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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 117, Welcome
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Welcome!

New and returning students alike, we're glad to see you!

Our Director, **Megan Forbes**, has a message for you:

Dear students!

Welcome to the University of Florida ELI Spring 2012 semester! If you are a new student, I am so happy you are joining us this January. If you are a returning student, welcome back!

All of you should know that the ELI is the Intensive English Program at the University of Florida. This means you are going to be spending a lot of time in your classes, with your teachers, with your Language Assistants, doing homework, and participating in trips and activities! We hope all of this can help you achieve your goal of learning more English.

In addition to the teachers and Language Assistants, we have many people at the ELI who are here to help you achieve your goal, and also to make your adjustment to the US and the University of Florida an easy one. If you need any help with anything, please ask! If you have any questions, or even suggestions for improvement, please let us know!

If you are a returning student at the UF ELI, I have a favor to ask of you. Please take the time to go out of your way to help our new students. You must remember how confusing your first few weeks at the ELI were, and how difficult English seemed at times. I also have a favor to ask of all students, new and returning. Please remember

to speak English! The benefit of studying English in the United States is that you will hear English all of the time. So, please be sure you are not taking that experience away from your fellow students.

On behalf of everyone at the ELI, welcome again, to the Spring 2012 semester. We are glad you are here!

Speak English and Go Gators!

Deadlines

Thursday, January 19th is an important day for deadlines. Please turn in all this required paperwork or you may not be allowed to attend classes:

Tuition: Tuition will be due before **1:30pm**. See Judith Strack in Room 315 Norman for any questions you have about your tuition.

Immunization: Proof of immunizations is due by 4:30pm.

Health Insurance: Proof of health insurance is due by 4:30pm. No exceptions

Drop/Add: The last opportunity to add or drop class is by 4:30pm.

Questions

We want all of you to feel as comfortable as possible while you are studying with us here at the ELI. If you have any questions, your teachers, your Language Assistants, our staff

members or administrators are here to help you, so please ask us anything. For specific questions about I-20s and other immigration matters, or university or community college admissions, please see **Daryl Bish**, our Admissions Coordinator in 315 Norman. For personal problems, questions about insurance and immunization, or apartment concerns, see **Emily Kirby**, the Student Life Coordinator in 316 Norman.

Notes from the Office

Phone Home: If you haven't called home to let your family know you are here, please try to do it as soon as possible.

Class Attendance: Remember, your attendance is very, very important. Your teachers are taking note of both your absences and your tardies in every class every day.

Smoking: There is no smoking ANYWHERE on the UF campus. This means you should not be smoking anywhere on campus, including the courtyard inside Norman Hall, the private property surrounding Norman Hall, or any other building on the UF campus.

Birthdays

Each week, this section of the *ELI Weekly* will list all of the birthdays for our students and staff that occur during the week.

REMEMBER: in the US, the birth date is written month/day/year. If you submitted yours as day/month/year on your forms, then it will appear wrong in the *Weekly*. For those of you that this may happen to, we apologize in advance. Please let the office know so it can be fixed on your forms.

Sports and Activities

The Cultural Immersion staff, along with your Language Assistants, are holding regular sports and activities each evening of the week. We also have a trip with these LAs every Saturday. Details will be on the Activities Board outside Room 315 and in each week's *Weekly*.

Student Voices

Every semester, we publish a collection of works written by **you**, our students in the *ELI Student Voices*, edited by **Steve Flocks**. You may submit anything of your work that you

wish. Past submissions have included obituaries, poetry, creative stories, class projects, and other interesting works on a variety of topics. If you want to turn something in for publication, simply give it to your teacher, or e-mail Steve at sflocks@ufl.edu. Include your name and class on your submission. Teachers, this makes for a great project for **all** classes--not just Reading/Writing.

Let's see what you can do!

Manners, Culture, and Grammar

I would like to greet you personally as your *ELI Weekly* Editor, Melina Jimenez. You will receive the *Weekly* each week during your Reading/Writing class.

As you can see, the *ELI Weekly* gives you important news about what is happening at the ELI. The *Weekly* also answers **your** questions. If you want to know how Americans behave in certain situations or

why they do the things they do, ask me. If you want to know how to say something correctly or why we say things the way we do, ask me. You may ask me in person (Room 331E), email me at evestar@ufl.edu, or put them in my mailbox (ELI Office, Room 315, box marked **Jimenez**) anytime the office is open.

Teachers and Language Assistants, make this an activity to get your students thinking. I need more questions!

If you missed an issue of the *Weekly*, you can pick up an extra copy in the ELI Main Office (Norman 315) or find it online at <http://www.eli.ufl.edu/publications.htm>.

Quote of the Week

A warm smile is the universal language of kindness.

William Arthur Ward

ELI Weekly Welcome – Quiz

1. Who is the director of the ELI?
2. The Director asked the new students for a favor. What is that favor?
3. What time is tuition due?
4. If you have a good excuse, you don't have to have health insurance by January 19th. True or false
5. What can you ask Daryl about?
6. What can you ask Emily about?
7. Where can you smoke on the UF campus?
8. How are birthdates written in the US?
9. Who is editor of the ELI Weekly?
10. What is a warm smile, according to William Arthur Ward?