

Notes from the Office

Tuition: The tuition deadline has passed! If you have not paid tuition yet for your classes or submitted your financial guarantee, come to the ELI office **immediately** to see **Jennifer Vann**. Students who pay tuition late will be charged a late fee each week and will not be allowed to attend class.

Immunizations & Insurance: Have you turned in your immunization and insurance information to **Victoria Shelly**? If you haven't, you soon will be stopped from attending class. Check your email for messages from Victoria in case there is a problem with your immunizations or insurance. If you miss class because of an issue with tuition, immunizations, or insurance, it counts as an absence!

GatorLink: Setting up your GatorLink can be confusing. After you get your UF ID, you are sent an invitation to set up your GatorLink, but many people miss this email. If you have problems setting up your GatorLink, visit this website: <https://account.it.ufl.edu/>. If you still have questions, see **Jennifer Vann** in the ELI office.

Pineapple: Have you found the pineapple in the office this week? Each week, the pineapple will be hidden in a new location. If you can find it, tell **Tiffany** and she will stamp your pineapple card. When you get 8 stamps on your card, you win!

Conversation Partner Update

Thank you to everyone who attended the conversation partner meetings last week! If you did not attend, there will be one more conversation partner meeting on **Wednesday, January 30th** at **11:45** in **Turlington Hall 2303**. Please attend if you want a conversation partner!

If you attended a meeting last week, you will get your conversation partner soon! Look for an email from **Ryann** in the CIP Office.

The CIP Insider

Your place to find out what is going on with the Cultural Immersion Program!

This week, the ELI has two special weekday activities. Because of the basketball game on Wednesday, we will not have our normal volleyball activity this week.

Wednesday — Gator Basketball

On Wednesday, January 30th, the ELI will be going to see the University of Florida men's basketball team play against the University of Mississippi.

What: Bring \$12 cash and your Gator 1 ID to Matherly 211 to buy your ticket. Exact change, please!

Place: Meet at 6:00 at Gate 1 of the O'Connell Center.

Thursday—Downtown Gainesville

Come hang out and explore Gainesville's beautiful and fun downtown area! We will get coffee and see some of the coolest places like the Hippodrome Theater.

Place: Meet at the Downtown Starbucks. You can take buses 1 or 5 to get downtown.

When: Thursday, January 31st from 6:30–9:30.

Saturday Activity- Volunteer Day

Get involved in your local community and help others! If you are interested, please sign up on the CIP activities board. Act fast! These activities fill up quickly! All activities are on Saturday, February 2nd.

Grace Marketplace 8:00 –11:30	Make breakfast and serve it to people experiencing homelessness in Gainesville. LAs will drive students to this event.
Project Downtown Gainesville 12:30–2:00	Serve lunch to people experiencing homelessness in Downtown Gainesville. Students will meet LAs at Norman Garage.
Ronald McDonald House 1:30–4:00	Make artwork for sick children and their families to help them feel better. Students will meet LAs at Norman Garage.
Oak Hammock 9:00–11:30	Meet elderly people and talk with them! This is a great opportunity for conversation practice. LAs will drive students to this event.
Gainesville Greenway Challenge 8:30–1130	Help clean up a Gainesville park by removing invasive species of plants. LAs will drive students to this event.

ELI Success Stories

Students come to the ELI for many different reasons, but everyone comes to the ELI because they have goals. Have you recently achieved one of your goals? Let the ELI know!

If you or someone you know has an ELI success story, let the *ELI Weekly* know and we will publish your story. Did you get accepted to graduate school? Did you finally get a 6.5 on the IELTS? Did you get married, or did you have a child? Let us know.

If you have an ELI success story, contact Thomas Dolce at tomdolce@ufl.edu or visit his office in Matherly 220B.

Connect with the ELI!

Do you follow the ELI on social media? Get connected!

Instagram: @ufleli

New posts and stories every day! Competitions, photos, and videos to practice your English!

Twitter: @ufleli

News and events around the UF campus!

Facebook: UF ELI

Information for new students and our newest videos!

Snapchat: uf_eli

Photos and videos from events. Watch out for student takeovers!

Youtube: University of Florida English Language Institute

ELI Talent Shows, slideshows from past semesters, and student-made videos!

Next Saturday's Trip—Busch Gardens!

On Saturday, February 9th, the ELI will be traveling to Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida! Busch Gardens is a famous amusement park. It has thrilling roller coasters, exotic animals, and entertaining shows.

Tampa is far from Gainesville, so the ELI will take a bus to Busch Gardens. To buy a pass for the bus, bring \$20 cash and your Gator 1 ID to the CIP Office in Matherly 211. You can buy your bus passes Monday-Thursday mornings.

Tickets for Busch Gardens are \$79.99 for one day or \$99.99 for one year.

Useful Expression of the Week

Expression of the Week: In the CIP Insider, you saw one underlined phrase.

Phrase Two: fill up

These activities fill up quickly!

Fill up is a phrasal verb. It means to make full. You can use **fill up** with containers or space. For example, you can **fill up** your gas tank in your car, or you can **fill up** your water bottle before class.

Protect Yourself from Scams

Phone scammers are targeting international students in order to gain personal information about you so they can steal your money. These calls and texts can be about job offers or problems with your immigration status. They can be reported to local law enforcement, but it is very difficult to trace the number the call is made from. The best course of action to protect yourself is to:

- Never engage the caller in discussion
- Do not give any personal contact information
- Do not send money or give bank account information
- Block the number from your phone

If you have ANY questions or concerns about calls regarding jobs or your immigration status, ALWAYS feel free to contact Victoria or Daryl. Be safe and be smart.

Happy birthday!

Wish the following people a happy birthday this week!

Students:

January 28th: Mamdouh Alanazi

January 29th: Mary Roa Pena

January 30th: Sung Ae Kong

January 30th: Dina Valencia Gutierrez

January 31st: Boram Kim

February 2nd: Faris Alshahrani

Staff:

February 3rd: Maya Shastri