September 4, 2009

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**PLAN II NEWS**

1. **Plan II to offer new Maymester Program in Costa Rica – May 2010**

Plan II is pleased to announce the creation of a new Maymester Study Abroad Program in Costa Rica to be offered in May 2010. The Program is titled “Costa Rica: Issues in Rainforest Conservation” and will be co-taught by Professors Ruth Buskirk and Moon Draper of the School of Biological Sciences in the College of Natural Sciences. Course credit for either TC 357 or BIO 337 can be gained from participation in the Program. For detailed information visit the Study Abroad Office website: <http://www.utexas.edu/student/abroad/mm.html>

The Study Abroad Office will also present the 2010 Maymester offerings in the following meetings:
- Wednesday, September 16th from 4 to 5 p.m. in WEL 1.308.
- Wednesday, September 23 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. – Joynes Reading Room (CRD 007)
- Wednesday, October 7 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. – Joynes Reading Room (CRD 007)
- Tuesday, October 27 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. – Joynes Reading Room (CRD 007)

2. **Joynes Room Visiting Author: Nam Le**

On Tuesday, September 8th, at 7:30PM, award winning writer Nam Le will be visiting the Joynes Reading Room to share an excerpt from his new book, *The Boat*. The *San Francisco Chronicle* calls Nam Le "an extraordinarily accomplished and sophisticated writer".

In anticipation of this event, the Joynes Reading Room will give away 10 copies of Nam Le's book of short stories to honors students on a first-come basis. Students should only take a copy of the book if they intend to attend the Sept. 8th event at 7:30PM in the Joynes Reading Room.

To get a free copy of *The Boat*, honors students should come to the Joynes Reading Room front desk in CRD 007.

Please direct questions to <mvalentine@mail.utexas.edu> or (512) 471-5787.

3. **The Plan II Pre-Medical Society**

The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9th, at 4 p.m. in the Joynes Reading Room (CRD 007A). All Plan II pre-meds are welcome. Cookies will be served. For questions, please contact the officers (currently Colleen Menegaz, Natalie Craik, Holly Day, and Aaron Seo) at <plan2premed@gmail.com>.

4. **Freshman Getaway- LAST CHANCE**

Register NOW, along with your lifetime membership to the Plan II Students' Association.

Friday, September 11th
3:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

REGISTRATION DUE by September 10th; registration forms available at the Plan II front desk
Plan II Getaway kicks off the social year with great food (including vegetarian options), volleyball, swimming, frisbee, soccer, and Shakespeare. Every first-year attends this annual event so don’t be the one who misses out. Get to know Plan II faculty, staff, and peer advisors in a great setting away from campus—the Shady Springs Party Barn! Buses start loading at 3:30 p.m. in front of the Littlefield Fountain on 21st Street, leave by 4 p.m.

5. Plan II World Lit Escort Ambassadors Needed
Are you in Mia Carter’s, Brian Doherty’s or Jim Garrison’s MWF 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. section of World Literature? If so, Plan II needs your help to give visiting prospective students a great experience by escorting them from Plan II information sessions to your World Literature class. As an escort ambassador, you will be asked a few times during the semester to pick up visiting high school seniors from the Meyerson Conference Room (WCH 4.118) at 10:45 a.m. and bring them to your class. It works best if volunteers do not have a 10:00 a.m. MWF class since we need you to drop in at the information session by 10:40 a.m. If a volunteer’s schedule allows, after the class, our visitors and their parents always appreciate it when you share your Plan II experience. To volunteer, please contact P2SA Recruitment Chairs Megan Sanders and Emily Hawthorne, <p2recruitment@gmail.com>.

6. Plan II Honors Overnight Ambassadors Needed
Are you an on-campus resident who is eager to show off UT and Plan II? If so, Plan II needs volunteers to host a prospective student for an overnight stay in a dorm (especially in the honors residences). Volunteers are not expected to play tour guide or babysitter during a student’s visit. Essentially, volunteers should provide visitors with solid contact information and a firm meeting time, directions around campus and to the cafeteria, and a floor to sleep on for the night. Honors dorms, Duren, and San Jacinto visits are most often requested, but all on-campus housing offers are always appreciated. Both male and female volunteer hosts are needed. Overnight ambassadors will be asked to house overnight visitors only once or twice at most. These overnight visits are often what make a prospective student choose Plan II and UT over other excellent schools. To volunteer, please contact P2SA Recruitment Chairs Megan Sanders and Emily Hawthorne, <p2recruitment@gmail.com>.

7. Plan II E-mail Ambassadors Needed
Plan II students volunteers are needed to serve as e-mail ambassadors to prospective students. Volunteers, names, and major(s) will be posted on <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/plan2/applicants/contacts/>. This way, prospective students may contact a real live student with questions about dorm life, UT life, Plan II life, or even what it is like to combine Plan II with another major. There is a need for Plan II student contacts who are combining majors and degrees in fine arts, communication, and architecture. E-mail ambassadors WILL NOT (EVER!) discuss the application process, the Plan II application evaluation process, the required curriculum, testing credits, UT admissions, or any other technical information. All such questions should be referred to Jennifer Scalora or the Plan II website. Send your name, your email address, your year (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) and other majors, degrees, and special interests to <scalora@mail.utexas.edu>.
ACADEMIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Free GRE Prep Courses at the UT Learning Center
The UT Learning Center will again offer three GRE prep classes this semester at no cost to students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Type</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRE Verbal</td>
<td>9/14 - 9/30</td>
<td>4:00 to 5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>MW for 3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE Quantitative (Math)</td>
<td>9/15 - 10/8</td>
<td>5:00 to 6:15 p.m.</td>
<td>TTh for 4 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE Writing</td>
<td>10/5 - 10/7</td>
<td>4:00 to 5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>MW for 1 week</td>
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Interested students can enroll in one or more of these classes. Registration is required -- either through our web site, or in person at the UTLC main office (JES A332A). More details are available on our web site: <http://www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/classes/>

2. UPDATED: Non-US History Requirement for Students in all Catalogs
Plan II students in all undergraduate catalogs will now be under the updated Non-US History degree requirement which is six hours in the same geographic area (the early/late requirement has been removed). Students can find the list of approved Non-US History courses on the Plan II website on the “Advising Forms and Guides” page: <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/plan2/advising/adv-forms-guides.php>

3. New TC 357 Junior Seminar Added to Fall 09 Schedule
Professor Wayne Rebhorn from the Department of English will be offering his TC 357 course “Self and Society in Renaissance Culture” during the fall 2009 semester. This course aims to introduce students to the civilization of the Renaissance in Europe from Petrarch and Boccaccio in mid-fourteenth century Italy to Molière in mid-seventeenth century France. Although the primary focus will be on the literature of the period, the course will also consider politics, philosophy, and art, as well as social and intellectual history. Class meets TTh 11:00-12:30 in CAL 21 (unique 43827). For more information visit the College of Liberal Arts course description database: <http://web.austin.utexas.edu/cola/students/courses/coursedetail.cfm?courseID=26585>

4. Free Seminars Offered at the UT Learning Center
Secrets of Academic Success
9/22 - 10/8 3:00 to 3:50 p.m. TTh 3 weeks
Come learn skills that will, with practice, supercharge your learning. We'll talk about using a systematic approach to studying and learning that can be applied to any class or learning opportunity. In addition to learning a more effective way to study, learn how to more successfully manage time, how to take better notes, and how to utilize specific strategies that will help improve test preparation and test-taking skills. The course also talks about the emotional components of learning and learning style preferences. Take this step toward getting the desired results at UT!

For more information on other free seminars follow this link: <http://www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/classes/>
5. University Extension Launches Five Month Online Courses
Starting September 1, 2009, all University Extension (UEX) independent study online courses will be offered as five month courses. These shorter, faster online courses allow fast and consistent progress. The student sets the pace while engaged, rapid instructor feedback helps students complete a course faster. Depending on the student’s pace, some courses can be completed in a month or two. Students may take up to 30 days to complete a final exam. UEX offers over 60 undergraduate courses from across the curriculum, including many core curriculum courses.

To learn more, visit the "Five month online courses" link on our home-page, <http://www.utexas.edu/ce/uex/>, or contact us by phone or e-mail. (512) 471-2900 <uex@austin.utexas.edu>

6. New Grading System Implemented Fall 2009
The new plus/minus grading systems has been implemented starting with the fall 09 semester. For more information visit: <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/student-affairs/news/1876>

7. Howl, Howl, Howl! Does Father Always Know Best?
Professor Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, Department of English, College of Liberal Arts
Wednesday, September 16 at 7 p.m. in ACES 2.302
King Lear is a huge play and a painful one. It asks us to think hard about how we treat our parents and how we wish to be treated in turn as we grow old. In certain periods the world seems especially violently chaotic, and at the same time parents and children feel out of touch. These two fears combined in Shakespeare’s day and perhaps also come together in ours. Whenever King Lear is popular, as it is today, it speaks to us about terror and about whether our families can ease our anxieties. This multimedia presentation will trace through image and film how a play from almost exactly four hundred years ago remains unforgettable and therapeutic for all generations even today.

8. Seats available for Plan II students in Professor Alexandra Wettlaufer’s French Literature course (Taught in English)
Looking for an interesting upper-division elective that can be counted toward the Plan II Fine Arts/Humanities requirement? There are a few seats remaining in Professor Wettlaufer’s fall 09 course, Masterworks of French Literature: Fictions of the Self and Other in Society 1800-1950. In this course students will examine representative works from 19th and 20th-century French literature, from Balzac's Realism of the 1830s to Beckett’s Theatre of the Absurd of the 1950s. We will consider literature in its relation to history, with special attention both to form and style in the development of narrative, prose poetry and avant-garde theatre. All students will be expected to give one in-class presentation on an aspect of French culture and history related to one of the works we are reading, and this presentation will be turned into a brief (5-7 page) paper. A final paper on a French novel from this period not included on the syllabus will be due the last day of class. Readings include Beckett's Waiting for Godot and Flaubert's Madame Bovary among others. The course is offered under French Civilization 349, unique #: 37170; European Studies 347, unique #: 36505; Western Civilization 320, unique #: 48563; and Women and Gender Studies 345, unique #: 48780. Any questions about the course can be directed to Professor Wettlaufer: <akw@mail.utexas.edu>
EMPLOYMENT AND INTERNSHIPS

1. Tutor positions available
TutorCrew is looking for elite tutors to join our team during the fall semester. We offer competitive pay ($12-$45/hr), flexible hours, and an innovative web-based system to help you manage your clients and your schedule. For more information, visit our website at http://tutors.tutorcrew.com or send us an email at tutors@tutorcrew.com.
website: tutors.tutorcrew.com <http://tutors.tutorcrew.com>
email: tutors@tutorcrew.com
phone: (888) 672-7678

UNIVERSITY WIDE

1. Peer Academic Coaching Program
The Peer Academic Coaching program is open to any student interested in receiving coaching from a trained UT student on how to prepare effectively for UT classes. Peer coaches are trained by learning specialists, and the program as a whole is certified by the College Reading and Learning Association. Common topics include note-taking and reading techniques, time management and concentration, and test taking and test preparation. Participants can expect to learn how to match the ways in which they study to the unique demands of each course. The cost is covered by the UT Learning Center; potential participants should be open to trying new study techniques and be willing to meet privately once a week for an hour with a peer coach. Participants are admitted to the program on a rolling basis, subject to coach availability.

Interested freshmen should visit the UT Learning Center in Jester A332A; all other students can complete a participation request questionnaire online by going to https://enroll.utexas.edu <https://enroll.utexas.edu> and clicking on “Academic Coaching – Get a Coach.”

2. Rapoport-King Scholarships for Honors Thesis Writers
To be eligible for a Rapoport-King Scholarship you must be planning to graduate May 2010 with a Plan I degree and must be writing a senior honors thesis in a Plan I Departmental Honors program. Fellows will be chosen on basis of academic record, the quality of the thesis proposal, and financial need. The deadline for applications -- a thesis proposal, student transcript, statement of financial need, and a letter of recommendation from your thesis supervisor -- is Friday, October 2, 2009, by 5 p.m. Applications are available online at: (<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/lahonors/scholarships/alah/rapoport-king-thesis.php>). Holders of the Rapoport-King Scholarships for 2009-2010 will be announced on Monday, October 19. If you have questions about the Audre and Bernard Rapoport-King Liberal Arts Honors Scholarship Program, please call the Liberal Arts Honors Programs Office at 471-3458.

3. Join Silver Spurs
Our Senior History major, Jonathan Saperstein is helping with the recruitment for this year's Silver Spurs -- one of the most visible and hardest working service organizations on campus. The Silver Spurs is the honorary service and spirit organization responsible for the caretaking and transportation of the
University of Texas Longhorn mascot, BEVO. Founded in 1937, the Silver Spurs were created with the purpose of being responsible for the school mascot and to provide philanthropy around the city of Austin. They are looking for sophomore men who have been active at UT and ready to take on more service to the University. Applications must be submitted by Tuesday, September 8th. Download the application and get more information here: <http://www.utsilverspurs.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=20>.

4. Net Impact Undergraduate
First Meeting: Tuesday, September 8 at 5 p.m. in CBA 4.328

Net Impact Undergraduate is an organization dedicated to educating students about sustainability and promoting corporate social responsibility. Come to our first meeting to find out more about our events, meet our sponsor, and enjoy games and food! Throughout the year, we will have meetings with corporate speakers, discussions with professors, volunteer activities, and interactions with working professionals. For more information, visit <http://studentorgs.utexas.edu/niu/>. Contact Person: Elaine Hsu, <elainewhsu@gmail.com> (281) 797-7864.

5. Write for Nazar
Nazar – A South Asian Perspective is the first student media group on UT that focuses on everything South Asian. Its members are interested not only in the issues surrounding the region, but the impact South Asia has on America and the world. How does the quota system in the subcontinent's universities compare to affirmative action in US colleges? What is it about yoga and Bollywood that captivates international audiences? Nazar is looking for committed writers who are able to offer their own opinions on South Asian matters – regardless of what region they are from.

Sound like your cup of chai? Contact Sumita Sami or Niyantha Shekar at <nazar.editors@gmail.com> with a one page sample of your writing.

6. Gates Cambridge Scholarship
The Gates Cambridge community would like to invite all interested fellowships advisers, and their students, to participate in a "webinar" information session on the Gates Cambridge Scholarship on Sept. 10th, 1 p.m. Pacific / 4 p.m. Atlantic time. This “webinar” is intended to provide an introduction to Cambridge University, the Gates Cambridge Scholarship, the application process, and allow for any questions and follow-up for those interested in applying.

Registration for this conference is free and open to everyone (but please note that the focus of this session is on the American application cycle; we will host another session for international applicants in late October 2009). Registration details can be found at <http://www.gatesscholar.org/coffeehouse>.

STUDY ABROAD
1. UT in D.C. Archer Program
September 8, 2009 (Tuesday) at 5:00 p.m. in FAC 4
September 22, 2009 (Tuesday) at 12:30 p.m. in FAC 4
October 26, 2009 (Monday) at 3:00 p.m. in FAC 4
November 16, 2009 (Monday) at 12:00 p.m. in FAC 4
November 17, 2009 (Tuesday) at 12:30 p.m. in FAC 4

If you would like to spend a fall or spring semester in Washington, D.C. involved in an internship and taking in-residence UT Austin classes, please see &lt;http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/utindc&gt; and then come to one of the information sessions listed above to find out more. The UT Austin campus coordinator and former Archer Fellows will give an overview of the program and provide you with tips on submitting a competitive application.

Please feel free to make an appointment with Katrina Kosted, coordinator, if you would like to discuss your interest in the program, or if you are unable to attend an info session.

2. UT Semester in Los Angeles Program Information Sessions
   Tuesday, Sep 22, @ 3:30pm CMA 5.160 (Video conference)
   Wednesday, Oct 14, @ 3:00pm CMA 5.160 (Video conference)
   Thursday, Nov 12, @ 2:00pm CMA 5.160 (Video conference)

The program is currently accepting applications for summer and fall 2010, and will be moving to a selective application process with students who apply for spring 2011 or summer 2011. More information about this can be found online: &lt;http://www.utla.utexas.edu/applying/index.htm

Watch a short promotional video on the program online:
www.utla.utexas.edu &lt;http://www.utla.utexas.edu&gt;

Questions? Contact UTLA Center staff in Los Angeles by calling the following toll free number: (877) 875-2111.

**USEFUL MISCELLANY**

1. UT Email Accounts & Policies:
   Please be sure that you are thoroughly familiar with the UT email policies at &lt;http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.php&gt;. Item C is most relevant, especially:
   It is the responsibility of every student to keep the University informed of changes in his or her official e-mail address. Consequently, e-mail returned to the University with "User Unknown" is not an acceptable excuse for missed communication.
   And
   The University cannot be responsible for the handling of e-mail by outside vendors (e.g., @aol.com, @hotmail.com) or by University departmental servers. A student may provide an official e-mail address resident on, or that forwards to, such a server at his or her own risk.

   Plan II does not receive automatic updates if a students updates an email account on UT Direct. We have to ask you to contact us directly if you change your email, local or permanent address. Email updates: &lt;scalora@mail.utexas.edu&gt;
2. Submitting to the Plan II Newsletter

The Plan II newsletter is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the semester for students currently registered in Plan II and others associated with Plan II who send their e-mail addresses to <planiinewsletter@austin.utexas.edu>. News items for the letter include announcements from the Plan II office and the Plan II Student Association, as well as performances and exhibits by Plan II students. Read the newsletter to learn about courses, registration, advising, job opportunities and special events. Personal and political announcements will not be published in the newsletter; and internships and job announcements should normally be sent to the Liberal Arts Career Services office, after which they may be considered for publication in the newsletter.

Please keep in mind that although the Plan II newsletter enjoys a substantial and diverse readership, its circulation is still relatively small. It should not be relied upon as an employer's only means of advertising for a position, a group's only advertisement for an event, etc. To reach a wider audience, please use university-wide electronic and paper advertising outlets.

To place a news item in the Plan II newsletter, you must do the following, or your messages will not be included:
- Type your news item in the body of an e-mail to <planiinewsletter@austin.utexas.edu>.
- In the subject line, write “Plan2News” exactly.
- Give the name of a contact person with phone number or e-mail address.
- Provide an activity date or a deadline, whichever is appropriate.
- Do not use “we” or “I.” Please write your submission in third person.
- Write in complete sentences and use correct grammar.
- News items will run until your deadline, or through two issues of the newsletter if no deadline is provided.
- The text of submitted newsletter items (including job and internship postings) must be fewer than 150 words, not including headline and contact information. Please edit your entries to this length before submission. An overly-lengthy entry will be returned to its sender and will not appear until this standard is met.
- Send your news item to <planiinewsletter@austin.utexas.edu> no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday (for the Tuesday letter) or 3:00 p.m. on Thursday (for the Friday letter). The 3:00 p.m. deadline is final. Do not send your message to any other address. No one else can approve news items for inclusion in the Plan II newsletter and no other address will be used to receive entries.

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