



# Boise State International Insider

## News for International Students

April 26, 2012

International Student Services

### Coming Events & Activities

**Every Monday, 3:00 – 4:30pm NEW!** – International Women’s Social Group in the Student Diversity Center. *(See p.3 for details) (Every Monday through May 7. Summer schedule will be different.)*

**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)*

### Student Spotlight

by **Sindy Chiu**

**Malwina Zastawna** is an international student from Poland, which is a beautiful country in central Europe. She is a pleasant senior nursing student at Boise State. She came to Boise because this is where a part of her family lived. Prior to her first arrival as a student, she visited Boise once, went on a tour of the school, liked it and started studying here. She also wanted to get an international education experience.

Malwina likes that BSU is becoming more diverse and research-oriented. "I like Boise because it is clean, safe and there are plenty of things to do, especially outdoors. I like the people here, both international and Americans." Malwina said. "I was very surprised at restaurants. I had worked as a waitress before and see major differences. The restaurant staff often presents with an informal approach to a customer and they bring a check without the customer asking for it. And water is free!"

At the moment Malwina is very involved with studying. Both school and part-time job take a bunch of her time. Her goal after graduation is to be a public health nurse. She enjoys learning languages, so another goal is to polish her French. What she misses the most from her hometown in Poland is the old architecture and some traditional cuisines.



### Immigration Info

Are you planning to travel outside the U.S. during the summer?

- ① **Remember, you must have your I-20 signed before you leave.** Bring your I-20 to the ISS office at least 48 hours before you travel to give us time to complete the process. It is important that you are registered for Fall classes before bringing your I-20 to ISS.
- ② **Check the status of your visa.** If it has expired, or will expire while you are outside of the US, you must plan to have it renewed before you return. Documents you will need for this process are an unofficial transcript, a copy of your class registration for the Fall semester and a Visa Support letter from ISS. If you need a visa support letter, please submit a letter request form using this link: <https://secureforms.boisestate.edu/iss/letter-request-form/>
- ③ **Check the status of your passport.** If your passport will expire while you are away, be sure to follow the regulations of your home country to renew your passport before you return. If you are remaining in the US, you still must have a valid passport. You may contact the consulate for your country in the US to find out the renewal process.

## Staff Spotlight by Cindy Fernandez



**Monk Wells. AmeriCorps Volunteer and Student Diversity Center Support Coordinator.** Monk grew up on university campuses. His father taught at Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky and Boise State University. He has always been drawn to the cultural differences and diversity that characterize university communities. Monk says that being a part of a university community keeps one up on his/her toes, attentive, alert and inquisitive. Also, he says that he learned young that the university has all the best hiding places. Monk's greatest achievement to date has been finishing every book he has read. He always ends up buying the next book and then plans to read it before he finishes the last one. He has worked hard to finish his current book while also controlling his anticipation for the next book. Monk says that his greatest challenge is that "his imaginative self has little patience for the tedium of organization". Monk says that he stays motivated by stocking his mind's shelves with role models. He has a lot of admiration for adventurous, literary types like Herman Melville, Jack Kerouac, Joseph Campbell and Huston Smith. He is also helplessly drawn to those who seem invincible to walls and obstacles. He says that he always asks himself: "Obstacle or Opportunity?" In the next 5 years, Monk is planning on completing his second year as the Boise State University Diversity Center Support Coordinator. After, he hopes to find a full time position with a university Student Diversity Center somewhere in the American West.



## The Student Diversity Center's ~Wisdom Café~

**When:** noon to one pm...Fridays. **Where:** The Student Diversity Center.

**What:** Exploring wisdom passages and spiritual identity development from multiple world views.

**Why:** A chance to open the self to the spiritual frontier...

**This Friday:** Objective reality of transcendence?



## Free Consultations with an Immigration Attorney

ASBSU has contracted Angela Levesque, a local immigration attorney, to offer you a free 30 minute consultation. If you wish to meet with the attorney, you will need a referral from ISS. Make an appointment with Christy Babcock to discuss your immigration concern. If the concern is beyond Christy's scope of immigration knowledge, she will give you a referral to meet with the attorney.

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ♀ *Support Group*

All women are welcome to join us for this chance to gain and provide support to Boise State's female International students. This is an open support group and is designed to allow participants the chance to discuss a variety of topics:

- Your experience of adapting to the US culture
- Missing family and friends
- Academic challenges
- Increase connections with others and create self-empowerment in a multicultural world
- Making friends with domestic students and other areas of your interest

When: Mondays, 3 - 4:30 p.m. (no class April 16)

Where: SUB, Student Diversity Center - 2nd Floor Student Union Building

For more information: Contact Alisa Noleen (208) 426-1464 or e-mail [alisanoleen@boisestate.edu](mailto:alisanoleen@boisestate.edu)

**COUNSELING SERVICES**  
(208) 426-1459 • [healthservices.boisestate.edu](http://healthservices.boisestate.edu)



**BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*Health and Recreation*

The [Boise State International Insider](#) is a weekly feature of International Student Services, in the Student Diversity Center.

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