

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## College of Engineering

### Parent Newsletter

November 2013

Happy November!

It is hard to believe how quickly the fall 2013 term has passed. Students are already busily preparing for final exams and finishing up their last projects and papers for the upcoming close of the semester.

Some important notes to share with you as the university's winter break approaches. First, if your student has not visited with his/her academic adviser in regards to spring course registration, he/she should schedule an advising appointment as quickly as possible. Meeting with an academic adviser will provide an opportunity to discuss how this term is progressing academically, course recommendations from advisers for the spring term and reminders of course registration timelines. If students encounter unexpected difficulty accessing a needed course, they should email or call their academic adviser and list the course they are struggling to schedule. Adviser contact information is found at: [www.engineering.iastate.edu/student-services/advising/advising-center](http://www.engineering.iastate.edu/student-services/advising/advising-center). The advisers and our college's classification staff will be working into the first week of classes to negotiate course needs for our students with departments and other ISU colleges. Knowing about course registration difficulty assists our staff in advocating for course availability.

Second, our college's scholarship application will soon be open. Beginning January 3-early February, CoE students can apply to be considered for additional scholarship support for the upcoming 2014-2015 academic year. The link to access the College of Engineering's scholarship application is: [www.engineering.iastate.edu/scholarships/current-students](http://www.engineering.iastate.edu/scholarships/current-students). This page also provides upcoming dates for scholarship application seminars, which explain the college's scholarship application process, along with other useful resources. Students are encouraged to begin this scholarship application process during their winter break.

Please do not hesitate to contact our student services staff with questions or concerns as the winter break approaches.

We hope your student has had a great first semester at ISU and in the College of Engineering.

Happy Holidays.

Warm regards,

Joel Johnson, Ph.D.  
Director, Student Services  
College of Engineering  
Iowa State University

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# Scholarships

Greetings from the College of Engineering scholarship office!

The College of Engineering has the best scholarship program at Iowa State. We have several scholarship programs that are administered through our office. We offer incoming freshmen merit scholarships, which are based on the incoming student's ACT sub-scores that we receive from the admissions office. Additionally, we have an upper-class scholarship program for all current undergraduate engineering students enrolled at Iowa State. Lastly, we have an emergency scholarship program for students and families who have exhausted all possible funding possibilities and are still unable to find a way to stay in school for the current or subsequent semester.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of our numerous donors, the college awarded more than \$3 million in scholarships to our engineering students, with a majority given to current students. The criteria for these awards varies—for example, some awards take into consideration which department students are in, what their GPA is, what activities and/or leadership experiences they have had at Iowa State, or financial need based on the FAFSA. Because of the range in criteria, we are able to award scholarships to a number of students regardless of class standing or if they have received a merit award as an incoming freshman.

I know most of you are now wondering how your current engineering student can take advantage of this amazing opportunity. Every January, we open our annual scholarship application to all of our current students. The application, along with deadlines, application information and other funding opportunities can be found on our website: [www.engineering.iastate.edu/scholarships/current-students](http://www.engineering.iastate.edu/scholarships/current-students).

We began bombarding your student's email box with scholarship information prior to Thanksgiving break. The first emails feature information about our "How to Complete the Scholarship Application" presentations, which are offered in December and January. Information regarding the dates, location and time of the presentations can also be found on our website. We encourage all students to attend the presentations, as this is their opportunity to ask questions and see what changes, if any, have been made to the scholarship application compared to previous years. If students are unable to attend, we do have a link to the presentation on our website. Later e-mails will tell students when the application is available and include reminders throughout the month of January regarding the due date.

Some important dates to keep in mind:

January 3, 2014—Annual Scholarship Application is available

February 7, 2014—Annual Scholarship Applications are due by noon

March 1, 2014—FAFSAs are due to be considered for need-based awards

Late April 2014—Scholarship recipients are notified

If you have any questions regarding our scholarship opportunities, please feel free to visit our website [www.engineering.iastate.edu/scholarships](http://www.engineering.iastate.edu/scholarships) or you can contact us at [jmstowe@iastate.edu](mailto:jmstowe@iastate.edu) or 515 294.9295.

Sincerely,  
Tina N. Prouty  
Scholarship Coordinator

# Have an Adventure Abroad!



Having an international experience while in college is a once in a life time opportunity for students. The College of Engineering has programs all across the globe—students can spend a semester studying in Ireland or spend a month during the summer studying in China! Engineering study abroad programs are available for students after they finish their first year, meaning students can go the summer after their first year of classes!

## It's Affordable!

There are several different cost options available for international programs. There are **exchange** programs, where the cost of tuition is the same here at Iowa State University and then the cost of living is dependent on the country. There are **Regents/Flat-Fee** programs available, which has a set flat fee that covers the cost of tuition and sometimes housing. Some Flat-Fee programs have tuition that is even LESS for out of state students than the typical ISU tuition. Then there are **summer programs**, which range in cost and what the cost covers depending on the program.



There are also **scholarships** specifically for engineering students going abroad. There is even a national study abroad scholarship for students who receive the Pell Grant. In addition to these outside scholarships, sometime current ISU scholarships can be used for a semester or year abroad!



## It Can Fit in a 4-Year Degree Plan!

The universities around the world that the College of Engineering partners with for programs have strong engineering curriculums, many of which are world ranked. We work with students to plan the classes they want to take abroad and to make sure they transfer back successfully. If students begin to plan out their study abroad experience during their first year with their adviser and the International Engagement Office, all the right classes can be planned into a 4-year degree plan. There are options for all majors, and sometimes there are classes overseas that students wouldn't be able to have the opportunity to take here at ISU.

## Many English Speaking Programs!

A majority of the programs offered are in English! Students can take classes in Netherlands, Denmark, Singapore and Thailand, all in English. However, if students want to develop their language skills more while studying abroad, there are also some programs with classes taught in the language of the country, such as in Germany or France. There are also some summer programs that offer credits in both the language and the engineering courses.

### College of Engineering International Engagement Website—

[www.eng/iastate.edu/eips](http://www.eng/iastate.edu/eips)

From this site, you can find information about: programs, scholarships, FAQs, cost and more. Your student can also make an appointment to meet with our office to discuss options and learn more about the application process.



You can also send us an email at [eip@iastate.edu](mailto:eip@iastate.edu) or stop by our office at 112 Marston.

We look forward to helping your student find an International Adventure!

**Shannon Miner**

**College of Engineering International Engagement**

**112 Marston Hall**

**[eip@iastate.edu](mailto:eip@iastate.edu)**



# What to Expect: Welcoming your College Student Home for Visits

Parents look forward to having their student home, but they are nervous about what to expect. Parents who expect that everything will return to the way things were before their student left for college may have difficulty. Here are a few items to consider to make the transition less stressful for the whole family.

- Holidays are a stressful time. Remember that everyone may be feeling the normal stress of the holidays in addition to the transition of readjusting.
- Remember that not only has your student changed over the past few months, but the family dynamic may have changed as well. You have become accustomed to differences at home—perhaps having fewer disruptions or responsibilities, perhaps having a quieter house or not having to share the car. Siblings have readjusted their place in the family. A younger sibling may now have moved to the “oldest child” status. Your student’s room may even have been appropriated by a younger sibling.
- Your student has been independent at school. He has not had to report to anyone. He has been free to sleep when he wanted, eat when and what he wanted, come and go as he wanted, and do what he wanted. Reentering the family routines may feel restrictive and will require compromise on everyone’s part.
- Your student will probably come home exhausted from the last few weeks of classes and final exams. She may need to spend more time than usual catching up on sleep—and eating comfort food. Home is her sanctuary right now and she may need significant down time before she is ready to socialize.
- Your student will want to catch up with his hometown friends. He’s anxious to tell them about his new life, hear about theirs and spend time reconnecting.
- Your student may not feel like talking about her life at school. She may feel that she wants to keep that portion of her life private. That doesn’t necessarily mean she is hiding anything; she may not feel that her college routine is noteworthy. Right now, she may just want to be home, taking a break and not thinking about school.
- Expect some amount of disruption in your household. Student hours do not always coincide with family hours. Your student may be used to coming and going, sleeping and eating at very different times. You will need to negotiate a compromise and set clear limits.

(Source: College Parents of America,  
[www.collegeparents.org/members/resources/articles/welcoming-your-college-student-home-visits-%E2%80%93-what-to-expect](http://www.collegeparents.org/members/resources/articles/welcoming-your-college-student-home-visits-%E2%80%93-what-to-expect))

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