

## EXPERTS TEACH LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR LIVING IN USA AND BEYOND

Although expertise in one's field of study tends to transfer from his/her home country and culture, oftentimes international students and scholars struggle with transferring leadership skills across borders. It is common to find ourselves heading up a group project and ultimately, supervising a team of workers. However, are international visitors able to pull from the same leadership skills that were developed in their own culture?

A wonderful team of Rice student and scholar leaders, headed by Kadim Tasdemir who is a doctoral student from Turkey in Electrical & Computer Engineering and President of RISA (Rice International Student Association), tackled the subject in a most remarkable way. Beginning with a seminar-style discussion on "defining leadership in the USA" in the Fall of 2006, the team then followed-up with organizing an outstanding speaker series for spring 2007. The speakers who spoke to the Rice community were: 1) Ambassador Edward Djerejian, founding director of the Baker Institute of Public Policy, 2) Y. Ping Sun, community service leader and wife of Rice President Leebron, and 3) Pradeep Anand, key leader in entrepreneurial business.

Each speaker, in their own incredible style, poured out a wealth of knowledge in order to teach international leadership competences. Here are some things we learned from the experts:

*Ambassador Ed Djerejian* spoke of needing a **vision**, which is clear and not complex. This must be followed up with a **passion**, possessing a "great purpose" that serves as our "inner compass". Leadership requires **self-sacrifice**, **competency**, ability to **delegate** and **inquire**. The Ambassador placed much emphasis on **persistence** and **determination**. Leaders, he continued, are **role models** with their own style – but **style** must possess **substance**. He used President Kennedy as an example.

The ambassador continued that internationally, leaders have a clear sense of **mission** and **purpose**, are **optimistic**, **work well with others**, and **know themselves**. They have the ability to **listen** and **understand what others are saying** (or at least try).

Leaders, according to the Ambassador, have some basic traits and you know one when you see them. They tend to be **practical**, yet **deliberate** and **do not give up**. They are **risk takers**, do not allow fear to guide them. A **moral** and **ethical** dimension permeates decisions. Leadership requires **understanding human nature and the human character**, in which they must use **courage** to stand up to their **convictions** and even have the **courage to dissent**. Leaders have a **sense of history** as well as a

**respect and knowledge of other cultures, religions and differences**. Ambassador Djerejian stated that "**vision + action = good leadership**".

In closing, the Ambassador described how, in order for the USA to maintain its competitive edge, we must make drastic improvements in K-12 education to increase competencies in math, technology and science.

*Y. Ping Sun* not only spoke of leadership and how it transfers across borders, she **modeled it** for us with multiple excellent **examples** of how she **faced challenges** requiring leadership skills in her home country of China, and now in the USA. **Personal illustrations** of her **hard-working** parents, and the **opportunities** she has encountered were greatly inspiring to the audience.



*Kadim Tasdemir, student leader of program, Ambassador Ed Djerejian, Y. Ping Sun, Pradeep Anand - esteemed speakers in spring leadership series*

(continued on pg. 8)

# A Letter From the Director:

Dear International Students and Scholars,

We are so excited that you have chosen Rice University to be your temporary home in the USA. Whether you have already been here for months, years or only days, we are celebrating a *new* beginning. How great it is to begin a *new* academic year with you!

We at the OISS, have spent time planning trainings, workshops, classes and events that we hope will help you during your stay at Rice. We hope you will celebrate the special "international flavor" you bring to us at Rice through programs during International Education Week (November 12-16, 2007), Culture Fair 2008, Free English & Culture Conversation Classes and other events. We hope you'll attend the "What Matters?" speaker series and "Continuing Orientation" sessions. Moreover, you are strongly encouraged to attend specialized regulatory trainings.

How can you keep up on all the happenings? Subscribe to the OISS-announce listserv.

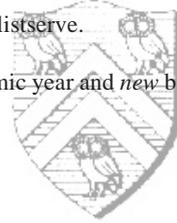
How can we serve you better? Call (x6095) to see an OISS advisor.

We truly care about your success and YOU. Best wishes during this *new* academic year and *new* beginning.

Sincerely,



Adria L. Baker, Director  
Office of International Students & Scholars



## RICE WORLD

**Editor**

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## "WHAT MATTERS?" – LEADERSHIP SPEAKER SERIES

"What Matters to Our Leaders and Why?" provides students, faculty and others an opportunity to better understand the lives and inspirations of those who are successful leaders. By sharing their personal experiences, the speakers are encouraged to talk about choices made, difficulties encountered, and commitments solidified. They are also free to choose any other topic that fits their definition of "What Matters to Me and Why".

Our speakers for Fall 2007 are below:

### **Honorable Bill White**

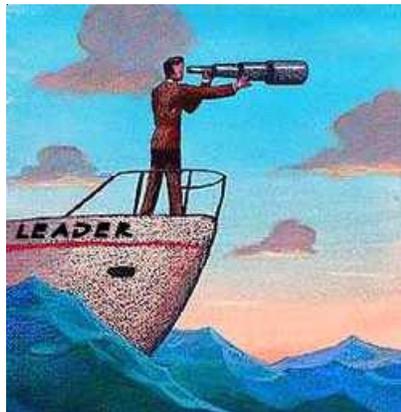
Mayor, City of Houston was held on September 19, 2007.

### **President David Leebron**

Rice University President  
4pm, Wednesday, October 17, 2007  
Keck Hall 100

### **Dr. Malcolm Gillis**

Former President, Rice University  
4pm, Monday, November 12, 2007  
Baker Hall - ICF



*Article written by: Kadim Tasdemir Kadim is a doctoral student from Turkey in Electrical & Computer Engineering. He is President of the Rice International Student Association and the Turkish Student Association. For more information write: [tasdemir@rice.edu](mailto:tasdemir@rice.edu)*

## JOIN OISS FOR SOME EXERCISE!!



Dear International Students, Scholars, and Spouses,

Are you looking for some fun exercise, fresh air, sunshine, new friends, and a good way to relieve stress? Then put on your walking shoes and join Sandra, Maria, and Vanessa on Tuesdays and Thursdays for a walk around Rice!

**When:** every Tuesday and Thursday (as long as it's not raining)

**Time:** meet at 5:15PM

**Where:** meet at the Sallyport (archway) at Lovett Hall

**Who:** anyone who needs a break and some fresh air!

**What:** meet new friends and walk/jog the track around Rice campus  
Hope to see you there!

Sandra, Maria, & Vanessa  
(OISS Staff)

## DHS TRAVELER REDRESS INQUIRY PROGRAM (DHS TRIP)

(Information taken from: [http://www.dhs.gov/xtrvlsec/programs/gc\\_1169676919316.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xtrvlsec/programs/gc_1169676919316.shtm))

The Department of Homeland Security's Travel Redress Inquiry Program (DHS TRIP) is a single point of contact for individuals who have inquiries or seek resolution regarding difficulties they experienced during their travel screening at transportation hubs—like airports and train stations—or crossing U.S. borders, including:



- denied or delayed airline boarding
- denied or delayed entry into and exit from the U.S. at a port of entry or border checkpoint
- continuously referred to additional (secondary) screening

### **Why DHS TRIP?**

DHS TRIP is a central gateway to address

- watch list misidentification issues
- situations where travelers believe they have faced screening problems at ports of entry
- situations where travelers believe they have been unfairly or incorrectly delayed, denied boarding or identified for additional screening at our nation's transportation hubs

DHS TRIP is part of an effort by the Department of State (DOS) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to welcome legitimate travelers while still securing our country from those who want to do us harm. For purpose and details, visit: [http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/press\\_release\\_0838.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/press_release_0838.shtm)

### **Who is DHS TRIP for?**

People who have been repeatedly identified for additional screening can file an inquiry to have erroneous information corrected in DHS systems.

### **How does DHS TRIP work?**

DHS TRIP is the central processing point for redress inquiries. Requests received online are routed for redress to the appropriate DHS components. Components will review the request and reach a determination about a traveler's status.

### **How is the information used?**

The Department of Homeland Security safeguards the privacy of any personal information that you provide in your inquiry to DHS TRIP. The information that you provide will be used to process your request for redress.

To learn more about DHS TRIP, or file a complaint, visit: [http://www.dhs.gov/xtrvlsec/programs/gc\\_1169673653081.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xtrvlsec/programs/gc_1169673653081.shtm)

## DROPPING BELOW HOURS AND STAYING LEGAL

All international students must maintain a minimum number of credits during their academic tenure as an F-1 or J-1 student. Each semester graduate students must be enrolled in (and complete) a minimum of nine (9) credit hours, and undergraduates must have a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours. Please note, that if your academic department requires more credits than the minimum, you must meet their requirements as well.

However, there are times when one must drop below the minimum number of credits. You must receive authorization from the OISS, who can properly work through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) laws with you. However, this must be done **BEFORE dropping the courses**, as all registration information is directly uploaded from Rice to DHS, via the SEVIS (Student & Exchange Visitor Information System).

Before dropping a course, make an appointment to meet with an OISS advisor. Flowcharts regarding dropping courses (compliments of Sandra Bloem-Curtis) are found on the OISS website.

For **undergraduate internationals:**

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~ois/docs/Flow.Chart-Int%271.UG.below.hours.process.pdf>

For **graduate internationals:**

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~ois/docs/Flow.Chart-Int%271.GR.below.hours.process.pdf>

Exceptions to the full-credit load are that students may drop below the minimum number of hours under the following five circumstances:

1. Illness or Medical Condition, with supportive documents or letter by attending doctor
2. Initial Difficulty with English Language or reading requirement, with supportive letter by faculty
3. Unfamiliarity with American Teaching Methods
4. Improper course level placement
5. To complete Course of Study in the last semester

However, remember to come to talk to an OISS advisor before you drop the course, as proper approval is still needed for this benefit.



## ASK, BEFORE YOU ACT!

*Submitted by Sandra Bloem,  
Manager, Int'l Compliance & Administration*

The OISS is here to answer questions you have regarding your visa status, so ask before you act. Below are some of the most common mistakes that cause students or scholars to fall out of status or cause them trouble when entering the U.S.:

- Working without permission – Get the proper work authorization *before* you begin working.
- Traveling without travel endorsement – make sure your documents are in order
- Students dropping below full-time without permission
- Not updating address information – be sure to notify OISS of a change of local address by logging into ESTHER and updating your “Mailing Address”. If your permanent address in your home country has changed, notify OISS directly by email.
- Not applying for extensions in a timely manner – call OISS to discuss your extension options *before* your status expires.

Remember, maintaining your status is your responsibility. Don't jeopardize your status by falling into one of the categories above. When in doubt, ask questions!

## J REGULATION TIMELINES AND RESTRICTIONS



J Exchange Visitors (EV) must be concerned with various restrictions that are unique to J nonimmigrant status. The different types of terminology and laws that regulate the time that Evs can be in the USA are confusing. Below is a summary of some of the various timelines, bars, and terminology for J visa holders:

**Two-year home residency rule – 212(e)** – Many EVs are subject to returning to their home country for two years before they can apply for an H-1B, L-1, or permanent residency.

**12-month bar** – An EV cannot return to the USA on a J visa “professor” or “research scholar” category without being outside the USA for 12+ months, if they were previously in the USA in a J visa category.

**24-month bar** – An EV must be outside the USA for 24 months, if they have been on the “professor” or “research scholar” category for 6 months or more, BEFORE they can return to the USA on the J visa category (Exception: An EV can return on a “short-term scholar” category, however.)

Sandra Bloem Curtis has graciously illustrated the differences in a flowchart found on the OISS website:

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~ois/docs/Flow.Chart-J-1.Special.Regulations.pdf>

Other Timelines:

**Short-term scholar** – On J visa for less than 6 months.

**Professor or Research Scholar** – Up to 5 years.

**Student** – Years it takes to complete degree or program, under normal progression of study.

**Specialist** – Up to 1 year

## WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT ON-CAMPUS WORK FOR STUDENTS

*Submitted by Lily Lam, Associate Director*

On-campus employment means work done on the school premises and employed by Rice University. On-campus work is also defined as employment provided by on-campus commercial firms, like bookstores, cafeteria etc, which provide services for the university community. This kind of employment does not need to be related to students’ major of study, however the F-1 or J-1 students who engage in on-campus work need to continue to carry full course of study, and the work may not exceed 20 hours per week during the regular semester.

Students may work full-time during semester breaks or in the summer. One caution is for tutoring or teaching students, which is done on campus yet hired by outside sectors. This is not considered as an on-campus job, and engaging in this kind of employment is a violation of your status. F-1s do not need to seek authorization from OISS as long as your on-campus employment meet the above requirements, but J-1s need to get a letter of approval from an OISS advisor before working on-campus.

## TAKE IN THE CULTURE



**Houston Cultural Festivals:** <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/oiss/docs/houston.festivals.2007.pdf>

**Travel in Texas:** <http://traveltex.com/>

**Christmass International House:** <http://www.christmasih.org>

## WELCOMING NEW FACES IN THE OISS

This summer the OISS welcomed Vanessa Pena, who stepped into an expanded version of the OISS Office Assistant position. Vanessa, originally from Colombia, adds such a calming presence to an extremely hectic office and position. You will see her smiling face and helpful ways at the OISS front desk, assisting Maria Rovira in the overall flow of our office.

We also welcome Jacqueline Carmona as our new International Student Advisor. She previously served in a similar position at San Jacinto Community College, and her enthusiasm to assist Rice’s internationals students is quite evident.

We feel so fortunate to welcome both of these great professionals! Please join us making both Jacqueline and Vanessa feel a part of the Rice international community! You will enjoy getting to know them both!



*Jacqueline Carmona and Vanessa Pena*

## ADVANCED IMMIGRATION SEMINAR



**Attorney Judy Lee.**, will be presenting an immigration seminar on issues such as permanent residency, H-1Bs, and other employment-based questions (not focusing on F or J visas). Don't miss this helpful free seminar and learn more about working after you graduate or finish your research program.

**Who is invited?**

All international students, scholars, spouses, Rice departmental administrators and faculty.

**When: Tuesday October 9, 2007**

**Where: Sewall Hall, Room 301**

**Time: 4-5:30pm.**

## ORIENTATION EXPANDS

As the Rice international population increases, so does the need for more extensive orientation programs. This year brought just that! The excitement of new students, extended programming and fantastic opportunities was awesome this year. Here are some highlights:

The student volunteers – We could not have done it without you!! A large group of



undergraduate students met in the spring before finals to discuss the needs of the new students and how they could be met. Their volunteer service included helping as a PIA (Peer International Advisor), writing students during the summer, authoring a letter to send to new incoming students with their I-20s, and providing survival tips.

Another large group of graduate students met right before international orientation week to get their “marching orders” from Lily Lam, which included offering their time and help in set-up, going to the Department of Public Safety, greeting, registration, answering questions, airport pick-up, and so much more.

New iPREP for undergraduate internationals – Due to the increasing number of undergraduate students being admitted at Rice, a pre-orientation was prepared for the degree-seeking and exchange undergraduate internationals. Students arrived on Thursday, before O-Week to learn of the unique regulatory, education and cultural needs, as well as getting some much needed rest before the intensity of O-Week. A particular highlight included the “International Reconnect” on Wednesday. Meeting up again with international friends across colleges provided a particularly unique opportunity to solidify already-made friends in iPREP, as well as sharing some unique insights about O-Week.

Expanded MBA Pre-Term – Rice MBA internationals received an expanded version

of their orientation this year, by coming a week in advance. Getting settled in early, with special regulatory information, communication practice, and other programs created to prepare them to the Rice MBA and US business culture resulted in a positive “jump-start” for the year.

FISS Program (Friends of International Students & Scholars) – The OISS partnership with the Institute of International Education (IIE) was extended to include a picnic on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> in Hermann Park. Instead of overburdening an already too-packed week during O-Week (which has always been the case), we piloted a more relaxed approach included fun and games at the park a month after orientation. Matching of US friends and international students was done during the picnic.

IMAX Outing – 190 Rice internationals (new and continuing) were invited by the undergraduate orientation program to watch the IMAX “Safari 3D” during O-Week. We were donated tickets to attend with the freshmen students and their advisors. It was particularly fun to walk “en masse” over to the Museum of Natural Science and “invade” the premises as a group. It was a great turnout, which



*OISS staff members have fun at the IMAX outing*

was also highlighted by a welcome from President David Leebron and his wife Y. Ping Sun and children.

Graduate International Orientation – This is always an awesome time to meet the new graduate students. What a friendly group, who illustrated flexibility and helpfulness to one another in so many ways. Lily Lam is always a wonderful leader for this program. Her creation of the new international student handbook will serve as an asset for many internationals, and through the years.

But wait. . . .THE EXPANSION CONTINUES. . . .!

Plan to attend “Continuing Orientation” in the Fall!! Mark your calendars now!



*Training orientation student volunteers*

### CONTINUING ORIENTATION FOR FIRST YEAR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

*by Lily Lam, Associate Director*

Dear new international students - We were so glad that we were able to meet with you during our group check-ins, and our orientation programs during the month of August. Thanks for your great comments; many of you told us that you have enjoyed the iPREP (UG orientation) and the graduate orientation programs. Now, we have more in place for you. I would like to invite you all back to our Continuing Orientation program, which is co-sponsored by the RCSSC (Rice Chinese Students & Scholars Club). The following are the topics and date of the programs:

(continued on the pg. 8)



## R.E.A.P. INTERNATIONAL

### Rice Experiences Advertised to Prospects - *Internationally*

- Ever want to share your great experiences with students in your home country?
- Ever want to serve as a Rice “ambassador” in a high school and/or university in your home country?

All international students are invited to participate. You may do so by logging into the website (<http://rgs.rice.edu/oiss/>), and proposing your visit sites and contacts, which consist of a minimum of two institutions: 1) a high school, and 2) either a university, college or overseas advising center. The process includes a generally simple exchange of emails between you and the Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS). To view the steps to be completed, visit: <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~ois/docs/REAP%20Procedures%20and%20Flow.doc>

In the end, you will receive: 1) a certificate of appreciation for your service, 2) \$125 honorarium, 3) the fulfilling belief that you have opened up possibilities to others in your home country, 4) the satisfaction that you have given back to Rice through telling about the good things of our school, and 5) have enhanced your Rice degree, as the more people know about Rice, the stronger your degree will be back home.

Some high schools, universities and overseas centers have been visited in the following countries/regions so far: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Lebanon, Nigeria, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela.

We will send messages on the oiss-announce listserve periodically to tell you when the next informal informational session on REAP will be held. Please consider participating in this program during one of your next visits to your home country. Be a Rice ambassador, and a returning “celebrity” in your home country!

## FREE ENGLISH & CULTURE CLASSES

### OFFERED

General Sign-Up:

Friday, September 28, 2007

from 10:00-12:00 (noon)

in the OISS office,

Lovett Hall,

Entrance A; 2nd floor

Questions? Call 713-348-6095



### Beginning English Conversation

Teacher: Sarah Bauer

Class: Thursdays from 12:00 to 1:00 PM in OISS office

Begins: Thursday, October 4, 2007

### Advanced/Intermediate English Conversation

Teacher: Catherine Spain

Class: Fridays from 10:00 to 12:00 noon in the Ley Student Center, 2nd Floor, Conference Room

Begins: Friday, October 5, 2007

### English Idioms & Slang Class

Teacher: Dirk Cameron

Class: Mondays from 12:00 to 1:00 PM in OISS office

Begins: Monday, October 9, 2007

### Grammar & Pronunciation Class

Teacher: Chris Sneller

Class: Tuesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 PM in OISS office

Begins: Tuesday, October 9, 2007

### Popular Sports in the USA Class

Teacher: Chris Sneller

Class: Date and time will be announced, as the class will be held periodically. The classes will be about different sports and be followed up by going to a game as a group.

Stay tuned to OISS-Announce for class details

## CULTURE FAIR: MOMENTS TO BE TREASURED



Each year the OISS supports the efforts of ADVANCE, by encouraging participation in the spring Cultural Fair. The 2007 Culture Fair was a huge success, including hundreds of people visiting booths, where representatives of various countries, cultures,

and regions celebrate what they have to offer through artifacts, food, pictures, music, dances, typical clothes, smiles, friendship, and so much more! To see what great cultural value Rice internationals have brought in years' past through the Culture Fair, visit: <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/%7Eois/photoalbum.html>

Don't miss in sharing about the great things of your country by participating in a booth, or making time to stop by and visit with friends for Culture Fair 2008, to be held on Friday, March 21, 2008. Plan ahead, by bringing items back to Houston on your next visit home.

## SPECIAL OLYMPIANS AND RICE CHINESE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOP SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP

Rice University's Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) had the unique opportunity to host some very special Houston-area Special Olympic athletes, and outstanding Rice Chinese students and scholars for a special luncheon and international exchange late last spring. The four student athletes were high-school students from the Briarwood School, who will be competing with the U.S. Special Olympics team in Shanghai, China in October of this year.

Special Olympics is a non-profit international organization that "empowers people with intellectual disabilities to realize their full potential and develop their skills through year-round sports training and competition" (<http://www.specialolympics.org/>). The Special Olympics athletes' oath is: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt".

The luncheon at Rice's Cohen House included a lively cultural dialogue from questions pre-prepared by the high-school students for their new Chinese contacts. Rice's Chinese internationals responded to topics ranging from foods that differ between China and the USA, to cultural differences and perspectives between the two countries, to what their new Chinese friends do in their spare time. In attendance with the Chinese internationals and the Special Olympians (pictured on the right) were parents of the athletes, Texas Special Olympics Vice President, Kelly Coffey, and Lily Lam and Adria Baker of the OISS.

Not only did the athletes and their parents learn vital information to prepare them for their trip to China, Rice's Chinese participants learned of the importance of Special Olympics and the extraordinary people who participate in this program. The program was underwritten by an anonymous local business who appreciates Special Olympics, as well as the importance of positive intercultural exchange.



(Pictured left to right – Dr. Jichun Zhang, Dong Xu, Jianhang Zhou, Marcus Gary, Yuling Jia, Hillary Kern, Ashley Billard, Amanda Mickan.)

## MINI-WORLD SOCCER CUP

*Article by Maria Rovira, International Services Specialist, OISS*

An annual tradition now, during the International Education Week (IEW), is to play in the Mini-World Soccer Cup at Rice, which is sponsored by the Office of International Students and Scholars. This is a series of games where four different continents compete, in friendly co-ed (boys and girls play together) games. The different teams take the names of four continents (Africa, America, Asia and Europe) and play against each other with the goal of making new friends and having a good time. Everybody affiliated to Rice is welcome to participate. We encourage the participants to choose the team they like the most, regardless of whether it is your continent of origin or not.

This year will be the Mini-World Soccer Cup III, held on November 4, from 10:00 AM -2:00 PM from. Team "Europe" was the winner of the first edition in 2005, and Team "America" the second year in 2006. Who will be the winner this time?



### SIR (SPOUSES OF INTERNATIONALS AT RICE)

S.I.R. (Spouses of the Internationals at Rice) began this semester in September. Community volunteers provide lunch, and a unique opportunity for Rice ladies to meet, relax and network. The meetings for SIR are on the following Wednesdays (October 3, October 31, and December 5). Please encourage your spouse or any women internationals (students, scholars and dependents) to come to these lunch meetings. If you would like to know more about SIR, call the OISS x6095.

## EXPERTS TEACH LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR LIVING IN USA AND BEYOND

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

One of Y. Ping Sun's many motivating statements was that "**a leader is created**". A leader must be willing to **take risks**. They must **persevere** in tough times. She continued that a leader must be a **constant learner**. They must possess **confidence** through **believing in him/herself**. She placed strong emphasis on making a **positive difference** in the lives of others, thereby always **giving back** to the community.

Ms. Sun explained that leaders have **learned to connect** with others and that **networking** is a key element. She encouraged the students to **get involved** in the community through many free events open to them. Examples include involvement in the Asia Society and various other civic organizations. After listening to Y. Ping Sun's talk, I think everyone in the audience was convinced that seeking to inspire others is a trait we should strive for from her example.

*Mr. Pradeep Anand* stated that "universally, leadership is the ability of an individual to **realize vision** through an organization. Leaders across the world have a common characteristic – they **convert vision to reality** by **influencing, motivating, empowering, and enabling others to contribute** toward the success of their organization".

Focusing on entrepreneurial leadership, he stated that "if leaders are visionaries, entrepreneurial leaders are **passionate visionaries** who see financial opportunities in altering and changing markets. They are **builders, achievers, independent, persistent and passionate**. *Entrepreneurial leaders are leaders on steroids.*"

Entrepreneurs make their visions happen through: **opportunity – risk – execution**. To accomplish this, Mr. Anand states that leaders must have the following eight competencies: 1) **self-awareness**, 2) **synthesizing skills**, 3) **keen focus on customers and markets**, 4) "**master marketers**", 5) "**effective action**" 6) "**forge respectful relationships**", 7) possess **ethics and integrity**, and 8) focus of **legal and financial** aspects.

Mr. Anand related the competency skills to the **multicultural world** in which we live. The personal examples he gave from his home country in India, and how to **celebrate differences**, motivated the audience. He described how he has celebrated the differences while being in the USA, which has **softened any resistance** that he may have encountered.

## CONTINUING ORIENTATION FOR FIRST YEAR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

On September 6, 2007, almost 40 new students attended the session on "How to Have a Successful First Year". It was a totally full house event!

**October 4, 2007, Thursday, 12 to 1 p.m.**

"How to Communicate Effectively With Your Academic Advisor"  
Farnsworth, RCM

**November 1, 2007, Thursday, 12 to 1 p.m.**

"Cultural Adjustment: What Worked, What Didn't Work"  
Farnsworth, RCM



We will send out reminders of these events by the OISS-announce listserv. Please take a short break from your study and research to come to join us for pizza, drinks and snacks. Meet your friends at the orientation program for a great time to share your ideas, and get to know each other more.

We will have plenty of pizza, as promised!

## RICE-CHINA LEADERSHIP FORUM

Great appreciation and recognition was bestowed upon many Rice Chinese students and scholars who participated in the China Rice Leadership Forum, which is hosted by Rice's President David Leebron and his wife, Y. Ping Sun. A delegation of some of the highest ranking university officials, from top Chinese universities were hosted in the 2007 spring semester. Highlights of the visit included many Rice Chinese students and scholars serving as volunteers and translators throughout their visit.

We, at the OISS, are so proud of the extraordinary efforts being made by so many of the Rice internationals. The Office of the President expressed its deepest appreciation, as well. Rice was chosen by the Chinese Ministry of Education and the State Administration of Foreign Expert Affairs of China to host the leadership forum.

## SPECIAL HONOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS FOR RICE INTERNATIONALS

Academic integrity is a basic essential for success at Rice, as well as for any higher education study and research. However, incidences have occurred where international students have inadvertently failed to meet the Rice Honor Code. Whether the violation was a result of a cultural mistake or not, the consequences can be devastating to one's academic tenure, and may also result in harsh repercussions for one's visa status.

Please take time now to make sure you are up-to-date on the Honor Council: <http://honor.rice.edu/>

Some key tips are in an article written in 2005 by an Honor Council member: <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~ois/docs/Honor.Council.for.intls.pdf>

## International Student Enrollment By Country/Region - Fall 2007

Albania	2	Greece	13	Peru	5
Argentina	9	Honduras	1	Philippines	4
Australia	4	Hong Kong	8	Poland	5
Austria	1	India	120	Portugal	2
Azerbaijan	1	Indonesia	2	Romania	13
Bangladesh	2	Iran	17	Russia	12
Barbados	2	Ireland	5	Rwanda	1
Belarus	2	Israel	3	Saudi Arabia	9
Belgium	1	Italy	9	Senegal	1
Bermuda	1	Jamaica	2	Serbia	1
Bolivia	2	Japan	13	Singapore	3
Botswana	1	Jordan	1	South Africa	3
Brazil	9	Kazakhstan	1	Spain	5
Bulgaria	9	Kenya	1	Sri Lanka	1
Cameroon	3	Korea (South)	55	Sweden	1
Canada	40	Lebanon	4	Switzerland	1
Cayman Islands	1	Lithuania	1	Taiwan	35
Chile	4	Malaysia	3	Thailand	4
China	222	Mali	1	Trinidad & Tobago	4
Colombia	10	Mexico	26	Tunisia	2
Costa Rica	4	Montenegro	1	Turkey	27
Cyprus	1	Morroco	1	Uganda	1
Czech Republic	1	Nepal	2	Ukraine	4
Ecuador	1	Netherlands	1	United Kingdom	10
Egypt	9	New Zealand	1	Venezuela	13
Ethiopia	1	Nigeria	6	Vietnam	5
Finland	1	Norway	4	Yugoslavia	1
France	6	Pakistan	6		
Germany	16	Panama	1		
Ghana	3	Paraguay	1		

**TOTAL: 852**

### Totals:

Enrolled non-immigrant students: **852**  
 Countries/Regions represented by students: **87**  
 Graduate international students: **684**  
 Undergraduate international students: **168**  
 New international students for Fall 2007: **266**

### Did you know?

... The international students make up **16+%** of the overall Rice population?  
 ... We had **447** foreign visitors and scholars conducting research and lecturing at Rice during the past year?  
 ... Rice international students and scholars represent **99** countries/regions?

## CALENDAR OF FALL OISS EVENTS

### Free English & Culture Class SIGN-UP:

**Friday September 28th between 10AM-12:00 (noon)** in the OISS office - Come and go as you please. We will have 5 classes to offer (see pg. 6 for details), OISS Office

**SIR Luncheon for international ladies - Wednesday, October 3rd, Oct. 31st, & December 5th 12 (noon) - 1:00PM.** in the Abercrombie Lab lobby.

### Continuing Orientation:

**Tuesday, October 4 from 12:00 noon - 1:00PM** in Farnsworth Pavilion - RMC. Topic: "How to Communicate Effectively With Your Academic Advisor". We'll have drinks, pizza, and chips.

### Advanced Immigration Seminar:

**Attorney Judy Lee on Tuesday October 9, 2007, Sewall Hall, Room 301, 4-5:30pm** (pg. 5 for details)

**Work authorization informational (OPT and CPT) session** (identical sessions): on **Friday, October 5 and Thursday, October 11 at 12:00 noon** in Room 309 Sewall Hall

**Leadership Speaker series - Rice President David Leebron** to speak on **Wednesday, October 17, 4:00 PM**, in room 100, Keck Hall.

### Continuing Orientation:

**Thursday, November 1, from 12:00 noon - 1:00PM** in Farnsworth Pavilion - RMC. Topic: "Cultural Adjustment: What Worked, What Didn't Work". We'll have drinks, pizza, and chips.

### Mini-World Soccer Cup

Sunday, November 4, from 10:00AM - 2:00PM

**International Education Week 2007 - TONS** of activities. **(November 12-16th).**

Be sure to stay tuned to OISS-Announce listserv, so you can come to as many as possible!! This is to honor YOU!

**Leadership Speaker series - Dr. Malcolm Gillis** to speak on **Monday, November 12 at 4:00 PM**, in Baker Hall.

## RULES OF LIVING IN THE HOUSTON AREA



1. You must learn to pronounce the city name. It is "Hue-stun," not "Ewe-stun", or "House-tun". Oh yea, the street is pronounced "San Phil-ee-pay," not "San Phil-ee-p" (San Felipe). Enunciate, y'all.
2. Forget the traffic rules you learned elsewhere. Houston has its own version of traffic rules...Hold on and pray. There is no such thing as a dangerous high-speed chase in Houston. We all drive like that.
3. All directions start with, "Go down to Loop 610".... which has no beginning and no end.
4. The Houston Chamber of Commerce considers getting through traffic...a "Scenic Drive."
5. The morning rush hour is from 6:00AM to 10:00AM. The evening rush hour is from 3:00PM to 7:00PM. Friday's rush hour starts Thursday morning.
6. If you actually stop at a yellow light, you will be rear-ended and yelled at. When you are the first one off the starting line, count to five when the light turns green before going, to avoid getting into any cross-traffic's way.
7. Construction on I-10, I-45, US 59 and Loop 610 is a way of life and a permanent form of entertainment.
8. If someone actually has their turn signal on, it is probably a factory defect.
9. You don't have to wait for an exit to get off a freeway, just follow the ruts in the grass to the feeder like everyone else. This is how Houston residents notify the Texas Department of Transportation where exits should have been built.
10. All old ladies with blue hair in a pink Cadillac have total right-of-way.

*(This was an email forward by a native Houstonian. Author unknown.)*

This bi-annual publication is designed specifically for the needs of Rice international students and scholars. Please take time to read it.



If you would like help in finding your way around Houston or learning more about what is available for you in the city, may we suggest you explore the city through Houston Greeters?

Houston Greeters are local residents who volunteer to visit with, or greet, newcomers or visitors. The Greeters are volunteers who love the Houston area and are eager to share it with you. They will ride the Metro Rail system with you (and provide a free ticket for you), show you the lovely Hermann Park area (not far from campus), help you discover the Museum District (also close to campus), enjoy ethnic food or show you the remarkable Indian temples in the area. And there are many, many other possibilities.

In order to decide what you would like to do, go to the Houston Greeters web site at

[www.houstongreeters.org](http://www.houstongreeters.org). You will discover the long list of offerings that the Greeters enjoy sharing with visitors. Once you decide, go to "request a visit" and submit your request.

Soon a Greeter will be in touch with you via email or phone and you can confirm the dates and times you would like to connect. That's all you do. The Greeter will meet you and you're off for a pleasant couple of hours together. While Houston Greeters is intended to provide a one-on-one experience, it is possible to form small groups, no larger than six in number.

For further questions, you may contact 713 GREETER (713 473 3837) or [director@houstongreeters.org](mailto:director@houstongreeters.org)

Have fun, enjoy and welcome to Houston!

## SUBSCRIBE TO OISS LISTSERVES

### OISS-ANNOUNCE

You'll find out about free tickets, social activities, important immigration updates and requirements, and other special issues of interest to internationals at Rice.

To subscribe, please visit:

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### OISS-MARKET

You'll be able to buy and sell, find transportation for trips, and communicate with other internationals at Rice.

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### OISS-FORUM

A forum for discussion of topics ranging from good restaurants to good dentists. Here is also the place to engage your peers in a friendly discussion of current issues and world events.

To subscribe, please visit:

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To **unsubscribe** from any of the above lists, you may visit the same website and follow the instructions listed at the bottom of the page.

