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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Scholarship Nominees

Let's congratulate these great students!

Everyone, Please join me in recognizing our ELI Scholarship Nominees for the Summer C, 2020 Semester:

Claudia Conejeros Garcia
Thiago Galvao Vianna Gameiro
Catalina Gomez Gomez
Voralak Inthong
Shina Jeong
Anisabel Lopez de Castro Bolufer
Alan Sulato De Andrade
Chantal Tovar Sforza

It is very difficult to be nominated for a scholarship. This means the nominees all worked extra hard this semester and achieved the following criteria.

- Full-time C semester student at the ELI.
- Academic Excellence: The student should have a 4.0 GPA and demonstrate a high level of proficiency in at least three of the four skill areas.
- Outstanding Progress: The student should display outstanding progress in language skills as evidenced by improvements in coursework.
- Excellent Attendance: The student should miss no more than ten hours of class in the semester.
- Speak English: The student should make every effort to speak English at all times while at the ELI and at ELI-sponsored activities.

- Successful Work Strategies: The student should demonstrate personal initiative in and out of the classroom, making an effort to get involved in the ambient culture through outside activities such as regular participation in Cultural Immersion activities.

Students, if you want to win the scholarship next semester, make sure to follow the same criteria and talk to the nominees to learn how else to become an excellent student.

New Office Hours

Because there are fewer students and teachers on campus, the ELI is changing our walk-in office hours. The main office will now be open from 10am to 3pm daily. Don't forget, though, you can always call or email any of us if you need help outside of those hours. Contact information for everyone on the ELI administration and staff can be found in the online ELI Student Guide. You also can always call or text the ELI emergency phone at any time if you have an emergency.

International Travel

You may be thinking about returning to your home country for the rest of the Spring 2020 semester because of COVID-19. Please be aware that the United States government is telling citizens to not travel internationally anywhere in the world. Many countries are implementing travel restrictions and mandatory quarantines, closing borders, and prohibiting non-citizens from entry with little advance notice. If you decide to return to your home country, make sure travel is possible. Also, you must let Daryl know if you will leave the US so he can help you with your I-20 and determine if you will continue with classes.

Change of Address in the US

If you decide to leave Gainesville and stay in another city in the US for the rest of the semester, you should report your change of address to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). You can report your change of address using the online AR-11 form at <https://www.uscis.gov/ar-11>. You must also give Daryl your new address so he can update it in SEVIS.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of March 25 to March 31:

Students:

March 25: Samantha Ali Ghandour

March 25: Tianqi Yao

March 26: Alejandro Parada Melgar

March 31: Taro Sano

Staff:

None this week!

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do Americans say excuse me when they pass by you in the store?

A: It is a way to be polite and maybe to give notice that they are going to pass by you. Also, saying *excuse me* is a much nicer way to say *get out of the way*. Typically, the usual response is *I'm sorry*.

Q: Why do Americans care a lot about punctuality?

A: Americans respect their and others time. When they make an appointment, they find it important to be on time. It is a show of respect. If you are late, you are saying that your time is more important than their time.

Q: Why do the bathroom doors in America have a gap? No privacy!

A: I have no idea. Most Americans don't realize that this is unusual compared to other places.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between like and such as?

A: Depending on which grammar book you're reading, when we use *like* to mean *such as* (in other words, to introduce an example or series of examples), it's either slang, conversational, or informal. In other words, it's incorrect grammar that a lot of people use anyway.

Conversational: I enjoy many American foods, like pizza and hamburgers.

Academic: I enjoy many American foods, such as pizza and hamburgers.

Q: What's the difference between a simile and a metaphor?

A: They're both used to create an image in reader's mind that compares things, but the main difference is that a simile uses *like* or *as*. Consider these examples. Which one is the simile?

- Gainesville in the summer is like a pot of chicken soup.
- Gainesville in the summer is emptier than teachers' wallets.

Quote of the Week

The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.

St. Augustine of Hippo



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