DIRECTOR'S WELCOME TO 2014
LORI FRIEDMAN

"Welcome to all new and returning students! For those who I haven't yet met, please stop by ISS and introduce yourself. I have been at St. Thomas for 3 1/2 years now as Director of International Student Services. Prior to this, I've worked at two other institutions in similar roles in Minnesota and Illinois. I'm a Midwestern girl, born and raised in Wisconsin, and have a LOVE for travel. Every year I try to escape the Minnesota winter and go some place warm. I spent time during my undergraduate degree studying in Spain and would love to practice my Spanish with any of you, although I'm extremely rusty. My other travels have included Western Europe, Caribbean/Mexico, Morocco and parts of South and East Asia. One thing about the Twin Cities is my love for different ethnic foods-- if you want to know the best places to eat, come to me! I eat a lot and all over the cities (and know Chicago quite well too) and would love to recommend good restaurants for you to try!

As Director of ISS, I strive to be an advocate for each and every one of you and ensure that your needs are met at St. Thomas and create a welcoming and inclusive environment. I look forward to learning more about you and welcoming you to the St. Thomas family."

*Come meet our staff at our #tommielink event on Wednesday, September 3rd. We will be serving free root beer floats on Monahan Plaza from 12:00-2:00 that afternoon!

"ACCOMPLISHMENT WILL PROVE TO BE A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION."
—DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

This fall, our students are coming to us from over 45 countries, including China, India, Norway, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, and many others!
On Wednesday, September 17th, our Culture Link Tea presentation will be taking us to Venezuela! Victor Yoma, a student here at St. Thomas, will be telling us what it is like to live in Caracas, Venezuela. He feels that "these presentations are very important because you get to introduce your country and your culture to the University's community." Victor has traveled to many different countries, including France, Portugal, England, Peru, and his favorite (mainly for the food): Italy! If he had his choice for travel, he would pick a trip to New Zealand or South Korea, because he feels that the cultures are so different from his own and it would be interesting and eye-opening. Victor heard of St. Thomas through some friends, and although he misses his dog, a Boxer breed, he is excited to be with us and to bring a bit of Venezuelan culture to our UST community.

The Culture Link Tea presentation will show us a bit of the geography, climate, and gastronomy of this country. On behalf of Victor and our team here at ISS, we hope you can join us from 3:00-4:00 pm on the 17th in Koch Commons to hear a bit more about what brings Victor here to us! Refreshments will be served.

As our school year starts, we are happy to be welcoming two new staffers into our office as Event Coordinators for ISS’s Minnesota Adventures program! We will be bringing you opportunities to join us in activities all over the Twin Cities and the surrounding areas, so that you get a taste of what Minnesota is all about! We would love to hear your ideas so that we can make this year great! Stephanie and JB, our new Event Coordinators, will be joining us at a school year kick-off September 6th at Lake Calhoun, from 1:00-4:00. We will be taking the bus to the lake and enjoying the lovely weather before it comes to an end. We hope to see you there!
Looking to cook or go out and eat food from your home country/culture? We have been asking students where their favorite places to find international cuisine are.

**International Grocers/ Markets:**
- *Holyland Brand (Halal certified)*
  - 2513 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis
- *Midtown Global Market*
  - 920 E. Lake St, Minneapolis
- *Sikora’s Polish Market*
  - 1625 Washington St., Mnpls.
- *Pooja Grocery Indian Market*
  - 855 45 Ave. NE, Minneapolis

**International Restaurants/Cafes:**
- *Brasa Creole Rotisserie*
  - 777 Grand Avenue, St. Paul
- *Everest on Grand (Nepali, Indian, and Tibetan)*
  - 1278 Grand Avenue, St. Paul
- *Tum Rup Thai*
  - 1221 Lake Street, Minneapolis
- *Acropol Inn Restaurant (Greek cuisine)*
  - 748 Grand Avenue, St. Paul
- *Glockenspiel (German cuisine)*
  - 605 7th Street W, St. Paul
- *Brit’s Pub (British cuisine)*
  - 1110 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
New Student Workers!
Although we are very sad to see Ruben go, we are welcoming two new student workers to our office. Anh Tran and Blair Johnson will be working with us this year, and we are very glad to have them!

Next month: ISS/SDIS RETREAT!
"Branching Out: Understanding Differences and Bridging Communities."

For the first time ever, our staff along with Student Diversity and Inclusion Services is hosting a weekend retreat. October 17-18, we are going to Oak Ridge Conference Center.

Sign up in ASC 224 or ASC 218
*Food, lodging and transport included so ACT FAST!

Samba Dieng, Assistant Director; Lori Friedman, Director; Miho Patani, Office Coordinator; Megan Couch, Graduate Assistant; Sarah Churchill, Intercultural Programs Coordinator.
(listed left to right)

Stop in for some tea anytime! We love talking to students, both domestic and international!

SEPTEMBER 5TH
Graduate Social @ Lyon's Pub
5:00-7:00 pm

SEPTEMBER 9TH
Global Tommie Kick-off (convo hour) ASC 340.

SEPTEMBER 24TH
Success Series, "Understanding the American Classroom" ASC 202
3:00-4:00 pm

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
Facebook page: search "International Student Services- University of St. Thomas"

Twitter page: @UST_ISS

Instagram: @UST_ISS