



### Welcome to the Fall Semester at LPC!

We hope you are enjoying your classes and having a wonderful semester so far. The International Student Program (ISP) welcomed 32 new students this semester and now has a total of 92 International Students (on an F-1 student visa) from 34 countries. Each of the countries represented and the numbers of current International students are listed below:

South Korea	29	Philippines	2
Vietnam	6	Colombia	1
Japan	4	Pakistan	1
Taiwan	4	Ecuador	1
Peru	4	Ghana	1
Indonesia	3	India	1
Thailand	3	Israel	1
Brazil	2	Khazastan	1
Burma	2	Lebanon	1
China	2	Macau	1
France	2	Malaysia	1
Germany	2	Morocco	1
Hong Kong	2	Romania	1
Italy	2	Sweden	1
Kenya	2	Syria	1
Mali	2	Tanzania	1
Mexico	2	Turkey	1
Mongolia	2		

We are honored that you've chosen to study at Las Positas College. The ISP is excited to bring you programs and services to help you reach your academic goals and have an enjoyable experience while studying here. Please take a few moments to read this newsletter. We hope that it has a lot of valuable information for you.

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### Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 4

U.S. Americans learn the saying "Spring Ahead, Fall Back" to help them remember daylight saving time. Remember to **turn your clocks back 1 hour when you get to bed on Saturday night, November 3.**



## Halloween



### Wednesday, October 31

Originally a Pagan festival of the Celts in Ireland and the United Kingdom, the tradition of Halloween was taken to the United States by Irish and Scottish immigrants in the 1800s. Christians celebrate November 1 as All Saint's Day, and therefore, the night before, All Hallows Eve, later shorted to Halloween, was believed to be the time of year that spirits make contact with the physical world, and a time when magic was most potent.

On Halloween, people carve pumpkins into "jack o' lanterns", dress up in funny or scary costumes, have bonfires, watch horror movies, visit haunted houses, and at night, children walk to their neighbor's doors and say "trick-or-treat" and receive candy.



### International Student Handbook

Our office has prepared a handbook designed for new International students that has information about such topics as maintaining your status, other benefits of your status such as employment opportunities, health insurance requirements, academic issues, and tips on cultural adjustment. We passed this free handbook out to new students at Orientation in August. Continuing students are also welcome to pick one up in our office as well.



## World Cultures Alliance

### Corn Maze Trip

Friday, October 26, 5:00 pm

Come Join the World Cultures Alliance (WCA) Club as we go the G & M Farms Cornfield Maze on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 487 East Airway Blvd in Livermore. It has been shown on the David Letterman television show. You can find details at the following link:

<http://www.gmfarms.com/>. We will get together at 5:00 pm at the maze admission office. You are welcome to wear costumes and bring your kids and friends. The admission is \$6/person. The club will pay all or half the admission for our students, depending on how many people are coming. If you want to join us, please email WCA Club President Emily Xu at [xuyiru\\_emily@yahoo.com.cn](mailto:xuyiru_emily@yahoo.com.cn) as soon as possible.



## 2009 Diversity Immigrant Visa Program

The annual program, commonly known as the “green card lottery” provides 50,000 permanent resident visas available to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. This application is free and applicants are chosen by a computer-generated random lottery drawing. Entries for the Diversity Visa Lottery (DV-2009) must be submitted electronically between Wednesday, October 3, 2007 and Sunday, December 2, 2007. For

DV-2009, natives of the following countries are not eligible because they sent a total of more than 50,000 immigrants to the U.S. in the previous 5 years: *Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, 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. Applicants must have either a high school education or its equivalent or 2 years work experience within the past 5 years in an occupation requiring at least 2 years of training or experience to perform. Apply at [www.dvlottery.state.gov](http://www.dvlottery.state.gov) during the registration period. Come to the ISP Office if you have any questions on this program or about how to apply.

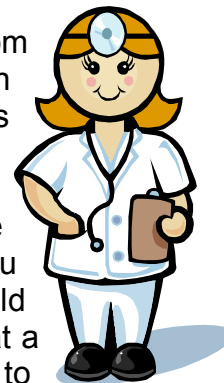


## World Cultures Alliance

The World Cultures Alliance is off to a great start this semester. If you would like to join this club that organizes fun and cultural activities throughout the semester, please come to our Club meetings. The Club meets every other Monday at 2:00 pm in the Club Room at the back of the Cafeteria. The meetings run until 2:30 pm and meet this month on October 8, and 22. Hope to see you there!

## Health Insurance Requirement

Your health and safety is our primary concern. To protect you from unforeseen injuries and illnesses and from the high cost of medical care in the U.S., medical insurance is required for all International students. This coverage must include repatriation and medical evacuation and must be continuous throughout the semester. If you have not done so already, please submit proof of insurance coverage that includes coverage amounts, and the policy dates of coverage as soon as possible. If you have not yet purchased health insurance, and need assistance, we would be happy to recommend several plans that provide good coverage and at a reasonable cost. As it is a requirement of your enrollment at LPC, failure to take care of this matter right away may jeopardize your status with Las Positas College. If you have any questions regarding your health insurance or this requirement, please contact the International Student Program office.



## Got 12 Units?

### Fast Track Classes – 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

All F-1 Students are required to have at least 12 units each semester to maintain their legal non-immigrant status in the United States. If you are missing some units this semester, a last chance to be enrolled full-time will be to register for Fast Track 2<sup>nd</sup> Session. These classes run from October 15 – December 14. See page 93 of the Fall Class Schedule for a listing of these classes.



## IMPORTANT: Deadline to Withdraw Approaching

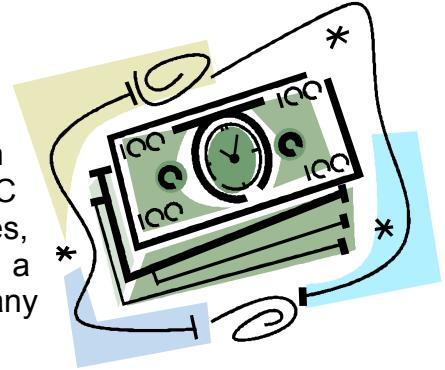
Please be advised that International Students may **NOT** drop a class with a “W” unless you are still enrolled and attending 12 units. The U.S. Immigration service does not recognize “W’s” as part of your required 12 units to maintain full-time status. Before dropping a class, please see Cindy or Sean to avoid falling out of status.

## Program End Date

Please check your Program End Date on your I-20 (Item #5). If you plan to study beyond the program end date, please come to the International Student Program at least one month in advance to request an extension. You may need to bring an updated financial statement. If your I-20 has expired, please come to the International Student Program immediately.

## Payment of Fees

Fees are due the first day of the Semester. For those students who have not yet paid their fees, it is very important that you do so as soon as possible. Failure to pay fees on time results in an automatic "Administrative Hold" on your LPC record and will prevent you from registering for classes, obtaining transcripts and may affect your ability to transfer in a timely manner. Please come to the ISP Office if you have any questions or concerns about your tuition.



## Calling All Potential Graduates!

The deadline to apply for Graduation is November 2, 2007. If you believe you are ready to graduate, please schedule an appointment with Gilberto Victoria or Nancy Wright in the Counseling Office, Building # 700 to complete a "Petition for Graduation" Form. It is also very important to notify the International Student Program Office of your plans. Students planning on transferring to a university must notify ISP to insure your SEVIS record is transferred in a timely manner.

## Post Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT)

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

## Major League Baseball Playoffs

Although Baseball season may be over for the local teams, you can still cheer for Sean's favorite team, the Boston Red Sox as they march through the playoffs and try to win their 2<sup>nd</sup> World Series championship in 4 years. All American League Championship Series games are on Fox, Channel 2.





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**International Student Program**  
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