Graduating This Semester?
All students planning to graduate this semester should submit the online Petition to Graduate form, available at: https://www.santarosa.edu/for_students/student-services/graduation/applying-for-graduation.shtml. The Admissions Office will review your coursework and determine your eligibility for graduation. All candidates will receive a letter of notification regarding their graduation status.

We encourage all graduates to attend the Graduation Ceremony, held once a year in May. It is a happy occasion, and a great way to conclude your studies here. We encourage you to invite family and friends to attend. Letters of Invitation for family members travelling from overseas are available by contacting International Admissions. This year’s ceremony takes place at the Santa Rosa campus on Saturday, May 24. It is held at the outdoor stage near the front of the campus, with a reception to follow in Bertolini Hall. More information on purchasing a cap and gown, or graduation invitations is available at the SRJC Bookstore. Information about the ceremony can be found at: http://www.santarosa.edu/for_students/student-services/graduation/

Graduates should receive their SRJC Diploma in the mail about one month after the semester ends. Congratulations to all our graduates!

Plan Fall Semester Courses Now
The Counseling Department is hosting an Educational Planning Fair in the Student Activities Center (SAC), in Bertolini Student Center, March 31 to April 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students can earn “early registration priority.”

International students can visit Jerry Thao in her office during her International Student Drop-in Hours on Tuesday, 9 a.m.- 12 p.m.; Wednesday, 1 p.m.- 4 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.- 10 a.m. These hours are reserved for international students and you will have short wait times.

Need Help With Your Studies?
Your instructors have submitted their mid-term reports. You can go to your Student Portal to check on your status in the classes. Even if your instructors have reported that you are doing satisfactorily, you may want to get better grades.

SRJC has many resources to help you. Consider asking your instructor for suggestions on what to do to improve your grades, going to the Tutorial Center, visiting the English Writing Center or Math Lab, or creating a study group with other students in your classes.

Feeling stressed and depressed can also cause students not to do well in their classes. There are people who can help you in that regard as well. Stop by and talk to your counselor or come by the International Admissions Office. SRJC has many, many resources and people available to help you in numerous ways.

End-of-Semester Reception
The International Student Program is hosting an end-of-the semester reception in Doyle Library fourth floor reading room, Monday, May 12, 3:30-5:00 p.m., to announce the International scholarship recipient(s). This event is also to honor you all for your perseverance this semester, and learn what you have planned for summer and fall. This is a relaxing event with plenty of time for students, SRJC employees and community guests to interact. We hope you are able to attend.
FULL SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY IN KOREA FOR FALL 2014
Application Deadline: April 25

CCIE is awarding Full scholarships for Fall Semester 2014 to study in Soonchunhyang University in Korea. The scholarship includes the following:

- Tuition
- Airfare (up to $700).
- Room/board (not meals, books or daily expenses)
- Weekly living expense support of 150,000 W (approximately $100).

Students take courses in Korean Language; Korean Cultural Experience and Heritage; Social & Cultural History of Korea; Korean/American Relations; Korean Political Economy; Korean Business and Economics; Understanding Korean Education; Comparative Family Systems. In addition, students will spend 15 hours per week in the “cultural and language ambassador” program in which they converse with Korean students studying at Soonchunhyang University and share cultural information. Students DO NOT NEED TO KNOW ANY KOREAN TO APPLY.

For an application, please contact Rosalind Raby at rabyrl@aol.com.

More information can be found in the CCIE March newsletter - http://www.ccieworld.org/newsletters.html#cpa1.

An SRJC student is currently in Korea, having received this scholarship last semester. If you would like to talk with him about his experience and the worth of this scholarship, contact Peg Saragina (msaragina@santarosa.edu). She will forward your message to him.

The “SRJC International Student Program” can also be found on Facebook. Please LIKE us!

The Swedish Students Have Arrived

These students are in the last semester of a three-year Entrepreneurship Program and are at SRJC to study for five weeks. They would enjoy meeting other SRJC students as well as locals in the community to expand their cultural experience. Most of them enjoy drinking coffee, so maybe you can join them for a “cup of java” and share stories.

Homestays now available

If you are an SRJC employee interested in a cross cultural experience for yourself, and your family, please consider hosting an international student. For more information go to www.isphomestays.com or contact Jean Ikeda at: jean@isphomestays.com

SRJC International Club

Have you joined the SRJC International Club Facebook page yet? You do not need to be an international student to be a member of this student club or to follow the club on Facebook. Their mission is to promote international awareness in the community and countries abroad. Students sometimes gather for events. In fact, the club will be participating in SRJC’s annual Day Under the Oaks event on Sunday, May 4. If you would like to help with that event, post a message on the Facebook page.

April Calendar

| April 1  | April Fool's Day |
| April 15 | Last day to file taxes |
| April 18 | Good Friday (Christian holiday) |
| April 20 | Last day to drop a class with a “W” |
| April 20 | Easter Sunday |
| April 22 | Earth Day |
Festivals and Events

Cherry Blossom Festival
Saturday-Sunday, April 12-13, April 19-20
Post Street between Laguna and Filmore Streets
San Francisco

This year’s Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, April 12-13, and April 19-20. Join us as we celebrate Japanese and Japanese American culture in San Francisco’s Japantown!

This annual festival features food booths, cultural performances, martial arts, live bands, the annual Queen Program, and more. The Grand Parade will be held on Sunday, April 20, beginning at City Hall and concluding in Japantown.

www.nccbf.org

Apple Blossom Festival
Red, White, and Blues Blossoms Music Fest
Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m - 6 p.m.
Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m
Ives Park (Jewell Ave. and Willow St.)
Sebastopol, California
$10.00 (daily) Admission

The 68th annual Apple Blossom Festival will begin Saturday, April 12, in Sebastopol. This Festival is loaded with crafts, food music and drink. Festivities kick off with a parade leaving Analy High School at 10a.m. Floats, horses, kids, dogs, and others will wend their way down Main Street to Calder Avenue. Then make their way back to Ives Park for the rest of the fun!

Enjoy a full line up of Blues performers on the outdoor stage in Ives Park. Local artists will perform onstage Saturday and Bay area artists perform onstage Sunday. For more information: www.appleblossomfest.com/index.html

The Great Wall Youth Orchestra

The Great Wall Youth Orchestra is bringing their gift of music to Santa Rosa Junior College’s Petaluma Campus in Ellis Auditorium on Saturday, April 12, at 7:00 p.m. Come experience this once in a lifetime, FREE concert!

The Great Wall Youth Orchestra is under the direction of Ms. Sherlyn Chew, who started studying music at the age of three. She has been inspiring youth since the 1990s. She has received numerous awards for her teaching and has been recognized by the President of the United States and honored at the White House.

The Great Wall Youth Orchestra plays music from 6 different continents on traditional Chinese instruments and has traveled around the world to give their gift of music. They have been featured on the front page of the Wall Street Journal, KQED’s Spark! program, CNN, CBS Sunday Morning, ABC Good Morning America, San Francisco Chronicle, and Oakland Tribune.

Reservations are not needed. Arrive with your family and friends at Ellis Auditorium on the Petaluma Campus before 7 p.m. on April 12, and let the Great Wall Youth Orchestra take you on a musical journey that you have never experienced before. Free admission and parking. More details can be found at: http://www2.santarosa.edu/f/?nAKEOVUP

The newsletter is published monthly Sept.-Dec., Feb.-May
Peg Saragina, Director
International Student Program
Plover Hall, Santa Rosa Campus
Phone: 707-527-4509 Email: msaragina@santarosa.edu
Also available online at:
http://www.santarosa.edu/app/int-students/newsletters.php

International Program Newsletter