Job Search Wisdom for Internationals: Interview with an Expert

By Adria Baker

I had the distinct honor of sitting down and interviewing Jackie Hing, Associate Director of the Center for Career Development. She graciously shared the insights she had gained through years of working with international students and postdocs, who have tarried through their job search in the USA. Below is a summary of our discussion, that I hope will be helpful for you:

**Question:** What are some key resources for international students and postdocs who are looking for a job?

**Jackie:** The answer can be a little different for undergraduates, graduates, and for internships, and after graduation. For some international undergraduates, this can be the time they are aware of new and varied options in terms of both majors and careers. The Center for Career Development (CCD) is a place to talk about options, which can be confusing, and to help them decide what would be a good fit. The staff of the CCD work to make students feel comfortable, and help them make relevant decisions for themselves.

For graduate students, the issue is deciding between academia and industry. As with undergraduates, we provide an environment where they can explore these options. We also have instructional sessions and individual appointments to discuss how to convert their CV into a resume and to “market” themselves in an American style interview.

Internships are opportunities that allow students to not only apply their knowledge but also to learn how working in the USA may be different than what they are used to. The CCD also helps students find resources for internship searches, not only via RICElink but also iNet, and the Internship Series. An important factor in finding both internships and full time jobs is networking, which is often not a comfortable activity for students! The CCD provides assistance with creating and using LinkedIn, and most important, created the Owl Mentor Network where Rice students can get in contact with Rice alums to gather information about industries, companies, and careers.

**Question:** What are some challenges you have found international students and postdocs deal with?

**Jackie:** Oftentimes, good job, it is good job is more than performing well. It also means communicating effectively with others. Language skills can be the first thing international students are worried about, which usually means pronouncing words clearly and using the right words in the right context. However, effective communication goes beyond the words used. For example, it is estimated that only 7% of what we say is communicated by words. 97% of communication is vocal quality and non-verbal. The reality is that effectiveness is non-verbal.

One’s body language needs to communicate “I’m listening to you and interested in you”. If the person is friendly, it really helps employers and co-workers to want to get to know you.

...Continued on page 8
Dear Rice International Students & Scholars,

Welcome back to a new academic year! This is Rice’s 101st year of excellence. A significant part of our success is due to the outstanding international students and scholars who choose to study with us, or come for collaborative research and teaching. Thank you for choosing Rice, and helping us strive and achieve our goals of academic excellence.

I hope that this newsletter will provide useful information to help you during your time in the USA. In particular, this edition has a strong focus on helping with employment issues. For questions and discussion on your employment needs, you are always encouraged to call the OISS to make an appointment to see an OISS advisor.

You are also encouraged to read past OISS newsletters that cover other related information for international students.

Best wishes, always, for a rich and successful semester!

Adria L. Baker,
Executive Director, Office of International Students and Scholars
Associate Vice Provost for International Education

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**OISS Welcomes Jenny Brydon**

*By Adria Baker*

If you hear a particular joyful laugh, or expressions of excitement in meeting new students and scholars from one section in the OISS, most likely it will be from Jenny Brydon. She is the OISS’ new staff member. Jenny was hired in April as the Program Manager & Sr. International Advisor, with a particular focus on undergraduate international students and J Exchange Visitor scholars.

In the past five months, Jenny has worked tirelessly on welcoming in, and helping with, the immigration status of the largest freshman international student class in Rice’s history. She successfully executed an amazing (restructured) iPREP program. She also has brought in countless J visa scholars to Rice! How hard it is to step in at such a busy time of the year for the OISS! However, Jenny has done a terrific job in bringing her years of expertise and passion in student development, immigration advising/compliance, and programming to our campus.

Please take time to get to know Jenny. She is a welcome member of the OISS team, and the Rice community!

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RICE WORLD

Editor
Adria Baker

Layout, Graphics and Design
Maqsuda Afroz

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To stay informed about OISS events and updates visit the OISS website often at:

http://oiss.rice.edu/

and the blog at

http://oiss.blogs.rice.edu/
# Countries/Regions Represented by Rice Degree-Seeking Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country/Region</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
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<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
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<td>Azerbaijan</td>
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<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<td>Belarus</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burma (Myanmar)</td>
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<td>Cameroon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td>Chile</td>
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<td>China</td>
<td>727</td>
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<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>Costa Rica</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
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<td>Egypt</td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>Uzbekistan</td>
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<td>Venezuela</td>
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<td>Vietnam</td>
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<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Totals:** 1427

*Numbers as of 9/16/2013

Did you know...

- The international students make up 22.46% of the overall Rice population?
- We had 630 foreign visitors and scholars conducting research and lecturing at Rice during the past year?
- Rice international students and scholars represent 93 different countries/regions?
Different Modes of Communication

Specialized Communication Workshops

The Center for Written, Oral, and Visual Communication (CWOVC) is happy to announce several fall workshops.

**University Communication Skills: The Essentials**
This single-session workshop is designed for *first-year undergraduates* and covers topics such as how to participate in class, how to talk to your professors, and how to write appropriate emails to instructors. **No registration is necessary.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Sept. 9</td>
<td>4-5:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday, Sept. 12</td>
<td>7-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 18</td>
<td>7-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>HUMA 118</td>
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**Academic Conversation Skills:**
This workshop is for non-native speakers of English who wish to improve their listening and speaking skills in order to communicate more effectively in an academic environment. If you have difficulty participating in class discussion or speaking to your classmates and professors, this workshop is designed to meet your needs. **Over four weeks, participants will gain confidence as they develop their ability to engage in academic dialogue.** We will cover topics such as how to insert your ideas and opinions, how to disagree respectfully, and what listening clues are important. Undergraduates, graduate students, and post-docs are welcome to attend. Limited to 15 participants. **Register here:** [https://signup.rice.edu/convoskills](https://signup.rice.edu/convoskills/)

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Tuesday, Sept. 24</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Oct. 01</td>
<td>12-1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>HUMA 118</td>
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**Creative Writing Group:**
The CWOVC sponsors a creative writing group led by Dr. Dave Messmer. It will be held every *Monday at 7:00 p.m. at Fondren 201 (starting Sept. 9).* There is no registration required. **For more information, email Dr. Messmer at dmessmer@rice.edu**

In late October, the CWOVC will offer workshops on slide design and grammar. For more information, see our website at cwovc.rice.edu.

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**Continuing Orientation for International Graduate Students**

This is a special series of sessions designed specifically for first year international graduate students. All sessions will be in the Farnsworth Pavilion in the Student Center. Free Lunch will be provided by OISS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Successful First Year at Rice</strong></th>
<th><strong>Planning your Graduate Study</strong></th>
<th><strong>Successful Cultural Adaptation</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 26, 2013</td>
<td>Thursday, October 17, 2013</td>
<td>Friday November 8, 2013</td>
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Regulatory Resources and Updates

Immigration Updates

Changes for Port of Entry Procedures

By Adria Baker

For years, the Customs & Border Protection (CBP) issued an I-94 entry and departure card when non-immigrant visa (NIV) holders entered the USA. Effective April 26, 2013 DHS began automating the admission process.

The information retrieved from the I-94 card is shown in the stamp in the passport. Upon entering the USA, be sure to check the stamp. It is essential to make sure that the following information reads clearly, in order to confirm your valid entry into the USA, and visa status while here.

Look for clarity of:
- Port of entry city
- Date of entry
- Visa status
- Length of visa status (Note: for F and J visa holders, it should state “D/S”)

When arriving to the USA, be sure and come to OISS with your passport, so we can copy your entry stamp, as well as any other updated documents, such as a new visa or passport.

To print out a hard copy of your I-94, click onto: www.cbp.gov/i94.

Free Advanced Immigration Workshop

Don't miss this!

If you have questions about visas beyond F and J visas, including H1B working visas and permanent resident (“green card”) eligibility, you are strongly encouraged to attend a free seminar by an immigration lawyer, Adan.G. Vega. He will present a session entitled "US Immigration - Beyond F and J visas", on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 4:00 - 5:30 PM in Sewall Hall, room 301.

Advanced Immigration Workshop

Don't miss this great free seminar!

Topic: "Advanced Immigration-Beyond F and J Visas"

Immigration Lawyer / Speaker: Adan.G. Vega (Rice alum)

Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Time: 4 - 5:30pm

Place: Sewall Hall, Room 301
Regulatory Resources and Updates

Properly Maintaining Your Address in ESTHER

For immigration compliance reporting purposes, your Mailing Address in ESTHER must be where you actually live in Houston. You may use the Permanent Address field for any address you wish, but note that address is where the Payroll office will mail your tax documents in the spring.

*Be sure to properly format your address and update it in a timely manner (within 10 days of moving).*

** If you are on a visa type other than F-1 or J-1, you must also complete the AR-11 form and submit it to the address indicated on the form.

To update your address in ESTHER

- Go to https://esther.rice.edu/
- Login to your account
- Click on Update Addresses and Phones
- Update the information in the "Mailing Address" field (if you do not have a “mailing address” field, you may email the Registrar at registrar@rice.edu to request one)
- Click on Submit
- OISS will then receive an electronic update of your address.

Proper format for US addresses in ESTHER should be:

- Line 1 = First line of address
  (example: 1234 Main St.)
- Line 2 = Second line of address
  (example: Apt 11B or Room 201, XYZ College)
- City= Houston
- State or Province = TX
- ZIP or Postal Code = XXXXX (example: 77005)
- Nation = (LEAVE BLANK)

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Updates

*By Andy Meretoja*

DPS laws are constantly changing. Your first and most accurate source of reference should be [http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/).

In general, in order for anyone to get a Texas driver license (DL) or a Texas state identification card (ID), you must have lived in the State of Texas for a minimum of 30 days (unless you have a valid, unexpired license from another U.S. state). To prove Texas residency you must show acceptable documents. A list of acceptable documents can be found on the [DPS website](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/getinlinebeforeyougo.htm).

Please note, you are allowed to drive with a valid, unexpired driver license from another state or country for up to 90 days after moving to Texas. **Tip of the Day**: Wait times tend to be considerably shorter in the Mega Centers. When visiting a Mega Center, you can also [Get in line online](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/getinlinebeforeyougo.htm), before you even get to the DPS location! For more information, please visit [http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/getinlinebeforeyougo.htm](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/getinlinebeforeyougo.htm).
Optional Practical Training for Thesis Students in F-1 Status

By Ben Colsten

Questions & Answers

Q: When should I apply for post-completion OPT?
A: You can apply as early as 90 days before your completion date. It can take up to three months to process OPT, so we recommend applying as early as possible.

Q: What date should I use as my completion date to apply for OPT?
A: As a thesis student, you have some options. You can use your defense date, or as late as your thesis submission. The date used will in part be determined by when you would like your OPT to start. With job prospects, the defense date may be preferred if you want to be able to start working as soon as possible. However, if more time for securing employment will be needed, the thesis submission may be better for you. It is also possible to use the final day of the semester in which you defend as long as you remain registered.

Q: Do I need to register for the semester after I have defended, but still haven’t submitted my thesis?
A: If you have not yet applied for OPT, then yes, you will need to register. However, if you have applied for OPT based on your defense, then no, you will not need to register.

Q: If I choose to use my defense date as my completion date for OPT, but then my defense gets delayed, what should I do.
A: If there is a change in your defense date, you should let the OISS know immediately so we can discuss how this might affect your status and OPT. In many cases, we simply need to update your information. If OPT has started before you are able to defend, you will be considered on pre-completion OPT, and eligible to work only part-time, or up to 20 hours per week. Depending on much of a delay there is, it could be necessary to cancel your OPT application and reapply for when you are able to defend.

Please call our office at 713-348-6095 to schedule an appointment, or email us at oiss@rice.edu

Special Note

Don’t miss the Advanced Immigration Workshop on Wednesday, October 2nd, from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Employment for non-immigrants, and applying for a “Green Card” (permanent residence visa) information will be presented.

Fall 2013
CPT/OPT WORKSHOPS

Dear F-1 students,

For CPT, please plan to attend one of these workshops if you hope to work off campus for the first time this fall; for OPT, please make sure to attend if you expect to finish your degree within the next six months.

Monday , September 9, 3:30-4:30 pm, OISS 3rd floor

Wednesday, September 11, 8:00-9:00pm, RGA

Thursday, September 12, 8:00 - 9:00 pm, RVA

Monday September 16, 12:00-1:00 Music

Tuesday September 17, 3:30-4:30pm OISS 3rd floor

Wednesday September 18, 9:00-10:00 pm OISS 3rd floor

Wednesday, November 6, 11:30 am-12:30 pm (OPT for MBA only at Jones School)

Recommended reading: the OISS F-1 CPT Handout (http://oiss.rice.edu/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=440).

FOR OPT, Recommended reading: the OISS F-1 OPT Handout (http://oiss.rice.edu/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=442).
Regulatory Resources and Updates

J Corner

Employment While on J Exchange Visitor Visa

During your time while at Rice you may have the opportunity to do some work. Please be very mindful of the laws and responsibilities on your part so you don’t inadvertently violate your status.

J Students (including exchange students, degree-seeking, and ESL students)

If you decide to work on-campus (no more than 20 hours per week), you must gain approval from an OISS advisor PRIOR to your starting to work. To make an appointment, call the OISS at 713-348-6095 to set it up. In order to work off-campus, you must apply for Pre-Completion or Post-Completion Academic Training. You will need to speak to an OISS advisor to learn about the time limits and application requirements.

J-2 dependents are eligible to apply for an EAD (Employment Authorization Document) for personal enrichment and professional development – however must prove it is not to support the J-1 principal visa holder. For instructions to apply visit: http://www.immihelp.com/j1-visa/j2-visa-ead-work-permit.html

J Scholars (including post-docs, research students not taking classes, and faculty)

If you are invited to give a lecture or do a short consulting opportunity off-campus, you must get PRIOR approval to do so. You will need to do this by getting a letter from your supervisor confirming that the activity is supplemental to your Exchange Visitor principal program, and will not interfere with your primary work.

Mandatory Insurance Requirement

You must always maintain a sufficient level of insurance at all times, whether you are in the USA or not. Failure to do so results in your falling out of legal status.

Restrictions after Applying for a Waiver of the Two Year Home Residency Requirement – 212(e)

If an EV has applied for a waiver of his or her 212(e) – two year home residency requirement – then benefits of transferring on a J visa or extending one’s program is no longer an option. Please make an appointment to see an OISS advisor if you wish to discuss any timelines while on your J-1 visa.

For information about the Exchange Visitor Program, which is co-supervised under the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, visit: http://j1visa.state.gov/. In all cases, you are encouraged to seek advice from an OISS advisor for guidance on how to comply with J regulations.

...Continued from page 1

Question: What is a common thread of hardship for international students?

Jackie: In general, it’s adapting to life here in America and at Rice. In terms of what CCD sees, it’s presenting themselves with confidence and assertiveness. America is a “low context” culture which means our communication is direct, individualistic, and concise. Many international students come from a “high context” culture where communication is based on shared relationships and understandings. Adding to this is the need to internally translate one’s thoughts before expressing oneself, and an international student may be perceived as not coming across as confidentially or assertively as they could.

Question: In the USA, how would you communicate respect best to others?

Jackie: Respect is a high context culture may be expressed by listening and being accommodating to the other person’s behavior. That is still important in a low-context culture, but it should also be combined with being approachable and open to others. By not just listening and nodding, but by responding back, you demonstrate a willingness to engage in a reciprocal conversation. Other tips: Make eye contact (but don’t stare J. Know their name and feel comfortable in asking people how they want to be addressed. Be fully present and engaged with the person rather than thinking ahead of what to say next. These are things ALL students should do and not just international students!

Special note: Here is a link to the CCD, with great resources for international student and postdocs job searches: http://ccd.rice.edu/guides/ Thank you, Jackie, for your insights! Very helpful!
Beware of Job Scams!

By Jackie Hing

Definition of “scam”: a fraudulent or deceptive act or operation.

The Center for Career Development receives many requests from different companies wanting to post their job on RICElink. Before approving them, we check to see if it’s a legitimate company, that the position is something Rice students would be interested in, and that it is not a third party recruiting company wanting to collect resumes. Unfortunately, some of these legitimate sounding companies change their information after being approved, and this is where students can become victims of a job scam. Here are some ways to ensure that you are not one of them!

“If it’s too good to be true, it probably is.” If the job description says you can earn a lot of money quickly and with no prerequisite skills or experience, the chances are that it’s a scam.

Read the job description carefully. If it doesn’t specify job duties and doesn’t require that you send a resume, even for entry level jobs, then at least ask questions about what exactly you’d be doing and why.

If the job posting says that your bank account number and/or social security number is required, don’t provide it. Your social security number will be required at some point, but normally not at the beginning.

Don’t agree to have money deposited into your account from which you are then instructed to wire money to one of their clients/customers. The money from the scam is non-existent, but you won’t know that until you’ve sent money to a fictitious client. The money will be withdrawn from your account at which point you will have lost your own money and possibly be overdrawn.

Do your research! Reputable companies have also been victimized by scammers. Imposters will use another company’s name and email address, often changing one letter, to attract unwitting job seekers. Take time to check out the company website before responding to an ad. Is the job listed on their website? Probably not if the job requires someone to accept checks and wire the funds to someone. You can also Google the suspicious company (“name of company + scam”) to see if any results appear.
Learning About South Korea Through the Eyes of a Fulbright Experience
By Adria Baker

I was recently honored to be able to travel to South Korea for two weeks with seven other international education administrators (IEAs) from around the USA. The US-Korea IEA Fulbright program was an intense seminar that trained us about higher education in South Korea, cultural perspectives that impact academic choices, and its history.

I chose to apply for the Fulbright IEA program to South Korea because I have been fascinated by Korean culture for years, since Rice has received so many excellent S. Korean students and scholars through the years. In fact, it has held a place in our top five countries represented by Rice’s international population for years (in the US, South Korea is the third largest sending country for students overall).

Our whirlwind trip including visiting: 11 different universities, two high schools, two Korean higher education government agencies, the US Embassy in Seoul, the DMZ and various cultural landmarks. The first week was spent in and around Seoul. During the second week, we visited several cities in the southern part of the country. I was mesmerized by the beauty of: 1) the country’s countryside, 2) the amazing architecture (contemporary and traditional), 3) the unforgettable hospitality of the people, 4) the advanced technological resources, 5) the cultural attractions and 6) outstanding food!

Before I left, and I had a wonderful opportunity to dialogue with many Rice Korean student, scholars and others on-campus, who came to our “Korea Conversation”, which was held in April in Rice’s historic Founders Room. We discussed Rice’s collaborations with Korean universities, talked about important places to visit while in S. Korea, commented about cultural perspectives, and enjoyed some Korean snacks. I am so grateful to have learned so much, which made me even more excited about the upcoming seminar trip.

I am very thankful to the US-Korean Fulbright Commission for the wonderful memories of my two weeks in S. Korea last June with the group of international education colleagues. I have grown professionally and personally.
Volunteers from the Beginning!

Volunteering is a key value in the USA, when participating in any organization. Anniina Ala-Seppälä, Adam Deng, and Zhifeng Wang got up early to volunteer by helping move luggage of new freshmen international students, when moving out of the iPREP hotel to arriving to their colleges for the first time. Thank you, official OISS volunteers!!

Seasonal Events at OISS

Visit to Houston Zoo (Winter)

Culture Fair (Spring, Brazil Table)

4th of July (Summer)

Bayou Wildlife Park (Summer)

Stay tuned to OISS-Announce listserve for many cultural opportunities throughout the year!
Cultural Activities

The Second Welcoming Reception in Seoul
By Su Yeon Yoo

This summer, I visited Korea to visit families and friends. In addition to having fun meeting with them, I also hosted the second Welcoming Reception for Korean undergraduate students (graduates were also welcomed) in partnership with KISA (Korean International Students Association).

It was a great opportunity to introduce them to the OISS staff and the services that we offer. We wanted them feel welcome and be familiar with us before they arrive at Rice.

I remember smiling at them while they introduced them each other on the stage and they plunged into conversation right away when they sat down together at the same table.

Thanks for giving me the chance to represent OISS and to have the privilege of meeting them first!!

4th Annual Rice International Football Clinic & Tailgate
By Andy Meretoja

Approximately 200 international students, scholars, and staff members representing 25 different countries gathered together for the annual Rice International Football Clinic & Tailgate on September 5th. Rice’s Head Football coach, David Bailiff, his staff, and the entire football team made sure that everyone had a wonderful time tailgating, learning about football, and running drills on the field. The evening was full of laughter, food, cheering, new friendships, high-fives, teaching, learning, celebrating, and team spirit. Our thanks for to Coach Bailiff, Ingrid Sobrino, all of the coaches and staff, and the Rice Owls football team for an evening we will never forget. To learn more check out the Rice News article and video at http://news.rice.edu/2013/09/09/international-students-get-quick-clinic-on-football.

As a great follow-up to the Football Clinic, Rice Football invited OISS and 40 international students and scholars to the Rice Owls first home game of the season against the University of Kansas. We had an amazing time as we watched the Owls defeat the Jayhawks (14-23) from our incredible seats right at the 50 yard line! Our thanks go to Chad Kocian, who made this wonderful experience possible.
Cultural Activities

The IMAX Experience

The annual "Day-Before-Class-Begins IMAX" event is always a hit. It is a perfect way to begin the academic year by making new friends and relaxing before the rigorous semester starts.

Graduate International Culture Night

Don't miss out on GSA's popular presented their Annual Graduate International Culture Night (GICN). The evening includes traditional music, dancing, and performances by Rice international graduate students. A flag presentation representing many nations will begin the evening. Of course there will be great international food. If you wish to see past GCIN, you can check out the video here.

Mark your calendars for the Fifth Annual GICN, scheduled for February 28, 2014.
Safety First
By Agnes Vajtai

We all know that Rice is a safe place in general, but it is also important to know the many resources available to help us stay safe on and around Campus, understand what we can personally do to avoid injuries or prevent being a victim of a crime, and what to do in emergency situations.

Did you know for instance which number to dial if you need assistance, or that you can go to the nearest elevator to use the emergency phone and the dispatcher will know where you are? Have you noticed the many brown emergency polys on campus and wondered what they are for? The Safety Guide on the Rice University Police Department (RUPD) website is a very useful resource with much basic information and easy to use tips that everyone should be familiar with.

In addition, RUPD and Rice Transportation offer the “Personal Safety Escorts” service from 10:00pm-6:00am 7 days a week; if you work or study late in the lab or library just call x6000 and they’ll walk you home. You can also register your valuables with RUPD; in case your laptop, camera, phone, bicycle, etc. is stolen it’ll help the search and item identification.

There are many other things that you can do, such as obeying traffic laws, wearing protective clothing or being consciences of your surroundings, to keep you and others safe and out of trouble. Remember that using good judgment and taking responsibility for your actions is the key to prevention, and it’s much easier and take less effort than dealing with hurtful consequences later.

I. Whenever you move around on Campus either walking or travelling in a vehicle you should always obey traffic laws:
   - Make sure your bicycle/street board/roller board/scooter has all the required safety equipment installed (brakes, front and back lights, etc.)
   - Always stop at stop signs, signal with your hands before turning, and ride on the right side of the road
   - Respect that sidewalks are for pedestrians and don’t ride your bike/street board/scooter on Campus’s sidewalks.
   - Don’t’ drive if drinking
   - Don’t text while driving

II. Always wear the necessary protective clothing
   - Helmet
   - Knee and elbow pads

   - After dark safety vest and additional flash lights for better visibility
   - Inside the Rice shuttle take your backpack off so it will not accidentally scratch someone’s face; have a seat or hold onto something so you’ll not fall or step on someone; and do not eat or drink so you will not spill the food by accident.

III. Many assaults can be prevented by using common sense and being vigilant of your environment.
   - Do not invite wrong doing by careless behavior or put yourself in situations where you can be an easy target for a crime.
   - Always walk in a well-lit area and don’t walk alone at night/after dark. Walk with a friend or use the escort service offered by RUPD
   - Don’t get into a vehicle with strangers
   - If you feel you’re being followed or someone is bothering you go to a public place or where you can most probably find other people and ask for help
   - Make sure there’s no suspicious person/activity around you before you get into your car or apartment
   - Don’t leave your belongings unattended (e.g. your purse/books/phone in the library, classroom, cafeteria) even for a short time or even when others are around
   - Keep your room/car locked and don’t leave any valuables visible

IV. Finally, in case you are in an emergency situation on Campus always contact the Rice Police.
   - Dial x6000 from any of the phone and RUPD will assist you
   - Have the number of RUPD (713-348-6000) speed dialed in your phone
   - Know that those brown emergency polys on campus will ring directly at RUPD. Should you have any types of emergency just push the button and RUPD officers will respond to your call
   - Go to the nearest elevator to use the emergency phone and the dispatcher will know where you are

We wish you a happy, healthy, injury free semester, and do remember when it comes to safety it’s better to be safe than sorry!
**Mark Your Calendars**

### Fall 2013

**Advanced/Intermediate English Conversation:**
- **Teacher:** Alex Messarra
- **Class:** Mondays from 1-2 pm in OISS
- **Begins:** Monday, October 7, 2013
- **Ends (tentatively):** Monday, December 9, 2013

**Grammar & Pronunciation:**
- **Teacher:** Lauren Hanson & Chris Sneller
- **Class:** Wednesdays from 1-2 pm in OISS
- **Begins:** Wednesday, October 2, 2013
- **Ends (tentatively):** Wednesday, December 4, 2013

**English Idioms & Slang Class:**
- **Teacher:** Martha Alexander
- **Class:** Tuesdays from 12 noon-1 pm in OISS
- **Begins:** Tuesday, October 1, 2013
- **Ends (tentatively):** Tuesday, December 10, 2013

**Beginning English Conversation:**
- **Teacher:** Laura Russell
- **Class:** Thursdays from 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. in OISS
- **Begins:** Thursday, October 3, 2013
- **Ends (tentatively):** Thursday, December 12, 2013

### Spring 2014

**February 4, 2013**
**Card Stamping.** Make Valentine’s day cards by stamping with Tracey Rhoades

**March 4, 2013**
**Self Defense/Personal Security**
Learn all about self-defense and how to stay safe from Rice University Police Department

**April 1, 2013**
**International Pot Luck**
International Food and End of Semester Party

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**International Ladies Network**

Please join the OISS staff members for networking, food and fun activities with other International ladies.

The luncheons will take place in **McMurtry College, Room 107 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.**

Pizza will be provided. Please also consider joining the Rice International Ladies Google group, a forum for Rice international ladies (students, scholars, and spouses) to communicate with each other.

The group will be a meeting point for discussions on events, acculturation, support, and fun!

**Sign up:** [http://groups.google.com/group/rice-international-ladies](http://groups.google.com/group/rice-international-ladies) (Click on “Join this group” link to the right of the web page)

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**FALL 2013**

- **October 7, 2013**
  - **Samulnori**
  - Rice's Samulnori Club play the traditional Korean percussions

- **November 4, 2013**
  - **Thanksgiving themed crafts**
  - Details TBA

- **December 2, 2012**
  - **Holiday themed crafts**
  - Join us as we decorate ginger bread houses

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**SPRING 2014**

- **February 4, 2013**
  - **Card Stamping.**
  - Make Valentine’s day cards by stamping with Tracey Rhoades

- **March 4, 2013**
  - **Self Defense/Personal Security**
  - Learn all about self-defense and how to stay safe from Rice University Police Department

- **April 1, 2013**
  - **International Pot Luck**
  - International Food and End of Semester Party
Mark Your Calendars

Calendar of OISS Fall Events

Free English & Culture Classes
September 20, Friday,
Mondays 1pm - 2pm
Tuesdays 12pm (noon) - 1pm
Wednesdays 1pm -2pm
Thursdays 12:10pm - 12:50pm

Advanced Immigration Workshop
October 2, Wednesday

NASA Trip
October 15, Tuesday

Graduate Continuing Orientation
September 26, Thursday
October 17, Thursday
November 08, Friday *

Undergraduate Town Hall Meeting with the Dean
October 28, Monday

International Ladies Network Hours
October 7, Monday
November 4, Monday
December 2, Monday

International Education Week 2013
November 18-23
November 16, Saturday
November 21, Thursday
November 23, Saturday

Stay Tuned for Winter Events

Thoughts to Ponder...

Here are some random thoughts that have come to me recently:
When it comes to a choice of being right or being human, always choose to be human.
People are uninformed more than they are wrong.
If I have to ask myself if I am hungry, I'm not.
Only when you accept your faults will you be able to accept your virtues.
Profanity makes the mistake of fixing the other person's attention on words rather than thoughts.
Perfectionism is a slow death caused by the fear of making a mistake.

Taken from Jim Jackson's "Jim's Daily Awakenings ", April 23rd, 2013

Here are a few thoughts worth chewing on:
When we think everything is finished, it is usually only the end of a chapter. An exciting new chapter lies ahead.
No two people ever grew up in the same family.
The tongue is the only tool that gets sharper with use.
Most of life is lived in the spaces between the important events.
Nothing in life is permanent.

Taken from Jim Jackson's "Jim's Daily Awakenings ", July 18th, 2013