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A time for goodbyes

The International Dinner marks the end of the session

The International Dinner will be Friday April 15 from 6pm until 10pm. This is a tradition that we have done for many years here at CIES. It is important that all students try to attend this exciting celebration. **Everyone should bring a food dish representing their culture.** It is an excellent opportunity to sample various foods from all over the world. We will have food from every part of the world. The winners of the CIES Voices writing competition will be announced and recognized by Dr. Kennell.

The international dinner is also special because we get to recognize students who will be leaving CIES. We have many students who are leaving after this session, and it is going to be hard to say goodbye to many of you. In addition, we are very sad that Wallace Gowens will be leaving CIES and Debbie Carretta is retiring. Sana and Calyn will also be away for the summer, so be sure to tell them goodbye if you are not going to be here in the fall. This is a great opportunity to take photos and to also share fun stories from your time here! At 8pm the dinner turns into a dance party. There are lots of fun songs that will allow everyone to dance, and we also sample music from different parts of the world. Everyone always has a wonderful time.

Keep in touch with us!

Even though many of you are leaving after this session, it is important that you still keep in touch with events here at CIES. There are several ways for you to keep in touch. First of all, you should continue to look on the CIES Facebook page. You can use the page to learn about what is going to happen in the future at CIES, and you can also keep in touch with your classmates. In addition, please monitor the CIES website: [www.cies.fsu.edu](http://www.cies.fsu.edu). In the next couple of weeks, there will be a new CIES website that will have lots of information. In addition, you can continue to read the Nole News.

As you start traveling around the world, please remember your CIES family. We have students from nearly 30 countries around the world. No matter where you go, there is probably a former CIES student there! Don’t be afraid to get in touch with your CIES friends in the future – they can show you around their countries.

As you take pictures these last few days of the session, we would encourage you to tag your friends, teachers, and to share the photos on the CIES Facebook page. Also, we are going to create posters and flyers in many different languages telling people about CIES. If you see these posts, feel free to share them with your friends and family back home. CIES is hoping to grow, and **word of mouth** is the best advertisement. And, one final reminder, give yourself opportunities to read and listen to English. Even though you might not have any English speakers around you, listen to English programs or news to refresh your English knowledge.

Notes from the Office

* For those of you who are returning next session, please make sure that your tuition payments and health insurance are ready for Summer I session. You may come by CIES any day next week and take care of this. Please remember that if you don’t have tuition and insurance provided by the start of the session, you will not be allowed to attend class and this will affect your attendance. Remember – sooner is better than later!

Awesome activities this summer

For those of you who will be here in the summer, there will be lots of fun activities going on. Next session (Summer I), we have the following events planned: bowling, disc golf, swimming, a trip to Panama City, a trip to the FSU Rez, and a visit to a food truck gathering. There may also be several volunteer opportunities available this summer. We look forward to a fantastic summer session!
**Happy Birthday!**

Here are the upcoming CIES birthdays:

Ngoc Tran (April 18)
Abdullah Alzawied (April 24)

**Culture Question**

*Question:* Why can Americans get cash back at the grocery stores?

*Answer:* As most of you have noticed, many Americans often use the **checkout line** at grocery stores like an ATM. They will buy a small amount of grocery items, and then they might get $20, $50, or $100 in cash back. A lot of people have very busy lives, and they may not live close to their bank’s ATM. (Remember, there are thousands of banks in the US.) Grocery stores (and pharmacies) offer this as a **convenience**.

However, many of you may have noticed, Americans do not like to use large **bills**. If you use a $100 at a small restaurant, they may not have change. A lot of businesses will tell you that you can pay with a $100 bill, but it is often difficult for them to make change for it. (Your Nole News editor is a former store manager and knows how hated $100 bills can be!) If you go and get $100 cash back next time you’re at a store, it is probably better to get four $20s, a $10, a $5, and some $1s for drink machines. Other than $1 bills, the $20 is actually the most commonly used American **note**!

**Language Question**

*Question:* My teacher the other day asked if I had **writer’s block**. What is **writer’s block**?

*Answer:* This is an expression we use when someone cannot come up with something to write. It is commonly used by authors or people who are writing long papers. There are times when it is easy to write and a person can write a large amount of material in a short amount of time. However, there are other times when you are writing a paper or assignment and you just simply cannot think of anything to write. That’s writer’s block. Your Nole News editor suffered some writer’s block on this issue, so he decided it would be a good idea to answer a question about writer’s block!

**Quote of the Week**

Don’t gain the world and lose your soul; wisdom is better than silver or gold.

- Bob Marley