I was told that international students should come on Thursdays between 3 and 8 PM. A nice guy named John helps international students prepare tax forms. He is only there on Thursdays.

Here is what one international student recently told me about her visit to VITA: *If you come in the next couple of weeks, you should be there as early as possible. I arrived today at 4 PM and had to wait 3 hours. So I just signed in and went back home and then came back at 6, and still had to wait an additional hour. If students are not in a hurry they should wait till March, and then the lines will be much, much shorter (I did my 2009-2010 at the end of March and never waited more than an hour). VITA doesn't have a phone number and no wi-fi (-: so you better bring homework or something to read.*

When you go to VITA, bring your passport (with the I-94), social security card, the W-2 and the 1042-S (the 1042-S is available on the GLACIER online; you recently received an email about it. It can be downloaded as a pdf. Print it and take it with you). Bring your bank routing number and account number for the direct deposit of the refund.

The offices are located in the back side of the building (a brown colored apartment complex). Come in from the right-hand entrance, where the parking lot is situated. VITA is on the ground floor, and there is a big sign that says **Free Tax Preparation**. You can take bus route (Valley Ride) # 3 to get there, and get off at the Vista and Canal bus stop.

ISS is looking for other resources to refer you to. Watch the newsletter for updates. Some of the on-line programs have been helpful to students in the past. Be careful when visiting local tax preparation businesses that charge a fee. Be sure they are well informed on preparing tax form for international students. Please let us know if you have any questions, but please be aware that ISS is unable to provide tax preparation assistance.

IT'S SCHOLARSHIP TIME!!!! Continuing International Student Scholarships

Continuing International Student Scholarships waive the entire non-resident portion of tuition and fees for continuing international students for up to one academic year. To be considered you must meet the following qualifications:

- You must have successfully completed (by the end of the current semester) one year (two semesters and a minimum of 24 credits) of full-time coursework at Boise State University. Courses that are repeated within the same academic year do not count towards meeting the credit completion requirement.
- You must be on an F-1 student visa.
- You must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher.
- You must be making satisfactory academic progress toward a degree at Boise State.
- Recipients cannot major in over enrolled programs; these currently include nursing, pre-nursing, radiologic sciences or pre-radiologic sciences. Programs are subject to change.
- Self-supported online programs are also closed to nonresident tuition waiver eligibility.
- You must not have already been awarded a tuition fee waiver for the 2012-13 academic year.

Deadline to submit the [Continuing International Student Tuition Waiver Scholarship Application](#) is **April 15th, 2012**.

(Ctrl + click to follow the link)

The Student Diversity Center's

~Wisdom Café~

When: noon to one PM...Fridays

Where: The Student Diversity Center

What: *Group discussions, reading / interpreting
timeless short wisdom passages and maxims
from myriad world views; seeking meaning and application insights*

A FREE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP! A GREAT OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED!

Are you committed to leadership and exploring the many possibilities in becoming a stronger and more confident leader? Then Catalyst is for you! Make this one-day leadership experience your first step in the life-long process of developing your leadership skills while connecting with other emerging leaders.

Learn how to reach your leadership potential!

Understand your impact!

Change the World!

Saturday, March 3, 2012

Meals included

Must be registered to attend. <http://involvement.boisestate.edu/content/forms/catalyst/>

For Rent:

\$425 / 1br - 1 bedroom apartment for rent, (Roosevelt)

Need someone to take over my apartment lease by the first week of March.

Rent is \$425 a month and the lease is over end of May.

Really nice one bedroom apartment, close to downtown and BSU.

For more information about this apartment contact me by my email address:

myongsuk88@yahoo.com

To see photos, go to <http://www.boisemanagementproperty.com/viewlisting.php?id=119>



The **Boise State International Insider** is a weekly feature of International Student Services, in the Student Diversity Center.

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