International Education Week (IEW) was celebrated November 16-20 with events hosted by many offices, departments and clubs across campus. OISS started the week with our annual luncheon for the presidents of the international student clubs. We truly appreciate all the great work these wonderful student leaders do for the campus and their community, and IEW is the perfect time to show that appreciation.

Other annual traditions included a Coffee Break co-hosted with the Graduate Student Association (GSA), and a Thanksgiving Luncheon, where we invited 90 international students and scholars to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal with the OISS staff. Both events were great successes, and we look forward to including them on our IEW events calendar for years to come.

This year we also tried something new, and partnered with Rice Athletics for the men’s basketball team’s first home game of the season. The Owls played against Oregon State on the Thursday of IEW, and OISS and Athletics invited international students and scholars to come cheer them on. The first 10 internationals to “check in” with OISS received little gifts, and we also organized a raffle with prizes donated by both OISS and Rice Athletics.

During IEW our Executive Director, Dr. Adria Baker, joined President Leebron in Washington D.C. for the Simon Award ceremony, where Rice was honored to receive the 2015 Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award recognizing our Brasil@Rice Office. President Leebron also attended a presidential panel with the presidents of other Simon Award-winning institutions, where they discussed campus internationalization. This panel discussion is available to view online at http://www.nafsa.org/simonwebcast.

(Continued on page 2)
Dear International Students & Scholars,

Welcome to a new year! The Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) has been enjoying all of the many events that have involved many of you. We also work hard to engage you on-campus, as well as build a set of trainings and workshops that meet the specific needs of Rice international students and scholars. Please take advantage of our “flagship” free English & Culture Classes, our many immigration-related workshops and trainings, our online resources, and making an appointment to meet with one of our caring and experienced advisors.

Thank you for allowing us to get to know you and serve you! (We apologize that oftentimes you come to the office and we are very busy, with little time to greet you as we wish! J) We wish you a wonderful 2016!

Sincerely,
Adria Baker

Adria L. Baker, Ed.D.
Executive Director, Office of International Students & Scholars
Associate ViceProvost for International Education

International Education Week
(Continued from page 1)

IEW concluded with the traditional Mini Soccer World Cup, which took place on December 5th. Africa, Americas, Asia and Europe competed in the tournament, with Europe going undefeated and winning the championship for the first time since 2009. OISS congratulates Team Europe for a fabulous tournament!

For a complete list of Rice’s International Education Week activities, please see http://oiss.rice.edu/iew.

Team Europe, winners of the 2015 Mini Soccer World Cup!
### Spring 2016 Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CPT/OPT Workshops</td>
<td>Multiple Dates</td>
<td>Multiple</td>
<td>Multiple locations</td>
<td><a href="http://oiss.rice.edu/studentwork/">http://oiss.rice.edu/studentwork/</a> See dates, times, and locations of all CPT/OPT workshops on page 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OISS English and Culture Classes</td>
<td>January—April</td>
<td>Multiple</td>
<td>OISS/RMC</td>
<td><a href="http://oiss.rice.edu/english-class">http://oiss.rice.edu/english-class.</a> For more information, see page 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Luncheon Network Series</td>
<td>First Monday in February, March and April</td>
<td>Noon - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>GSA Lounge, RMC basement</td>
<td>International ladies (students, scholars, and spouses)—please join the OISS staff members for networking, food and fun activities with other International ladies. Lunch will be provided. (more information on page 4). <a href="http://oiss.rice.edu/international-ladies/">http://oiss.rice.edu/international-ladies/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Advanced Immigration Seminar</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 3</td>
<td>4:00 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Sewall Hall Rm 301</td>
<td>Free Presentation from Judy Lee, Immigration Attorney from <a href="http://www.foster-global.com">Foster Global</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergrad Coffee &amp; Conversation Series</td>
<td>Multiple Dates</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Miner Lounge RMC</td>
<td>This series is a string of educational discussions with various campus offices about available resources and support services for students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Panel</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 17</td>
<td>Noon - 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Huff House</td>
<td>Hear a panel of employers and alumni answer questions and give you insider tips. This workshop is for international students and post-docs. Pizza will be served, please RSVP in RICElink. Co-sponsored by OISS and <a href="http://career.rice.edu">Center for Career Development</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Culture Night 2016</td>
<td>Friday, February 19</td>
<td>5:00 – 9:00 pm</td>
<td>GSA Lawn</td>
<td>Come enjoy a night celebrating international culture with great food and informational booths, while enjoying a relaxing night to de-stress outside Valhalla. For more information, see page 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Tax Workshop</td>
<td>Thursday, February 25</td>
<td>4:00 - 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Keck Hall Rm 100</td>
<td>Presentation from International Tax professionals from <a href="https://www.briggs-veselka.com">Briggs &amp; Veselka Co.</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Postdoc Luncheon</td>
<td>Thursday, February 25</td>
<td>11:45 am - 12:15 pm</td>
<td>Faculty Club Esther Room</td>
<td>Luncheon for International Postdocs focused on professional development and growth here at Rice and beyond. Space is limited, please email <a href="mailto:jbrydon@rice.edu">jbrydon@rice.edu</a> to RSVP.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OISS calendar of events is available at [http://oiss.rice.edu/events/](http://oiss.rice.edu/events/) You can subscribe to OISS events to include them in your Google Calendar.
Spring 2016 Events

English Conversation Classes

During the Spring 2016 semester OISS will continue to offer free English language & culture classes. These classes are intended for all Rice students and scholars, as well as their family members. These are very informal English classes, taught by wonderful volunteers, and they will begin on the week of January 25th.

Online sign-ups will begin on Thursday, January 14th, at 10:00 a.m. Please note that you must sign up even if you took the class during the fall semester! Sign-up link will be sent through OISS-Announce, and it will also be available online at http://oiss.rice.edu/english-class.

The following classes will be offered:

Advanced/Intermediate English Conversation – Mondays, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and 2:00 - 3:p.m.
English Idioms & Slang - Tuesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Grammar & Pronunciation – Wednesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Beginning English Conversation – Thursdays, 12:00 - 12:40 p.m.

International Ladies Networking Lunch

Submitted by Aki Shimada

International Ladies Networking Lunches take place first Monday of every month in February, March and April this year. They are held at the GSA Lounge of RMC basement from noon to 1:00 p.m. All the international female students, scholars and wives of international students and scholars are welcome to join. Lunch is also served.

Every month, we have different kinds of programs. Last fall, we had presentations by various volunteering organization to talk about volunteer culture and opportunities; we learned how to create Norwegian embroidery; and in December we built Gingerbread Houses. Whether it is a presentation or craft, it is a great way to make friends, exchange information and learn about different culture. The number of attendees is growing every month.

Please join the OISS staff members and other international ladies for fun activities, networking and free pizza!
For more information, including the schedule, please see http://oiss.rice.edu/international-ladies/
Spring 2016 Events

Undergraduate Student Coffee and Conversation Series Spring 2016
By Jenny Brydon and Russell Kielawa

The coffee and conversation series is a string of educational discussions with various campus offices about available resources and support services for students.

On Friday, Feb. 12th at 2pm, undergraduate international students are invited to an informal conversation with Dean Hutchinson in the Miner Lounge/RMC. This is a wonderful time to hear updates regarding life at Rice and a great opportunity to ask questions.

On Wednesday, Mar. 16th at 2:00pm, in the same location, undergraduate students are encouraged to attend a session on successful networking strategies facilitated by Elizabeth C. O’Sullivan, a Senior Lecturer in Management at the Jones Graduate School of Business. Professor O’Sullivan is an excellent presenter and networking guru, filled with great advice on networking, including tips on how to network for introverts.

Sweet treats along with coffee and tea will be served.

For more information, please contact Jenny at jbrydon@rice.edu

Dates and times are subject to change.

International Postdoctoral Research Associate Luncheon
Thursday, February 25th from 11:45am – 12:15pm
Faculty Club/Esther Room

International Postdocs, please join us for a luncheon focused on your professional development and growth here at Rice and beyond. Space is limited, please email jbrydon@rice.edu to RSVP.

International Culture Night 2016
Grads & Undergrads Unite for Food and Fun from around the World

Friday, February 19
GSA Lawn (Outside Valhalla)

Graduate Students Association (GSA) is hosting International Culture Night in collaboration with OISS, International Cultural Clubs and Rice Student Center. Everyone is invited to celebrate the diverse cultures at Rice, showcased by our graduate and undergraduate students.

For more information, please contact "Mihika" Tanzid (mt37@rice.edu)

Come and celebrate the cultural diversity at Rice with a night of international culture, performances and food!
Keeping up with Immigration Changes
By Sandra Bloem-Curtis

With immigration regulations changing and getting more complex every day, international students and scholars must be more and more diligent on keeping up with the laws affecting them and the reporting requirements put on them. While OISS is here to help guide and inform you, proper compliance and reporting is up to each individual. Please be sure to continue to stay tuned to OISS emails, newsletters, and memos, as these are the main channels of communication that OISS uses to share updates with you.

Please note that in the past year, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State (DOS) have updated SEVIS to expand the many reporting requirements for F and J visa holders. Some of the important updates included not only special required formatting for the requirements, but an expansion on the amount of data required to report. These include:

- **Local address reporting** – must be in proper USPS format, or the update will be rejected by SEVIS
- **Email address reporting** – must be in proper format
- **Phone number** – local phone number is required in ESTHER in the mailing address to be submitted to SEVIS. Proper format of area code and 7 digit number required.
- **Dependent data** – reporting of dependents arrival, departure (with no intent to return to US), maintaining of health insurance (J-2 visas), email address, phone number
- **OPT employer (90 day auto termination)** – failure to update OISS with employer address, period of employment, how job is related to major area of study, can result in auto termination of F-1 status by SEVIS.
- **STEM OPT reporting changes** – new changes to STEM OPT coming in 2016 – stay tuned!
- **Insurance requirements** – changes to J-1 insurance requirements

If you are ever unsure about your reporting requirements for your visa type, please contact OISS and we will be happy to guide you. Please remember that your immigration status is your responsibility.

Important DPS Update

Effective December 2015, OISS will no longer be able to issue address verification letters for DPS. If you live on campus and you require a letter to show that you meet the 30-day residency requirement for a driver license or state ID application, you may email a request to the following address:

- If you live in one of the Residential Colleges, please email David McDonald at dm7@rice.edu.
- If you live in Rice Graduate Apartments, please email gradapts@rice.edu.
- If you live in Rice Village Apartments, please email rvapts@rice.edu.
- If you live off-campus, please see a list of acceptable residency documents on the DPS website (http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/).
Filing Your Taxes!

By Aki Shimada

Every international student, scholar and their dependents (including spouses and children of all ages) are required to file tax if they were present in the US for any length of time in 2015. The deadline for filing your tax forms with the US government is **April 18, 2016**. You must mail your completed forms and supporting documentation, as required, by that date.

Tax filing can be confusing, but we at OISS want to do what we can to make the process easier. Below are some tips and resources for filing taxes.

**How do I file taxes?**

**Step 1: Determine your Tax Residence Status**

International students and their dependents on F-1/F-2 and J-1/J-2 visas are automatically considered **non-resident aliens** for their first 5 calendar years in the US, and scholars (and their dependents) on J visas are automatically considered non-residents for their first 2 calendar years in the US. However, there are exceptions. **Substantial Presence Test** will be the formula to determine if you should be taxed as a resident or nonresident alien.

If you are non-resident alien, you may use **Glacier Tax Prep (GTP) software** to complete the forms. For information on how to purchase a $2 software license, visit [http://oiss.rice.edu/tax](http://oiss.rice.edu/tax). The program can also help to determine if you are considered a "resident" or "non-resident" for tax purposes.

If you are resident alien for tax purpose, GTP unfortunately will not be able to help. You may check out IRS Free File (tax preparation software) information [https://www.irs.gov/uac/Free-File:-Do-Your-Federal-Taxes-for-Free](https://www.irs.gov/uac/Free-File:-Do-Your-Federal-Taxes-for-Free) or use any software or tax filing service firms that is commonly used by U.S. citizen.

**Step 2: Determine if you have taxable income from U.S.**

You have to report any U.S. source income including wages, scholarship, fellowship and stipend. For non-resident aliens, bank interests are not taxable.

**If you did not receive any income during 2015**, you may only need to complete the **Form 8843**. Glacier Tax Prep software can assist you with this determination.

**If you received any income during 2015**, you may need to complete the **Form 8843** and **Form 1040NR** or **1040NR-EZ**. Glacier Tax Prep software can assist you with this determination and to complete the forms. Tax filing is not mandatory if your income is less than a certain amount. The personal exemption amount for 2015 is $4000.

**Step 3: Make sure you received all the necessary supporting documents**

You may receive following documents:

* **W-2 form** – You will need W-2 from each employers you had in 2015. If you worked for Rice, W-2s are available through your ESTHER account after January 31 or it will be mailed to you if you are no longer with Rice.
* **1042-S form** - Foreign nationals may receive a 1042-S if they are recipients of tax treaty benefits, scholarships or fellowships from nontax treaty countries. 1042-S forms are picked up from Payroll or may be available online if you have signed up with Payroll's FNIS.

(Continued on page 8)
Step 4: Create your tax forms

If you are non-resident alien and you have income to report, we advise you to use Glacier Tax Prep software. The software will be released in March.

The system will tell you if you owe taxes or if the government owes you a refund. If you need to pay to the government, the best option is to enclose a check with your tax documents.

If you do not have a Social Security Number (SSN), you will need to apply for ITIN and submit the application Form (W-7) together with your tax return. For how to apply for ITIN, please see our website http://oiss.rice.edu/tax

Step 5: Mail your tax forms

Once you complete the forms, sign and mail them to the address below with the supporting documents (except when you are enclosing payment).

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service Center
Austin, Texas, 73301-0215

If you are applying for ITIN at the same time, you need to go to the local IRS office and submit your tax return there.

Make sure to keep copies of all your tax forms before you send them.

Step 6: How to follow-up with your tax return

To check the status of your tax return, go to the IRS website https://www.irs.gov/Refunds

Please note that tax returns for non-resident alien takes a very long time. If there is any additional documents required, IRS will notify you by mail.

Additional resources available on the OISS website: http://oiss.rice.edu/tax

As tax season approaches, we just want you to be prepared. For a complete guide to filing your taxes, please see the article: Filing Your Taxes by Aki Shimada.

While you are required to file your taxes on time, please be prepared for refund delays by the IRS. Last year, many individuals who had to report tax withheld on tax form 1042 S experienced significant delays in getting their income tax refunds. This delay should be considered the new normal, as in many cases the IRS may take up to one year to process these refunds.

Unfortunately there is nothing we can do to help with the IRS delays, but we can help with resources to ensure you get your taxes filed on time. Please stay tuned to http://oiss.rice.edu/tax for updates, and take advantage of the Glacier Tax Prep software for only $2 and the free tax workshop to answer all your questions.

Thank you!
Winter Events: Things We Have Done

By Agnes Vajtai

One of the best times of the year is the Holiday season, and just as each family has their own tradition for celebrating, OISS’ tradition is to organize events and programs for those staying in Houston during the winter break. These are the places we have visited this year, and some of the most memorable moments shared by the participants:

**Bayou Wildlife Park & Zoo** (December 18, 2015) [http://www.bayouwildlifezoo.com/](http://www.bayouwildlifezoo.com/) Visiting this park felt like visiting long time no seen old friends that brings back nice memories and promises new adventure. And just as one would expect, we were welcomed back by curious, sparkling eyed animals who so much appreciated the love and food we offered in return.

"Interaction between humans and animals can always make people appreciate the peace and beauty of natural, and thank you for giving us a good chance to make new friends" (Hanyang Gao)

**Ice Cream @ Chocolate Bar in Rice Village** (December 21, 2015) [http://www.theoriginalchocolatebar.com/](http://www.theoriginalchocolatebar.com/) Time always seems to be perfect for a favorite coffee or desert, and not even a rainy day could stop us getting together for an afternoon of ice cream, hot cocoa and an informal conversation. It surely did sweeten up the day of the participants.

**Lunch @ La Madeleine in Rice Village** (December 29, 2015) [http://lamadeleine.com/](http://lamadeleine.com/) Take one cup of French soup or salad, add a pinch of laughter, toss in a little chat about American life, imagine this in a nice and cozy place filled with the spirit of the holidays, and you just created the perfect recipe for one of OISS’s winter events.

(Continued on page 10)
Winter Events  (Continued from page 9)

**Houston Foodbank**: Co-organized with GSA (January 5, 2015)  
http://www.houstonfoodbank.org/  
For the first time, Rice Internationals started the New Year with serving the local community, and offering their time and help for the less fortunate. Our students and scholars worked like an Olympic team, and were true champions that day packing thousands of pounds of produce equaling to 8,750 meals. All of us left with pride and satisfaction, and this event has greatly enriched our cultural experience.

“I am very glad to be a volunteer today. I am very happy to provide help to the foodless people; it is awesome experience for me. I will remember today forever. Helping people makes you happy!” (Wei Liu)

“Very exciting and interesting. Learned a lot from this event! Know better about the project of the Foodbank. Made my stay in Rice more meaningful.” (Xing Li)

**Houston Rockets vs. Utah Jazz** (January 7, 2015) www.nba.com/rockets/  
51 of us cheered for the Houston Rockets, including some of their newest and youngest fans, and enjoyed another evening of upbeat music, food, celebration and high-fives with the players. GO, GO ROCKETS! And in case you wondered yes, we won!

“Volunteering is always the best time, although we may smell like bad lemons at the end.”
Pre-Completion OPT: The Forgotten Option

By Rachel Portwood

What Is Pre-Completion OPT?
Pre-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) is practical training authorized before the completion of a student's program of study. Students may work up to 20 hours per week while school is in session, and full time during the summer.

Why Use Pre-Completion OPT?
If a student has a job offer in his/her field of study, but the student does not have a curricular justification for the practical training experience, and therefore would not qualify for Curricular Practical Training (CPT), pre-completion OPT may be the best option. Another use would be when a student wishes to begin their own business, as CPT cannot be used for entrepreneurial endeavors.

How Long Is Pre-Completion OPT Authorized For?
A student may be approved for up to a total of 12 months of full-time OPT, including Pre-Completion and Post-Completion.

Can Pre-Completion OPT Be Used for Part-Time or Full-Time Employment?
Pre-Completion OPT can only be used part-time during the semester. However, during the summer, students may work full-time. For example, students authorized for Pre-Completion OPT may work up to 20 hours a week while attending classes in the Fall and Spring and beyond full time during the summer.

Does Pre-Completion OPT Affect Applying for OPT After Graduation?
It can! Any periods of OPT used before completion of studies will be deducted from the total twelve-month period available. For example, full-time Pre-Completion employment for two months during a summer vacation would leave a student with only ten months of full-time Post-Completion OPT available after graduation.

(Continued on Page 12)

Pet-sitting, Babysitting, House-sitting, Personal Language & Music Tutoring
Just Say No!

By Jenny Brydon and Russell Kielawa

International students should always be careful before jumping at employment opportunities such as pet-sitting, babysitting, house-sitting, or private tutoring. While these activities may be a good opportunity to make money and/or help out a friend, they are illegal, and can jeopardize your visa status. Students should talk to an OISS advisor before participating in any activity which is not obviously allowed by his/her visa type.

During the semester, F-1 visa holders are welcome to work up to 20 hours a week on-campus, at a position that is paid through the Rice Payroll System. J-1 visa holders must talk to an OISS advisor before participating in any type of work activity, even if it is on campus. Off-campus activities (paid or unpaid), or forms of payment other than the Rice Payroll System, are not permitted without prior authorization from OISS.

Students are advised to be aware that while some internationals may be participating in certain activities, it does not mean that this is in compliance with the law. You are the one who is ultimately responsible for your own immigration status. To avoid any status violations, please meet with an advisor to discuss any concerns or prospective opportunities.

If you have any questions regarding employment, or what is considered employment, feel free to contact OISS (713-348-6095) and set up an appointment.
Reminder - Mandatory Address Updates in SEVIS for all F and J Visa holders

By Sandra Bloem-Curtis

Friendly reminder: SEVIS will reject improperly formatted, invalid, or non-compliant addresses for F-1 and J-1 visa holders.

What does this affect? In order for you to be in proper SEVIS and immigration compliance, you must be sure your address and phone number in ESTHER is accurate and properly formatted. This address is sent to SEVIS and directly impacts your immigration compliance.

How can I be sure I’m compliant? Please login to your ESTHER account and update/verify that your information is correct. Follow the steps below:

1) Visit http://esther.rice.edu
2) Select Personal Information
3) Select Update Addresses/Phones
4) Update Mailing Address (if Mailing Address is not an option for you, update Permanent Address) with proper USPS formatting

Tip: visit https://tools.usps.com/go/ZipLookupAction_input, enter your address in the lookup tool, and the USPS website will provide you with the proper formatting for your address.

Generally speaking, when indicating your local address (the address where you live, not your office address), please use the available fields as follows:

a. Address Line 1 = Street address – EX: 100 Main St.
b. Address Line 2 = Apartment number, Apartment complex name, Hotel name, residential college name – EX: Apt.5 or Jones College, Rm 405
c. Address Line 3 = PLEASE LEAVE EMPTY – SEVIS DOES NOT RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION
d. City = Properly spelled US city
e. State
f. ZIP = accurate 5 digit zip code
g. Phone = enter a valid local phone number with area code and 7 digit local phone number

How can OISS help? We submit these updates to SEVIS on a daily basis. OISS will notify you by email if your information update is rejected by SEVIS and guide you on how to correct it so that you are in valid immigration compliance. Please be sure to check your email, follow the steps above, check your address and phone number formatting, and update ESTHER with any change of address within 10 days of a move.

Pre-Completion OPT (Continued from page 11)

How Do I Apply?
We encourage you to speak with an OISS advisor about requesting Pre-Completion OPT as it has unique requirements. You must ensure you meet the eligibility criteria (in lawful full-time F1 student status for one academic year). However, you do not have to have a job in order to apply for OPT.

After meeting with an OISS advisor, you will submit an (1) OPT request form* with a signed statement of understanding and (2) a completed I-765 application form. The Designated School Officials (DSOs) at OISS will recommend OPTs online through SEVIS. (*This form can be found in our office or on our website at oiss.rice.edu/forms/)

However, OPT is adjudicated by USCIS. Once your new OPT I-20 is ready, you will make an appointment with an OISS advisor to go over the remaining application materials (passport photos, copies of your current immigration documents, and payment of $380 made out to the US Department of Homeland Security).

When Do I Apply?
Since OPT applications must be submitted by mail directly to USCIS for adjudication (which can take an average of 90 days), we encourage you to begin the process at least 3 months before your anticipated start date.
FISS (Friends of International Students & Scholars)

130 people gathered on September 16, 2015 to welcome new Rice graduate students to Rice, Houston, and the USA. The meeting and potluck dinner was a “Meet and Greet” event to match Rice international graduate students with U.S. community volunteers (many who are Rice staff and faculty) in a cross-cultural friendship exchange program called Friends of International Students & Scholars (FISS). Special friendships have been made from around the globe with Rice international graduate students.

Dan Stypa’s (FISS friend) first cross-cultural outing with his new FISS graduate students Youjiang Xu & Li Kan. They enjoy Tex Mex food and practice their Rice owls signs.

The Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) has co-sponsored this program with the Institute of International Education (IIE) dating back to (at least) the 1960s. Learn more about Rice and IIE’s FISS program (http://oiss.rice.edu/fiss).

Undergraduate International Students with President Leebron

Rice President Leebron shares words of wisdom with the freshmen undergraduate international students, and other international upperclassmen, at a reception in early fall. The event was part of the OISS’ continued welcome and iPREP orientation of newly-arrived undergraduate students from abroad.

Undergraduate international students are encouraged to seek out opportunities to be part of Rice's overall leadership for the new incoming class that arrives in mid-August through the OISS or residential college programs. Feel free to ask an OISS advisor to learn more.
Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead.
~ Oscar Wilde

Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.
~ Mother Theresa

Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.
~ Lao Tzu

The course of true love never did run smooth.
~ William Shakespeare

You can’t blame gravity for falling in love.
~ Albert Einstein

Love is life. And if you miss love, you miss life.
~ Leo Buscaglia

Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies.
~ Aristotle

Love is a madness; if thwarted it develops fast.
~ Mark Twain

Source: http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/topics/topic_love.html

Happy Lunar New Year from OISS