



# Transfer eNewsletter

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Welcome from the Editor.....	2
New Option for Meeting the Graduation Requirement in Foreign Language Proficiency .....	3
Meet Namura Nkeze, Transfer and Commuter Programs Coordinator .....	4
International Transfer Students: F-1 and J-1 advising at UW.....	5
Finnish Gets a Degree.....	6
Admission to Economics Major to become Competitive .....	7
Certificate of International Studies in Business .....	8
College of Architecture and Urban Planning becomes College of Built Environments .....	9
The Civil and Environmental Engineering Major .....	10
UW’s Twelfth Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.....	11
Milgard School of Business no longer admitting spring quarter .....	13
Global Honors Program at UWT .....	13
Credits.....	14

Please visit us online at <http://www.transfernews.washington.edu> for the full version of the Transfer eNewsletter, including many useful links, an interview with a current UW transfer student, past issues of the newsletter, and more!

# Welcome from the Editor

*By Megan McConnell, Editor, Transfer eNewsletter*

Welcome to UW's Transfer eNewsletter. Whether this is your first time reading, or whether you've followed us for years, we're glad to have you.

This publication is intended for prospective transfer students to the UW, as well as for the advisers who advise them. If you subscribe to it, we will continue to send it to you until you tell us not to. We also send it out to the UW Seattle Admissions office's list of prospective transfer students, which they assemble from those little cards we have you fill out when we visit your college or when you attend Transfer Thursday. Finally, it goes out on two advising listservs—one for UW advisers and one for Washington state community college and UW advisers, and when we send it out on those we ask that advisers forward it on to students who will be interested. If you know of other distribution methods we should be thinking about, please drop me a line about it at [dahlface@u.washington.edu](mailto:dahlface@u.washington.edu).

Our goal in publishing, which we do three times each year, is to provide prospective students with degree and program updates, helpful information regarding the admissions process, and advice about planning to transfer. We sometimes include articles that are primarily of interest to advisers at the state's community colleges, like this issue's brief introduction of Namura Nkeze, Transfer and Commuter Programs Coordinator.

In this issue, highlights include an important change in the Economics department admissions process as well as the decision to add three years of high school foreign language as one of the ways in which students in the Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Education, and Social Welfare can meet the foreign language proficiency graduation requirement. One of the things I always try to do in assembling our story list is to include student voices, so you can listen to ASUW Senator Chris Paredes talk about a new transfer club he is helping to start on campus, or you can read an article by former transfer student Crystal Chiechi about the fantastic Undergraduate Research Symposium we hosted a few weeks ago. International students would be well advised to read Leana de la Torre's piece on the services provided by the Office of International Students and Scholars, since they differ significantly from similar offices at the community college level. There's all this, and more. I do hope you'll enjoy it!

# New Option for Meeting the Graduation Requirement in Foreign Language Proficiency

*By Susan Inman, Lead Admissions Counselor, UW Seattle Admissions and Megan McConnell, Academic Counselor, Gateway Center*

The University of Washington Seattle has approved a new option for meeting **the graduation requirement** for proficiency in a foreign language in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Social Work. The College of Arts and Sciences, acting on the unanimous recommendation of the Humanities chairs, agreed that three or more years of high school language study provides sufficient exposure to cultural and linguistic diversity to meet the goals of the Arts and Sciences language proficiency graduation requirement. The Colleges of Education and Social Work faculties soon followed the recommendation and changed their policies. Therefore, students who have successfully completed three full years of high school-level study in a single foreign language may now use their high school background to meet the foreign language proficiency requirement needed to graduate from a major in these colleges.

**This added option for satisfying the College graduation requirement should not be confused with the UW's world (foreign) language requirement for admission.** The UW will continue to consider applicants who meet the minimum admission requirement of two high school units (years) of the same world language.

## **The Requirement in Context**

Students graduating from most majors at the UW have long been required to fulfill a foreign language graduation requirement. This graduation requirement is not changing. However, beginning in autumn 2009, the options that UW students have for satisfying the foreign language graduation requirement have been expanded to include high school-level language. The options now include:

- Complete the third quarter of college course work in a foreign language with a grade of 2.0 or higher at the UW.
- Transfer college course work, with a grade of 2.0 or higher, equivalent to the third quarter of foreign language at the UW, or any passing grade in any course beyond the third quarter.
- Pass a UW placement test that qualifies for entrance into the fourth quarter (or higher) of a UW foreign language course.
- Pass a UW proficiency test in a foreign language.
- Meet the UW definition of a native speaker of a language other than English.
- [NEW] Complete the third high school-level year of a foreign language.

## **Admission Recommendations**

For years now, the comprehensive review process for transfer admission has considered whether students interested in majors in the College of Arts & Sciences, College of Education or the School of Social Work have completed some or all of the foreign language graduation requirement before they transfer. Applicants who can complete the requirement should, as it will be considered positively in the admission review.

Furthermore, budget cuts at the university have meant that we will be able to offer fewer sections of many popular foreign language courses, so getting these courses done prior to transfer makes sense from that perspective, as well. For example, the UW expects to be able to offer significantly fewer seats in first-year Spanish, Italian and French this fall.

For more information on this graduation requirement at the University of Washington, see [www.washington.edu/uaa/gateway/advising/degreeplanning/gebsrforlan.php](http://www.washington.edu/uaa/gateway/advising/degreeplanning/gebsrforlan.php).

## For Advisers: Meet Namura Nkeze, Transfer and Commuter Programs Coordinator

The University of Washington has deepened its commitment to transfer students by redefining a position in the office of First Year Programs. The title of this new position is Transfer and Commuter Programs Coordinator.

My name is Namura Nkeze and I am excited to join First Year Programs as the coordinator of Transfer and Commuter Programs. As the coordinator I am in charge of Transfer and Returning Interest Groups (TRIG) program as well as transfer student orientation. Before building on current programs I am taking the opportunity to survey what is currently being done across campus for these populations.

There are many services and programs created to address transfer students needs, however what I am finding is a disconnect between the creators of these services and programs and the audience they are trying to reach. Ultimately, it is my goal to create avenues by which the two can meet in addition to creating new programs and services that create community and allow the voices of transfer and commuter students to be heard. I know that this is will take time but it is exciting to know that I have partners across the UW as well as in the community college system who are willing to help.

Part of the work I have been doing over these past couple of months has involved meeting with colleagues across campus and in the community college system to begin to define the needs of transfer students. I have also been looking at other four-year institutions in state as well as out of state. If you have any suggestions on how the UW can help students better make the transition, please feel free to send your comments to [trigs@u.washington.edu](mailto:trigs@u.washington.edu).

I look forward to meeting your students during orientation!



# International Transfer Students: F-1 and J-1 advising at UW

*By Leana de la Torre, Adviser, Office of International Students and Scholars*

The Office of International Students and Scholars (ISS) assists over 2900 F-1 and J-1 students in maintaining their visa status. Services include advising on travel and visa related issues, requirements for maintaining F-1 and J-1 status, and employment authorization, as well as helping new international students navigate the university at large. Students transferring from Washington community colleges will likely notice that while their current international advisers handle a wide range of issues, including academic advising, housing, financial matters, and visa-related matters, the UW ISS advisers primarily specialize in F-1 and J-1 regulations.

Newly admitted international students will receive their first UW I-20 or DS-2019 from Undergraduate Admissions and should coordinate the transfer of their SEVIS record with their current international adviser. If students have questions about the new I-20 or DS-2019, such as when it will be issued or how to change the mailing option, they should contact Undergraduate Admissions at [intladm@u.washington.edu](mailto:intladm@u.washington.edu).

All new international students are required to complete the New Student Online Check-in before registering for classes. Students will need their UW NetID and password to access the online check-in. The ISS registration hold will be removed within three to five business days after completion of the online check-in. For additional information about ISS services, hours, and contact information, visit the ISS website (<http://iss.washington.edu>).

# Finnish Gets a Degree

*By Nancy Joseph, Editor, A & S Perspectives*

For nearly two decades, Finnish language courses have been offered at the UW. But students wanting to major in Finnish were out of luck—until now.

A new bachelor of arts in Finnish has been approved as a degree program within the Department of Scandinavian Studies. Built around current faculty and existing courses on Finnish language, literature, and culture, the program provides a new option for students without additional cost to the University.

“Currently, there are only 11 universities in North America that teach Finnish,” says Terje Leiren, chair of Scandinavian Studies and Sverre Arestad Endowed Professor in Norwegian Studies. “We’re the largest program in Finnish in the U.S. We’ve become a major—if not the major—program in the country.”

Finnish is not a Scandinavian language nor even an Indo-European language. It is a Finno-Ugric language, in the same family as Sammi, Estonian, and—more distantly—Hungarian. Yet Finnish courses are offered through Scandinavian Studies due to Finland’s location and history. Finland was a province of Sweden, governed from Stockholm, for 700 years.

Two faculty teach Finnish language and literature, with one position funded jointly by the Finnish government and the UW. These and other Scandinavian Studies faculty also teach content related to Finnish politics, history, and culture.

Why study a language spoken by relatively few people? Some students—about half of those taking introductory courses—have a familial connection to the region. Others “are captivated by the culture in some way,” says Leiren. And then there are those, primarily linguists, who welcome the opportunity to study a non-Indo-European language.

In the past, interested students could minor in Finnish or major in Scandinavian Area Studies with an emphasis on the history and culture of Finland. The new major benefits those preferring to focus on Finnish language and literature.

“We know that many students who completed a Finnish minor in the past would have signed up for the major were it available,” says Leiren. “Student interest has been clear. We’re very pleased to be able to offer them this new option.”

*Reprinted with permission from the Winter/Spring 2009 issue of Perspectives, a publication of the College of Arts & Sciences.*

# Admission to Economics major will become competitive beginning Autumn 2009

*By Ahna Kotila, Undergraduate Adviser*

Starting Autumn quarter 2009, admission to the major in Economics will become competitive. These changes are due in part to the increase in the number of students in both the BA and BS majors. We are committed to ensuring that our students can have access to our upper-division courses and are able to graduate in a timely fashion.

The four prerequisites for the Bachelor of Arts degree remain the same: Students must have at least 45 college-level credits to apply, including ECON 200; ECON 201; STAT 311; and MATH 112, 124, 134 or 145 (MATH 124 preferred). As a reminder, Q METH 201 is no longer accepted as a statistics prerequisite if taken after Autumn 2008.

The prerequisite courses for the Bachelor of Science degree also remain the same: Students must have at least 45 college-level credits to apply, including ECON 200; ECON 201; STAT 311, STAT 341, or STAT 390; MATH 124, MATH 125, and MATH 126 (or MATH 134, MATH 135 and MATH 136).

Students taking coursework at the state's community colleges can look up the equivalencies for these courses on their own campuses in the Transfer Equivalency Guide (<http://admit.washington.edu/Requirements/Transfer/Plan/EquivalencyGuide>).

To apply for either the BA or BS major, students must have a minimum cumulative GPA for all prior college work of 2.5, and a minimum GPA of 2.5 for coursework taken at UW. In addition, for the BA, the GPA for the four courses must be at least a 2.5 with a minimum of 2.0 in each of the four courses required for entrance. For the BS, the GPA for ECON 200, ECON 201, statistics, and MATH 124 must be at least a 2.5, with a minimum of 2.0 in each of the six courses required for entrance.

The Department also requires a one-page personal statement, typed and double-spaced responding to the following questions: What are your personal/educational goals, and how do you expect those goals to be met through an economics major? What background do you bring to the program? Describe any special circumstances that would contribute to your studies in the field.

The application deadline remains the same: the second Friday of each quarter (Autumn, Winter and Spring). Students are permitted to repeat each of the prerequisite courses once, and we will take into account the better of the two grades. Admission is competitive. Meeting the above criteria does not guarantee admission to the major.

Please make an appointment with an economics adviser for any questions regarding admission to the major prior to transferring to the UW. Applications, additional admissions information, and graduation requirements can be found at our website (<http://www.econ.washington.edu/instruction/undergrad/index.html>).

# The Certificate of International Studies in Business Program: Developing Global Business Leaders

*By Deanna Fryhle, Adviser, Certificate of International Studies in Business*

The Certificate of International Studies in Business (CISB) Program is an award-winning, nationally-ranked program of the UW Foster School of Business. CISB bridges the gap between the global marketplace and the classroom by fostering global business skills and cross-cultural awareness in a diverse environment. It is one of the largest, most comprehensive programs of its kind, integrating formal business study with international studies and language learning.

CISB students are members of one of seven language “tracks,” or groups of students with common foreign language interests who meet weekly to share experiences, hear from alumni and business professionals, and enjoy cultural activities. Language tracks include Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Spanish, and a Custom track for those studying other languages. There is also a U.S. track for international students.

In addition to following the Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration curriculum, all CISB students take an additional set of requirements to prepare them for careers in global business. Requirements include:

- Ten weeks of study or work abroad in the target country/region
- Three years of college-level language study or the equivalent
- Area studies coursework
- International business coursework
- Focus on a functional business specialty such as marketing, finance, accounting, entrepreneurship, IS, or human resource management
- Practical experience through a consulting course or internship

CISB students gain valuable leadership and management experience through organizing events such as international case competitions, serving as club officers and running language track seminars. They also benefit from participation in the Business Mentoring Connections Program, foreign market strategy projects and networking with alumni and other business professionals.

Admission criteria include a minimum of one year of college-level foreign language by the quarter of admission, a strong academic record and demonstrated commitment to foreign language, business and international studies. Most students are admitted as juniors. To prepare for CISB admission, students should pursue foreign language study as early as possible.

To learn more about CISB, students are invited to visit the website (<http://bschool.washington.edu/cisb/>), write to [cisb@u.washington.edu](mailto:cisb@u.washington.edu) or call (206) 543-5985.

# College of Architecture and Urban Planning becomes College of Built Environments

*By Abby Crossen, Assistant Dean for College Affairs*

Effective January 1, 2009, the College of Architecture and Urban Planning officially changed its name to the College of Built Environments (CBE). CBE houses the departments of architecture, construction management, landscape architecture, and urban design and planning, and devotes its resources to the tangible improvement of built and natural environments.

Established in 1957 with just two departments, the College of Built Environments now encompasses four departments and eight research centers and laboratories. The college offers 14 graduate and undergraduate degrees, two interdisciplinary Ph.D.'s, as well as seven certificates. The new name better reflects the diverse academic composition of the college community as well as the interdisciplinary nature of research and design inquiry. The term "built environments" orients to the grand challenges that will shape the twenty-first century experience, in particular urbanization and climate change.

# The Civil & Environmental Engineering Major

*By Mariko Navin, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Civil & Environmental Engineering*

What do the *Concrete Canoe*, *Seismic Structures*, and *Steel Bridge* competitions have in common with environmental research? These are just a few ways in which undergraduate majors in the Civil & Environmental Engineering (CEE) program are preparing for their profession and engaging in the world around them. These three national competitions provide opportunities for students to tackle different engineering challenges and meet peers and professionals from across the nation. Our teams often win regional and national recognition. Recently one of our teams took first prize in a national environmental research design competition. In addition, many of our students participate in the UW student chapter of *Engineers Without Borders (EWB)*, which last year was ranked the best in the nation among EWB student chapters.

The University of Washington Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering offers the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE) degree<sup>1</sup>, which is appropriate for students interested in civil and environmental engineering. Our faculty sometimes refers to our department title as representing the “dry” side and “wet” side of engineering, recognizing that civil and environmental engineering issues are often varied and interrelated. The department offers courses and research in six areas of emphasis: construction, transportation, structural, geotechnical, water resources/hydraulics/environmental fluid mechanics, and environmental engineering.

There seems to be renewed student interest in civil and environmental engineering (last year the number of CEE applications increased by 23 percent), and we expect the trend to continue in the future as the Obama Administration emphasizes the rebuilding of the nation’s infrastructure. While hiring has slowed compared to last year, the CEE Career Fair held in January 2009 attracted nearly 60 organizations, and demand for civil & environmental engineers is expected to grow rapidly as the economy recovers.

The CEE Department admits majors only once a year in autumn quarter, so it is important for interested transfer students to apply in the spring before they arrive on the UW campus. (The online engineering application opens in mid-June, and closing date is July 1.)

A frequent question from community college students is what to do if they are unable to finish all the prerequisite courses by end of spring quarter. Students may apply for “conditional admission” if they are missing only one or two prerequisite courses and are otherwise qualified. Students interested in this option should consult with the CEE adviser.

Students should also know that some transfer courses, which may not appear to satisfy our program requirements, may sometimes be approved to satisfy degree requirements. For example, the second chemistry course after the CHEM 142 equivalent will often be accepted to satisfy the CHEM 152 requirement, even if it transfers to the UW as CHEM 1XX. Likewise, a computer programming course using C++ instead of JAVA (as used by the UW) may also be acceptable to satisfy our computing requirement, even if the course transfers as CSE 1XX. Students should retain course materials, including the syllabus, course description, and possibly sample work, in case they wish to submit a course evaluation request to the department.

To learn more about the UW CEE program, please visit us at [www.ce.washington.edu](http://www.ce.washington.edu).

<sup>1</sup> The BSCE degree is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202-4012, Tel: 410-347-7700).

# Students Become Teachers at UW's Twelfth Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

*By Crystal Chiechi, UW senior majoring in English and transfer student, Edmonds and South Puget Sound Community Colleges*

On May 15, 2009, the University of Washington brimmed with the energy of nearly 700 talented undergraduates, including several from local community colleges, showcasing their contributions to innovative and groundbreaking research at the Twelfth Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Poster presentations and panels with community college student involvement emanated from a wide variety of disciplines:

- “Comparing UIS3 Gene Expression of *Plasmodium yoelii* and *Plasmodium falciparum*”
- “An Investigation of the Mechanical Responses of Carbon Fiber Reinforced Plastic, Steel and Aluminum Under Low Velocity Transverse Impact Loading,”
- “Motivation of Math Students at the Community College: Do Personal Epistemological Beliefs Determine the Type of Motivation?,”
- “The Effects of Portraying Emotionally Complex Roles on the Actors Who Portray Them,”
- “Cluttered Workspace: A Distraction to Focus on Tasks,”
- “Effects of Appearance on Jury Decision Making,”
- “Images are More Emotional than Words,”
- “Homeless in Seattle.”

These panelists came from North Seattle Community College and Seattle Central Community College.

“The most important ingredients are interest and passion,” says Janice DeCosmo of the projects she oversees as director of UW's Undergraduate Research Program (URP), which facilitates research experiences for scholars in all academic disciplines. “This is a way for students to learn the process of presenting research.”

URP organized the event with the UW Alumni Association to give students a venue for presenting their engagement with a diverse array of research topics to a larger audience through posters, oral presentations, and performances.

Cameron Rule, a senior majoring in Russian, presented his research comparing bilingual speakers in Lithuania and Estonia. He said the symposium was “an excellent opportunity to engage with other young researchers across a multitude of academic disciplines.”

Rule's parents, who drove over from Spokane, remember their son being intrigued by all things Russian from a fairly young age and are proud of his contributions to undergraduate research, saying he has a “knack for languages.”

“We are very impressed with the sheer quality of UW research projects,” says Mike Rule. With projects ranging from linguistics to bioengineering to performing arts, students, faculty, and the community discussed cutting edge research and discovered how undergraduate research is solving real-life issues.

Wanting to solve the problem of bus uncertainty, recent graduates Raman Ahluwalia and Evan Hwang along with seniors Mark Javate, Daniel Nguyen, and Alex Poon presented their research called “Where’s My Bus: King County Bus Visualization and Improvement.”

Seeing an issue students deal with on a daily basis, they set up a website where riders can log on and track their bus by its route number. They said the most important design element was “ease of use” and got a broad view of public needs by testing their design with people from diverse backgrounds.

Senior bio-engineering major David Linders is also solving real world issues with “a disposable clinical force-sensing glove for measuring the forces [physicians] apply to their patients.” With far-reaching applications in chiropractics, surgery and cardiology, Linders and his team plan to take their product presented at the Symposium to full commercialization soon.

“This project has given me more business sense,” Linders states. “Educationally, I never saw myself as entrepreneurial, but have come to enjoy that aspect.” He credits his mentors Dr. David Nuckley of the University of Minnesota and UW’s Dr. Weichih Wang for their “quality of work and flexibility” in allowing him “to expand the project and contribute” his own ideas to the project.

Students at the symposium took the opportunity to honor the mentors who balance the guidance and flexibility essential to their achievements. Brittney Patterson, a junior economics major has been studying Bachata, a music and dance style from the Dominican Republic.

She credits her mentor, Juliet McMaines from the dance department, for her help in researching how “dance can be used as a tool for social change.” “I can relate to her passion and she is so knowledgeable,” Patterson says, “but she doesn’t press her ideas on me. She lets me come to my own conclusions.”

The Symposium is held every May and community college students are welcome to participate or just attend. You can learn more at: [www.washington.edu/research/urp/symp/](http://www.washington.edu/research/urp/symp/).

# Milgard School of Business no longer admitting spring quarter

*By Michal Nolte, Office Assistant for Admissions Advising & Outreach, UW Tacoma*

Students interested in business take note: the Milgard School of Business at UW Tacoma will be accepting applications for only Autumn and Winter quarters beginning in the 2009-2010 academic year.

The Business School at the University of Washington Tacoma will no longer be admitting students for Spring quarter. The decision to close Spring admissions came in light of shrinking resources along with the desire to maintain the high quality of education business students receive at UW Tacoma.

The Milgard School of Business continues to offer the same academic fields of study within business, with options in accounting, finance, general business, international business, management or marketing.

Students who were planning to apply for spring quarter admission should plan to apply for another quarter. To see the Business School prerequisites, visit: [www.tacoma.washington.edu/business/prospective\\_students/baba/admission.cfm](http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/business/prospective_students/baba/admission.cfm).

Business Application Workshops, led by a business adviser, are hosted on the UW Tacoma campus on the first Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. in Cherry Parkes 206C. These sessions are open to any student interested in applying to the business school. For more information on upcoming information sessions, visit: [www.tacoma.washington.edu/business/prospective\\_students/baba/info\\_sessions.cfm](http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/business/prospective_students/baba/info_sessions.cfm).

For more information on admission to the Milgard School of Business or other UW Tacoma programs, contact Admissions Advising at 253-692-4742 or e-mail [uwinfo@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwinfo@u.washington.edu).

## Global Honors Program at UWT

*By Tanya Ulsted, University of Washington Tacoma  
and Claudia Gorbman, University of Washington Tacoma*

The UW Tacoma Global Honors Program serves **students in all undergraduate majors** who wish to enter careers directed toward the real needs of our region and our world at a time when global interactions are transforming our planet. Global Honors is open to select juniors at UW Tacoma who recognize the need for a sophisticated understanding of world problems. The program builds on the strengths of exceptional faculty from all academic units at UW Tacoma. With core courses organized as seminars, its study abroad option, a culminating capstone paper, individual attention and special benefits, Global Honors adds substantially to options available to students at UW Tacoma who are highly motivated, ready to challenge themselves, and excited to be part of a special learning community. Space is limited; the program begins accepting applications in June. For more information, see [www.tacoma.washington.edu/globalhonors](http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/globalhonors).

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