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CIES Nole News

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Hecht House Improvements

Information about our CIES home

You've probably noticed that we have been doing construction here in our CIES courtyard. By getting rid of the flower planter, we will have more space to have **functions**, dinners, and even dance parties out in the courtyard. Even though Hecht House has only been CIES's home since last year, the building that we occupy is very historic.

Hecht House at FSU was originally the Alpha Phi **sorority** building/house. The narrow hallways upstairs and the large kitchen downstairs might tell you that people used to live in this building.

After the sorority left Hecht House, the building was redesigned in the 1970s. The building became the office of the FSU Foundation and the Seminole Boosters, and it was named for Isadore Hecht, who was a wealthy man in South Florida who gave away a lot of his money. He gave money to several universities in Florida, and there is even a residential college at the University of Miami named for his family.

After several years, the FSU Foundation and the Seminole Boosters moved to other buildings on campus, so Hecht House next became the home of the FSU Criminology (criminal justice) Department. The building contained many offices and meeting rooms, but there were almost no classes held in the building. CIES officially moved into Hecht House early in 2014. Now the building has classrooms in addition to offices. Even though no one officially lives in Hecht House, it still serves as a warm and inviting home for all of us.

Going home for Summer II ?

Many of you will be leaving CIES in the middle of June in order to return home for Summer II. If you are taking the session off, you must have a plane ticket which shows a **departure date between June 12 and June 26**. Also, you are not allowed to return to the United States until **July 20 (or later)**. Lacey must sign your I-20, so please bring your I-20 and plane ticket itinerary for her to sign during the first week of June.

CIES Voices Deadline

We are now halfway through our session, and the deadline for CIES Voices will be here soon. All students are **encouraged** to participate in this writing competition by submitting a writing sample to their composition teacher. Many



teachers may even give you an assignment grade or extra credit for submitting something. It doesn't matter how long or short your submission is. Your teacher will tell you when you have written something that would be good for CIES Voices

The deadline for submissions is **TUESDAY JUNE 2nd**. You can submit your writing to your composition teacher, or you can email it directly to Andrew Wilson (acwilson@fsu.edu).

Getting to Know: Isaiah Kraus

Many of you have noticed a new face that we have around here. This is Isaiah Kraus's first session teaching at CIES. Although some of



you have Isaiah as one of your teachers, many of you may not know much about him. Isaiah is not from Florida; he comes from Ohio, which is a state in the Midwestern part of the US. He attended the Ohio State University, one of

the largest and most well-known universities in the country. His first degree was a bachelor's in fine arts. He studied sculpture and specialized in glass blowing; that is when you heat glass to a very high temperature and then sculpt and design it into interesting shapes. Isaiah also specialized in the photographic arts. After graduating, Isaiah ran a photography business in Ohio. He would take pictures of special events, family occasions, and weddings. However, after 9 years, Isaiah got **burnt out** and needed a change! Since his brother was teaching English in South Korea, Isaiah decided to move there and join him. He started teaching English at a private academy on the southern coast of Korea, and after two years, he began teaching at a public school in Jeonju, Korea. During this time, he met and started dating the wonderful Soongyu, whom he is now married to. In some Korean families, it is considered taboo to marry someone who is from a different part of the world. As a result, Isaiah didn't meet his wife's parents until after they had been dating for two years. His wife's parents now love Isaiah, and he enjoys spending time with them in Korea. "I

really want to study and speak Korean,” Isaiah mentions, “so I can communicate with my wife’s family.” He is now studying at FSU. After he finishes his studies at FSU, he wants to eventually return to Korea. Isaiah has really loved his experience at CIES. So far he finds the CIES “very surprising.” He says that “[since] I’m so used to teaching Asian students, I’m not used to having students from all over the world. Here at CIES the students are more open-minded and extroverted.” Given Isaiah’s diverse background and many different experiences, we are all very excited to have him working here, and, hopefully, everyone will get the chance to meet and know Isaiah very soon.

Happy Birthday

Jennifer Dickinson (May 23)
 Abeer Hashim (May 24)
 Ryan Flemming (May 25)
 Hye Ji Ahn (May 26)
 Mohammad Alajmi (May 26)

Culture Questions

Question: Why do people dress so casually at FSU?

A: The simple answer to the question: because it’s Florida. Florida is officially the hottest state in America; the average temperature in Florida is over 70° Fahrenheit (21° Celsius). Hawaii, which many people think is the hottest state, is actually in 2nd place. Because of this warm weather, Floridians grow up wearing shorts and less clothing. Although north Florida can occasionally get cold, many FSU students are from parts of Florida that rarely get cold weather. As a result, they are used to wearing shorts, tank-tops, and loose- fitting clothes.

Many younger FSU students tend to dress very informally, so you will often see shorts that are very short, even by American standards. You will also see many people wearing tank-tops and other sleeveless **garments**. Even some guys will often cut out the sleeves of their shirts in order to try to stay cooler. If you were to visit universities in other parts of America, you would likely find students who don’t dress quite as casually.

Question: What’s the difference between a vegetarian and a vegan diet?

A: Many people in the United States do not eat meat. A **vegetarian** is person who specifically does not eat meat; a vegan is a person who does not eat any animal products. For example, neither a vegetarian nor a vegan would eat a hamburger. However, a vegan will not eat cakes or cookies that have been made using eggs or milk. (Eggs and milk are both animal products.) Seeing as most restaurants in America serve meat, being a vegetarian in some parts of America is difficult. In larger towns and cities (such as Tallahassee), it is not difficult to find restaurants that cater to vegetarians. Finding vegan food, however, can be a little more challenging.

Language Question

*Question: Are the words **media** and **data** singular or plural?*

A: **Both**. Technically speaking, *media* and *data* are both (irregular) plural count nouns. These words are derived from Latin. The singular form of *media* is medium (noun) and the singular form of *data* is datum. However,

many native English speakers do not realize these words are plural, so you may often hear and even read these words being used as non-count (singular) words.

Correct: The data show that most people don’t want to pay for a parking decal.

Commonly used, but technically incorrect: The data shows that most people don’t want to pay for a parking decal.

Language Puzzle

Knowing the part of speech of a word is not only helpful in grammar, but it can also help you be a better writer and make it easier to learn new vocabulary. Unscramble the following parts of speech below: (Courtesy of Mignon Fogarty – The Grammar Devotional)

jetirecointn _____ revb _____
 tiispoonrep _____ ponnrou _____
 toojinnucc _____ badrev _____
 decjatvie _____ nuno _____

Quote of the Week

I’m curious about everything - even subjects that don’t interest me.

–Alex Trebek



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This week’s vocabulary:

function (noun) – a public or social gathering or occasion; an event

sorority (noun) – a society or club of women or girls (usually at a college or university)

encouraged (adjective) – to promote; to inspire; to show or express confidence in someone

burnt out (idiom functioning as an adjective) – exhausted; overworked; stressed; consumed

garments (noun) – any type of clothing

vegetarian (noun) – a person who does not eat meat