



# TRAVELER

## pathways to success: two students reach for their dreams

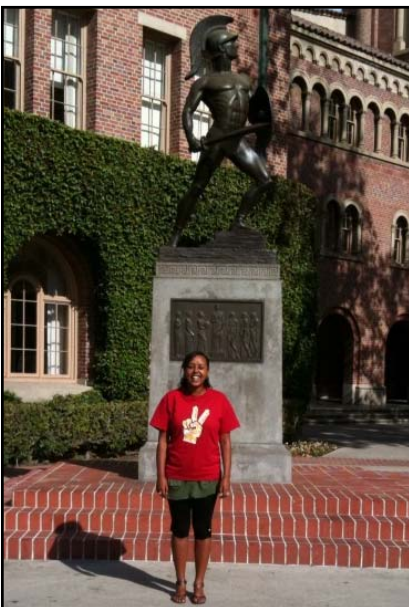
Living and studying in an unfamiliar culture can be difficult and may lead to culture shock. Culture shock is often described as experiencing feelings of not knowing what to expect in certain situations: when you arrive in the US, from your teachers, from your classmates, or from your roommates. Moving to the United States to pursue your educational dreams is a learning experience and all students adjust at their own pace (Exploring Culture, 2002).



Mark Okumori at the CSUF sign on the far end of campus.

Two students, Mark Okumori (Malaysia) and Maria Mohammed (Ethiopia), successfully completed their educational goals at Fullerton College. They adjusted to living and studying in America and both have continued on to pursue their dreams even further.

At the end of Fall 2007, Mark transferred to California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) with 70 semester units of general education credit. In May 2009, after three semesters, Mark earned his B.A. in Business Administration from CSUF. Then three months later, he began his first semester studying for a Master's in Business Administration at CSUF. Mark is expected to graduate in May 2011 and hopes to start his own record label or music production company.



Maria Mohammed standing in front of the Tommy Trojan statue in the center of USC's historic campus.

When Spring 2009 concluded, Maria had completed 62 semester units of general education at Fullerton. She was admitted and transferred to University of Southern California (USC) as a junior to begin studies toward a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering. Maria plans to become a partner at a civil engineering company specializing in earthquake structural design.

Mark and Maria did not succeed alone. They offer words of wisdom for you as you study here at Fullerton that helped them along their journey of success:

1. **Utilize your RESOURCES:** "The ISC staff is friendly and helpful." "They are there to guide you through your transition to American education and college in general." Take advantage and seek out help early.
2. **CONNECT:** "Other international students are experiencing the transition of coming to a new country, different culture, and different style." You're not alone! Meet new people, make friends, and build your network.
3. **Get INVOLVED:** "International students bring a diversity component to the student body, so get involved where you can contribute your experiences." The ISC and Fullerton offer many programs: mentor program, campus activities, sports, clubs, and/or student government.

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### ISC INFO

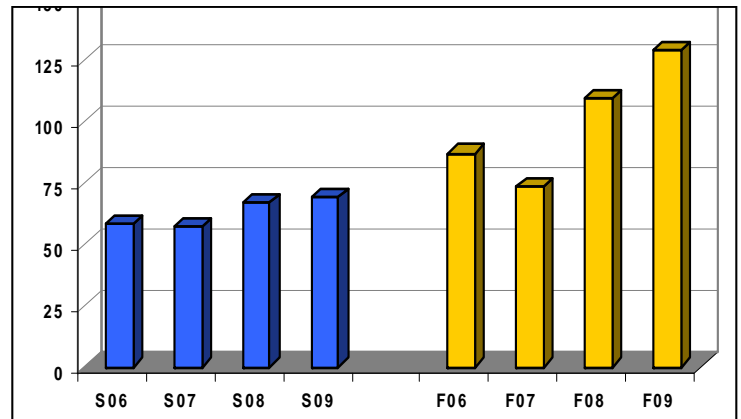
- ✦ **Travel Reminder!**  
If you are traveling during Winter Break, you *must* bring your I-20 to the ISC for a travel authorization signature. Spring 2010 classes begin January 19, 2010.
- ✦ **Stay Tuned!**  
A revamped ISC Website is currently being designed! Completion is expected by the end of Spring 2010.

# facts and figures on international students at fc

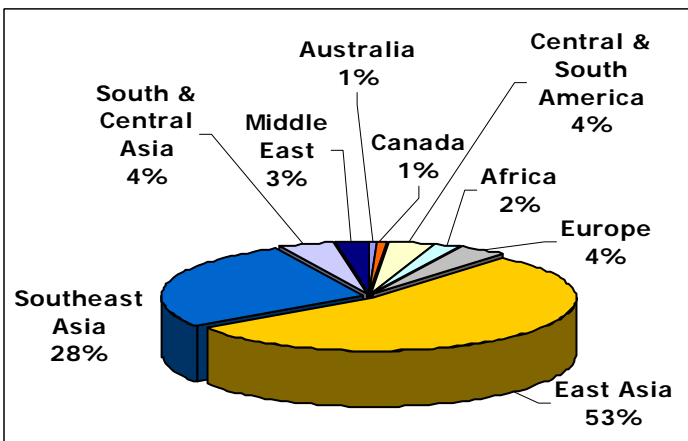
California leads the United States (U.S.) as the state enrolling the most international students (84,800) with an 8.7% increase from 2006/07 to 2007/08. Total new international student enrollment in the U.S. increased 10.1% for Fall 2008 over the previous year (IIE, "Open Doors 2008").

The International Student Center (ISC) welcomed 129 new F-1 international students this fall, a 33% increase from Fall 2006. Of the 129, 43 came from their country of origin, obtaining a new F-1 visa to attend Fullerton; 84 transferred from within the U.S., the majority coming from local language schools; and 2 changed to F-1 non-immigrant status through the ISC.

New F-1 International Student Enrollment



International Student Population by Region of Citizenship



Total international student enrollment reached 394, the highest full-time enrollment Fullerton has seen since the program's inception in 2001. In addition, the ISC serves 51 part-time international students who enroll in a maximum of seven units.

Top 5 Majors For International Students

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Business Administration / Management | 102 |
| 2. Accounting                           | 29  |
| 3. International Business               | 23  |
| 4. Engineering                          | 20  |
| 5. Music                                | 19  |

## get involved: join the international club

International Club members meet to celebrate their cultures and learn about other cultures. Join today and you will have the opportunity to make friends with students from all over the globe. Currently, board members consist of students from Romania (Alin), South Korea (Anna), Kenya (Krishna), Ecuador (Carla), India (Prashant), and the U.S. (Johanna). Tentative events for the year include a theme park trip, camping, attending a live American TV tapings, and hosting an International Day on campus.

Sign up today by email or Web:

Email: [internationalclub@fullcoll.edu](mailto:internationalclub@fullcoll.edu)

Web: <http://isc.fullcoll.edu/ic.htm>



## international trivia

fall '09

- In which of these countries is a majority of the population Muslim?
  - Indonesia
  - South Africa
  - Vietnam
  - India
- Which language is spoken by the most people in the World as their primary language?
  - Japanese
  - Mandarin Chinese
  - English
  - Spanish
- The Strait of Dover separates which two countries?
  - Italy and Greece
  - Spain and Portugal
  - U.K. and France
  - Spain and Morocco
- I was first settled by the Portuguese in 1680 and hosted the first ever Soccer World Cup in 1930, and won it. I border Argentina and Brasil. I am \_\_\_\_\_?
  - Colombia
  - Uruguay
  - Ecuador
  - Peru
- The Philippines produces more of which grain?
  - Barley
  - Rice
  - Wheat
  - Oat
- Vietnam was colonized by which European nation?
  - The Netherlands
  - Spain
  - Britain
  - France
- What is the capital city of Azerbaijan?
  - Ganja
  - Baku
  - Sumgait
  - Gobustan
- Which of the following countries is NOT in the African Union?
  - Egypt
  - Libya
  - Morocco
  - Zimbabwe
- How many countries are there in the Arab League?
  - 18
  - 22
  - 24
  - 28
- What is the sea between New Zealand and Australia?
  - Coral Sea
  - Arafura Sea
  - Tasman Sea
  - Cook Sea

Source: <http://iew.state.gov/quiz.htm>

Answers: 1. a, 2. b, 3. c, 4. b, 5. b, 6. b, 7. b, 8. c, 9. b, 10. c

## counselor's corner

transfer planning in times of budget crisis



Now it is more important than ever to have a plan if your goal is to transfer to a 4-year university, especially one in California, upon completing your studies at Fullerton.

Due to the budget crisis in California, the CSU system intends to reduce its total enrollment by 40,000 students throughout the 2009-2011 academic years ([http://blogs.calstate.edu/budgetcentral/?page\\_id=60](http://blogs.calstate.edu/budgetcentral/?page_id=60)). This means they have closed admission for Spring 2010 and will admit fewer students in the fall. As a result, students have postponed their transfer for Fall 2010. With the increase in applicants, competition will be fierce in order to gain admission to all CSUs. The UCs are also feeling the budget pain and admission competition will be even greater than previous years.

Knowing that these issues directly affect you, we offer some recommendations and guidelines:

- ✘ Apply to a *minimum* of four universities.
- ✘ California has 76 accredited private universities. Explore your options at: [www.AICCU.edu](http://www.AICCU.edu)
- ✘ Consider applying to out-of-state universities. You can search for universities by state at: <http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ/state/>

Still considering a CSU? The application period for Fall 2010 is October 1 to November 30. Late applications will not be accepted. Be sure to include your volunteer work and/or club and campus involvement to make you a stronger candidate.

If a university in the UC system is your main goal and you are applying for Fall 2010 admission, now is the time to prepare your personal statement essay. The Transfer Center, room 212, has workshops to help you begin and provide advice for writing a brilliant essay. For dates, go to: <http://transfer.fullcoll.edu/>

Don't forget that the ISC is here to provide support and advice. Good luck to all of you this semester!





# 2009 - 2010 events!



November 4	Wed	Academic Orientation I
November 9	Mon	HOLIDAY: Veteran's Day
November 26-27	Thur-Fri	HOLIDAY: Thanksgiving
December 2	Wed	Academic Orientation II
December 9-17	Wed-Th	Finals Week
January 6	Wed	Academic Orientation III
January 13	Wed	Immigration Orientation
January 14	Thurs	Welcome Dinner (5-7pm)
January 19	Tues	Spring 2010 Semester Begins
January 21	Thurs	Open House (2-5pm)
January 22	Fri	Late Orientation
January 29	Fri	Bowling (12-4pm)



\* International Club meets on Thursdays, 12pm\*



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**ISC Traveler**  
This newsletter is produced  
by Fullerton College's  
International Student Center.

International Club members pose with Kindergarteners at Kinderkamanita during the spring 2009 semester at FC!

## International Student Center Mission Statement

*The mission of the ISC is to prepare students for lifelong learning and personal development. We provide comprehensive academic, personal, social and cultural support to assist students in becoming successful participants in the local and global community.*

North Orange County Community College District

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