



News from Seville International Business and Language Program December 4-15, 2006

This is my last week writing to you all this semester. And believe me, it's hard to bring myself to say goodbye. I wish the program was starting this week, now that I know the names of more than 5 students, now that Christmas vacation is here, now that Seville is slightly less under construction, but unfortunately, that's not the case. I want to thank all of you for your cooperation this semester, for reading the *News from Seville* each week, for talking to me in the hallways, or after class. As I recall the first days of orientation, I smile, thinking of your lost faces, thinking to yourselves "what have I gotten myself into?!", and now you are more involved in Seville than I am! You know better bars, the coolest places to take pictures, and of course, the Alfalfa. What am I going to do without "mis niñas" next semester? And without Missi, Mateo, Tony, CJ, Rosey and his never-ending emails, my friend Brian, "mis hermanitas"....and everybody else. I'm going to miss you all! But I don't want to get too mushy, so I'll wrap it up...take advantage of your last days here to meet up with your sevillano friends, as well as the American friends you've made, and exchange email addresses, phone numbers, etc. so that our story can continue. A story that started three months ago, of which we don't know the end. Happy Holidays!

José Viñas, Activities Coordinator



Academic News

CIEE-IBLP Farewell Reception

As the semester comes to a close, we'd like to celebrate your achievements, experiences, etc. with a farewell reception. The IBLP reception will be held on: Monday, December 11th from 8pm-10pm at VINERÍA SAN TELMO Paseo Catalina de Ribera, 4, next to the Jardines de Murillo. This is a cocktail reception just for IBLP students. Take a break from your studies and come see everyone before you head back home...there will be a few surprises in store for you as well!

UPO Campus Office Hours

Alayna will be on the UPO campus Tuesday, December 5th from 10:15-1:15

Final Exams

For those of you who have not yet checked the final exam schedule, it is posted on the bulletin board outside the Center for Foreign Studies office door. Final exams cannot be rescheduled, UNLESS you have more than 3 final exams in one day. Also, please make sure that your flight home is not scheduled until after your last final exam. If your flight is before your last exam, you will need to make the necessary arrangements to change your flight to avoid getting "0" on your final exam.

**The final exam for Managing Cultural Diversity is scheduled for December 12th, as posted in your syllabus (not December 14th as posted on the UPO final exam schedule)*

Academic Policies

As the semester draws to a close, just sending out a reminder of the academic policies for your classes: After 3 unexcused absences your final grade will be lowered by ½ point (on the Spanish grade scale) starting with the 4th absence, on the 5th absence your final grade goes down 1 point, and on the 6th absence, it is a failed class. As many of you are making final travel plans before you head back to the States, please keep these policies in mind. We want all of you to be successful in your classes! Also, be sure to visit your professor's office hours if you are having difficulty with any of your classes. It's better to visit your professors now, instead of the day before the exam.

UPO T-Shirts

Don't forget to purchase an UPO t-shirt in the Center for Foreign studies. The short-sleeved shirts are 6 euros and the long-sleeved shirts are 9 euros. There are also men and women's polo shirts for 17 and 18 euros that can be purchased in the office.

Important Dates for December

December 6th: Día de la Constitución

December 7th: Puente Académico

December 8th: Día de la Inmaculada

December 11th: CIEE-IBLP Good-bye party (8pm-10pm)

December 15th: UPO Farewell Reception

General News

CIEE Sports

We know you have a lot of things to do this week: tests, papers, goodbyes, but we want to invite you to come out to our last basketball and volleyball games. If everyone who has participated doesn't show up, Irene and Laura want to wish you good trips home and thank you for your participation.

Basketball: This Tuesday, December 5th at 19h in IFNI we'll play our last game. Irene won't be able to come, she's still injured, but she wishes you mucho ánimo.

Volleyball: On Tuesday, December 5th at 19h in IFNI we'll have our last match. I'm sure it will be just as good as last weeks, so don't miss it! We'll also take a picture to commemorate our team!

Soccer: First off, congrats to the male team, champions of the *I Triangular de Fútbol Sala* last week. Secondly, there won't be any soccer this week because of the holiday. Thanks to Laura for her work throughout the semester, and to all the Spanish and CIEE students who've participated.

Program Evaluations

If you haven't done the CIEE program evaluations, please go to www.ciee.org/evaluations and complete it before December 12. The evaluations are very important to us. Thanks for your cooperations.

Tell Us Your Story

We want to know how you have lived your semester in Seville, we want to know about your classes, conversations, and extracurricular activities. Have you had an experience here that has affected how you think, or perceive, or feel? Please, tell us about it (in 500 words or less, and in English) and you could win a prize.

The best stories will receive the following prizes:

- 1st prize: 100€
- 2nd prize: 50€
- 3rd prize: 25€

Good luck! The deadline is December 11th at 5pm. You may only submit entries via email, as an attachment in Word, to jluria@ciee.org. You will also have to fill out a release form, which John will send to you when you turn in your story. Questions? Talk to John.

Clothing Drive

At the end of every semester CIEE has a clothing drive. From Monday, December 11 to Friday the 15th there will be a big box in the Palacio; please leave your unwanted but CLEAN clothes in the box and we'll donate the items to a charity that helps the less fortunate.

Book Exchange

If you have books in English that you've already read, leave them on the bottom shelf of the bookshelf in the Palacio before you leave for the States. We'll give the books to an organization that provides books for English-speaking prisoners in Spain.

Cell Phone Drive

These last few weeks of the program we will also be collecting used cell phones in a box in the Palacio. Please leave your unwanted cell phones (working or broken) in the box and we'll donate them to the Red Cross.

Toys for Tots - Spanish style

Each holiday season, CIEE has a toy drive to collect toys for a local organization that gives them to less fortunate children on Three King's Day. Like "Toys for Tots" in America, this activity makes Christmas much happier for a lot of children. Please leave a new and unwrapped toy in the Student Services Office in the Palacio until December 19th.

Mailboxes

Before leaving for the States, make sure to take a look in the mailboxes beside the brown stairs in the Palacio. There are a lot of letters and postcards, which we'll have to throw away in January if you don't pick them up.

Things to do in your free time:

Galería Alternativa

Take a break from studying and stop by the art gallery/bar *Ánima* (c/ Miguel del Cid, 80) to check out the modern art on the walls and enjoy a glass of spiced wine, an Austrian Christmas tradition.

Christmas crèches

One of the prettiest Christmas traditions here in Seville are the crèches. Take a walk through the center and visit the belén del Ayuntamiento (beneath the arch in Plaza Nueva), the one in front of El Corte Inglés, in the Plaza del Duque, and the one by Caja San Fernando, in the San Fernando building (behind the Ayuntamiento). Happy Holidays!