



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



“Notes at the Top” Annette Isaacson President

Bittersweet but upbeat!

When I was teaching, I was always ambivalent about the month of June. On the one hand, I loved that summer was here, that I could enjoy a second cup of tea while reading the morning paper instead of hurrying off to school, and that I was able to travel on vacations, but June was also bittersweet because I had to say "goodbye" to my students.

This June is again bittersweet. I get to welcome some wonderful new board members to CCIS: **Kate Khatseyeva**, Vice-President; **Sandy McKay**, Secretary; **Vivian Euzent** and **Elizabeth Ambuhl**, EIA Volunteer Recruitment co-chairs; **Pratixa Joshi**, Homestay; **Juliet Johnson**, Membership (data/donors); and **Sue Hartenbaum**, Membership (member contact); but I also have to say 'goodbye' to four hard-working, talented board members who have made such wonderful contributions to CCIS and the International Community at Stanford: **Carl Cheney**, EIA Volunteer Recruitment; **Lucy LaPier** Homestay; **Henry Lum**, Professional Development Program; and **Donna Shoemaker**, Member Services. We will miss them.

Usually program chairs use the summer to make plans for the Fall, but because of the uncertainty caused by the pandemic, making plans is difficult. Due to COVID-19, and in conjunction with Stanford's social distancing policies enacted to keep everyone safe, CCIS is reluctantly cancelling the following programs for Fall Quarter: **Windows on the West**, **Loan Closet**, **Hospitality**, **Homestay**, and **Community Advisors**. We will restart these programs as soon as it is safe to do so.

Other programs will continue virtually in the Fall: **Friday Morning Coffee**, **Spouse Education Fund**, **English Classes**, **Professional Liaison**, and **English in Action**.

Thank you for embracing the international community at Stanford.

Fondly,
Annette Isaacson
CCIS President
president@ccisstanfordu.org

Spouse Education Fund provides opportunities



In December of 2019, the **Spouse Education Fund** Committee of CCIS was able to offer grants to 44 spouses from 23 different countries. The group was honored with a reception for friends and family. Fortunately, despite the difficulties of COVID-19, almost all were able to complete the course of their choice.

We have received many heartfelt letters of thanks to you, CCIS Members, for your generous donations which support them. Stefano Silva, one of our SEF grantees, sent the following note upon completion of the class he took through Continuing Studies...

"Dear Donors, I am very grateful for the generosity of amazing people like you, who selflessly encourage other people to pursue their goals. I want to thank you so much for providing me the opportunity to learn from people with wonderful experiences, to improve my English skills, and to allow me to develop the tools to get accepted into an MBA program."

Another spouse, Ana Carla Araujo, replied after taking a course in writing...

"Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to strengthen my knowledge, abilities, and confidence as a writer and a person as a whole."

It is thanks to the generosity of **SEF** donors that individuals who come to Stanford to accompany their partners are able to have their own enriching experience while here. Some have explored new areas of knowledge, while moving forward with their lives.

In addition to donating to the SEF Current Giving Fund, it is possible to create an honorary or memorial grant for a person you wish to celebrate with a gift of \$400 or more. An SEF Honorary Grant was created in honor of John Pearson upon his retirement as director of Bechtel international Center. SEF memorial funds have been created for CCIS leaders/members such as Marsha Alper, Marianne Dieckman and Jane Reber and have supported many grants over the past ten years. Betty Ogawa left a generous Legacy Grant that continues to support SEF scholarships.

Each summer the SEF program solicits donations from CCIS members and the community. For further information contact Dolly Verplank at SEF@ccisStanfordU.org.

Meet the new CCIS Board members

The Board is pleased to announce five new members. One existing member has changed positions. Over the next few newsletters the new members will be introduced. We are so thankful for having wonderful new members and look forward to having their input and suggestions.

Sandy McKay, Secretary

Sandy first became affiliated with CCIS through the English in Action program. As a professor at San Francisco State University, Sandy enjoyed working with many international students. She also traveled to many countries as an English education teacher.

Now retired, Sandy has been teaching in the CCIS English program and has been nurturing three international English in Action partners. Sandy has accepted the position of secretary. She intends to learn more about the various activities offered by CCIS, get to know the others on the Board, and of course, take accurate and thorough minutes!



Kate Khatseyeva, Vice President

Originally from Belarus, Kate and her husband have been in the Bay Area for less than two years. She says that her curiosity and desire to meet others led her to the Bechtel Center.

Kate jumped in and helped volunteer with several CCIS programs. She has a background in Human Resources and feels that this and her tech experience will help CCIS adapt to more online formats. Kate also has a YouTube channel where she talks about volunteering, personal development and leadership skills.

A new look for our newsletter

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

CCIS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

CCIS Notes is published by

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

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