

CCIS volunteers continue to serve international graduate students, post docs, visiting scholars, and their families at Stanford University. Read about some of our programs and events!



“Notes at the Top”

Kate Khatseyeva
President

WELCOME to the new school year!

On behalf of the CCIS Board of Directors, I'd like to give you an overview of our various programs and explain how you can contribute to the success of our organization.

This fall we are happy to be back on campus and able to provide in-person and virtual support to the new Internationals! From September 8th until September 26th CCIS is ready to offer in-person Orientation to the New Internationals through the **Community Advisors program**. During the orientation, Internationals can make an appointment for the **Loan Closet**. After two years of hiatus, it's finally back, and we are grateful to all our volunteers who make it possible. *Please consider signing up to volunteer for one, or several, of the four hour shifts during the two weeks of Community Advisors.*

The **Homestay program** is back as well. If you have a spare bedroom, we encourage you to open your home to an international grad student for 3-5 days before the dorms open. It's a great opportunity to meet the brightest people from all over the world and develop a long-lasting friendship. In many ways this is what we all do as volunteers for CCIS. We have a welcoming smile and a positive attitude and really SEE the internationals as individuals. We brighten their lives during what could be a lonely time for many of them.

Another great opportunity to be involved with the community and make an impact is to participate in the **Hospitality Program** or help with the transition to the Bay Area through the **Virtual Welcome Partner Program**. As you may know, the programs **English Classes** and **English in Action** are always in huge demand. As the days start to lengthen and the sun brightens our lives, we can all bring a little light of our own into the world. Thank you for all you do to welcome and support the internationals at Stanford

The newly named **International Spouse Coffee** (formerly Friday Morning Coffee) is becoming more popular and we see more people coming on campus to enjoy conversations and a cup of coffee. The International Spouse Coffee will continue on Wednesdays this quarter.

Windows on the West will resume screening films in mid October. The evening's meal will be provided by participants in the new **Global Chef** program. Global Chef internationals and volunteers will be cooking and enjoying the meal served before the Windows on the West film begins.

The **Spouse Education Fund** provides education grants to international spouses so that they can take a class or pursue a personal or professional interest.

We are looking forward to more in-person events this Fall not only for Internationals but for volunteers as well. If you'd like to learn how to sign up to volunteer for a specific program, don't hesitate to reach out to me at president@ccisstanfordu.org

Thank you for being a valuable part of CCIS and supporting our International Community at Stanford. We truly appreciate it!

If you see me on campus, please stop by and say "Hi!" I look forward to learning more about CCIS members and to discovering new ways to make our community stronger.

Sincerely,

Kate Khatseyeva, President
Community Committee for International Student at Stanford

Thank you for being a part of CCIS and supporting our International Community at Stanford.
president@ccisstanfordu.org

CCIS Spouse Education Fund receives high praise

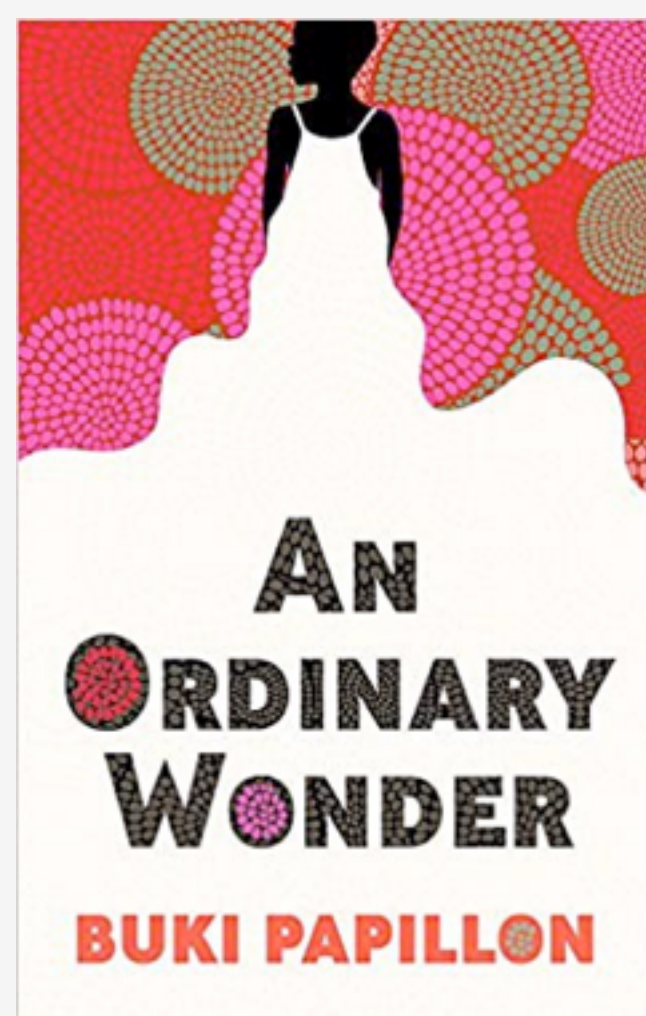


Buki Papillon, a SEF recipient in 2003, had her debut novel published in April 2020. Entitled **An Ordinary Wonder**, the book received glowing reviews and mentions in major magazines.

In the credits section she notes "Special thanks to the CCIS at Stanford University, and all the wonderful friends I made at Friday Morning Coffee...and Gwyn Dukes and John Pearson...and the entire Bechtel staff of 2002/2003. Thank you...for saying your dreams matter too to the lost and bewildered spouses trailing their partners to a new country, often sacrificing their own aspirations and careers."

"The Bechtel I-Center literally gave me room to dream and the **CCIS Spouse Education Fund** sponsored the very first writing class that started me on this wonderful journey."

Buki Papillon was born in Nigeria, the oldest of six children. She has a law degree from Hull University in the UK, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She lives in Boston, MA. Her website: <https://www.bukipapillon.com>



New Day and Time for "International Spouse Coffee"



The former **Friday Morning Coffee** has changed its name to **International Spouse Coffee**, and meets on a new day and time. Join us every Wednesday from 10:30 to Noon in the Bechtel courtyard.

The Coffee is an opportunity for spouses, partners and family members of international students, postdocs and visiting scholars to meet one another and learn about local resources and ways they can enhance their stay here. CCIS volunteers welcome newcomers and provide local information related to the interests of those attending.

The event continues every week that Stanford is in session, and is jointly sponsored by the Bechtel International Center and CCIS. The change came about this past summer, when Bechtel was closed on Fridays, and the weekly Coffee was changed to Wednesdays.

Future planning engages CCIS Board



In early August, 20 members of the CCIS Board met in Palo Alto for the CCIS annual retreat. On the agenda was both a look-back at the 2021-2022 annual year, as well as a look-ahead to the new fiscal year to identify a few of our top priorities.

Clarifying the CCIS role and visibility to the Stanford community, as well as making our website more prominent and useful, were among the top goals for the new year. We went through the calendar for meetings in 2022-2023, and we listened to talks from folks from the International Bechtel Center, as well as putting the date for the Holiday luncheon in December (December 5th at 11:30 am-2:00 pm) on our calendars.

In the new year, the board also wants to re-visit how CCIS is portrayed to our volunteers and constituents. We want to increase resources (funds, and volunteers) to support the programs that we launch.

We reviewed the annual budget for all of our programs including CCIS notes, Community Advisors, English classes, English in Action, Friday Morning Coffee (renamed International Spouse Coffee) which is partially funded by the Bechtel Center, the Homestay program (we need more volunteers this year), Hospitality, the Loan Closet, Membership and Publicity, the Spouse Education Fund, and Windows on the West.

Our many programs are designed to offer services to both students and spouses are quite broad and extensive. The CCIS Board's intention is to strengthen these programs and identify new needs and interests of the international community and to launch pilot programs to test the appetite for additional programs. If we can retain the interest that already exists for our programs, grow the membership even modestly, and encourage broader program participation from the existing membership, our future would indeed be bright.

CCIS has an important role to play. Our legacy of serving the international student community is a proud and fulfilling one. Whether you are a volunteer, a student, a family member or a faculty advisor - Thank you for your participation! Join us in 2022-2023 in our efforts to expand and strengthen CCIS.

Jeff Greenwald, CCIS Board Vice-President

A word from the editor

As the newsletter editor, I hope you will enjoy learning more about what's happening at CCIS. Your feedback is welcome, send an email to notes@ccisstanfordu.org.

Pamela Baird

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[The Community Committee for International Students at Stanford University](http://www.ccisstanfordu.org)

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