



Happy Spring! April showers bring May flowers, so enjoy the weather warming up, and a few rain showers here and there! Easter Eggs and the Easter Bunny are popular symbols used to represent Easter.



Spring Walk-in Hours for Immigration & Academic Counseling

Monday – Friday

10:00 am – 11:00 am (Immigration + Academic)

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (Academic only)

2:00 – 4:00 pm (Immigration only)

If you would like to make an appointment, please call the International Student Center at 201.689.7601, or come to the International Student Center (ISC) in Room A-126.

Please note that beginning Friday, June 3rd all college offices will be closed on Fridays until August 26th in observance of summer hours.



HACKENSACK | PARAMUS | MEADOWLANDS

International Student Center, Room A-126

400 Paramus Road | Paramus, NJ 07652

Telephone: 201-689-7601 | Fax: 201-251-0353

If you would like to submit information for F-1 students to be included in the E-Globe newsletter, e-mail Prof. Nestmann (anestmann@bergen.edu)



Hi Everyone! As we near the end of the semester, if you plan to go home for the summer, don't forget to come and get your I-20 signed. Please note that I will be out of the office on Thursdays and Fridays during the summer. Good luck with finals everyone! * Prof. Nestmann *

Scholarship Opportunity

The Wells Foundation Need Based Scholarship:

The Wells Mountain Foundation is a public charitable foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is primarily to support programs and individuals in third world countries, or other situations of extreme poverty and need.

Are you involved with community service and need a scholarship? If yes, the Wells Foundation Scholarship is an opportunity to tell us about the community service you have done in your country or at BCC. Visit the International Student Center today to pick up an application for the scholarship.

Each year the Foundation provides support to a number of students as they pursue various educational objectives. Typically support is provided for post-secondary school (college, university, polytechnic, trade school). Financial support is primarily to cover the costs of the education itself, and directly related expenses including books, and supplies at the educational institution. In some limited cases the support can be extended to cover other personal expenses while pursuing the educational objective including food and lodging, travel to and from the educational institution, and other personal needs.

Scholarships will generally be granted for the full period of study, however, recipients must provide copies of all progress reports and grades as they are received and the scholarship can be discontinued at any time in the event of unsatisfactory performance.

The scholarship awards are determined by the Scholarship Committee at the International Student Center. Scholarship applications must be submitted to the ISC by June 1, 2011 by 5pm. If you are interested in applying for the Wells Foundation scholarship please contact Mine Ugurlu or Natalie Williams in the International Student Center (Room A-126).

"Gambare Nippon!"

We'd like to dedicate this edition of the E-Globe to Japan, and to our Japanese students studying at BCC. April 11th marked one month that northern Japan was rocked by a devastating 9.0 magnitude earthquake, followed by a massive tsunami, that left the country with a death toll nearing the mark of 13,500, another 14,851 are missing, 4,902 people have been injured, and 139,020 have been displaced by the disaster. The earthquake was so violent that the northern portion of the main island of Honshu lurched more than three feet to the east, and the surface moved more than 16 feet. There have been more than 200 aftershocks, and a nuclear disaster nearing the proportion of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986 in the Ukraine.



The earthquake named "Higashi-Nihon (East Japan) Earthquake" is the most disastrous earthquake on record that has ever been

experienced. At first, it was announced Magnitudes 8.8, but two days later it was corrected to Magnitudes 9.0. Now that one month passed, the number of dead people has surpassed 13,000 (13,232) and still we have had the missing people less than 15,000 (14,554). Complete destruction buildings are about 60,000 (59,493) in nine prefectures, and about 4,800 (4,756) people are injured.

In addition, we have a very serious problem at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. According to the international evaluation, the nuclear accident is raised to the most serious "Level Seven" now. Japanese government has ordered people who live within the range of 20 kilometers to stay inside to avoid the radioactivity after the earthquake. Not only the problem of the nuclear power is still not solved, but all over Japan people are distressed as well as people in Fukushima prefecture. For example, the government announced that radioactive iodine of 108 Becquerel more than the intake standards (100 Becquerel per 1 kilo) for baby was detected in tap water of Tochigi prefecture. And then, Tochigi referred to the people in Utsunomiya city where they are supplied water from Matsudashinden water purification plant not to give baby tap water. This news made people of East Japan feel uneasy as well as the mothers who had babies, and let the people run to buy water. The region including [Greater Tokyo Area](#) encompasses seven [prefectures: Gunma, Tochigi, Ibaraki, Saitama, Tokyo, Chiba, and Kanagawa.](#)



On the other hand, the earthquake victims are calm, well-ordered, and patient. Those who lost their family and houses to live give their thanks before complaining about their state which lacks food, water, warmth....a few acts of plunder that occurred at the time of disaster. The people who were rescued showed amazing patience and discipline, and they always do not forget to pay consideration for others. It is the Japanese spirit that we Japanese think is the most important thing.

On the day when the earthquake occurred, I was so anxious for Japan whenever I was in school or at home. And when I think of Japan, tears stood in my eyes. I contacted my family, relatives, and my friends in Japan on the weekend. Finally, I could not contact one friend living in Fukushima, and unfortunately I have not yet. Still now, there are general feelings of unrest among the inhabitants in East Japan because of frequent big aftershocks. I am anxious to go back to Japan. As soon as possible after this semester is over, I am going back to my country, Japan.

My friend who lives in NY is from Kesenma, one of the most damaged disaster-stricken areas in Tohoku. His nephew (Akira Hashimoto) who lives in Tokyo took the pictures in this article to show my friend what is going on now; the current state of Fukushima. One month has already passed, but he went there by his motorcycle. It was so hard to reach there, he said. You can see his motorcycle and also the words "Gambare Nippon!" on it. "Gambare" is the word to encourage or cheer. "Nippon" is Japan. "Gambare" is our favorite word.



BCC F-1 student Yoko Kominami shares the following:



It was an unforgettable morning. On March 11th, I woke up at 6:30, and then I turned the television on as usual. But it was not usual. The television showed that thousands of people were overflowed in and around Shinjuku station in Tokyo. First, I thought a railroad accident or something; however, as soon as I saw the next scene I lost my words. It was the scene in which a huge tsunami was taking whole a town.



April + May

Monday, April 25th @ 12:30 pm

Now What?! I'm finishing ALP Level III, What Next? (L-146)

Thursday, May 5th @ 12:30 pm

OPT & Working After Graduation (L-146)

International Student Upcoming Events

Graduation Fun Shop for Class of 2011- come and decorate your graduation cap. Art supplies will be provided free of cost, just don't forget your graduation hat! **Space is limited, sign up required.** E-mail Natalie at nwilliams@bergen.edu to reserve your spot.

Monday, May 16th @ 4:00-6:00 pm, Room C-211

Wednesday, May 18th @ 12:00-2:00 pm, Room C-211

* **Immigration Workshop** – Tuesday, April 26th @ 12:30-1:30 pm in TEC-203. Come and hear Immigration Attorney David Nachman discuss the **green card lottery, work visas, citizenship scams, the Dream Act** and other important immigration topics.

* **ISA Executive Board Elections** – May 3rd, Room L-146 @ 12:30 pm
If you would like to run for office in the International Student Association (ISA) come to the meeting. This will be the last official meeting of ISA for the Spring 2011 semester.

* **Statue of Liberty + Ellis Island Trip** – Friday, May 27th.

A special thank you to this year's E-Board: President Stephani Gjorgievska, Vice President Ibrahim AbuSaid, Treasurer & Public Relations Representative Petar Radev and Secretary Ashani Tissera.

Immigration Bulletin

Changes in OPT: Please note that if you intend to apply for OPT, that the fee has changed from \$340 to \$380!

Are you planning on returning to your home country and not return to BCC? Before you leave, make sure that you let us know! We can adjust your immigration record so that you will not have a problem re-entering the USA in the future!!!

Taxes and Form 8843:

It's Tax Season!: If you worked for pay in 2010, it is too late to file your taxes. If you did not work for pay, you, and your dependents, need to file only the 8843 (fill out parts one and three of the form only, sign it, and send it in to the address on the form): <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf> by June 15th, 2011.

Focus on Academics

Can I drop a course? This is the time of year when a few F-1 students start to panic because they fear that they might fail a class. Keep the following in mind:

If you fail with an "F" just re-take that same class next semester, and your better grade will replace your "F" in your GPA (grade point average.) Make sure that you continue to go to class, because if you fail with an "E" that is considered an unofficial withdrawal, and that could cause you to lose your F-1 status because it brings you below your required 12 credits. The last date to drop/withdraw from a class was April 12th!

Graduating and planning to transfer? Did you know that the Office of Transfer and Career Development runs workshops every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 – 1:30 on how to transfer to a four year school? Check it out!

Graduating and planning or interested in learning about OPT? Be sure to come to an OPT workshop! The last two for the semester are on April 20th at the International Center, and May 5th in room L-146 at 12:30. You will receive all of the information, and forms that you need to apply for OPT! You need to apply SOON!!!

Online & Hybrid Courses: According to the federal regulations, F-1 students are only allowed to take 3 credits out of their required 12, every fall and spring semester as an online course, OR F-1's can take two hybrid courses. No more than this is allowed, unless you are taking more than 12 credits. Please be careful with online courses, we have had many F-1 students who do poorly with online classes, and you CAN get an E grade in an online course, and put your immigration status in danger! Only choose an online course if you are very confident that you can do well in that class.

Registration & Advisement: Priority Registration for the Summer 2011 semester has started, and Fall 2011 priority registration starts April 18th. To find out when you can register, and what classes you need to take for your degree, simply print out your program evaluation from your WebAdvisor Account. Please note that all students will need to be registered for classes for the Fall 2011 semester by the start of classes, September 7th, REGARDLESS of which campus they plan to attend. If you're not registered full time by that date, your SEVIS record will be terminated. Want to check out your major? Print off your Program Evaluation from your WebAdvisor account. Want to check out class descriptions and the school catalogue? Visit:

<http://www.bergen.edu/apps/ecatalog/index.asp>.

Want a list of all of the degrees available at BCC? Visit:

<http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/2923.aspx>.

Looking for information about International Student Life @BCC?

Visit our blog at <http://bergeninternational.blogspot.com>;

Korean: <http://bccrstudentlife.blogspot.com/>

Turkish: <http://bccaktiviteleri.blogspot.com/>.

Traveling soon? Need Immigration forms?

Visit the Forms and Link Page on the ISC website at:

<http://www.bergen.edu/isc/forms>.