International students at TU had the opportunity to see what American football is all about by taking part in a program called Football 101. On Friday, August 30th, one week before TU’s home-opening football game against Colorado State, the coaching staff and players of the TU football team showed students what a pre-game pep-talk is like before sending them past the cheerleaders and out onto the field to do practice drills.

Over 60 students attended the event and had the opportunity to participate in various blocking, passing, tackling, and running drills under the guidance of TU football coaches and players. The intense heat made frequent water breaks necessary, but everyone stayed strong and completed the one hour of practice time. Following the session of drills, students gathered to listen to Coach Blankenship, who encouraged students to enjoy their time in Tulsa, reach out to fellow students and make friends, and enjoy the many athletic events offered by TU. The Athletic Department ended the evening by treating students to pizza, drinks, bookstore coupons, and posters.

Update from AIS
By Yanyihan ‘Luna’ Lu

The new academic year started 3 weeks ago, and TU AIS hopes you are enjoying your semester so far. We also hope you will keep joining our activities during the 2013-2014 year. TU AIS is an official student association for all international students who study at The University of Tulsa. We are here to help international students not only accomplish their academic goals, but also engage with campus life at TU.

At the beginning of the semester, TU AIS and ISS held a “Welcome Back Picnic Party” for all international students to celebrate the new academic year. We had nearly 400 students enjoy our diverse international food and events. It was quite successful and we hope to organize more fun events for all of you this year.

The two major traditional AIS events, International Bazaar and International Night, will be held this year too. International Bazaar is for every country to present its traditional food and cultural background to all TU students. This year the International Bazaar will be held in ACAC on November 8th, so plan for your country right now and mark your calendar! The other big event, International Night, is a formal performance for all international students to show their best to all TU students, and this year we are going to hold this in the Reynolds Center on April 5th. Feel free to contact us if you have any fresh and new ideas!

Furthermore, we also are going to hold an international soccer tournament and international dance night soon, so “Like” us on Facebook Page “TU AIS” for more information. TU AIS wishes you a great year!
People You Should Know on Campus

Name: Adrian Wurr
Hometown: Sunnyvale, CA (near San Francisco)
Where You Can Find Me: Zink Hall room 318
What I Do: Teach writing to Graduate and undergraduate students; Help faculty work with international students better.
Hobbies: Most outdoor sports (Hiking, kayaking, scuba diving, skiing, bicycling, etc.)
Favorite Food: Sushi
Favorite Music: Jazz
An Interesting Fact About Me: I’m related to George Eliot (AKA Mary Evans), the famous 19th century British author who wrote Middlemarch and other well-known novels. Is it any wonder I became an English teacher?

Name: Janice Willson
Hometown: I’ve lived in Salem, New Hampshire; Durango, Colorado; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.
Where You Can Find Me: I’m usually at Zink Hall 346, the Writing Center in McFarlin, or in various coffee shops around town.
What I Do: I help international students with academic writing, and look for ways to enhance the international student experience.
Hobbies: I like to meet new people and collect interesting stories about their lives.
Favorite Food: Baba Ghanoush, lamb kebabs, and anything from the cuisine of northeast China
Favorite Music: Usually anything quiet, though I have recently taken a liking to country music.
An Interesting Fact About Me: I have visited thirteen countries, but I only have pictures from two of them. I have learned five languages, but I can only speak two of them.

ISS Welcomes New and Returning International Students

ISS has held a series of events in the first few weeks of class to welcome new and returning international students to campus for the Fall 2013 semester. International student information sessions were held for newcomers on Friday, August 23rd and offered students information about dealing with culture shock, finding academic help, adjusting to TU and to the U.S., understanding immigration policies, understanding plagiarism and cheating, and staying healthy. On Saturday, August 24th, more than 60 new international students turned out for our first International Student Success Seminar which offered interactive sessions on writing a paper, avoiding cheating, employment for international students, and U.S. slang. Furthermore, students had the opportunity to meet their academic advisors and visit the advising office of their specific college.

Week one gave students the chance to settle in and enjoy Football 101 (mentioned on page 1) at the end of the week. We were pleased to see at least 60 new and returning international students turn out for the event and learn some of the vocabulary, rules, and training drills used in American Football.

Week two ended with another International Student Success Seminar on Saturday, September 7th. Both new and returning students came to learn about Driving in the U.S. and getting a driver’s license, doing research in the library, and dealing with Housing issues and concerns. We wrapped up the day with an international tailgate party in Hurricane Alley featuring food and drinks provided by the TU Athletic Department. At least 50 international students stopped by to eat and visit with friends before heading to the exciting home-opening football game against Colorado State.
Great Places to Visit in Oklahoma

Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, Lawton, OK (Image source: www.travelok.com)
www.wichitamountains.fws.gov
For a taste of Oklahoma’s Southwestern influence, travel down I-44 West to the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge near Lawton, OK. You can enjoy hiking, rock-climbing, fishing, camping, or just sight-seeing. In addition to mountains, the park boasts herds of buffalo, elk, deer, and longhorn cattle, and a village of prairie dogs. The nearby small town of Medicine Park offers shops, restaurants, hotels, and a swimming area.

Woolaroc, Bartlesville, OK (Image source: www.travelok.com)
www.woolaroc.org
Experience Oklahoma’s Western and Native American cultures at Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve near Bartlesville, OK., just an hour north of Tulsa. Woolaroc (meaning Woods, Lakes, and Rocks) was developed in the beautiful Osage Hills by Phillips Petroleum founder Frank Phillips. Buffalo, elk, and longhorn cattle roam throughout the area, and a variety of other wildlife can be seen along the nature trails. Guests can walk the trails, view an impressive collection of art in the museum, and visit the 1920s lodge that was built by Frank Phillips.

We Want to Hear from You!
Please take a few minutes of your time to complete this survey so we can determine how best to meet your needs. Click on the following link to complete this survey. We really appreciate your time!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LH6SZNP

Like ISS on Facebook

Don’t miss out on important notices and helpful information! The ISS Facebook page is regularly updated with reminders, upcoming events, helpful hints, photos, and other items of interest from the ISS office. It is also a place where TU international students can post questions, comments, notices, and photos. To like us, go to https://www.facebook.com/internationalstudentservicestulsa

ISS is also on Twitter!

If you prefer Twitter, you can keep up with us at https://twitter.com/tu_iss.

TU Campus Mystery Location: Do You Know this Place?

Each month, The International Connection will feature a photo of a “mystery” structure or area located on The University of Tulsa campus. The first student to correctly guess the place shown in the photo will win a special prize!

If you believe you know what location this is, send an e-mail to david-kobel@utulsa.edu. Be as specific as possible when explaining where this is located (you must give the name of the building). The first student to send the correct answer by e-mail wins. The answer and the name of the winner will be printed in next month’s newsletter.