

# September

## THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR IS HERE!

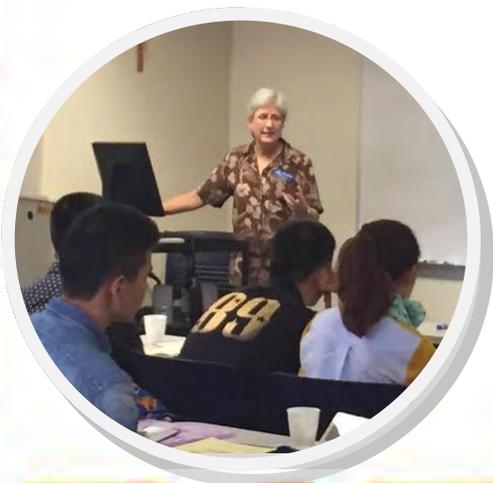
This semester we welcomed a group of 30 new international students from various countries, including Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Germany, India, Japan, Kenya, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Venezuela, and Vietnam.



On Thursday, September 9th the new students attended orientation, met with faculty and staff members, and heard presentations from the ISO, Student Life, Public Safety, the Writing Center, Registration, IT services, ESL, and Registration. It was a busy day and most students agreed the best part was lunch with faculty and staff.

Thank you to all those who participated!

**Welcome, new students! And welcome back, returning students! It is so nice to see you again! Best of luck in the new year!**



**Welcome Back!**

## Where do our international students come from?

This Fall we have 128 international students enrolled, which includes 23 graduate students and 105 undergraduate students, from the following countries:

Brazil	Colombia	United Kingdom
Canada	Germany	Ghana
Democratic Republic of Congo	Egypt	Ireland
	France	India
		Italy
		Japan
		Kenya
		Korea
		Lebanon
		Libya
		Nigeria
		New Zealand
		Pakistan



Poland
Palestine
Romania
Saudi Arabia
Taiwan
Venezuela
Vietnam



### Tour of Eastern Market and Shopping Trip to Somerset Mall in Troy

Date: 10/3/2015

Time: 9:00 am — 4:00 pm



### Shopping Trip to 12 Oaks Mall

Date: 10/9/2015

Time: 3:00 pm — 7:00 pm

6 spots only.

\*Sign up in room 1209\*

## UPCOMING ISO EVENTS



### Workshop: How to Activate your Madonna One Card

Date: 10/7/2015

Time: 3:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Location: Room 1106

\*Please bring your passport and Madonna One Card!\*

### Workshop: How to get a Driver's License, State ID or Social Security Card

Date: 10/14/2015

Time: 3:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Location: Room 1004



## IT'S FINALLY FALL!

A group of 17 international students took advantage of the unseasonably warm September weather last Friday, September 25 and headed to Erwin Orchards in South Lyon. At the orchard we got lost in a corn maze looking for 8 hidden pictures (turns out there were only 6), ventured through rows upon rows of apple trees, and learned there are more types of apples grown in Michigan than we even knew existed.

Finally we settled down in the shade to enjoy some apple cider and fresh baked doughnuts, along side some very hungry goats.

Afterward the students headed to the soccer field to watch the home opener for the

Madonna Men's Soccer team, which includes 10 of our international students. Madonna came out on top over Indiana Tech 2-1, with Ludvick Asigo (Kenya) scoring 2 goals and Marcel Schmid (Germany) making 9 saves.



## Did you know...?

The apple blossom is the state flower of Michigan. Michigan is the third largest state from apple production, with 9.2 million apple trees! 2015 is supposed to be an ideal year for apples, so get out and get your own!



# CULTURE CORNER

## Happy Chuseok!

Last weekend South Korea celebrated one of its largest holidays: Chuseok. Like Thanksgiving in the U.S., Chuseok is a harvest holiday and a time for giving thanks. Specifically, Korean honor their ancestors with food and rituals. Read below to find out more!



Chuseok, known as Korean's Thanksgiving day is celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 8<sup>th</sup> month of the lunar calendar. Chuseok lasts for three days which

makes it possible for all of the family members to meet and celebrate the holiday all together.



We visit our ancestral hometowns and prepare a feast and begin our ancestral worship rituals. We visit the graves of our grandparents or parents, and trim the plants or clean the surrounding area of the grave. After that we set some foods and drinks to thank and pray for our ancestors.

After the usual rituals all of the family members gather together and eat what we have prepared for the ritual. Some families would go out to eat but usually restaurants are closed on Chuseok so we would stay inside.

Food is a great deal at Chuseok but it is more of a gathering of all the family members and gets a chance to know what's going on in their lives. It's a very important holiday for everyone to get in touch with others.

—Hyun Jee Kim (South Korea)

If you would like to write something for the ISO newsletter about your culture (or something you've learn about American culture), please contact Amy Dickerson in room 1209.

## STUDENT NEWS

# Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate three of our students on some good news!

Congratulations to Yaohui (April) Chen (China) and Yang Zhang (China) on their recent nuptials! We wish you all the best in your new life together!



Congratulations, also, to Hai Lu and his wife on the birth of their first child, Michael! May parenthood bring you love, joy, and many happy memories!



Do you have news you would like to share? We would love to hear it! Please contact the Amy Dickerson: [aldickerson@madonna.edu](mailto:aldickerson@madonna.edu)

# How to maintain your F-1 Visa Status:



1. Maintain a valid passport, I-20, and I-94.
2. Attend Madonna University.
3. Pursue a full course of study and make progress towards completion.
4. Apply for extensions of program before the program end date on the I-20
5. Follow USCIS procedures for changing from one program to another.
6. Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours while school is in session.
7. Refrain from off-campus employment without authorization.
8. Report a change of address to USCIS within 10 days of the change on Form AR-11

**\*\*Full-time study is defined as 12 credit hours a semester (9 if graduate). Only a maximum of 3 credits of online courses can be counted toward the full-time load.**

If you have any questions about your visa status, please stop by the International Students Office: Room 1207 or 1209. The ISO has useful information on maintaining your visa, travel requirements, employment, applying for a social security card, applying for a driver's license, and health insurance requirements.

## How to Contact the ISO:

Grace Philson, Director

Room 1207

734-4325763

[gphilson@madonna.edu](mailto:gphilson@madonna.edu)

Amy Dickerson, Advisor

Room 1209

734-432-5763

[aldickerson@madonna.edu](mailto:aldickerson@madonna.edu)

## Add the ISO and get updates on social media!



[Facebook.com/MUIInternationalStudentsOffice](https://www.facebook.com/MUIInternationalStudentsOffice)



Kakao ID: muiso



Weixin ID: mu-iso