



# Intensive English Institute



## Faculty/Staff News:

Three of our IEI family will be leaving at the end of this semester. Be sure to give your best wishes to the following IEI faculty and staff:

- **Natalie Mullen**, IEI teacher and Student Activities Coordinator, will be leaving on May 1<sup>st</sup> and moving to Washington, DC to begin a job as an Arabic translator for Barack Obama's presidential office. Natalie says, "I don't have a lot of experience with Arabic, but I love to study language, so I'm really excited about this new position."
- **Chris Hollis**, ELS teacher, will be moving to Japan as soon as the semester ends. He has been recruited to play baseball with the Orix Buffaloes. Be sure to look for Chris next time you catch a game at the Osaka Dome! Chris says, "I look forward to teaching ESL again in the future, but right now, I want this chance to be rich and famous."
- **Justin Steffen**, IEI intern, is getting married! His fiancée is Ji-Eun Kwak, a current IEI student. Justin and Ji-Eun would like to invite you all to their wedding on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM at the Arboretum in Champaign. Ji-Eun says, "I am so happy to invite my IEI family to share this special day with us." Congratulations, Justin and Ji-Eun!



## Do you plan to travel by airplane after the semester ends?

**Please note:** The Federal Airline Administration has declared that airline personnel must undergo additional training to screen international passengers on domestic and international flights moving through the United States. Staff training will occur during the month of May. No international passengers will be permitted to buy airline tickets in the month of May. If you need to travel during this time, you should start looking into car rental, bus and train fares, or boat passage. Pam Fernandez, International Student Advisor, reminds you hitch-hiking across the country is dangerous. You should never get into the car of a person that you do not know.



## \*Special Event\* Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>



Would you like to win FREE TUITION to the University of Illinois for the Fall '09 semester? Just come to the Quad at 4:30 PM for an All-American Hot Dog Eating Contest. The contest is free to enter with a student ID. The student who can eat the most hot dogs will win a tuition waiver for the fall! The first runner-up will win a year's supply of hot dog buns and ketchup.

## New IEI Policies:

### English only in the IEI Building!



Many different languages are represented at the Intensive English Institute, but within the building, English is the official language. In the past, students who forgot this rule were gently reminded by teachers and staff to speak in English only. Starting now, the new policy is that students who speak in a language other than English will be required to attend two Saturday classes from 9:00 AM to 12 noon. These extra English classes will provide the students with an opportunity to write on the blackboard one hundred times: "I will only speak in English while I'm at the IEI."

### Important!!! New Attendance Policy!



The previous attendance policy stated that students must attend 85% of classes. In other words, they could miss 40 hours during the semester. The new policy states that students may miss only 12 hours of class during the semester. Students who miss more than 12 hours of class will not receive a certificate this semester. The IEI realizes that this may be late notice to some students. Students who have missed more than 12 hours this semester, but who want to receive a certificate, may petition Anna Kasten, the Student Services Coordinator. The 3-part petition must include a written statement explaining all absences, a Power Point presentation that outlines why you deserve a certificate despite numerous absences, and an interpretive dance that expresses your regret and apology through movement.

# Upcoming IEI Events

Don't miss these great events coming up soon!

For more upcoming events, see <http://www.iei.uiuc.edu/calendar.htm>

- **Convopartner Meet and Greet, FREE**

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, BASIC House, 1008 S. Lincoln Ave., Urbana

Meet up with other IEI students and Convopartners to talk, laugh, and maybe learn something new.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

### Submit your art to the IEI Student Art Exhibit

All forms of art can be submitted: painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, etc. Friends, family, and children may submit their work to Natalie Mullen in Room 5 of the IEI. The deadline for art submissions is Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. The art show will open in the IEI lobby on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.



- **Karaoke Night, \$5.00**

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM, Star Karaoke, 105 Lyndhurst, Savoy

Could you be the next big thing in the music world? Find out at Karaoke Night! Meet at the IEI. If you have a car, please drive.

- **Swing Dance, FREE**

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 PM, McKinley Foundation, 809 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St, Champaign

Put on your dancing shoes and get ready to move! Beginners are always welcome, and there are plenty of dance partners for everyone.

## Featured Events on Campus

### **Polish Coffee Hour, FREE**

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 PM, Cosmo Club, 307 E. John Street, Champaign

Meet people from around the world while enjoying coffee, tea, and homemade ethnic desserts. *Coffee Hour on Thursday, April 9 will be hosted by Japan.*

### **Afterglow Concert: Grazyna Auguscik, jazz, FREE**

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 PM, Krannert Center, lobby

Grazyna Auguscik's vocals will steal your heart at this late night performance.

### **Vet Med Open House, FREE**

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, College of Veterinary Medicine

Located at 2001 S. Lincoln Avenue, Urbana

Come see the animals! This is a family friendly event with more than 50 fun and educational exhibits and demonstrations for all ages.

### **Greek Dinner at the Cosmo Club, \$6.00**

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM, Cosmo Club, 307 E John Street, Champaign

Reservations required. To make a reservation, call 367-3079 on Friday, April 3 between 1:30 and 7:00 PM. Dinner will be followed by a program highlighting the Greek culture.



## Happy April Fools' Day!

Do you know what the word "gullible" means? **Gullible** is an adjective that describes all of the people who believed the following world-famous April Fools' Day jokes, pranks and hoaxes:

- In 1957 the BBC reported that the Swiss were enjoying a great spaghetti harvest that year. The TV program showed people picking spaghetti out of a tree.
- In 1980, a report in London announced that the famous clock tower Big Ben would go digital.
- In 1996, Taco Bell announced that it had purchased the historic Liberty Bell and would rename it the "Taco Liberty Bell".
- In 1998, Burger King announced that it was now selling a Whopper for left-handed people. All of the ingredients were the same, but the condiments were rotated 180 degrees to benefit left-handed eaters.
- Also in 1998, an article was published by a physicist claiming that the Alabama Legislature had voted to change the value of the mathematical constant pi to the "Biblical value" of 3.0.
- In 2004, BMW published an advertisement for their new IDS (*Insect Deflector Screen*) Technology that would use elastic solutions to bounce insects off the windscreen while you drive.
- In 2009, the IEI published a newsletter in which all of the first page was a joke, and the second page was all true!

