



UNIVERSITY OF  
ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD

# International Center Newsletter

ISSUE 5

FALL 2011

## STAFF

### Rick Lane

Director of International  
Student Services

### Jonathan GoldbergBelle

Director of International  
Programs

### Tracy Beard

OISS Office Manager

### Barbara Sykes

OIP Staff Clerk

### Cassie Bernardi

OISS Graduate Assistant

### Abena Afreh

OIP Student Worker

### Erin Putnam

OISS Student Assistant

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Holiday wishes 2  
from Int'l Pgrms

From the 2  
Directors' Desks

Office Contact 3  
Information

## So Many Activities, So Little Time

The Fall 2011 semester has really flown by! Looking back, it is amazing to see all of the fun that was fit into such a short time. The Office of International Student Services kept busy by organizing and providing an array of activities for students.

The 34th Annual International Festival held on November 11<sup>th</sup> proved to be yet another successful festival. Performers and exhibitors were at their very best while visitors were able to walk around and experience the wonderful variety of food, booths, and performances



all night. Everyone seemed to enjoy the night's theme, Explore Folklore, to its fullest.

Also in November, students who stuck around for the fall break were able to participate in traditional American Thanksgiving celebrations with local families. Tracy Knox, who runs the Host Family Program, matched students to families so they could experience the food and gratitude that makes the holiday so special. They all had a wonderful time and expressed great joy at being able to partake in the opportunity.

Further expanding the American cultural experience, a group of international students was taken to Memorial's Festival of Trees show at the State Fairgrounds. While there, they viewed the impressive display of Christmas trees and gingerbread houses while sipping on hot chocolate, fully embracing the holiday season.



Enticing students to take a break from studying for finals, International Student Services hosted a Finals Week Stress Breaker party at the Housing Commons. Students were invited to take a break and enjoy some food, cookies, and crafts as a way to relieve the strain of the most stressful week of the semester. All in all, it was a relaxing good time.

To wrap up 2011, students who will be around for the winter break have been invited to celebrate American holiday festivities with local Springfield families. We look forward to hearing about their memorable moments soon.

# Happy Holidays from the Office of International Programs!



## Study Abroad Scholarship Deadline

UIS has several institutional scholarships that can be used to help cover the costs of international travel related to participating in approved study abroad programs.

The Global Experience, Droegkamp, Humphrey and Lundquist scholarships are applied for through the yearly scholarship application process coordinated by the Office of Financial Assistance. There is one application form that is used for all four. It can be found [here](#).

General information on UIS scholarships can be found [here](#).

The application deadline for UIS Global Experience Travel Scholarships is Feb-

ruary 15th for all immediately following fall, summer and spring study abroad programs.

Please note - the UIS travel scholarships require the submission of a Global Experience Program application prior to the submission of the application for the travel scholarship. The signature of the Director of the Office of International Programs is required on the travel scholarship application. The last day to acquire this signature is February 10th.

## Photo Contest

The Office of International Programs will be holding a photo contest this spring. Prizes will be awarded to the best photos in which the University of Illinois Springfield is represented internationally. If you have a

picture of yourself wearing a UIS t-shirt in a clearly identifiable location outside of the USA please submit it to our office by March 1<sup>st</sup>. You are not limited to t-shirts. The photo simply has to have some reference to UIS.

## Looking to the distant future

Several UIS faculty members are developing new short-term study abroad programs for the spring/summer of 2013: Profs. Dell and Crocker are planning a program to Cuba for the spring of 2013; Prof. Bertaina is working on a program to Rome for the summer of 2013; Profs. Hadley-Ives and McChesney are considering a program to Ethiopia and Uganda for the summer of 2013. More information will be available in the spring as the programs begin to take shape.

## *From the Directors' Desks*

Your International Center Directors, as well as their very capable staff, have had an extremely busy fall semester and, like you, are looking forward to at least a few days of rest between the semesters. With all the new students, exchange scholars, programming ad-

ditions, etc., we have often found ourselves struggling to stay afloat. At the same time, we have observed a steady growth in our overall internationalization efforts and are hopeful that others have, as well. We are anticipating still more progress in the coming semester and

new year. We take this opportunity to express our gratitude, once again, to all our campus and community partners who have helped to make this year a very successful one and wish each and every one a wonderful holiday break and a joyous New Year.

*Jonathan & Rick*



Come visit the International Center in HRB 52 to  
have all of your study abroad and  
international student questions answered.

Hours: Monday—Friday

8:30am—5:00pm



INTERNATIONAL CENTER

### Office of International Student Services

*Find Us:*

University of Illinois Springfield  
One University Plaza, MS HRB 52  
Springfield, IL 62703-5407

*Contact Us:*

Phone: 217-206-6678 (country code 011)

Fax: 217-206-6680

Email: [iss@uis.edu](mailto:iss@uis.edu)

[http://www.uis.edu/  
internationalstudentservices/](http://www.uis.edu/internationalstudentservices/)

On Facebook

*OISS supports the immigration,  
academic, cultural, and social expe-  
rience of all UIS international stu-  
dents.*

### Office of International Programs

*Find Us:*

University of Illinois Springfield  
One University Plaza, MS HRB 52  
Springfield, IL 62703-5407

*Contact Us:*

Phone: 217-206-8319

Fax: 217-206-6679

Email: [intprog@uis.edu](mailto:intprog@uis.edu)

<http://www.uis.edu/internationalprograms/>

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*Turn your world upside down: study  
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