



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE DIVISION OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



September 2019 Newsletter



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STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

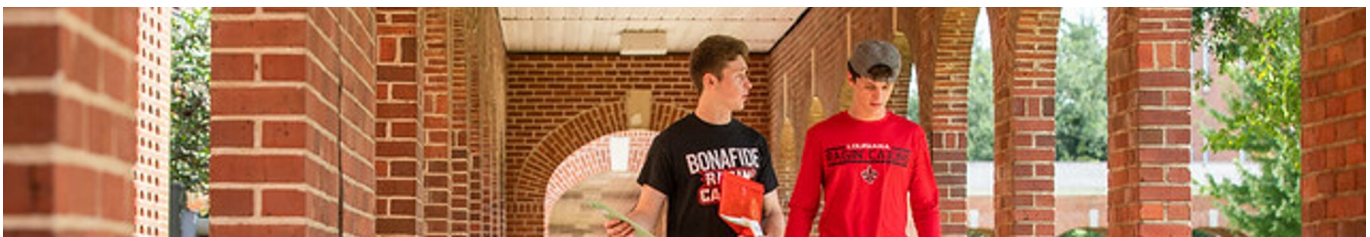
We talk to Graduate student Percival Soni Castro about his Fulbright experience and what he loves about UL Lafayette.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

We interview International Student Council President Zayira Quiroz Parraga about her plans for this semester and how to get involved.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

We list the important dates you need to know for this semester and provide important resources you might need in the near future.



OPT AND CPT INFORMATION

Optical Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT) hold great opportunities for our international students. OPT and CPT Advising Sessions are available from Ms. Katie Louviere on Tuesday through Thursday, from 2pm til 5pm in the Division of Global Engagement. No appointments are needed! OPT Applications open September 21st, 2019. The deadline to apply is February 18, 2020. Students are encouraged to visit globalengagement.louisiana.edu before attending an advising session.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL, GET INVOLVED!

The International Student Council (ISC) is an organization on campus that is all about the engagement of promoting diversity at UL and represents all international students. The members of the ISC find joy in helping our international students and want to assist in making the University of Louisiana at Lafayette feel like home. The ISC is holding two events this month: The *Take a Stand* Workshop and the *Up with People* event. In *Take a Stand*, students can share their world-views with other students and how they want to personally make changes, as well as gain the opportunity to hear other students' opinions. Students will be encouraged to learn about one another's similarities and differences through group discussion and team activities. The event will be held on September 13th at 3 PM in the Student Union, Evangeline Art Gallery - Room 139. *Up with People* is a concert designed to unite people and encourage students to impact their communities through music and social interactions. This event will be held September 14th at 7 PM in Angelle Hall.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: PERCIVAL SONI CASTRO

Meet your classmates!



Percival Soni Castro is a Fulbright scholar from Mexico pursuing a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering at UL Lafayette.

What is your favorite part of the program you're studying?

I really like how advanced the professor's knowledge is. I have only been at the University for a few weeks, but I have corroborated that they are well prepared as I expected. No matter how difficult the courses are, I know that I will be able to get the specialized knowledge I am looking for.

What has been your fondest memory so far of your time here at UL Lafayette?

The kindness and hospitality of the University's personnel, especially of the Division of Global Engagement. Since I came here, they have made me feel at home. I will also remember the lake and its alligators. It is pretty cool.



REPRESENT YOUR COUNTRY AT THE WORLD AT UL LAFAYETTE

The Division of Global Engagement invites you to represent your country at our celebration of diversity in November. The World at UL Lafayette will be hosted in the Student Union Ballroom on November 15th and will feature many different countries and cultures of the students at UL Lafayette. It will be an immersive experience dedicated to global education and the celebration of other cultures. If you're interested in participating or possibly putting together a display for your country of origin please email oia@louisiana.edu.

INTERNATIONAL HOUR RECAP

The Intensive English Program building hosted the first International Hour of the semester on Friday, September 6th at 12 pm. Students celebrated the beginning of the semester with pizza, and members of the International Student Council and Chi Alpha gave presentations about upcoming events this fall. Faculty from the Division of Global Engagement also hosted an OPT Information Session upstairs where students had the opportunity to learn more about the OPT process, application, and important deadlines. The next International Hour of the semester is Friday, October 18th.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...

Why should other international students choose to attend UL Lafayette?

UL Lafayette offers many programs that are competitive among the universities in the United States. In addition, many of these programs offer support to make the University more affordable. Finally, I know that it is difficult to be far from home, but there are many activities to do at the University where you can occupy your time. The University has programs to help international students adapt to this new stage of their life. There are many students from all over the world, so you can have the opportunity to learn from different cultures.

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I feel proud of representing Mexico.

What has your experience been like as a Fulbright scholar at UL Lafayette?

As a Fulbright scholar, I have many expectations to comply with. I have always thought that international students are representing their country. In my case, the effort and time that I spent to get this scholarship was significant. Therefore, I feel proud of representing Mexico, and I will make my best effort to accomplish any expectation. At UL Lafayette, I know that there will be many challenges to overcome, but I will be able to do it with the support that the University gives to international students.

CAMPUS CUPBOARD

The UL Lafayette Campus Cupboard is a resource for undergraduate and graduate students who require short-term assistance meeting their food needs.

The pantry provides free, nonperishable items to meet students' temporary food needs. It's located in UL Lafayette's Intensive English Program building at 413 Brook Avenue, next to The Saint Street Inn. This is an organization that thrives with volunteer support. Cupboard volunteer and Graduate student, Trey Delcambre emphasized a need for donations and volunteers.

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We're looking for potential leaders to bring sustainability to the project.

Campus Cupboard needs more people to help keep the organization going for a long time. If you'd like to get involved, a meeting is being held on September 12th at 5pm in the Vermilion Room of the Student Union. You can also contact deanofstudents@louisiana.edu.



TAKE YOUR EDUCATION FURTHER WITH STUDY ABROAD

The UL Lafayette Study Abroad Office invites you to take your learning outside of the classroom on one of our faculty-led trips. By traveling to places such as London, Costa Rica, France, and Italy, you can embark on an unforgettable journey that enriches your college experience. Come visit us at our table at the Career Services Fair in the Union Ballroom on September 24th and 25th from 9 am to 1 pm and at our Study Abroad Table Fair in the Union Hallway on the 30th from 8:45 til noon to hear how Study Abroad can impact your view of the world and its many cultures. For additional information please visit studyabroad.louisiana.edu, stop by our office, or contact us via email studyabroad@louisiana.edu.

INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM

The Intensive English Program is dedicated to providing English language instruction to non-native speakers planning to enter American universities or wanting to improve their skills for professional use. Classes are from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Friday for a session of 8 weeks. The IEP's small class sizes ensure individualized attention. The IEP also sponsors field trips and social events for students to have fun and unique experiences during their time in Lafayette.

Online applications, deadlines, and more details are available at internationalaffairs.louisiana.edu. For any questions, please contact us via email iep@louisiana.edu, by telephone 337-482-6819, or visit us at 413 Brook Avenue.

STUDENT RESOURCES & IMPORTANT DATES

Take advantage of these resources our campus provides.

IMPORTANT DATES

OPT Applications Open - September 21st 2019
OPT Application Deadline - February 18th 2020

Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 Graduation
Application Deadline - Friday, September 27th

International Hour
October 18th - CPT Information Session at IEP

November 15th - The World at UL Lafayette
(Student Union Ballroom)

November 27th - Thanksgiving Feast at IEP

EVENTS TO ATTEND

Campus Cupboard
Volunteer Meeting -
September 12th from 5-6pm
in the Student Union
Vermilion Room

International Student
Council Activities
September 13th - *Take a
Stand Workshop*; 3 pm

September 14th - *Up With
People*; 7 pm

November 15th - *The World
at UL Lafayette*

IEP SESSION DEADLINES

<u>2019 -2020 Sessions</u>	<u>Deadline for Students outside the U.S.</u>	<u>Deadline for Students inside the U.S.</u>
Fall II 2019 (October 10 - December 6)	September 6, 2019	October 1, 2019
Spring I 2020 (January 9 - March 13)	November 29, 2019	December 13, 2019
Spring II 2020 (March 19 - May 22)*	January 31, 2020	March 9, 2020
Summer 2020 (June 4 - July 31)*	April 30, 2020	May 25, 2020
Fall I 2020 (August 6 - October 2)*	July 6, 2020	July 31, 2020

RESOURCES

Career Closet - Located in Room 104 of Agnes Edwards Hall, the Career Closet provides students with free, gently used professional clothing items for interviews and career fairs. Current students can visit the Career Closet during business hours to shop for suits, ties, belts, shoes and other professional items.

The Writing Center- Located in Room 108 of Griffin Hall, the Writing Center helps students improve on their writing skills.

Learning Center- Located in Lee Hall on the 2nd floor, this center offers free individual or study group tutoring and many other services to help students succeed in their area of study.

Campus Cupboard- Hours are on Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. and on Fridays from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Students who visit the Campus Cupboard will be asked to present their University IDs.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



UL Lafayette Division of Global
Engagement

International Student Council at UL
Lafayette



@ulglobalengagement
@ISC_UL