

- November 17<sup>th</sup> is Open House
- A Honor Roll Students
- Language & Culture Questions
- CIES TEFL TAs
- Getting to Know Leslie Wagner

# CIES Nole News

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## It's coming!

International Week & CIES Open House

On Tuesday November 17, we will have a very important celebration here at CIES. Instead of having afternoon speaking and listening classes that day, we will be having a CIES **Open House**. This is an event where anybody from FSU or Tallahassee can come in, visit CIES, and learn about CIES students' cultures. This is an excellent way to show off your culture and traditions from your home countries.

Since this is such an important event, we will need to prepare carefully. **This Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be staying after class and meet to start planning this event.** There will be five rooms for the Open House. We will have rooms celebrating Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America. CIES teachers will be helping each group to design, decorate, and plan their cultural celebration.

This is an event that brings many important people to CIES, so please put **Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar. If you have any friends or family in Tallahassee, please invite them to come. This will truly be a wonderful event for all of us!!

## TEFL Teachers this session

As many of you have probably noticed, we have many new faces teaching some of the classes here at CIES. We have a TEFL program here at CIES that is one of the best

in the country. Students come to CIES in order to learn how to be English teachers. They spend months learning teaching **techniques** and strategies, and then they spend seven weeks practicing teaching and working with a CIES class. Those of you who have a TA in your class are very lucky. TEFL teachers are very excited, energetic, and love helping you all. There are nine total TEFL TAs and they teach many various classes and levels here. It is important that you treat your TEFL TA with all the respect that you would give your regular teacher. Also, don't be afraid to make jokes with the TEFL TAs – they usually have a pretty good sense of humor. According to TEFL TA Frankie Vitiello, he's "really amazed at how open CIES students are to new ideas and how they are willing to learn. People are not **judgmental** towards others, and everyone really focuses on what they all have in common – namely, learning English." If you have any more questions or comments about the TEFL program, ask any of the TEFL TAs or Ramin Yazdanpanah. (See picture below)



Pictured from left to right: Booram Kang, Hunter Pelt, Frankie Vitiello, Ellen Boener, Neila Wohlgemuth, KeunHwa Bang, Aviv Atias, Kelly Michael, and Ramin Yazdanpanah.

## Getting to Know: Leslie Wagner

If you ever arrive to CIES really early, chances are you will find Leslie Wagner working diligently in her office. This is only her third year here, but she's already made a big difference at CIES. In addition to teaching all levels of classes, she helps keep our building clean and organized and all of her colleagues happy. Leslie grew up in central Florida outside of Orlando. Growing up, she played volleyball and even travelled around the region playing the sport. Her favorite class in school was Spanish, and this inspired her love of language learning and international cultures. Leslie came to FSU in 2008. At first she wanted to major in international business, but this program was discontinued at FSU. She decided to continue to study business, but she quickly realized that her heart wasn't there. She switched to majoring in Spanish, and she spent a semester abroad studying in Spain during her **sophomore** year. Before graduating FSU, she did the TEFL program as a senior. (See the article in this issue about the TEFL program.) In 2012, she became part of the "English Opens Doors" program in southern Chile. This is a special program between the United Nations (UN) and the Chilean government. Native English speakers become high school teachers for a year and interact with a wide variety of students. After her time in Chile,



Leslie returned to FSU and majored in Foreign and Second Language Education. During her first session at CIES, she taught Foundations; she really loved it! She had to leave CIES to do an internship at a local elementary school, but she came back to CIES and she now coordinates the Composition classes. She's one of the friendliest people you'll ever meet and, as you saw last week, she's also the doughnut queen.

### Birthday time

**Ahmed Alshammari** (November 6)  
**Dingjie Zhou** (November 6)  
**Marilyn Sohan** (November 8)

### Culture Question

*Question: When is the US presidential election?*

Answer: If you ever watch the news in the US, you will read about the presidential **election** every day. There are over a **dozen** people running for president. The US election occurs in two stages (parts). In the first stage, there is a contest among several Democrats and many Republicans to

decide who will compete in the second stage. After this first stage of the election, there will be one Democrat and one Republican who run against each other next November. Unlike most other countries, election season in the US lasts a **VERY LONG TIME**. The candidates started preparing last year, so the whole election process lasts two years. We have 52 more weeks of election season left; if you're going to be here in the US for a while, be prepared to hear a lot more about elections in the next 12 months.

### Language Question

*Question: What is the past tense of wake?*

Answer: To wake means to stop sleeping and get up. The base form of the verb is wake, the simple past is woke, and the past participle is woken.

In some varieties of English, especially older English, you may see the past tense of wake as "waked." However, this sounds very odd to many American English speakers. Woke is probably the best past tense to use.

However, what about the verb awoke? In the past, people used the verb awake (awoke, awoken) to mean to stop sleeping and become active. Although it is still possible to use this word, most people instead use **the verb wake followed by the preposition up**.

Are these sentences correct or incorrect?

- He awoke up late this morning.
- I have woked up early every day this week.
- I awoke in time to eat breakfast.
- I will wake up at 7am tomorrow morning.

### Quote of the Week

*The mind is an iceberg – it floats with only one-seventh of its bulk above water.*

**- Sigmund Freud**



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This week's vocabulary:

- open house (noun)** – an event where a school or organization opens its doors and allows others to visit
- technique (noun)** – a way or style of doing something
- judgmental (adjective)** – to form an opinion or make decisions about someone (often negative ones)
- sophomore (adjective/noun)** – the second year of college
- election (noun)** – a contest where people (voters) select someone to lead them
- dozen (noun)** – another word for 12