



ISO Newsletter

Winter, 2014

# January, 2014

## Welcome back students!

We are very excited to welcome a new group of international students this Winter Semester, as well as welcome back our students from the Fall.

Earlier this month we had a very successful orientation for our new students that included presentations from Mr. Dave Hammerschmidt (Public Safety), Ms. Francis Fitzgerald (Writing Center), Ms. Cortney Totty (CPI), Ms. Nicole Nagy (Academic Advising and First Year Experience), Ms. Lijun Xue (Library Resources), Ms. Beth Hoffman (Online Resources), Ms. Dina DuBuis (Registrar), Ms. Peggy Finnigan-Jessup (Student Accounts), and Ms. Hadeel Betti (ESL).

We would like to thank all of our presenters and participants for their warm welcome, and remind all of our students that there are many resources available to them at every stage of their Madonna career.

We wish you luck on your journey!

Sincerest thanks from the International Students Office.

### ISO Newsletter

The ISO Newsletter is a monthly publication that offers our students information to guide them through their academic and non-academic life in the U.S. The newsletter also serves as insight into our students' activities and culture for the Madonna community.

We encourage you to submit ideas and writings for future issues! If you are interested in writing for the ISO Newsletter, please contact Amy Dickerson in room 1209, or via email: [aldickerson@madonna.edu](mailto:aldickerson@madonna.edu)

Links to our past issues can be found on our website: <http://www.madonna.edu/admissions/international-students/newsletter-iso>



#### In this Issue:

Meet Our Student Staff	2
Rikki Zhang—Thanksgiving Experience	3
Announcements	4

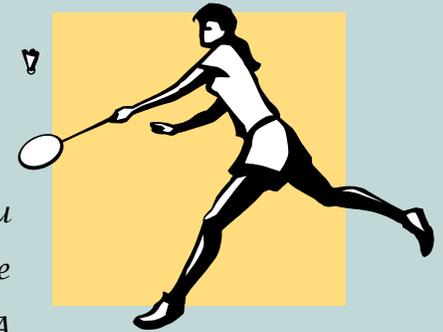
# Meet our ISO Student Staff!

The ISO is very happy to welcome two new student employees this semester: Ms. Lili Wen and Mr. Fei Zhao. The talents and skills our student employees bring are invaluable to the International Students Office. Thank you to our students for all the work you do!



Hello everyone,

My name is Lili Wen and you can call me Lily for short. I come from China. Now I study MBA program in Madonna University. In China, I work for a bank in Agriculture Finance Department, which in charge of issuing loan related to agriculture industry. In my spare time, I like travel, reading and playing badminton. I feel very happy to join ISO.



I am Fei Zhao, an international student from China. My major is MBA. This is my first year to stay here, and I am glad to meet you in Madonna. Before I came to the United States I worked in a Chinese local bank. Also, Wushu is my hobby. If you are interested in it, you can come to see me.



Wushu (武術) refers to Chinese martial arts, which you may know better as "Kung Fu". Wushu is formed from two words: *wǔ*, which means "martial" or "military" and *shù*, which means "discipline" or "method". Fei will give a demonstration of his Wushu skill at the Madonna International Festival on February 11!





From left to right: Qianyun Hu, Janis Bridgman, and Rikki (Yongshu) Zhang volunteering to serve Thanksgiving Dinner.

International students Rikki Zhang and Qianyun Hu spent Thanksgiving Day serving Thanksgiving dinner at Our Lady of Loretto Church in Redford with Professor Jan Bridgman.

## My Thanksgiving Day Service Experience

It was a wonderful experience to be a volunteer in church on Thanksgiving Day with my great teacher, Janis Bridgman, and classmate, Hu Qianyun. We were serving people with food and drink. The food was well-prepared with great love and people in church were so kind. The big dinner of Thanksgiving in church included baked sweet potatoes, great vegetable salad, smashed potatoes, great toasted Turkey and dessert.

In the morning, we put every dish in order as a line and I, with my classmate, was assigned to the drink service area. Our job was working as a waitress to deliver drinks and coffee to people, collect the used plates and clean the table. Gradually, more and more people were coming and enjoyed the Thanksgiving dinner. The music was sounded and there was a great singer

singing the cheerful songs to welcome all the people.

The church was surrounded

with festivity atmosphere. It was so wonderful to have the

Thanksgiving Day with so many kind people and we can be the help in the whole day. We are looking forward to the next Thanksgiving Day.



—Zhang Yongshu---Rikki

# Announcements



## Madonna Miles

### North American International Auto Show

Date: Friday, January 24

Time: 10:00 am — 4:00 pm

Location: Cobo Center, Detroit, MI

Celebrate the 25th year of this annual world-famous event which features 50 vehicle debuts.

Students can also tour Detour via the People Mover, which stops picks up in the Cobo Center.

Students who are not enrolled in the ESL American culture course can sign up in the Student Life Office: Room 1411

## Winter Driving Safety Tips:

The ISO wants to remind all drivers to take precautions when driving this Winter. We are due for multiple Winter storms which means more snow and ice!

The most important things to remember are to drive slowly, make sure your car is well-maintained, and stay home in bad weather!

For more tips on how to drive in the snow, including what you should do if you get stuck, or slide on ice, please visit AAA website: <http://exchange.aaa.com/safety/roadway-safety/winter-driving-tips/>

PDF guides on winter driving are available to download.

**Be safe!!!**

## Shopping Trips:

Friday, January 24: Meijer

4:00 — 5:00

Due to the Madonna Miles trip, there will only be one shopping trip this Friday.

Friday, January 31: Twelve Oaks Mall

3:00 — 8:00

Six spots available. Sign up begins Monday, January 27 in room 1209.

If you want to attend, come to room 1209 to sign up the week of the shopping trip!!



## ISO Workshop: How to Apply for Scholarships

Date: Wednesday, January 29,

Time: 3:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Location: Room 1004

Come to our seminar led by Mr. Thomas Laabs of the Financial Aid Office and learn how to apply for scholarships and maybe get free money to go school!

Stay for snacks and drinks!

