

# International Student Volunteers (UW-Madison) Meeting Minutes November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004

## 1) Introductions

Brynna Larsen – Co-President, ISV (UW-Madison)  
Patrick Schuette – Co-President, ISV (UW-Madison)  
Mark Liles – Faculty Advisor, ISV (UW-Madison)  
Randy Sykes – International Director, International Student Volunteers

## 2) Announcements

*WUD Alternative Breaks* – The Wisconsin Union Directorate (WUD), the student programming board of the Wisconsin Union, is offering Alternative Breaks to 7 different places across the USA over Winter Break in order to encourage service work and education. The deadline to turn in applications is on Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information and applications, please visit this website: <http://www.union.wisc.edu/altbreaks/index.html>

*Habitat for Humanity Winter Break Trips* – Habitat for Humanity here in Madison is offering trips to Charleston, South Carolina and Belgrade, Montana to work for local Habitat for Humanity Chapters and also to sightsee. The trips are for a week over Winter Break. If you are interested, the costs, trip dates, and information can be found here: <http://www.uwhabitat.org/trips/index.shtml>

*BRIDGE* - This is a program here at UW-Madison in order to help accommodate international students to the American college lifestyle. BRIDGE partners will engage in a cultural exchange with these students and will also help them to better enjoy their time here at Madison. More information about the program can be found here: <http://www.intstudents.wisc.edu/bridge/index.html>

## 3) Upcoming Events

### Fundraising

*It's Your Party* – This is a group that holds large parties for businesses and groups with themes such as Casino Night and Summer Picnics. Specifically, Casino Night is where It's Your Party (IYP) puts together a party with a gambling theme, with activities such as Blackjack. Participants of these parties are given chips with which they can gamble and then win various prizes in a raffle. What IYP wants us to do is to come in for a training session on how to play Blackjack and run the Blackjack tables. This training session will be happening on Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> in Union South from 7:00 PM until about 8:30 PM. If you would like to take part in this training or want more information, please contact Patrick Schuette at [ptschuette@wisc.edu](mailto:ptschuette@wisc.edu)

### Volunteering

*Habitat for Humanity Rake-a-Thon* – Habitat for Humanity is holding a Rake-a-Thon on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 12:00 PM. What we will be doing is going out to various houses in the Madison area and raking the leaves on their

lawns. The owners of these houses will then be making a donation to Habitat for Humanity for our work. For more information, or if you would like to sign up, please contact Patrick Schuette at [ptschuette@wisc.edu](mailto:ptschuette@wisc.edu)

*Red Cross Blood Drive* – As you've probably seen in the email, ISV is sponsoring a blood drive here at UW-Madison. This blood drive will be happening on Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup> and Friday November 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. We need people to come in and donate blood. Also, we are looking for people who would be willing to dress up as a drop of blood (costume provided!) to advertise the blood drive at Union South. If you want more information or would like to sign up, please contact Lindsay Schaffner at [lrschaffner@wisc.edu](mailto:lrschaffner@wisc.edu)

*Wexford Ridge* – Every week, ISV (UW-Madison) sends a small group of people over to the Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center, which runs an after-school program for kids between the ages of 7 and 10, every Friday from 3:30 PM until 5:30 PM. What this group does is help out with the people who run the program, as well as play games and have fun with the kids. If you would like to sign up to do this or if you want more info, contact Nicole Granacki at [nikkistar@aol.com](mailto:nikkistar@aol.com). Space is limited, so please contact her soon!

*Wilmar Neighborhood Center Pie Bake* – The Wilmar Neighborhood Center is a community center on Madison's east side that benefits underprivileged youth living in the area. They have organized a fundraiser on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> (Saturday and Sunday) where they will be baking and selling pies across the Madison area. Along with the Wisconsin International Students Association (WISA), we will be working four different shifts on these two days helping to bake and sell these pies. If you want more information, contact Nicole Granacki at [Nikkistar@aol.com](mailto:Nikkistar@aol.com), although be aware that we have filled up most of the shifts and might not have enough room for everyone!

*Second Harvest Food Bank Sort-a-Thon* – The Second Harvest Food Bank, which is a food bank that collects donations and distributes them to food pantries across southeastern Wisconsin, will be having a huge event at the Alliant Energy Center which they will need a lot of volunteers for! This event will be happening on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Right now, we are only gauging interest. If you want more information on this event or if you are interested in helping, contact Nicole Granacki at [nikkistar@aol.com](mailto:nikkistar@aol.com).

### Social Events & Activities

*Skiing and Snowboarding* – We are looking into skiing and snowboarding on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at Tyrol Basin, which is about a 45 minute drive from Madison. If we get more than 15 people, we will get a group discount. The cost will be between \$15 and \$20 for skiing and between \$20 and \$25 for snowboarding. If you're interested, email Mara Youman at [dbyouman@wisc.edu](mailto:dbyouman@wisc.edu). If we get enough people, we will definitely be going!

#### **4) Website**

If you want links to the websites of groups we work with, information and updates on volunteer events and activities, or if you want to look at pictures from our past events, check out our website at:

<http://isv.rso.wisc.edu>

We are updating it on a regular basis with more pictures, links, and information! Feel free to peruse it to learn more about what our club is about.

#### **5) Randy Sykes**

Randy Sykes, the International Director of International Student Volunteers, came here to Madison to see how our club operates in person as well as give us a short presentation at the meeting on International Student Volunteers and the impact that it has had thanks to the hard work and effort of the people who participate in their trips. He also talked about how ISV will be attempting to expand into Ecuador, Thailand, and South Africa within the next two year. Along with this, Randy, Brynna, and Patrick have been discussing some potential exciting opportunities for ISV campus clubs down the road that they are really excited about! Expect to hear more information on these things in the near future!

We would like to thank Randy for taking time out of his busy schedule to come to Madison and see what our club is about! He's been incredibly impressed with what we have done so far and is excited with what everyone in the club brings to the table. He is quite proud about what we've done so far!

We, the staff, would like to thank all of our members for doing such a terrific job in gaining the praise and recognition of the ISV front office. You guys have all done such a tremendous job in making this club what it is today. Thank you so much for all of your hard work and effort!

Finally, our last meeting of the semester is happening on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM. See you then!