Dear Students:

Welcome to the Holiday edition of the International Student Program Newsletter. As we are close to the end of the Fall Semester, we hope you are doing well in your classes and wish you good luck with your Finals. The ISP is excited to bring you information and services to help you reach your academic goals and have an enjoyable experience while studying at Chabot College.

We hope you enjoy your break and have a safe return to the United States to continue your studies.

Have a great holiday season!

International Student Program of Chabot College

Planning A Trip? Get a Travel Signature!

If you plan to travel outside the United States during the holiday break, it is critical to keep in mind important immigration regulations.

- Travel signature on your I-20:
  You must have a valid travel signature on the bottom of page 3 of your I-20 to re-enter the country. If the I-20 is not signed or if the signature is more than 6 months old when you return to the U.S., you must request a new travel signature from the International Student Office before you travel.

- Valid Foreign Passport:
  Your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond your date of re-entry into the United States.

- Valid US Visa

- Your EAD card (if you are on Post-Completion Practical Training)

Please contact the International Student Program (ISP) if you have any questions.
Concerned about your Grades?

If you are concerned about how you are doing in a particular class, please follow these suggestions:

- If you haven’t done so already, talk to your instructor about your concerns.
- Ask your instructor for extra credit work that can help boost your grade.
- Use the Peer Academic Tutoring Help or PATH (formerly The Tutorials Center) located at Room 2351 in Building #2300.
- Go to the WRAC Center located on the Library Mezzanine (Building 100) for help with writing assignments.

Post Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT)

If you are going to graduate this semester, and are interested in working up to 1 year fulltime in a field related to your major, now is the time to apply. All F1 students are eligible for OPT as a benefit of their F1 status. To apply, you must complete and submit the application to during a 120 day period prior to the date you complete all program requirements. All documents must be received by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) before December 21, 2007. Please come to the ISP office for more information.

Transferring or Graduating?

Graduating or completing your studies at Chabot College this semester? It is very important that you notify the International Student Program Office of your plans to ensure that your SEVIS record is updated. Students planning on transferring to a university must also notify ISP and bring an acceptance letter to Ms. Dolly to insure your SEVIS record is transferred in a timely manner.

ISP Office Hours during the Holidays

Please note that the International Student Programs (ISP) will be closed at 12pm on Friday, December 21, 2007 through Sunday, January 6, 2008. We will open for "business as usual" at 9:00am on Monday, January 7, 2008 and will maintain normal business hours during the winter break (Monday-Friday from 9:00am-5:00pm). Therefore, please plan accordingly so that if you have an urgent need to see Ms. Dolly or Maya, you can make arrangements to do so before 12pm on Friday, December 21, 2007.
Chabot Event

- **Fall Semester Chabot Bookstore Buyback**
  Chabot College Bookstore's buyback week is December 10 – 21. Bring in your textbooks and your student ID card and you could receive up to 50% of the original price back (Restriction may be applied).

- **Free Movie Nights!**
  The Associated Students of Chabot College (ASCC) will be showing “A Christmas Story” on December 12th beginning at 6:00pm on the cafeteria balcony. Pizza and refreshments are included.

- **Little Theater on campus**
  A Child's Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas
  Dec. 13, 14, 15 @ 8 pm
  Dec. 16 @ 2 pm
  Tickets are $10 and available at the door. General seating
  Group discounts available
  Directed by Joel Mullennix
  Info: (510) 723 6830

ISP Events

- **Thanksgiving Day with American Family**
  This semester the International Student Program invited Chabot College staff and faculty who would like to host international students on Thanksgiving Day. Our new Fall 2007 students Fatou Seck and Sally Muriithi joined a wonderful Thanksgiving gathering with the counselor (Disabled Student Resource Center) Mrs. Shirley Pejman’s family.

- **Volunteers needed for Spring 2008 (January 17, 2008)**
  New Students Orientation
  The office of International Student Program is looking for current Chabot College international students to serve as "International Orientation Volunteers" to help welcome the new international students that we expect will arrive at Chabot College in January. Please contact us if you would like to sign up. We thank you in advance for your assistance!
This semester the International Club of Chabot College (I3C) has successfully organized a series of activities. Both continuing and new students are able to acquaint with other fellow students. There is no doubt that having friends in a foreign country is always an excellent asset for international students while studying on campus and in students’ social life.

Well...Who has the lowest score?!
(Bowling Day-9/23/1007)

Let me give you a shoulder massage...
(10/11/2007-1st Bi-Annual Picnic)

Sweets for the Sweets
(10/14/2007-Chocolate Factory Tour)

We had so much Fun!
(11/3/2007-Skit for the International Night)

Ice-skating in Downtown San Francisco!
(12/1/2007– The Embarcadero Holiday Ice Rink)
Special Holiday Ideas

- **Santa Paws Parade**
  Sat, December 8 - 10AM in Historic Downtown Hayward

  The parades were once very popular events before 1950’ is planning to bring families back downtown to participate in the “Santa Paws Parade” on Saturday, December 8, sponsored by the Downtown Business Improvement Area and the Hayward Animal Shelter Volunteers. Dogs, cats, bunnies, pigs, birds or stuffed animals, in costume or not, will parade down B Street from Foothill to Watkins starting at

- **The Holiday Ice Rink at Embarcadero Center**
  Beginning November 7 through January 15, 2008
  Open 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Sunday – Thursday
  Open 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. on Friday & Saturday

  The Embarcadero Holiday Ice Rink at Justin Herman Plaza in San Francisco is in its 13th year. The Embarcadero ice rink exists just three months out of the year, which makes the experience of skating there that much more special. Ice-skate outdoors under the beautifully lit skyscrapers and Bay Bridge.

- **National Basketball Association (NBA) Season Begins**

  The Golden State Warriors are the Bay Area’s professional team. A team that had a magical run in the playoffs last season, they tipped off their regular season on October 30 and play their home games at the Oracle Arena in Oakland. Tickets start as low at $15. Visit the team’s website at [www.nba.com/warriors](http://www.nba.com/warriors) for the schedule and ticket information.

- **December Holidays Around the World**

  Do you know that there are more than 8 holidays in December? The concept of holidays may not be as simple as it for people around the world. As a part of global citizens, the International Student Program (ISP) encourages everyone considers holidays as a way to learn about other cultures.
  - **New Year’s Rituals Around The World**
  - **Ballet Folklorico presents "Christmas in Mexico"**
The ISP gets NEW furniture!

Happy December Birthdays

Ching Man Ho
Jia Luan Gu
Linnawati Jojo
Mitsuaki Kaneko
Min Jun Kim
Hsuan-Li Lin
Sally Muriithi
Fearn Ooko
Gubindarran Rajan
Fatau Seck
Sudeep Singh

生日快樂
sheng er kuai le
(Happy Birthday in Mandarin Chinese)