



International Services Newsletter

Fall Semester 2006

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BANQUET

On Friday, October 27th, "Glimpses Around the World" was the setting for the Annual International Student Banquet held in the Student Center Market.

The Banquet began with a pleasant greeting from emcees Sonia Savani and Donny Kakati, then a dinner featuring cuisine from around the world, followed by awards and entertainment from the Japanese Student Association.

You can see yourself ONLINE @ www.partypics.com. The password to view pictures is: USAINTSTU. Photos will be online by November 2nd and the order deadline is December 2nd.



Award this years winners were:

Outstanding Academic Achievement	International Athlete of the Year
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Undergraduate Level

Vanessa Jarvis
Subin Hada
Minh Tuan Pham

Female

Ajoke Odumosu

Male

Vincent Rono

Graduate Level

Suhasini Yendamuri
Rama Sayyaparaju
Kai Jin Teoh

Best Faculty Members

Dr. Salim Alsharif
Dr. Albert Gapud
Janet Habib

International Service Award

Mohamed Kamaludeen

Lifetime Faculty Dedication:

Dr. Zohair Husain

Outstanding International Student:

Mahnaz Baghaei

Presidents Award:

Mohamed Kamaludeen

Outstanding International Student Organization:

Indian Student Association

**President's List
Spring 2006**

Shaun Adlington
Kharendawn Andrews
Christina Artner
Hirotaka Ata
Kristin Bachman
Aleksandra Ban
Farzam Bayat
Himani Chhabra
Helge Eikemann
S. Fernandes
Svetlana Few
Emel Ficici
Yoshiaki Harada
Shirley Harvey
Tim Hill
Masaru Hirashita
Makiko Inamura
Sri Lakshmi Iragavarapu
Rae-Ann Joseph
Ekaterina Kalachnikova
Sushil Karki
Oonjung Kim
Thai Kim
Vladlen Labenski
Hon Lon Lum
Gabrielle MacKinlay
Prianka Mansur
Asta Masedunskaitė
Sara Mason
Mizusa Masuda
Willard Mataya
Mathew Mwathi
Mai Nakamura
Aya Narita
Dominika Nemcovicova
Piyush Neupane
Quoc Nguyen
Shotaro Nishiyama
Mihoko Noguchi
Shun Okada
Yuko Okamoto
Kaori Oshima
Katarina Palenikova
Ivana Pejatovic
Elipio Pereira De Andrade
Nelita Pereira De Andrade
Javier Perez
Vijayendra Rao

Puja Sakhrani
Evgeniya Samoilova
Aiko Sato
Minami Sato
Claudia Schumann
Thendup Sherpa
Emiko Shimazaki
Bisoye Shoyinka
Ajay Singh
Carlos Suate Pedroza
Yuka Sugahara
Ngim Tang
Marcela Vernaza
Kamal Walia
Lin Yang



**Dean's List
Spring 2006**

Rizwan Ahmed
Suhair Qasem Al-Abed
Fayad Azzam
Amit Bisanki
Syed Bokhari
Leandro Buboltz
Maria Carlino
Nilce Castillo
Wei Chai
Richard Charagu
Beatrice Charles
Mary Chokani
Romendra Chudal
Sujata Dangol
Christophe Dumeé

CONGRATULATIONS RIZWAN AHMED!

This University of South Alabama student received a scholarship for the 2006-2007 academic year from the Alabama Section of AACE International. For more information on this organization you may visit their website, www.aacei.org.

JUST A FEW REMINDERS...



All F-1 students at South Alabama must have health insurance. Our current policy is provided by HTH Worldwide. Go to their website at www.hth.students.com.

Baptist Campus Ministries is still running their regular ride assistance to Wal-Mart on Thursdays. Pick-up is at 4:00 p.m. at the Compass ATM outside the Student Center. Call their office 344-5904 for more information regarding the scheduled times.



Spring Semester is just around the corner and as always, your help is needed to assist with new student orientation, pick-up and temporary housing of these students as they arrive on our campus. These things are an important service that we provide to our students and mean a commitment on your part if you choose to help. It is also a very rewarding experience for you to help out your new fellow students and make new friends. Please come by the Office of International Services and let us know if you want to be a part of this important service.



Council of International Student Organizations

CISO Meetings are open to everyone, whether participating on behalf of a student organization or individually. They are held each Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the CISO office.

Check out the CISO web site at www.southalabama.edu/ciso and check your Jaguar1 e-mail account for events and important University notices.

Dean's List Cont.

Zayed Eid
Adeyinka Fagbongbe
Wasim Farooque
Saori Fueta
Takuya Fujihara
Masanari Fujikawa
Eri Fukuda
Shenoda Gadalla
Purvi Gaiwala
Eric Gonzalez-Diaz
Manika Guragain
Manami Hatanaka
Yuko Hatanaka
Maria Hawkins
Ayaharu Hosoi
Yuta Hosoya
Mobilia Imobioh
Tomoyuki Inaba
Kohei Kanki
Swathin Kannalath
Kshitij Karki
Chika Katsuyama
Keigo Kawasaki
Osama Khan
Jahanzeb Khawaja
Miau Liang Khor
Jonghyun Kim
Erin Kinnear
Yuki Kisaichi
Emile Kleyn
Kenta Kobayashi
Iryna Korniyenko
Maksym Kozhukhar
Miralem Kulovic
Kanako Kuramochi
Bishwa Lama
Duyen Le
Ching-Yao Lin
Di Ly
Prasiddha Malla
Thongsamai Manuthong
Misuzu Matsuzawa
Patience Mbamba
George Metzakis
Jessica Miller
Risa Minami
Anna Miyatsuka
Clarisse Moh
Maria Morales
Theodore Munthali
Adriana Murayama

Mildred Mwavu
Kibo Nakano
Yen Sin Ng
Nhan Ngo
Tien Nguyen
Tsubomi Odashima
Oladapo Ogunjobi
Chihiro Oishi
Durga Pathak
Hashem Qaysieh
Christoph Rieck
Jia Rui
Rehman Safdar
Partha Sarker
Bhumika Sedani
Jelena Sekulic
Suraj Shahi
Satiar Shirazi
Pakinee Sirirak
Kok Hao Song
Kanako Suzuki
Kenshi Tagui
Chika Takahara
Akari Tateishi
Kai Jin Teoh
Nagisa Tetsuka
Komal Thapa
Risa Tomita
Herica Torres
Michelle Toth
Natalia Villamizar
Melanie White
Manuja Wijeratne
Yong Keong Wong
Tatsuya Yamazaki
Ching-Yao Yang
Kazunori Yoshimi
Maria Zivcicova





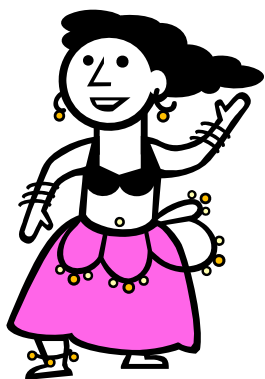
Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society

The Delta Eta Chapter of Phi Beta Delta inducted new members on October 27th during the Annual International Banquet. The inductees were:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Mohammed Jaffer | Wagner Navac |
| Allauddin | Yen Sin Ng |
| Katsuhiko Aso | Shun Okada |
| Fayaz Azzam | Yuko Okamoto |
| Zekeriya Boz | Javier Perez |
| Suhana Chikatla | John Prabhu |
| Ashavaree Das | Khaled Saifullah |
| Thongsamai Manuthong | Puja Sakhrani |
| Ayaka Matsushita | Kohsin Tai |
| Ashir Mushtaq | Monia Williams |
| Mathew Mwathi | Yingjun Xu |
| Ima Naqvi | Shaohua Zhang |

Miss USA Performers

The Miss USA Pageant was held on Saturday, October 28th and this year there was special talent showcased. The theme “Around the World” had three of our international student groups dancing for the audience in authentic dress and music.



Nepali Student Association Performers:

Rashmi Tandukar, Jasmine Shakya, Mamita Maharjan, Anuradha Tandukar, Jyoti Shrestha, Preeti Yorjan, Poity Shrestha,, Sadikcha Shah, Namura Singh Maharjan, Sangita Shrestha, Sajana, Astha Serchan, Sujata Dangol, Kabita Sherpa

Japanese Student Association Performers:

Yichiro Kushida, Kohei Gunji, Kenta Kobayashi, Soari Fueta, Marina Yasuda, Rie Shimonishi, Yoshiaki Harada, Koji Odama, Chika Katsuyama, Yukie Sakayori, Kanako Kuramochi, Yuki Kisaichi

Indian Student Association Performers:

Nawazuddin Ahmed Khaja, Phani Marella, Vineela Devi Donthi, Swetha Chamarthi, Deepthi Amanaganti, Shanthi Pratima Ramineni



Important Immigration News

Now, more than ever, it is important that all F-1 students be aware of and abide by all status requirements.

DO NOT LET YOUR I-20 EXPIRE!! It must be extended before the expiration date or it will be automatically cancelled by the SEVIS system. It is YOUR responsibility to be aware of passport and I-20 expiration dates. Suspension or dismissal from the University does not allow you to apply for an extension. Passports should be renewed six months before expiration as processing time can be several months.

You must register as a full-time student (12 hours undergraduate/6 hours graduate) no matter what. The only exception is a well-documented medical condition or graduation during that semester. If graduating, you must notify us when taking less than a full course load at the beginning of your final semester. If you are not a full-time student and do not meet the reasons above, you will be reported to INS as out of status.

Failure to officially drop the course with the university will result in an F on your transcript.

Under the new regulations, anyone out of status for more than 5 months is not allowed to apply for reinstatement with INS. Thus, your only option would be to return to your home country.

If you are out of status, our office will not be able to provide you a good-standing letter for any reason.

Unless you have compelling reasons or a documented medical condition, we are very limited in extending your I-20. Suspension or dismissal from the University does not allow you to apply for an extension.

If you are transferring to another school, notify our office for the proper transfer. We do not transfer your SEVIS record until you are 100% sure you want to stay there.

If you are going home and sitting out a semester, you are not to re-enter the United States more than 30 days prior to the start of the next term. Re-entering before this time jeopardizes your immigration status.

New students trying to enter the U.S. more than 30 days before the start of their I-20 will be returned home and their visas cancelled. Do not let this happen to any of your friends who will be joining us.

If you are visiting a country other than your own, you may need to obtain a visitor’s visa. Most Embassies have special web pages regarding current visa requirements and forms.

Let the Office of International Services know when traveling outside the US to verify your documents and sign your I-20 for travel.

Anyone formerly required to attend Special Registration must still leave the U.S. at the designated airports and have their departure documented. It is not enough just to surrender your I-94 card. Failure to follow the procedures will keep you from being allowed back into the U.S. It has happened to some of our students already – don’t let it happen to you too.

If you are traveling inside the U.S.; keep your passport, I-20 and I-94 with you. Any officer of the law can ask for your immigration documents. If you have a car, it’s a good idea to keep a copy of your passport/I-20/I-94 in the glove box with your insurance and car registration.

Employment Authorization

USCIS must receive your OPT application before graduation or your OPT will be denied. All Summer Graduates, applications must be turned into the International Services office by the first week of summer classes.

When you apply, you will select a start date which can be as late as 60 days after graduation. So apply early, even if you want it to start late.

Traveling while on your practical training is risky. There is no guarantee that you will be allowed back into the U.S.

You cannot postpone your graduation to delay applying for your OPT. You must apply when you finish your coursework even if the job market is low. Graduate students may complete Thesis or COMPS while on OPT and should also apply upon the completion of coursework.

You may receive an additional year of OPT each time you proceed to a higher degree. This means one year upon completion of bachelors and another year upon completion of masters or masters to doctoral degrees.

If you begin a new program while on your Optional Practical Training, the remaining time on your EAD is cancelled.

In order to be approved for Curricular Practical Training (CPT), you must register for an internship.

See us regarding CPT approval, even if it is in the middle of a semester.



Attention Alumni

We want to hear from you! Please stop by our office web page and let us know what you have been up to. This way we can also let you know about upcoming events and happenings on campus.

<http://www.southalabama.edu/intnatsrv/alum.htm>

2008 Diversity Visa Lottery



Applications for the 2008 Diversity Visa (DV) Lottery will be accepted between noon Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Wednesday, October 4, 2006 and noon Eastern Standard Time (EST) Sunday, December 3, 2006.

Applicants may access the electronic Diversity Visa entry form at www.dvlottery.state.gov during the registration period. Paper entries will not be accepted. Applicants are strongly encouraged not to wait until the last week of the registration period to enter. Heavy demand may result in website delays. No entries will be accepted after noon EST on December 3, 2006.

The annual DV program makes permanent residence visas available to persons meeting the simple, but strict, eligibility requirements. A computer-generated random lottery drawing chooses selectees for diversity visas. The visas, however, are distributed among six geographic regions with a greater number of visas going to regions with lower rates of immigration, and with no visas going to nationals of countries sending more than 50,000 immigrants to the United States over the period of the past five years. Within each region, no one country may receive more than seven percent of the available Diversity Visas in any one year.

For DV-2008, natives of the following countries are **not** eligible to apply because they sent a total of more than 50,000 immigrants to the U.S. over the period of the previous five years:

BRAZIL, CANADA, CHINA (mainland-born), COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, EL SALVADOR, HAITI, INDIA, JAMAICA, MEXICO, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES, PERU, POLAND, RUSSIA, SOUTH KOREA, UNITED KINGDOM (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and VIETNAM. Persons born in Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR and Taiwan are eligible.

