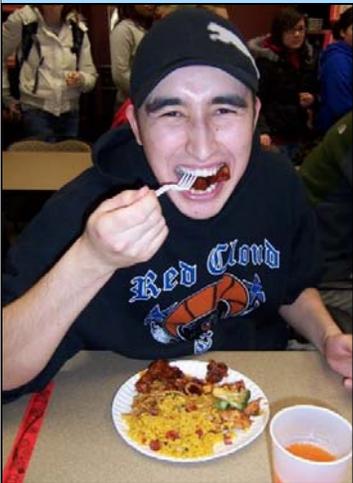




Audri Edmonds and Chant Knight at the Lunar New Year.



Chant Knight enjoying the Lunar New Year food!



Getting ready to eat the delicious food.

Hoots and Salutes

Congratulations to **Evone Wong** who was admitted to Optometry School at Salus University in PA .Way to go!



Congratulations to **Ruth Elias** who will be a member of the Cortina Community in the fall!

Tiffanisha Williams, Chadi El-Khoury, Lan Uyen Tran, and Anthony Allee were nominated for Omicrom Delta

Kappa's Rev. Tom Schloemer, SJ Leadership Award.

Anthony Allee received the Outstanding Student Leader Award for Delta Kappa's Rev. Tom Schloemer, SJ. The award was given out during Founders Week Leadership Recognition Awards.

Congratulations to **Xia Vang** who got accepted into Inroads!

Congratulations to **Chadi El-Khoury** who just started

working at Mason Network Center. He is a part time coordinator for Sudanese refugees. He is also moving to Washington DC in the summer to work at a Jesuit "social justice" think tank on the Global Women's Project.

Luis Vazquez is co-coordinator for the Mississippi CCSJ spring service trip.



NOT HIRING: 5 Tips to Beat The Recession *by Jamie O'Brien*

If you are a student enrolled full time in college and preparing to enter the labor force, you have poised yourself in the unfortunate position of transitioning into a career during a recession. The job market is virtually frozen, meaning that very few firms are hiring new employees, but with the help of these five tips you can make yourself more attractive to employers despite the volatile economy.

Differentiate Human Resource departments and recruiters see hundreds of resumes in a single day. In order to separate yourself from others, include captive subject lines in you resume. State attributes that you have developed throughout various jobs and activities.

Make sure that your uniqueness stands out so the resume can be read quickly and your major achievements are highlighted.

Step outside of the tunnel. Don't send your resume to hundreds of companies on Monstertrack.com Be picky. The job you get may be one that you will have for a long period of time. Meet people within your industry. Volunteer in the community . Working with people helps get your name out and builds an extensive network.

Keep on your toes Read, read, and read! Scanning articles in the local newspaper and blogs on the internet can provide insight to new job openings before they are posted. If a company acquires another company or if it raises more

capital, that can be a sure sign that they will be hiring soon. Sending your resume in with a letter mentioning your knowledge of the recent news before they post openings is an effective way to get noticed.

Network Simple and easy words of advice that are often very true, "It's not what you know it's who you know."

Always have a plan B With budget cuts at such a high rate, many businesses may only hire part-time or paid interns. Neither one these are an attractive position from a monetary standpoint, but they both provide cash in-flow in jobs where you may be first to be considered when budgets rebuild.

Spotlight on Tony Pham *by Ryan Wong*



Tony Pham spends his time with friends at a party.



Tony sports a new jacket.



Left to right: Carmen, Chant, Ryan, Audri and Marissa show some SSS love.



Chant Knight and Lilliana Jacinto share their favorite soft drink.

So who is the spotlight on this week? None other than **Chinh Cong Pham**, a Creighton University sophomore who is interested in attending Creighton's Pharmacy School. **"Tony"** was born in Vietnam and later moved to the United States.

Tony tells us that the reason he chose Creighton is because of the reputation of the pharmacy school. He joined SSS because it seemed like it would be very helpful, and the staff are very nice and easy to get along with.

Tony has been involved in many clubs and organizations. A former member of the Rowing Club, Tony is now a member of the Asian Student Association and Pre-Pharmacy club. His greatest achievement so far is being

on the Dean's List his freshman year. His most interesting event in a class at Creighton was when he "fell asleep in class and still got a decent grade." For Organic Chemistry, he was able to study the night before an exam for only two hours and still do well. His most memorable moments while at Creighton were during his freshman year when he lived in n G2 (Gallagher Hall, Floor 2).

Of the many music genres available, his favorite is pop. Outside of school, he enjoys reading anime and working on his computer. The most fun Tony ever had was working "behind the scenes" to put on a surprise birthday party for his good friend, Melvin Nededog. Tony was able to surprise Melvin with a *domo*, a popular Japanese gift.

Tony holds his most prized possession on his finger. It is

a customized snake ring made by his father. The snake represents the year he was born – the Year of the Snake. He was given this ring while a freshman in high school. Since then, he has kept it close to his heart.

If giving the opportunity to be an animal, he would want to live the life of a snake, for they are slick, sly, hard to spot, quick to escape from predators, and dangerous to approach.

When asked the most interesting and exciting place he has been, Tony did not take long to answer, "Hawaii, self-explanatory!"

Finally Tony offered some advice for each person. **"Live for the moment."**

Snow Day and Lunar New Year *By Ely Ramos*

Can anyone say "Snow Day"? This past Friday the 13th, Creighton's campus closed at 12:30 p.m. because of a snow storm, making many students very happy. SSS was scheduled to host a Lunar New Year celebration and not even the snow storm kept the students away from the delicious food. Karen drove out in the storm to Song Zheng's parent's restaurant **China Taste** to get the food. We should all thank her very much as



Paul Tran, Erica Stewart and Shelly Wounded Shield getting food!

she got here with the food on time and was safe. Well mostly safe; she ran two red lights on her way back to campus. Also thanks to

Guillermo Guzman and Lily Jacinto for decorating the conference room where the celebration was held. The celebration had very good participation – 33 students attended. Some of the students, including me, just didn't want to go home. We stayed in the office to socialize and study. What a commitment to school! Thank you to all who came. Even though there was bad weather, we had a great time. Don't forget that there are many more events coming up.

Spotlight on Raymond Bucko, SJ *by Devon*

Raymond Bucko is a priest at Creighton. He is also the Sociology/Anthropology Chair and Native American Studies Director.

Fr. Bucko decided to work at Creighton because of its commitment to students, strong staff, and its closeness to the reservations where he often works. He likes Creighton's students, the library's resources, and the great co-workers in his department.

He knows about SSS through his friendship with Tami. He has had many SSS in his classes over the years and was one of the first recipients of the SSS Outstanding Faculty Award.

He can relate to SSS students since he is a first

generation college graduate and because he has a disability. **He likes the SSS students because they are hard workers, fun, entertaining, and caring.**

Fr. Bucko believes that to be successful academically, students have to manage their time, get help, have fun, and work hard constantly, and aim for the stars.

He was born in Bayonne, New Jersey, and he likes to cook and watch foreign movies in his spare time. Many SSS students have had the good fortune to enjoy his wonderful meals.

His biggest accomplishment was when SSS gave him the Outstanding Faculty Award. The most interesting thing that happened to him was when he

was teaching about magic and the door started rattling out of nowhere.

Fr. Bucko once traveled to Egypt, but the most fun he has had was swimming in the ocean and riding the waves.

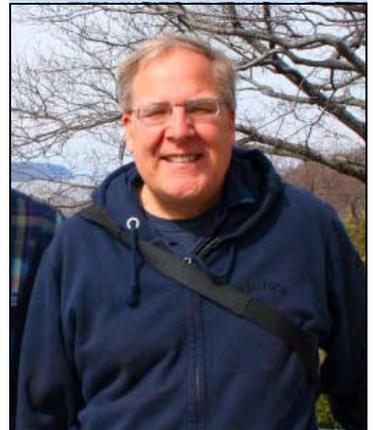
His most prized possession is a glass paper weight that his dad used to have.

He dislikes the word *can't*, and he hates when he forgets things.

If you have not had the opportunity to meet Fr. Bucko, I recommend you stop by Creighton Hall and visit him on the fourth floor or take advantage of one his home cooked meals or take one of his classes. Getting to know Fr. Bucko is definitely worth your time!



Fr. Bucko enjoying a good meal.



Fr. Bucko in the field.

International Banquet *by Guillermo Guzman*

One of the good things about Creighton University is that, although we have a relatively small student body, we can still experience diversity at many levels. On February 21st. I had the opportunity to be part of the 21st Annual International Student Association (ISA) Banquet. **"Global Escape"** was the theme. It was an opportunity for the Creighton community not to escape from the planet earth but to escape the comfort of our own culture and experience a taste of cultures around the world, especially those represented within our community.

At the banquet, we had the chance to literally taste and experience different cultures

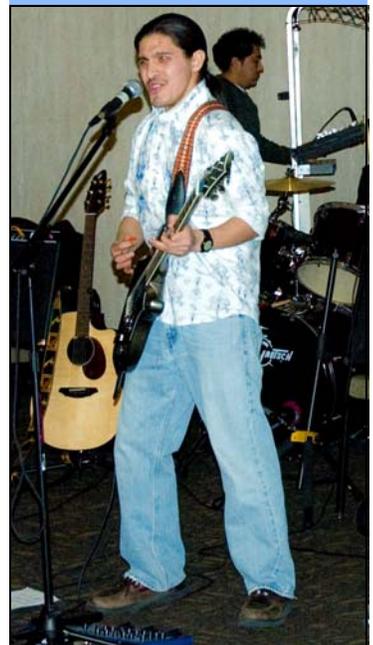
and countries of the world. Dinner included many great dishes original to diverse countries and the various entertainments showcased were definitely out of the ordinary for many of us.

I was delighted to be asked to have my Latin Rock Band **ESTROFIA** be a part of the event. I was proud to be sharing a part of the Latin American culture with everyone present. I was also very proud to know that everyone liked our performance, and gave us many great compliments, especially in how enthusiastically they danced to our music.

Throughout the night many other guest entertainers and

students amazed everyone present with their performances. These included Japanese drummers, Chinese Lion Dancers, an African musical group, the South Korean student song and dance performers, the International Student Fashion models, and many more.

Besides enjoying the great food, ambience, music and entertainment, I was very happy to see how so many students from different countries and cultures worked together to make an event like this possible. "Great Job and Congratulations" to everyone who participated and was involved in the organization of a very successful event!



Guillermo Guzman performs with his band at the ISA Banquet.

Spotlight on Angel Le *by Ryan Wong*



Angel showing off her acrobatic skills.



Have some delicious spring rolls made by Angel!



Angel and her friends looking good!



Performers at ISA Banquet.

Have you met Angel Le? Actually the question should be "who does not know her, the loudest and craziest student in the SSS office?" If you walk in the SSS office, you will often find her working at the front desk, seeking help in Anatomy, or talking with other students in the computer lab.

AngelPHOsizzle, as she is affectionately known, was born in Saigon, Vietnam. Her favorite color is yellow, symbolizing her brightness like the sun shine. Her favorite childhood memory is taking a shower in the rain with a banana leaf over her head. If given the opportunity to become an animal, she would be a peacock because of its beauty and glamour. She gets annoyed the most when people lie. "When you don't have anything truthful to say, just shut up!"

She joined the Creighton University family because of the reputation of the dental school and nursing program. When asked about why she joined SSS, she answered, "Because I wanted to meet Ryan Wong and get interviewed by him! Just kidding!" In reality, she joined to meet new people, interact with diverse students, and seek tutoring services in science, math, and English. She loves the warm, family atmosphere, laughing with students, working with the SSS staff, and the big couch! She also likes the financial



This reminds Angel of when she had her beautiful long hair and the summer breeze!

assistance that is available and the professional tutoring the specialists provide. Through the SSS program, she had the opportunity to meet friends through cultural events, plays, and the potluck, and the soiree.

Angel has been very active while studying at Creighton. She is the Activities Planner aka Spirit Cheerleader of Peer-2-Peer ("Pump, pump, pump it up!"). She is also a member of the Asian Student Association. Her greatest achievement so far is her ability to work and get money so that she can return to Vietnam and "get treated like a VIP". Her favorite professor is Dr. Tom



Angel with Ariel, the alumna.

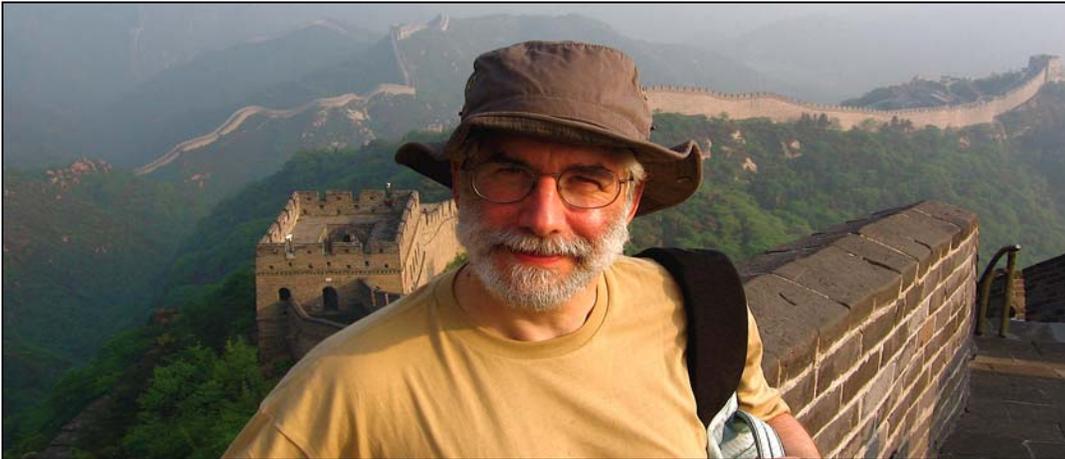
Tiegs, the new psychology instructor from Penn State. "He explains lessons thoroughly, has fun activities, and resembles Spider-Man! I sure want to get a picture with the actor and post it online!" Her most exciting moment at Creighton was the free lunch she had with Father Schlegel. Her advice to students: "Go to school because school is cool."

She is a very fun individual. Her favorite type of music is hip hop "cause I can dance to it!" I asked Angel if there was anything extraordinary about her. She stated "I can fly! OMG! [And] I can make anyone happy. Don't worry, be happy. I can turn your sad frown into a happy smile." Outside of school, Angel parties and develops new friendships. Also she works at the Westroads Abercrombie & Fitch ("so holla when you want a discount!").

The most fun Angel ever had was when she went to Vietnam in July. But the most exciting and interesting place she's been at was Chinatown in Chicago. "OMG...so much food! Easy way to gain weight!" The most embarrassing experience she had was slipping on mud and falling.

If you happen to see Angel Le around campus, wish her a great day! She wanted to conclude with some great advice: "Don't party too hard!" Yes, Angel. We know.

Spotlight on Dr. Pisarri *by Sheila Field*



Dr. Pisarri walking the Great Wall of China. Isn't this beautiful?

Dr. Pisarri is a physiology professor at Creighton and has worked here for fifteen years. He chose Creighton because it offers “a good opportunity for me to advance my research and teach students who are motivated.” Dr. Pisarri likes working at Creighton because of the interaction with students. He says they are “very personable and they are interested in learning.”

Dr. Pisarri is connected with the SSS students because several of the students in his physiology class are a part of the SSS program. **Dr. Pisarri likes SSS because “it is a program that helps students outside the classroom.” Dr. Pisarri thinks that if the students are more prepared before coming to class, he will be a more effective teacher. He also likes when his students get help in any way, so anything that helps his students he appreciates.**

Dr. Pisarri believes academic success comes in three parts. First, students have to want to succeed; second, they have to believe they can succeed, so they are not discouraged; and third,

students need to put enough time in their studies so they can reach their potential. Dr. Pisarri gives this advice, **“Talk to teachers and let the teachers know what help you need to succeed because most times teachers are willing to help, but they just don't know how to help.”**

A question students are always wondering about is class participation. In Dr. Pisarri's class of 130 students, students use clickers to interact and answer questions, so class participation is not factored in the grade. However Dr. Pisarri always likes it when students volunteer to explain the answer to a question aloud even if they don't have the exact answer.

In his free time, Dr. Pisarri likes to bicycle and cook. One of his most prized possessions is his bicycle because it gets him to work and gives him exercise even when he does not have enough time, and it lets him enjoy the outside.

Dr. Pisarri's greatest achievement is some of the research he has done and had published. Dr. Pisarri said something interesting

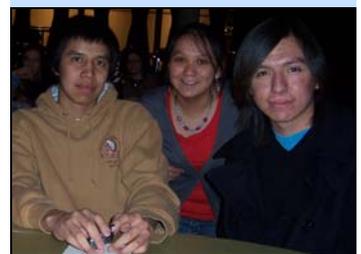
that has happened to him in the class room was when a balloon burst when he was demonstrating something. What he finds most exciting about teaching is when “a student answers a question and nails the answer perfectly.” When asked if there is anything unique about his family he would like to share, he said, “I can't think of anything on the spot right now that won't get me in trouble with my wife!”

Originally from Albany, New York, Dr. Pisarri has been to many different places. He volunteered in Africa for four years with the United Nations, and he has also lived in San Francisco. Dr. Pisarri said the most exciting time was when he lived in San Francisco but he liked every place that he has been. Dr. Pisarri likes classical rock music the best right now, but his mood determines the type of music he likes. He is annoyed when people say they will do something and then they don't keep their promise. His least favorite word is “can't.”

Dr. Pisarri's best advice to others is “always think of the viewpoint of the people you are interacting with.”



Ashleen Marr and Precious jumping rope!



Leland Hill, Marissa Begay, and Willie White at the CUASA



Precious Sully pulls Karen Thurber out on the dance floor at the ISA Banquet.



Brenda Aguero having fun in Chinle, Arizona.

Students Helping to Create Healthy Lifestyles *by Cheree Hatfield*



Jump Danielle, Jump at the Jump rope marathon.



Marissa makes it look easy.



Khloe Keeler and Precious Sully jumped for five minutes straight

This spring seven Native American Creighton undergraduate students are teaming up with six Creighton Occupational Therapy students to mentor six young women living at Boys Town in the female Native American House.

Six of the seven undergraduate mentors are in SSS. They are **Marissa Begay, Cheree Hatfield, Danielle Hudspeth, Khloe Keeler, Ashleen Marr, and Precious Sully.**

“The goals of the program are to: 1) Provide culturally relevant diabetes health education to Native American teenagers who are at high risk, 2) Promote self-management and healthy lifestyle behaviors, 3) Build self-esteem through career education,” and (informally) to provide



After jumping for two full hours, the girls get together for one big group picture!

support on a personal level—which is always the role of mentor. The Program is made possible by the Robert Wood Johnson grant awarded to Wehnona St. Cyr in 2007.

The Program is a still in its infancy because this year will be its first, and it is still in the beginning stages. Right now the Creighton undergraduates and OT students are trying to get to know and spend time, with the young women they will be mentoring. Many of the events for the year-long program are being planned at

this time. One activity is that the group has begun doing is reading Sherman Alexie’s *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*. There will be a group discussion of the book and its implications later in the semester. Furthermore, the

program is considering using StrengthsQuest to assist in the realization of career education goals.

Monthly meetings are held with the young women and the mentors. Last week the mentors went to Boys Town to assist in Jump Rope for Heart, and to attend one of the girl’s athletic events. At this point everyone has high expectations for the program’s success, and everyone seems very excited to be a participant.

Upcoming Workshop Events

Wed., March 4th, Noon to 1:00 p.m., Skutt Student Center, Room 209, 10 students selected to have **lunch with Father Schlegel**

March 13th, Cultural Event, 8:00 p.m., Playhouse, **Bat Boy** (spring break)

Wed., March 18th, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Harper Center, Computer Lab, **Completing the FAFSA**

Wed., March 25th, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Harper Center, 4008, Barb Slattery will discuss **Pre-Health Science Professions.**

Fri., March 27th, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to be determined, **Project Homeless Connect,** Community Service, with CS&J.

Fri., March, 27 7:15 to 9:30 p.m., Meet in Harper Circle,

Laser Tag, with Tami.

Fri., March 6th 8:00 p.m. at the Orpheum Theater **The African Children’s Choir in Journey of Hope.**

Tue., March 17th 3:30-5:00 p.m. **Origami Workshop** with Carlos Atencio in SSS

Fri., March 20th 8:00 p.m. at the Holland Performing Arts Center **L.A. Theatre Works.**

Valentine *by Carlos Atencio & Maria Vega-Escamilla*

Relationships can be very rewarding and a healthy experience for a college student, as long as the college student has the time needed for developing a friendship. A relationship can help relieve stress, be a safe way to talk out anger, and provide affection.

It appears that many people these days are in relationships, and it may leave you wondering: Is my relationship a healthy one that I should value?

Here are some specific topics to focus on to analyze a

relationship. Being able to talk out problems is key. Focus on the mutual interests that brought you together in your friendship.

Always be mutually respectful. Respecting a person leads to a healthy romantic relationship as well as healthy friendships. Always maintain equality and fairness to build a strong friendship.

Trust is important in a relationship; in fact, relationships are built on trust. It is important to be honest. Lies ruin

relationships and friendships, and when you are honest, you don't have to have such a good memory.

Being supportive in good times and in bad is important as well. No this is not marriage; just be there for the one you care about in real friendship.

Perhaps one of the most important things to remember is to maintain your identity. Do not change your personality for someone. If you want to change your personality, do it for yourself.



Students enjoy their time hanging out in the SSS office.



Lan Uyen Tran and Ameerah Dao looking great at the ISA Banquet.

Peking Acrobats *by Angel Le*

Loud grasping, horrified looks and continuous loud applause all happened February 12th at the Orpheum Theater. Eighteen SSS students and their two chaperones were



stoked to see the Peking Tumblers show who delight audiences with their incredible balancing feats and surprising tricks. These acrobats are considered China's most gifted tumblers, contortionists, jugglers, cyclists, and gymnasts and have been carefully selected from the finest acrobat schools in China. Since 1958, this astonishing group has toured the world, leaving audiences vivid memories of their ancient folk art and acrobatics.

Willie White and Marissa Begay, both freshmen, thought the show was amazing! Marissa thought that the acrobats looked extremely young and incredibly flexible in all their suicidal movements. Their favorite act was the performance of one brave man on a high stack of chairs with no safety net below. Cindy Nguyen, senior, commented that she has never seen anything like this before except in movies. She thinks all of the acrobats are extremely talented. Her

favorite act was also the chair, she said, "I came close to a cardiac arrest."

Cheryl Ligon, sophomore, thought that

the show was "mind blowing." She has never seen anything like this before—"this is once in a life time." Her favorite acts were when acrobats dove through hoops while a ballerina balanced on a man's shoulder. Over all, the students who went to the Peking Tumblers had a great time and loved the show. Hopefully one day we all will get to see it again!



Cheree Hatfield, Karen Thurber, and her son Nick Thurber at the ISA Banquet.



Liliana Jacinto, Precious Sully, and Marissa Begay at the ISA Banquet.

Student Support Services

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Mike and Josie Harper Center
Omaha, Nebraska 68178

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Fax: 402-280-5579
E-mail: tamib@creighton.edu
Website:
<http://www2.creighton.edu/eop/studentssupportservices/>

“Education is a companion which no future can depress, no crime can destroy, no enemy can alienate it and no nepotism can enslave.”

Ropo Oguntimehin

SSS is one of the five federally funded TRIO programs at Creighton University under the Department of Educational Opportunity Programs. SSS is grant funded through the Department of Education to provide comprehensive services to help students achieve a successful college experience by increasing academic performance, retention, and graduation rates. SSS also works to foster an institutional climate supportive of the success of economically disadvantaged students, first generation students, and students with disabilities. The strength of the SSS program is providing comprehensive support to eligible students at Creighton University who have the ability and desire to succeed at Creighton University but would benefit from additional advocacy, academic, personal, financial, and career support. SSS is a resource that provides personalized and comprehensive support services for eligible participants to help them achieve their full potential.

Counselor's Corner with Karen Thurber



There are 24 students who still need to do the orientation meeting. Remember to do the FAFSA online and give the Financial Aid Office copies of your and your parents W-2 and 1040 forms with a completed copy of the verification form. The verification form can be found under the Financial Aid Office web page under “applying” then “commonly used forms”.

Remember to complete two

workshops and email summaries to Karen for credit for non-SSS sponsored workshops. Also see Karen for your counselor meeting and midterm meeting.

After spring break, schedule your midterm meeting with the following:

Agbayani to Choquette see Janine, Monday or Tuesday nights.

Christensen to Ibarra see Rich

Ing to Cindy Nguyen see Pat

Emily Nguyen to Vela see Denise

Vong to Zheng see Tami

All **first year** students should see Karen

If you are seeing someone every week, please see them for midterm. I will email everyone who to see for the midterm meeting.