Welcome to the spring semester and to the first complete issue of the ISS Insider! This issue is chock-full of information, ranging from articles on important immigration updates to pieces on upcoming programs and opportunities to get involved in the community. I would also like to draw your attention to the Fall 2008 International Student and Scholar Enrollment and Statistical Report, a portion of which is included herein. As you will see, as of the fall 2008 semester, there were nearly 5,500 international students enrolled at Purdue. That number has continued to climb, with the addition of 242 students (and counting) that were welcomed to campus over the last few weeks.

As the international student and scholar population continues to grow, the ISS Office remains committed to providing the highest quality of service to those it serves. I hope that you find the ISS Office to be an accommodating place with friendly, knowledgeable, and supportive staff members.

Wishing you a successful spring semester.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Brzezinski, Ed.D.
Associate Dean, International Programs
Director, International Students and Scholars

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**ISS TO JOIN FACEBOOK**

If you are a typical student, you already know about Facebook, a social networking website designed with college students in mind. What you may not know is that Purdue University International Students and Scholars (ISS) is creating its own Facebook fan page. The fan page will be a place to connect with current, past, and future Purdue international students. You will be able to discuss events, current issues, questions about campus life, and more. You will also be able to upload pictures from events, join discussions, add video clips, and post messages on the wall. Please remember that this will be a social environment, not a place to ask immigration-related questions. Be sure to watch your email as ISS announces the launch of its fan page, tentatively slated for February 2009.

The person who makes a success of living is the one who sees his goal steadily and aims for it unswervingly. That is dedication.

-Cecil B. Demille
Several changes occurred during 2008 that directly affect Purdue’s international student and scholar population. ISS has answers to many of the most frequently asked questions about these changes.

New immigration information is published rapidly, from a variety of sources, and in many different places. If you are looking for the most current and accurate information, ISS is the place to start!

Visit our FAQ website to explore the following immigration updates from 2008:

- OPT Changes and STEM Extensions
- What is E-Verify?
- What is the new 90-day unemployment rule?
- The SEVIS fee changed; are you affected?
- Minimum credit hours changed for graduate students. Do you know the new minimums?
- What is the Cap-Gap?

Maintaining status is the responsibility of the student or exchange visitor. Look to our office to provide you with the information you need to know in order to help you maintain your status. If you do not find the answer on our FAQ site, just stop by during walk-in hours. We will be happy to assist you.

In the world of immigration and homeland security, regulations and their interpretations can change rapidly. It is important for our office to make information available quickly, and to make sure the information remains current, accurate, and useful. To better serve our international student and scholar community, ISS has implemented a 24/7 immigration knowledge base.

Follow the ISS home page to the Frequently Asked Questions section at the bottom of the screen. From there, you can ask a question. If the answer does not already exist, you can submit it instantly to ISS and expect a response within two business days. If we believe your question is of interest to others, as well, we will post it and the answer online as part of the knowledge base.

You can even sign up for updates, in case the answer to your question changes over time. Each time the answer is updated, you will receive an email notifying you of the change.

We are excited to make this technology available and hope it provides a valuable benefit to those we serve.

Many international students studying in the United States find the search for jobs and internships to be challenging. The Center for Career Opportunities (CCO) is pleased to announce that our international students now have the opportunity to connect with interested employers through a virtual career fair that is strictly for international students.

Sponsored by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the NACE International Students Virtual Career Fair is FREE and open to international students who: (1) wish to return to their home country for full-time or internship/co-op opportunities; (2) are currently pursuing Optional Practical Training (OPT) or long-term employment opportunities in the United States; and (3) are currently pursuing summer Curricular Practical Training (CPT) internships in the United States.

Through the fair, you will have access to interested internship, and co-op opportunities.

REGISTER TODAY!
To register, go to the CCO Website at www.cco.purdue.edu and click on the “NACE International Student Virtual Career Fair” button. Then, select “Candidate Registration” and follow the instructions!
During International Education Week, November 17-21, 36 international students volunteered at K-12 schools within the greater Lafayette community. Volunteers gave cultural presentations and taught on a wide variety of topics, including language, native cuisine, sports, and world literature. The volunteers were well-received by the K-12 students and several teachers have already requested similar presentations for 2009.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, sign-up for the Educational Exchange Program on the ISS website. You will be contacted as opportunities become available.

Undergraduate student, Jiayin Wang, quizzes high school students on their knowledge of China.

REPORT: INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK 2008

THE INSIDE SCOOP

THE FOLLOWING EXCERPT WAS TAKEN FROM AN INTERVIEW WITH AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

MEET ZHENYU BO

Q: What do you hope to gain from your experience in the U.S.?
A: Research ability, better English communication, American culture

Q: Name one characteristic of American culture that you find interesting and why.
A: Freedom, a free environment is an important base for the success in academics.

Q: Do you have any comments on American food?
A: If there can be less sugar, it can be better.

Q: Compare educational systems in the U.S. and your home country.
A: A more free, individual learning system in U.S. A more competitive, conservative system in China.

Q: What has been your favorite experience in the U.S. so far?
A: Good environment with less pollution.

Q: What would you like people to know about your home country?
A: Our culture and modern society.

Q: What advice would you give a new international student?
A: Get involved in the multicultural school life here.

Name: Zhenyu Bo
Gender: Male
Home Country: China
Program: BS in Environmental Science
Began Program: Fall 2008
Proposed Graduation: 2012
The ISS Office continues to provide opportunities to experience life off campus through its GO Purdue! Trips. These trips are a fun and affordable way to take a break from studying. Spaces are limited, so keep an eye on the ISS Calendar for updated information, including details on when and where to purchase tickets.

February
◊ The Art Institute of Chicago: Spend the day visiting The Art Institute of Chicago and other area museums, enjoying local restaurants, going shopping, and touring dynamic downtown Chicago.

March
◊ PEFCU Spring Break Manufac-
turing Tour: Get a glimpse inside the manufacturing facilities at Subaru of Indiana Automotive, Caterpillar, and Fairfield Manufacturing Corporation.
◊ Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum: This overnight trip to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio is co-sponsored by the Black Cultural Center.

Lafayette community. Many opportunities exist to teach members of the community about your culture. To be contacted for these opportunities, sign up to be an Educational Exchange Program volunteer.

New this semester, ISS is partnering with the Boiler Volunteer Network to do a service learning project in the community. This project will allow you to give a helping hand to someone who may be in need of a little extra support. The first event is tentatively planned for mid-to-late February; watch the ISS Calendar for updated information.

In tough economic times, standing out from the pool of job applicants is imperative. One effective way of doing so is through volunteer work. Our office is able to give you ample opportunities to volunteer with multiple events throughout the year.

The ISS Office allows you to help not only with orientation for new students, but also with events that take you into K-12 schools and the Greater Lafayette community. Many opportunities exist to teach members of the community about your culture. To be contacted for these opportunities, sign up to be an Educational Exchange Program volunteer.

New this semester, ISS is partnering with the Boiler Volunteer Network to do a service learning project in the community. This project will allow you to give a helping hand to someone who may be in need of a little extra support. The first event is tentatively planned for mid-to-late February; watch the ISS Calendar for updated information.

Other places to look for a volunteer opportunity would be the local Red Cross, the United Way, and the public library, just to name a few. As an international student, it is important to remember that you can not work off campus; however, you can volunteer. The key is to ask if the position is a true volunteer position. That means, no matter who was doing the job, no one would get paid for doing it. If in doubt, come and check with an immigration counselor in the ISS Office before starting your volunteer position. We do not want your immigration status to be at risk.

During weekends and holidays, Chinese young people like to hang out with friends or classmates. And there are also several activities that American students rarely do that Chinese students really enjoy a lot. The most popular activity is KTV, or Karaoke, singing popular songs accompanied by a recording of an orchestra or a music video. It’s an easy way to liven up the party with somebody singing and dancing and to make the atmosphere HIGH. Also, singing with peers is a good way to escape from a heavy study load and to relieve stress. World of Warcraft and some RPG games are very popular. Instead of playing at home alone, boys like to play at cybercafés with their peers—playing against each other is more exciting than playing with complete strangers online. For young girls, cross-stitching such things as key rings and pillow cases and “build-a-bear” are fashionable activities. Either working on these crafts at home alone or together with friends in dorm rooms, these activities show others their skill, patience and deftness with the needle. Young girls like to present them as gifts to boyfriends and family members, believing these gifts represent their heart.

Quick Culture: Recreation of Young People in China

Written by: Yi Yin, Undergraduate Student in Statistics

Build Your Resume: Volunteer

“New this semester, ISS is partnering with the Boiler Volunteer Network to do a service learning project in the community.”
The following two pages contain an excerpt from the Fall 2008 International Student and Scholar Enrollment and Statistical Report. The report contains enrollment figures per school and region of the world, as well as highlights enrollment statistics for the last ten years. Figures for international faculty and staff are also broken down by discipline and country. The top ten countries in terms of enrollment, in order of greatest numbers to least numbers, are as follows: (1) India; (2) China; (3) South Korea; (4) Taiwan; (5) Indonesia; (6) Malaysia; (7) Canada and Pakistan; (8) Turkey; and (9) Japan.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR STATISTICS

The following two pages contain an excerpt from the Fall 2008 International Student and Scholar Enrollment and Statistical Report. The report contains enrollment figures per school and region of the world, as well as highlights enrollment statistics for the last ten years. Figures for international faculty and staff are also broken down by discipline and country. The top ten countries in terms of enrollment, in order of greatest numbers to least numbers, are as follows: (1) India; (2) China; (3) South Korea; (4) Taiwan; (5) Indonesia; (6) Malaysia; (7) Canada and Pakistan; (8) Turkey; and (9) Japan.

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## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR STATISTICS, CONTINUED

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![Bar chart showing Top Ten Countries By Enrollment](chart.png)

- India
- China
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- Canada
- Pakistan
- Turkey
- Japan

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**Country**

- **61** Italy
- **62** Jamaica
- **63** Japan
- **64** Jordan
- **65** Kazakhstan
- **66** Kenya
- **67** Kuwait
- **68** Kyrgyzstan
- **69** Lebanon
- **70** Liberia
- **71** Lithuania
- **72** Macau *
- **73** Macedonia
- **74** Malawi
- **75** Malaysia
- **76** Mali
- **77** Mauritius
- **78** Mexico
- **79** Mongolia
- **80** Morocco
- **81** Mozambique
- **82** Nepal
- **83** Netherlands
- **84** New Zealand
- **85** Nicaragua
- **86** Niger
- **87** Nigeria
- **88** Norway
- **89** Oman
- **90** Pakistan
- **91** Panama
- **92** Peru
- **93** Philippines
- **94** Poland
- **95** Portugal

**Country**

- **96** Qatar
- **97** Romania
- **98** Russia
- **99** Saint Kitts and Nevis
- **100** Saint Lucia
- **101** Saudi Arabia
- **102** Senegal
- **103** Serbia
- **104** Singapore
- **105** Slovakia
- **106** South Africa
- **107** South Korea
- **108** Spain
- **109** Sri Lanka
- **110** Suriname
- **111** Swaziland
- **112** Sweden
- **113** Switzerland
- **114** Syria
- **115** Taiwan *
- **116** Tajikistan
- **117** Tanzania
- **118** Thailand
- **119** Trinidad & Tobago
- **120** Tunisia
- **121** Turkey
- **122** Turkmenistan
- **123** Uganda
- **124** Ukraine
- **125** United Arab Emirates
- **126** United Kingdom
- **127** Venezuela
- **128** Vietnam
- **129** Zambia
- **130** Zimbabwe

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were literally carried from place to place in baskets. With all eggs in a single basket, there was a risk of dropping the basket and having all of the eggs break at once.

As a result, people began dividing the eggs into different baskets. Today the idiom has a more figurative meaning of not putting all of your hope in one thing.

Example: “I appreciate that you want to be a movie star, son, but you should really finish your degree. I don’t want you putting all of your eggs in one basket.”