

Opportunities for Faculty and Staff

Tuition Exchange Open to Faculty/ Staff Dependents

The Tuition Exchange provides a reciprocal scholarship exchange program for family members of full-time faculty and staff employed at its more than 600 member colleges and universities located in the US and overseas.

The primary obligation of a member institution such as AUS is to maintain a balanced exchange pattern, a reasonable match between student "exports" and student "imports." AUS may import as many students as it wishes, but may not export more than it imports.

All students must apply for admission directly to the institution they wish to attend, which determines its own admission procedures. The admissions process is completely separate from the process for awarding Tuition Exchange scholarships. AUS does not have ultimate control over the award of Tuition Exchange scholarships. The **deadline** to apply for the exchange is **October 30, 2014** for the 2015–15 academic year.

Final decisions are made by the targeted universities. AUS can only nominate faculty and staff dependents for these scholarships, and then track the status of the applications until a decision is finally made by the target universities.

AUS dependent students who are currently enrolled at AUS and who seek to transfer to another institution after receiving a Tuition Exchange scholarship must ensure that they are able to fully complete their last semester at AUS, including completion of all final exams as per the schedule published by the Office of the Registrar. For more information about this program, visit www.tuitionexchange.org.

IXO Events and Outings

IXO has arranged many outings for the Fall 2014 exchange students.

So far, they have visited the Arabian Wildlife Centre and the museums in Sharjah, the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding in Dubai, beaches and so much more.



Sharjah Gold Souq



Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding, Dubai

IXO Calendar Application Deadlines

30 October

Tuition Exchange Scholarships (see page 1)

6 December

Study Abroad Fall Semester 2015

9 May

Study Abroad Spring Semester 2016

Student Profile

California student spends summer at AUS

Claire McKinnon, a student from San Diego State University who is majoring in international security and minoring in Islamic and Arabic studies, chose to spend her summer here at AUS for her study abroad experience.



Claire at the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

"There were only two things that I found to be 'culture shocking,'" said McKinnon. "When I visited the Dubai Mall, it was the first time I had ever been surrounded by people wearing kanduras and abayas. It was something I was originally so unfamiliar with, but I eventually bought my own abaya to fit in! The second was hearing the call to prayer. I had no idea that I would hear it echoing throughout the town! I found it to be quite beautiful."

"Studying abroad can be an enriching experience," McKinnon continued. "It's all of what you make of your trip! But the fact that I minor in Islamic and Arabic studies, I couldn't have chosen a better or more exciting location to have studied. I met so many new and interesting people and felt I was able to explore a majority of the UAE. It was truly an experience of a lifetime."

Visiting Scholar Profile

AUS alum returns for psychology research

One of the visiting scholars recently hosted by AUS is Selma Al Makzomy, an AUS graduate. Al Makzomy is here at AUS as a research assistant to Dr. Mark Aveyard. She is based in the Psychology Laboratory of the Department of International Studies.



Selma Al Makzomy

"I lived in the UAE before moving to the Netherlands; in fact, AUS is my alma mater. Hence, when I had the opportunity to return to AUS as a Visiting Scholar to be a research assistant, I was happy to come back."

Her independent research is about mindfulness, positive psychology and well-being. She is currently working on publishing her master thesis, entitled *Mindfulness vs. Positive Psychology: The Impact of the Two Interventions on Positive Emotions and Being Mindful*, which identifies the benefits of mindfulness intervention and positive psychology intervention in overall well-being, positive emotions and enhancing mental health among UAE residents.

Opportunities for AUS Students

SBA Students at Kedge Business School

Kedge Business School (KEDGE BS), a partner university with AUS located in Marseille, France, offers programs for both undergraduate and MBA students.



Kedge Business School, France

KEDGE BS is accredited by both AACSB and EQUIS. AUS School of Business Administration (SBA) students who wish to attend Kedge programs must have all courses approved by SBA. This opportunity requires special advising considerations agreed to with SBA. Students must have at least 60 credits by the program start date. Seniors may not go in their graduating semester. Students must also have a minimum GPA of 2.5 or above in order to be eligible to apply. For more information, visit IXO (Main Building, Ground Floor, MG43, ixo@aus.edu).

Spend Spring Semester at Cambridge

The Spring Semester Programme at Pembroke College at the University of Cambridge offers an exceptional opportunity to experience life as an undergraduate in one of the oldest and most distinguished university cities in the world. Each year, Pembroke accepts around 30 students for a two-term semester of study. Semester students become full members of the university and are able to access the full range of opportunities and facilities. They take the same lectures and participate in the same extracurricular activities as Cambridge students and they live in university accommodation. In addition, Cambridge students also typically attend one-hour weekly supervision with an expert in the course they are taking. There are plenty of extracurricular activities students can enjoy, such as sports, music, acting, politics, journalism and more.

For the Spring Semester Programme, Pembroke welcomes academically ambitious students from universities across the world. Applicants must have completed at least two years of study at their home university (AUS) before beginning their semester at Cambridge. Students should have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75. Applications for Spring 2016 open in January 2015 and given the intense competition for places, early application is advised.

Events

To celebrate International Day of the Girl Child, IXO, sponsored by CIEE, hosted a screening of *Girl Rising*.

IXO is also hosting an upcoming presentation on October 22 on the book *What is Veiling?* which addresses one of the most visible and least understood emblems of Islam.