



# ISO NEWSLETTER

December 2008

## HOLIDAY DINNER

Friday, December 12, 6.30-8.30pm in the Maucker Union Ballroom

Join us for an evening filled with fun, laughter, and holiday cheer! Graduating and departing students will be recognized. Dinner is complimentary for current UNI international students. Remember to bring your camera to take lots of photos!

Please reserve your seat by Tuesday, December 9th by sending e-mail or calling International Services: julie.hill@uni.edu or 273-6421

*Happy Holidays  
Everybody!*

## Watch a Volleyball Tournament

Saturday, December 6, 10 am—2pm, WRC Courts 1 and 2

ISO is organizing its second Annual Carlos Teran Volleyball Tournament for international students!

Teams will be competing against each other! If you are not playing—come cheer and have fun with international students!



## Upcoming events:

**December 12**

ISO Holiday Dinner

**December 15**

Commencement

**December 24-January 1**

ISO Closed

**January 12**

Classes resume

## Useful information

### Winter break events:

Sunday, 12/21/08:

Men's Basketball vs. South Dakota State 1 pm, McLeod Center

Sunday, 12/28/08:

Men's Basketball vs. Indiana State 1 pm, McLeod Center

Monday, 12/29/08:

Women's Basketball vs. South Dakota State 7 pm, McLeod Center

### January events:

**Friday, January 9, 6.00 pm WRC**

Pizza Party at WRC: join new and returning international students for free pizza and activities in the WRC!

**Friday, January 16 3.30 pm at ISO**

International Coffee Hour. Celebrate the end of the first week of classes. Refreshments will be provided!

### Request for all graduating and departing students:

Before you leave UNI, we ask that you complete and turn in the International student Exit Evaluation. It is a chance for you to give us feedback as well as to leave permanent contact information so we can send you our annual Alumni newsletter. Exit Evaluations will be sent to you or can be downloaded off the International Services Website @

<http://www.uni.edu/intladm/iso/documents/>



## A Bahraini in Obama's court



A BAHRAINI student has made history as a campaign worker for the new US President Barack Obama. **Ranya Radhi Ahmed** watched the making of history from the state in Iowa yesterday morning as his dramatic win in the race for the White House began to emerge.

Ranya said being part of one of America's most dramatic election nights was something she will never forget. "People were crying, screaming and laughing," she told the GDN by telephone from Iowa. "It was pretty emotional." During the campaign, Ranya made thousands of telephone calls and knocked on doors in Iowa and several other states encouraging people to vote, explaining Obama's vision. She met Obama and his wife Michelle half a dozen times and said their meetings did not disappoint.

"When you meet him and speak, it is inspirational and moving. You know he honestly believes in everything he says," said Ranya. "He is one of the few politicians who writes his own speeches.

"I feel much better knowing that someone with that much intellectual capacity is in charge.

"He and Michelle are also very compassionate."

The 20-year-old has worked as a volunteer for the Obama campaign for the last two years, persuading voters he was the right choice for America and the world.

The Democrat beat Republican John McCain by a landslide

349 electoral college votes to 162.

A former Bahrain Bayan School student, Ranya went to the US in August 2005 and began campaigning for Obama after being encouraged by her friends.

Ranya, who wants to be a lawyer, is a student of political science at the University of Northern Iowa.

Her father Radhi Ahmed, a Batelco engineer, and mother Fowzia Hamood stayed up until the early hours waiting for the result of the election on television.

"Ranya made us believe in Barack Obama too," said Fowzia, who works in a semi-government organisation in Bahrain.

"I were watching television the whole time. I spoke to her at about 1am and Radhi spoke to her after the result came in.

Ms Hamood said her daughter has been interested in politics since the age of 10 when she took part in a UN event for children.

"We are very proud of her," she said. "Every member of the family is."

By Geoffrey Bew

Source: [http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/1yr\\_arc\\_Articles.asp?Article=233803&Sn=BNEW&IssueID=31231&date=11/6/2008](http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/1yr_arc_Articles.asp?Article=233803&Sn=BNEW&IssueID=31231&date=11/6/2008)



## Student of the month

### Sergio Lopez, Chile Major—Biology

*Sergio is UNI's new blogger!  
Check out his blog online at  
[http://weblogs.uni.edu/  
anendlesstrip/](http://weblogs.uni.edu/anendlesstrip/)*

**On-campus activities:** working out at WRC!

**Free-time activities:** Dancing salsa, playing the guitar, draw portraits.

**Unique aspect:** My dogmatic personality and tireless endeavors for accomplishing all my goals!

**Favorite US food:** Pizza!

**What do you like about US in general and UNI in particular?**

I like US college education system, and a great amount of opportunities for students who want to succeed; at UNI I like multicultural diversity (races, languages, and cultures from all over the world).



### Chile

Chile, officially the Republic of Chile, is a country in South America occupying a long and narrow coastal strip wedged between the Andes mountains and the Pacific Ocean. It borders Peru to the north, Bolivia to the northeast, Argentina to the east, and the Drake Passage at the country's southernmost tip.



Currently, Chile is one of South America's most stable and prosperous nations. Within the greater Latin American context it leads in terms of competitiveness, quality of life, political stability, globalization, economic freedom, low perception of corruption and comparatively low poverty rates. It also ranks high regionally in freedom of the press, human development and democratic development. It has a status as the region's richest country in terms of gross domestic product per capita. (Wiki)

**Capital—Santiago**

**Language—Spanish**

**Government—Representative democracy**

**Population—16,763,470**

**Currency—Peso**

### **Cold Weather Tips:**

#### **For your wardrobe:**

- Select a good coat: North Face, Columbia are the best brands!
- Buy high-quality hats, scarves and gloves. For example, instead of buying fleece gloves, buy gortex gloves!
- Use under armor (1.0 or 2.0 armor for activity, and 3.0 armor for staying outside for a long time)

#### **For your car:**

- Warm up your car before driving
- Keep your gas tank above half full. Buy liquid heat to keep the water out
- Check behind your tires for snow and ice build-up
- Go to a car wash to wash the salt out
- Check the spare tire and make sure you have air in it.
- Check the windshield washer fluid
- Check tire pressure
- Don't use cruise control in the winter, it's better to have control
- Keep a survival kit complete with a blanket, food, gas money, flashlight and a candle with a cup

#### **For your health:**

- Be aware of cold and infections!
- Dress appropriately. Wear layers when you can. Wear hats, mittens and waterproof as well as insulated boots.
- Keep humidity level up at home or in your dorm, dry air may make your skin crack which allows for the cold virus to enter
- Be aware of skin exposure following an exercise routine and alcohol consumption
- Remember to wear eye protection to block out ultraviolet rays
- Warm up your body core with hot beverages
- Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough
- Stay at home when you are sick