

The Graduate International Student Association

The Graduate International Student Association (GISA) continued its thrust to provide educational, social and cultural opportunities during the Spring 2014 semester. This included the following programs/events:

- **“BFF (Birthday with Friends & Family) Celebrations” on February 7.** Organized by the Social & Entertainment Team led by Abhinav Arora, this event allowed attendees who celebrated their birthdays from September 2013-February 2014 to convene and celebrate with their friends and extended family here in the USA. Discussions and demonstrations of various Birthday celebratory customs from different cultures around the world enabled cross-cultural analyses and a lively learning experience that culminated in an entertaining dancing experience.
- **“International Restaurant Hop—China Stop” on February 21,** which was organized by our Culture & Diversity Team’s Co-leaders: ‘Miranda’ Hui Liu and ‘Eva’ Zi Wang. This hop enabled immersion in an aesthetically appealing and authentically Cantonese cuisine context that was rich with cultural learning and, of course (pun intended ☺) delicious food ([See link with further details](#)).
- **“Global Night”** -our annual collaboration with the Service & Diversity Committee of the GEA- was held **on April 11,** and featured an array of poster presentations, poetry, song, and dance reflective of some of the various countries represented at Boston College. This was further enhanced by the opportunities of an open stage which took us back to class, and culminated with attendees’ participation in popular US dances such as the ‘Cha cha slide and ‘the Wobble’. ([See link](#)).

But we are not done yet. We will also have:

- **“Presentation 101” on April 28, 2014 at 12-2p.m (Location TBA).** This event is organized by the Education and Service Team under the leadership of ‘Eva’ Xin-Yi Lin, in conjunction with the Academic Support Program of the Lynch School of Education. It is intended to provide a healthy space for international students to do ‘dry-runs’ of their end of semester/conference presentations and get feedback that may help result in practice and improvement for the final presentations they will do in their classes/conferences as the semester draws to a close.
- **“BFF @ International Restaurant Hop—Afghanistan Stop” on April 25 at 5p.m. (Location TBA).** This will be our final hop for the semester and will also be an opportunity to celebrate with those who have birthdays from March 2014-August 2014.

Stay tuned for further details on these and other final semester events (such as Grad De-stress Week and our End of Semester Celebration).

As always, we are grateful for your continued support, and are reminded that we each have a role to play in making the campus community and the world a better place!

Speaking of roles, we would like to use this newsletter issue, to extend gratitude to the following GISA Leadership Team members who have made their marks in enriching the Boston College experience for so many, through their invaluable and committed service to GISA:

Leader of the Social & Entertainment Team:
Abhinav Arora, MSA Candidate, July 2014

Co-Leaders of the Culture & Diversity Team:
Hui (Miranda) Liu, MSA Candidate, July 2014
Zi (Eva) Wang, MSA Candidate, July 2014

Leader of the Education & Service Team:
Xin-Yi (Eva) Lin, M.Ed. Candidate, August 2014

We wish them all the best as they continue to set the world aflame!

Best wishes for your finals and enjoy the Summer Holiday when it comes!

The Leadership Team

Graduate International Student Association

Boston College

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