Dear Students,

Welcome to Winter Quarter 2008 and to the first issue of “Dialogue,” a newsletter published by the International Student Programs. This newsletter replaces the “International Student Reminder.” We hope you will enjoy reading this informative and fun newsletter designed by ISP’s Office Coordinator, Ms. Angelica Strongone.

De Anza College has been in the news lately because the College was ranked third among all community colleges in the U.S. for enrolling the highest number of international students: 1,294 F-1 students and 1,100 other visa students. De Anza’s transfer rate was also a major accomplishment among F-1 students. In to Fall 2007, 107 (33%) transferred to the UCs, 110 (34%) transferred to the CSUs, 53 (17%) transferred to private institutions in California, and 50 (16%) transferred to out of state institutions. UC transfers represented the highest ever.

De Anza is a dynamic and inspiring college and we hope you will have a successful quarter. You are encouraged and welcomed to visit ISP for any questions or needs that you might have.

Marilyn Cheung

Newest Addition to the ISP Office

Please join us in welcoming Cleve Freeman, the new Academic Advisor at ISP.

Cleve was born in Los Angeles, California. His mother is from Guatemala and taught him how to speak Spanish.

Cleve has a BA in Social Work from CSU, Long Beach and a Master Degree from CSU, San Francisco.

Cleve comes to De Anza from College of San Mateo’s Student Services, and he takes personal pride knowing students leave his office satisfied with the assistance he provides.

Cleve will help international students with their academic needs.

People’s Republic of China: Consulate Visit

Given the rapid increase of international students from China, ISP has invited representatives from the Consulate of the People’s Republic of China in San Francisco to visit De Anza College.

The Chief Consul of Education Section, Mr. Yang SHEN, and the Consul of Education, Ms. Li YAN, will come to De Anza College on January 29.

Ms. Yan is the Consul who works with colleges and universities in the South Bay, such as San Jose State, Stanford, Santa Clara, etc.

As part of their visit, ISP would like to invite our international students from China to have a conversation with the Consuls. This would be a wonderful opportunity for the Consuls to know how our students from China are doing at De Anza.

We strongly encourage you to come and meet them anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on January 29th.

Date: January 29, 2008
Time: Anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.
Location: ISP Office, OTI-3
Workshops

ISP offers workshops on a variety of topics to help you with your academics, immigration issues, employment, career choices, personal development and more.

For a complete description of the workshops, please log onto: http://www.deanza.edu/international/workshops.html

All workshops are held in the ISP office: OTI-3, unless otherwise noted.

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<th>Winter 08 Dates</th>
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<td>Private University Application</td>
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<td>January 31: 11am-12noon</td>
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<td>FI Employment/Social Security/Coop Education</td>
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<td>February 1: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>Major &amp; Career</td>
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<td>February 5: 11am-12noon</td>
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<td>Women's Support Group</td>
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<td>February 8: 1:30pm-2:30pm</td>
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<td>The Best Recommendation Letter</td>
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<td>February 12: 1:30pm-2:30pm</td>
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<td>911-How to deal with Emergencies</td>
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<td>February 29: 11am-12noon</td>
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<td>Nursing Major</td>
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<td>March 5: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>Tax Workshop</td>
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<td>March 7: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>UC Applications</td>
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<td>March 11: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<th>Spring 08 Dates</th>
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<td>Tax Workshop</td>
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<td>April 1: 11am-12noon</td>
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<td>Graduation &amp; Transfer Readiness</td>
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<td>April 23: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>FI Employment/Social Security/Coop Education</td>
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<td>April 25: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>Women's Support Group</td>
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<td>May 2: 1:30pm-2:30pm</td>
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<td>FI Employment/Social Security/Coop Education</td>
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<td>May 16: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>Tax Workshop</td>
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<td>May 23: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>FI Immigration Updates</td>
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<td>June 6: 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>Tax Workshop</td>
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<td>June 13: 2pm-3pm</td>
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Tips on Recommendation Letters from Counselor Susanne Chan
⇒ Ask for a letter of recommendation to faculty who know you & your work, well in advance of the due date.
⇒ Providing a summary sheet of courses taken, activities done etc. is helpful.
⇒ Visit the campus of choice as “seeing is believing!”
⇒ Remember: using national rankings for transfer college selection is a factor, but certainly not the only one!

International Student Transfer Day

Thursday, February 21, 2008
12noon - 4pm
Foothill Campus Center, Dining Area

Are you transferring soon?

De Anza & Foothill Colleges are sponsoring this event where more than 25 university representatives from the UC’s, CSU’s and private universities are coming to the Foothill campus to discuss their admission criteria’s specifically for international students!

There will be presentations from some of the UC, CSU and private schools, including a special presentation from Stanford University.

Campus updates and tips on successful applications will be offered.

To mention some of the schools present: UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, SFSU, Sonoma State, UC Riverside, UC Berkeley and many more…..

This is a great opportunity for students to meet reps from international admission offices.

For De Anza students there will be a shuttle bus that will run to and from Foothill College for the event. Check with ISP for shuttle schedule.

If you are planning on driving, your De Anza parking permit is OK on the Foothill campus.

Don’t miss this great opportunity to learn what it takes to transfer to 4-year institutions!!!

San Francisco State University

A representative from SFSU visits our office on a regular basis throughout the quarters to meet specifically with De Anza international students and answer admission related questions.

Students interested in meeting with the representative can either schedule an appointment or drop in on the following dates:

Thursday, February 14
Wednesday, March 12
Thursday, April 17
Thursday, May 1

Hours are 9am-12noon
Location: ISP office OTI-3

To schedule an appointment call (408) 864-8826

If you are unable to meet the SFSU rep. on these dates, contact him directly:

Koichiro Aoshima
International Student Advisor
Phone: (415) 405-3512
Email: ko@sfsu.edu
Have you noticed differences in American culture? Here is a helpful website: http://www.edupass.org/culture/ to help you learn about social customs and cultural differences while you are studying in the USA. It covers everything from tipping, American Holidays, personal space, weights and measures, to telephone etiquette.

As an international student at De Anza College, you will have many opportunities to take advantage of both academic and non-academic, “outside of the classroom” activities such as clubs, working on campus, and volunteering. (Involvement and participation in student organization and activities will make you stand out among other students when applying to competitive transfer universities. Now is the time to join a club!!!) How would you share your culture with the campus community?

Studying abroad at De Anza is exciting and new. Having studied abroad myself, I understand that you may be feeling many emotions right now. It is common to feel tired or fatigued making new friends and continuously trying to comprehend and use a second language. Your instructor may speak too fast, you may not understand the assignment, or you may be simply feeling lonely or homesick.

The counselors at ISP, myself Barbara Dahlke and Susanne Chan are here to listen and help you. We can assist you in gaining stress management techniques, help you with motivation, and provide personal and crisis counseling. We can help you set a goal and “map out” a plan for your course of study over the next 2-3 years.

Did You Know...

1) You could look up for doctors, medical facilities, review your insurance plan and check the status of your medical claims at this website: www.gghstudents.com?

2) You can save $ $$, if you first begin your visit @ De Anza Health Center where you will be given a referral form to take to your doctor/clinic and avoid being charged $50 co-payment.

3) If you have medical bills/statements you are receiving and you are not sure what to do with them, please come to see Angelica Strongone in the ISP office.

4) You can volunteer @ our next New Student Orientation Program! It is scheduled for the week of March 3rd. Simply e-mail strongone@deanza.edu for more details.

5) If you are not receiving frequent e-mail messages from Angelica Strongone in the ISP office, it means we don’t have your current e-mail address on file. Please e-mail strongone@fhda.edu to add your e-mail. This is the only way ISP communicates with international students SO don’t miss out anymore and add your e-mail TODAY!

6) As an international student in the U.S., you are required to file tax forms regardless if you earned income or not. April 15 is the Deadline if you worked in the U.S. in 2007. June 15 is the Deadline if you did not work in 2007. Attend ISP’s Tax Workshops for more information.

7) You can apply for Scholarships! For the many scholarships offered and their application process, log onto: http://www.deanza.edu/financialaid/scholarship.html

Reminder from Joseph Ng, International Student Advisor:

1. All students are required to enroll in full-time status (12 units minimum). Students must obtain authorization from ISP to enroll below fulltime status.

2. Winter Quarter 2008 has just begun, it is a good time to review your immigration documents.

- Student must meet with an International Student Counselor for Program Extension if I-20 will expire at the end of Winter or Spring Quarter 2008.

- Passport must be 6 months valid to the future or must be renewed. Once a passport has expired, student is automatically out of status.

- No more than the equivalent of one on-line/distance education class or 3 units/credits per quarter may be counted toward the “full course of study” requirement.

- All students should attend the Employment Workshop first if you are planning to work this summer. Know the rules and regulations first before job search.
Find and circle all of the countries of Europe that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a secret message.

Note: IRELAND and NORTHERN IRELAND are separately hidden and do not overlap.

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ALBANIA   ANDORRA   ARMENIA   AUSTRIA   AZERBAIJAN
BELARUS   BELGIUM   BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA
BULGARIA   CROATIA   CYPRUS   CZECH REPUBLIC   DENMARK
ENGLAND   ESTONIA   FINLAND   FRANCE   GEORGIA
GERMANY   GREECE   HUNGARY   IRELAND   ISLAND   ITALY
ITALY   LATVIA   LIECHTENSTEIN   LITHUANIA   LUXEMBOURG
MACEDONIA   MALTA   MOLDOVA   MONACO   NETHERLANDS   NORTHERN IRELAND
NORWAY   POLAND   PORTUGAL   ROMANIA   RUSSIAN FEDERATION   SAN MARINO
SCOTLAND   SLOVAKIA   SLOVENIA   SPAIN   SWEDEN   SWITZERLAND
TURKEY   UKRAINE   SERBIA/MONTENEGRO   WALES

What Are You Hoping For, In 2008?
New Year Resolutions from our student assistants...

Alison from Singapore:
"May all the world’s inspiration be with me."

Dominic from U.S.A.:
"Learn a new language fluently 🌍. Does anyone speak Mandarin out there? Working more in ISP, so I can see my favorite people. Not eating Chipotle anymore... I kind of broke that one. Traveling to a new country."

Serena from Taiwan:
"I hope my dream comes true this year: Hanging out with my friends together in Hawaii would be the happiest thing I’d do in 2008."

Jad from Lebanon:
"Use my time more efficiently & productively. I want to enjoy every day and try to reach my goals... You know: like everyone says fix stuff that went wrong... Have a good year."

Akimi from Japan:
"Eat healthy! And hopefully transfer to the 4-year university: American University in Washington DC."

Ozair from Pakistan:
"I hope 2008 will help me keep my Thoughts, Words, Actions, Habits & Values positive because they make destiny positive."

Questions or comments about this newsletter can be e-mailed to: strongoneangelica@fhda.edu
A virtual copy of this newsletter can be found at: www.deanza.edu/international