

# THE GLOBE

CLU's INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NEWSLETTER



ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

OPT

INTERNSHIPS

Welcome International Students!

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Our Vision Statement and Mission Statement

A fully inclusive campus community where campus members feel they belong and are valued and where diversity is treated as an educational and social necessity.

To provide the CLU learning community with educational opportunities that foster an appreciation for diversity, enhance cross-cultural competency among campus members, increases student commitment to social justice, and encourages underrepresented student retention.

CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

OFFICE

STUDIES

PEOPLE

ABOUT

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## ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Important information regarding address changes.

*Immigration Services* requires that you contact the Multicultural and International Programs Office at CLU within **10** days of changing your address. We must have your most current contact information on file at all times. This includes any and all phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc. Please come to our office or print the change of address form at:

[www.callutheran.edu/international/](http://www.callutheran.edu/international/) and then click on Forms.

## INTERNSHIPS

Intern while you're still in school.

For immigration purposes, an internship while you are still in school is called *Curricular Practical Training* (CPT) and it's highly recommended to students seeking practical work experience. There are strict immigration laws that apply, so read your international handbook or stop by the Multicultural and International Programs Office to learn more about it. **Under no circumstances should you begin any internship without first getting approved from the immigration department through the Multicultural and International Programs Office.**

## OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING

Take advantage of working in the US with your degree after you graduate.

If you are graduating this term or semester and are interested in applying for *Optional Practical Training* (OPT), to work a year of full time employment after graduation, you must apply before the end of your academic program. Ideally students will apply up to **90** days before graduation, but can be as late as 60 days after graduation. Please see the *OPT Checklist*, which you can find online or in our office, and complete all highlighted sections before making an appointment with Dr. Juanita Hall.

[www.callutheran.edu/international/](http://www.callutheran.edu/international/) and click on Forms.

## MANDATORY TAX WORKSHOP

If you attended CLU in 2008, you're required to attend the *Tax Workshop* on March 16 in the Roth Nelson room. You're required to attend one of the following sessions, either 9 - 10 AM or 10 - 11 AM. If you've received a W-2 or any mail that indicates it is an **Important Tax Document** please bring it with you to this workshop along with your travel documents. Please bring a calculator and pencil with you and you will need to know your dates of entry and departure from the US during 2008, as well as your total days of presence in the US during each year you have been here.

## SPRING BREAK IS COMING UP

Planning on going out of the country?

If you are, you must have your I-20 signed, including trips to Canada and Mexico. Please come by the office within **2** weeks of departure date, and bring your 1-20 with you and fill out an *Intention to Travel* form.

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

An excellent opportunity to meet new friends from all over the world.

### Multicultural Volunteers

There are numerous opportunities to become involved through the Multicultural and International Programs Office. Students are invited to become multicultural volunteers, these volunteers can choose from a variety of programs and cultural events to become help organize and/or implement throughout the academic year.

### International Peer Mentors

Current international students, returning study abroad students, or students who are interested in globalization are invited to apply to Peer Mentors for new international students. Our International Peer Mentors help new students during International Orientation, host International Diner's Club events at local restaurants, and participate in the trips through the Southern California Touring Club. Applications are received in the spring semester and are available in the Multicultural and International Programs office as well as online. The application deadline to be an International Peer Mentor for the 2009 - 2010 academic year is Friday, March 6, 2009. Applications are available online and decisions will be made within 1 week of the application deadline.

[www.callutheran.edu/international/](http://www.callutheran.edu/international/)



## HOMESICK?

- Develop friendships, and be open to new people and experiences. Friendships will form, but not overnight.
  - Try talking to people after class or going to residence hall activities.
  - Anyone from your country on your campus? Make contact and maybe talking about the cultural differences will make you feel better. You are not alone.
  - Get involved in on-campus activities. For example, join a club. CLU have a lot of different clubs, so check out our website and see if you find anything you would like to join.
  - Suggest that a group of people from your residence hall go eat together. That group might develop a habit of going to eat around that same time every day.
  - Try talking with a roommate or some friends.
- Remember, homesickness won't last long. Try to make the best of your stay.

For other helpful tips and information, especially for international students, visit the CLU *Student Counseling Services* webpage.

## IS MEDICAL CARE IN THE US CONFUSING?

Do you find it hard to understand what insurance will cover, and where you can get help?

Check out this article!

[http://www.internationalstudentguidetotheusa.com/articles/healthcare\\_insurance.htm](http://www.internationalstudentguidetotheusa.com/articles/healthcare_insurance.htm)

## CLUBS

### **Asian Club and Friends**

President - Brad Yajima

[byajima@clunet.edu](mailto:byajima@clunet.edu)

**CLUBS (CONT.)****Indian Club**

President: Muruganand Palanivel (Anand)

We are trying to bring India, its culture, festivals, heritage, food, music and dance to other countries. Good things from every country should be shared and that's what we in the India Club do. Contact the club president for more information.

[mpalaniv@callutheran.edu](mailto:mpalaniv@callutheran.edu)

**Latin American Student Organization**

President - Yeraldy Torres

[yltorres@clunet.edu](mailto:yltorres@clunet.edu)

**United Students of the World**

President - Kelly How Tam Fat

[khowtamf@clunet.edu](mailto:khowtamf@clunet.edu)

**International Diner's Club**

If you love eating with people and you love trying different types of food, you should join this club! International Peer Mentors plan their trips with various students and have cuisines together.

The next Diners Club will meet in the SUB on 4/1 at 5 PM. Signup on our website and check under Calendar of Events. If you would like to be a part of this club, or have any questions please e-mail Mari Stromsvag.

[mcintlprogs@callutheran.edu](mailto:mcintlprogs@callutheran.edu)



## CLUBS (CONT.)

### Southern California Touring Club

Students in this club will go on 2 - 4 trips per semester all around Southern California; the next trip will be in March, please check our Calendar of Events for more information. If you have any questions please e-mail Mari Stromsvag.

[mcintlprogs@calltheran.edu](mailto:mcintlprogs@calltheran.edu).

## OFFICE HOURS

If you want to stop by and visit us.

We're open Monday - Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM, visit us in the SUB or online.

[www.callutheran.edu/international/](http://www.callutheran.edu/international/)

## INTERNATIONAL GRADUATION BANQUET

Do you want to have a few of your pictures from your time at CLU on a slideshow?

If you are graduating and participating in the May 2009 Commencement Ceremony, mark your calendars for the International Graduation Banquet, it will take place on May 15!

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STOLES

Are you participating in the May 2009 Graduation Ceremony? We provide international stoles to wear for graduating students at a cost of \$10.00. Each stole is representative of the flag from your country. The last day to order is Wednesday, March 11. Come to our office to sign up and pay, or e-mail [arowley@callutheran.edu](mailto:arowley@callutheran.edu) to order your stole today.





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