“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”  -Matthew 28:19

Here in this issue of the International Student Organization newsletter, you will find:

- Description of the 2010-2011 events and activities with the pictures
- Special news from ISO
- A message from the ISO president
- ISO Ambassador
- Special acknowledgements

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,[a] that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. - John 3:16
The ISO board once again kick started after a successful transition from the previous board in the summer 2010. In the beginning of the school year, the new ISO board took part in the university’s convocation ceremony and was anointed by the elders of the school. Here are the new representatives of ISO board 2010-2011: Alicia Panganiban (President), Frieder Dappen (Vice President), Misha Joseph (Secretary), Charissa Pajaron (Treasurer) and Daniel Reyna (Public Relation Officer).
The ISO welcomed the new students in the beginning of the fall semester of 2010. New students were able to mingle with the existing ISO members, which led to a good time of fellowship and fun through snacks, desserts and games. All were invited and encouraged to be the part of the ISO activity. Above you can see the group picture which was taken during the welcoming party.

As the semester progressed, the ISO held the annual Bake Sale fundraiser in the Regent Ordinary. This year, the Bake Sale was held as part of International Education Week. The Bake Sale was a successful event where funds were collected towards the new divinity building. ISO was also involved with this event in setting up a Cultural Display Table to represent different countries like India, Japan, Haiti, Brazil, Peru and so on. Compared to the last year, this year also a lot of people came out to support the effort and contribute the event through various ways.
Towards the end of every fall semester, ISO offers different fun events and this time we organized a Christmas Ball Reception in collaboration with COGS. It included light refreshments followed by a Christmas Ball, which was an exciting and fun-filled experience for the international students. The students had a good time with their friends and partners dancing in the ballroom. For some of them, it was a first time on the dance floor and it was an event for everyone to remember. On your right are some of the pictures of the Christmas reception and the ballroom party.

**Celebrating the New Year 2011...**

ISO celebrated the New Year by having a welcoming party in January for the new international students of spring 2011. There were a good number of students that came out to participate and encourage the new students. Furthermore, the fellowship got strengthened through delicious pizza and drinks.
Later on the spring semester, ISO held the biggest event for the entire year- the ISO garden party. The purpose of the event was to show our care and appreciation to the outgoing international students. Our main goal was to honor each outgoing student with the gifts, games, food and with the word of blessings for their future endeavors. The ISO board was also honored by OISS with the gifts and the prayers. It was a great time to celebrate the achievement with the other international students & families. The event ended with a word from the ISO President who explained the reasons for the temporary break with the ISO board.

What a better way to end our semester than by having a chapel!! Yes, with the collaboration of Unchapel, ISO did a special chapel for the internationals with worship, testimony and with the special prayer. Two international students were able to share their powerful testimonies during that time which moved and encouraged everyone else. We were able to give a touch of diversity and ethnicity to the students through our special chapel.

Sadly, our final ISO event was cancelled due to the lack of response from the respective members. This time ISO planned a Busch Garden trip instead of the traditional DC trip thinking that students will enjoy more with the rides and adventures for the summer 2011 but it seems that students enjoyed campus fellowship more than any other events.
Some of our other notable activities were:

**Group Lunches** – This year one of the goals for the ISO board was to form a strong community which indeed we have achieved through our events. But other than that, we came up with the weekly fellowship for the international students by having lunch in the Ordinary once in a week. It was a good way of bonding the relationships and getting to know each other well.

**Furniture Assistance**: Like previous years, this year also ISO continued to assist the new international students with the furniture and other house supplies.

**Involvement with the other communities**: ISO partnered with the Old Dominion’s International student Christian fellowship and New Life providence for various events and fellowship for the Regent international students.

**Special ISO news!!**

We are delighted to announce our special couple Charissa Pajaron & Daniel Reyna who shared the vows and tied the knot during the spring break of March 2011. They both came as an international student in the fall 2009, they both represented the current ISO board.

After serving a couple of semesters with the ISO board, Daniel had to give up his position due to intense academic and work pressure. However, he had a successful transition with David – Jimenez who replaced Daniel Reyna as the public relation officer.
President’s note

To My Fellow International Students:

It has been a pleasure serving you and the whole community. Thank you for all your support and participation; and a warm welcome to our new international students. Let us continue to build a close, healthy, and vibrant international community at Regent. Even though no one run for election last May, for those of you who have the heart to serve, please step up and serve the community when OISS will hold the elections (hopefully by Spring of 2012). The community needs you and it will surely be a wonderful experience for you as you serve the community. At the moment, let us all support the activities that OISS will organize to keep our international community vibrant. Let us not give up the habit of fellowshipping with one another.

Alicia

ISO Resolution

Due to the large number of outgoing international students in the spring 2011 term and the small amount of qualified students remaining, the ISO executive board decided to recommend two ambassadors to take over some functions of ISO until an election could be held in Spring, 2012 with the new students. The ambassadors would receive a scholarship to carry on some of the ISO duties, such as coordinating new student airport pick-ups, managing the furniture storage unit, and organizing some gatherings for the international students. The Vice President of Student Services approved the recommendation, but sadly, one of the appointed ambassadors already had a tuition scholarship and the other declined because of school work. Fortunately, the Office of International Student Services has been able to “hire” an ambassador/G.A. to continue with the main services that were provided by the ISO. That ISO ambassador/G.A. will be on board by October. In the meantime, the Office of International Student Services carried out the airport-picks for the Fall arrivals, coordinated the new student welcome event, and has been assisting with the furniture storage unit.
Special Acknowledgements

The ISO Board 2010-2011 wishes to recognize the following individuals or groups for their support to the international community at Regent this year.

Ms. Leeanne Johnson, Director of the Office of International Students and ISO Advisor

Dr. Jeff Pittman, Vice President, Student Services
Mrs. Carolyn Hughes, Director of Student Life
Dr. Richard Kidd, Director of Campus Ministries
Rev. Roger Cheeks, Director of Community Life
Rev. Dr. Clifton Clarke, Divinity Professor
Fellow COGS and RUC Student Leaders
International Student Christian Fellowship, Old Dominion University