

NEWSLETTER

January 29, 2009

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Monday-Friday
9am – 12noon and 1pm – 4pm

Seeking Volunteers for Income Tax Preparation

OISS has been assisting international students and scholars with the preparation of their income tax for close to 20 years. Again, this year we are looking for interested volunteers to help with the program and assist international students and scholars with their tax preparation.

Volunteer Introductory Workshop**Friday, February 20 between 9.00am – 12 noon**

The volunteer workshop will be held in our conference room.

3131 STUDENT RESOURCES BLDG (SRB) (Between the Events Center & San Rafael on the way to IV)

Honor's students can count this volunteer time as Community Service. For others, this is a great opportunity to learn about income tax preparation for international students and scholars. The session will be conducted by Ms. Lilith Imbrogno (IRS Retiree).

E-mail harsha-a@sa.ucsb.edu or call 893 2929 to volunteer

U.S. Visa Applications in Mexico: Policy Change

Delays in Visa Application Processing

OISS has received reports from students and scholars that their visa applications have been subject to delays in processing that range from several weeks to a month or more. Visa applicants receive a receipt from the embassy/consulate that indicates that their application is subject to "administrative processing." Administrative processing generally involves some type of security check. No one, not OISS or our congressional representatives, can expedite this process although OISS can make an inquiry after 90 days. OISS advises that if students and scholars are going to apply for a visa while traveling outside the U.S., they should have back up arrangements in case they cannot return to the U.S. at the time they had planned.

The U.S. government has changed its regulations regarding non-immigrant visa application procedures at U.S. consulates in Mexico. A person with a visa issued in their home country that changed status with the Department of Homeland Security in the U.S. and wants to get a new visa in the new visa category can no longer get the new visa in Mexico. For example, the non-immigrant who entered the U.S. with an F-2 visa in their passport and changed their status to F-1 while in the U.S. cannot apply for an F-1 visa in Mexico. (They can apply for a new visa in their home country as well as other countries.) OISS advises that those who wish to apply for a U.S. visa in Mexico should check the requirements and restrictions that are provided on the consulate web site for the consulate where they intend to apply. For example, information about the application procedures at the Tijuana Consulate are available at <http://tijuana.usconsulate.gov/niv.html>

2009 Chinese New Year Celebration

ORGANIZER: Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA), UCSB

DATE: 7:00pm-9:00pm, Saturday January 31st, 2009

LOCATION: UCSB Multi-Culture Center Theater [near University Center]

ADMISSION: FREE! Open to all students and general public

Program Descriptions: Chinese folk songs, dance, drama, instrument perform, game etc.

Warmly welcome to join us and bring your friends too! (poster attached)

Happy (New) Year!!

Best,
UCSB-CSSA

OISS MONDAYS AT THE MOVIES

All Films Showing at the
Student Resource Building Multipurpose Room

CROSSING BORDERS FILM SERIES

Wayne Wang's 1989 film

EAT A BOWL OF TEA



MONDAY FEBRUARY 2

7:00 PM

This early film by Wayne Wang explores the tenuous ties of first generation Chinese-American immigrants to their loved ones left behind in China. The Chinese Exclusion Act denied thousands of Chinese male workers the right to bring their families with them to the US. This film deals with the changed situation after World War II when the first Chinese brides come to San Francisco and the heightened expectations of the first generation community.