

ELP Info :

a newsletter for students in the English Language Program of Roosevelt University

RU Involved?

by *Susanne McLaughlin*,
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Welcome to Roosevelt University. There's a lot going on at RU. The beginning of the year is a great time to get involved. Many organizations on campus are planning concerts, workshops, festivals, and other opportunities for students to discover the University beyond the classroom. There is no better time to take risks and try new things than when you are a university student. Try something new. It's a time to experiment and find out about yourself and the world.

If you are a first-time student, it's easy to feel a little overwhelmed by new classes and a new city.

Making an effort to get involved in extracurricular activities and build friendships is probably the biggest way to feel connected to RU. Take advantage of as many opportunities as you can to discover new ideas and meet new types of people.

The first step can be as simple as a visit to the office of the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) in AUD 344 or to their web site at www.roosevelt.edu/csi. You'll find student organizations listed on the CSI site, but contacting them can be difficult, so make it easy on yourself by attending Welcome Week activities. Check out some of the fairs and events held on campus. In addition, on September 7, there's an RU Labor Day Beach Party at North Avenue Beach, starting at

12:30 PM. There will be lunch, games, prizes and more. You can also find out about volunteer opportunities at the Community Service Fair on September 30.

Along with its web site, CSI has bulletin boards on campus. Don't just hurry past the signs on the hallway bulletin boards. Stop, read, and resolve to join in the activities that are posted.

Did you know research shows that students who get involved in extracurricular activities are more successful in their academic programs and more likely to graduate? You'll certainly be busy, but it's worth the effort. Get a group of your friends together and take the plunge. You'll be surprised at how much there is to experience.

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Whether you're enjoying a free concert, taking photos of "the Bean," or walking in the Lurie Gardens, Millennium Park is a great place to be on a late summer day. Get park information at www.millenniumpark.org. The web site also has a free audio tour you can download and listen to on an iPod or MP3 player during your visit. Another Chicago must-see is the Art Institute. In addition to great art, the Modern Wing has incredible views of the city. The photo to the left was taken on the walkway leading from the upper level of the Modern Wing to Millennium Park. Admission to the Art Institute is free on Thursday and Friday evenings. Get details at www.artic.edu/aic. For information on more places to go and things to do in Chicago take a look at page 4 of this newsletter.



RU-Wise

Campus Abbreviations

Americans love abbreviations. You've already come across RU (Roosevelt University) and ELP (English Language Program). Others that you need to know include AUD (Auditorium Building), GB (Gage Building), UC (University Center), CSI (Center for Student Involvement) and M, T, W, R, F (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday).

Places to Study and Relax in the Auditorium Building

If you're looking for a place to relax before or after your ELP classes, try the Michigan Avenue Lobby on the first floor or Fainman Lounge on the second floor of the Auditorium Building. (If you're on the second floor, be sure to check out the view of Michigan Avenue from the terrace windows.) Another good place to go is the library on the 10th floor. (Speaking of great views, take a look out the library windows.)

Student Computer Use

You can use the RU wireless network with your own laptop in the first and second floor lobbies of the Auditorium Building and in the library. Get the network password in the ELP Office (AUD 686). You can also use RU computers in the library and lobby areas or in the computer labs. Get information at www.roosevelt.edu/its/labs.

Student Lockers

Especially if you live off-campus, you may want a place to keep your books and personal items on campus. There is detailed information about how to rent a locker at www.roosevelt.edu/current/lockers.htm.

Campus Safety

The Auditorium Building is a safe place to be, but it's a public building that anyone can enter. That means you should be smart when it comes to safety. Don't leave your backpack, books, or other personal items in a classroom when you leave. If you're in the library or lobby areas, keep an eye on your personal belongings.



ELP's new secretary, Saema Afzal, is pictured here on the right with students Chanmi Ryu and Ji-Hyun (Stephanie) Hwang. Whether you have questions about RU, places to shop, or finding a doctor, talk to Saema in AUD 686.

Food, Food, Food—and Drink

When hunger strikes or you need a drink, consider these options:

- the café in the Michigan Avenue Lobby of the Auditorium Building
- the vending machines near AUD 316 and AUD 516
- a visit to the ELP Office to pick up a map of restaurants close to campus that was prepared by Chutima Nakawarin
- food from home that you can heat in the microwave located on the second floor Wabash side of the Auditorium Building

Essential Reading

The ELP Office is in AUD 686. ELP is open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. To reach the ELP Office by phone, call 312-341-3717. The email address is elpinfo@roosevelt.edu

ELP instructors all have office hours so that you can see them to ask questions and get any extra help you need. Office hours for teachers are posted on the bulletin board outside the ELP Office.

It's never too early to plan ahead. ELP midterm exams are October 12–15. Final exams are December 1–3. Spring 2010 classes begin Monday, January 25.

There will be no classes at RU on Labor Day, Monday, September 7. There will be no classes November 24–29 because of the Thanksgiving holiday. That means you'll have a six-day break right before you take your ELP final exams.

Use your U-Pass for unlimited rides on CTA buses and trains during the Fall 2009 term. If you didn't get a U-Pass, go to the Registrar's Office in Room 124 AUD. Also go to the Registrar's Office if you still need to get your student ID card.

Use myMail, the Roosevelt University student email, to get important information from the University. For instructions on how you can log in and use myMail, go to <https://mymail.roosevelt.edu>.

You may be able to find the answers to a lot of your questions on the RU web site. Use the "A-Z Index" at www.roosevelt.edu/findit/default.htm.

Student Spotlight

Chengqi (Max) Jin is an undergraduate student majoring in business. This semester, Max is taking ELP 90, 92, and 93 and a math course.



Chengqi (Max) Jin

Can you talk a little bit about your family?

Sure. My grandparents came to China from Korea during the war in Korea. They were poor, and they could work in China. My parents, and my brother and I were all born in China. My father owns a Korean restaurant, and my mother helps him. My brother just graduated from a Korean university.

Why did your brother go to Korea to study but you came to the U.S.?

It was my father's decision. My father and I also decided my major together. My father influenced me, so I'm studying business. My goal is to open a coffee shop, a club, or a restaurant with my friends.

You used to live in University Center, but now you're living in an apartment. Which is better?

University Center is better because it's more comfortable and closer to school. But the apartment is cheaper.

Do you cook for yourself or do you eat out?

I eat out. I live on the North Side, near New Chinatown. Recently, I've been going to a Vietnamese restaurant called Tank Noodle. The noodles there are great.

Your English has improved a lot since you came to Chicago last January. Do you have any language learning tips for the new ELP students?

Study hard and practice. I worked a lot on vocabulary. I wrote down words that I didn't understand and then checked them on my computer. I also talked to my roommate in University Center. He was nice. If I didn't understand something, he helped me. Another good thing to do to learn English is to watch movies.

What has been your best experience in Chicago?

Going to Six Flags. Some other students and I got the tickets from CSI. The rollercoasters and the race cars at Six Flags were exciting. There were a lot of American girls there too, and we could talk a little.

I also liked going to the restaurant on the 95th floor of John Hancock Tower for drinks and the view of Chicago at night. It was incredible.

Where are the best places to go shopping in Chicago?

Target is good for basic shopping. The best place to go for clothes is Water Tower Place and the stores on Michigan Avenue.

What's your favorite color?

Green.

What's your favorite food?

Kimchi.

What's your favorite TV show?

I don't really watch TV. My favorite movie is *Crank*, with Jason Statham. *WALL•E* is also one of my favorite movies.

What's your favorite web site?

I like action and gaming web sites. Do you know Counter-Strike? I like to play it online.

You said that you studied a lot of vocabulary. What's your favorite English word?

Procrastinator. It's long, and I like the way it sounds. Besides, I'm a procrastinator.

What's one thing that most people don't know about you?

The thing that others don't know about me is I used to play basketball very well until I broke my leg when I was in high school.

In your opinion, what should all students know about RU?

The 10th floor library is a great place to sit and relax. Also RU is small, but the location is perfect.



Check It Out!

An event that you really shouldn't miss is the **Wendela Boat Cruise** on Saturday, September 5. The \$5 tickets are limited, so don't wait to buy yours in AUD 344 (be sure to take your student ID). Then meet at the Wendella Dock at 400 N. Michigan Ave. at 3:45 on the 5th.

Several fantastic music events are scheduled for the month of September. The **Chicago Jazz Festival** takes place in Grant Park September 4–6. Maps showing the exact location and other details are available at www.chicagोजazzfestival.us. There will be food and souvenirs for sale, but the music is free. **The Millennium Park Free Concerts at Noon** will offer a variety of music. Get detailed information at millenniumpark.org/parkevents/event.aspx?id=935. **World Music Festival Chicago 2009** will feature artists from 32 countries during the week of September 18–24. Tickets are required for some events, but others are free. Find out more at www.cityofchicago.org/WorldMusic.

Participate in a Chicago tradition. Watch **the nightly light show at Buckingham Fountain**. The fountain is just a block away from the Auditorium Building, and the 20-minute show is gorgeous. Read more at easyaccesschicago.org/access_info/attractions.php?id=1.

Are you interested in buying fresh fruit, vegetables, or flowers? Then one of the **Chicago Farmers Markets** is the place for you. Look for the markets at Federal Plaza and Daley Plaza that are listed at www.chicagofarmersmarkets.us.

For **general information on things to do in and around Chicago**, visit the tourist office at the north end of the Chicago Cultural Center. Enter through the door at the corner of Randolph St. and Michigan Ave. Another good source of information is www.chicagotraveler.com/calendars/chicago-events-calendar.htm.

Chicago Architecture

The Great Chicago Fire began on October 8, 1871. It destroyed most of downtown Chicago, but as a result of the rebuilding after the fire, Chicago became known around the world for its architecture.

One of the most famous buildings in Chicago is Roosevelt's very own Auditorium Building. When it opened, it was the tallest building in the city and one of the first buildings to have air conditioning and use electric lighting. The RU web site has a history of the Auditorium Building at www.roosevelt.edu/campuses/downtown.htm. There are historical photos of the building at www.american-architecture.info/

USA/CHICAGO/CHIC-LS/CHIC-LS-036.htm.

The Chicago Architecture Foundation, which is located very close to RU at 224 S. Michigan Ave., is an excellent source of information on Chicago buildings and their history. Stop by for a quick visit after class or go to their web site at www.architecture.org.

In addition, you can learn about the Great Chicago Fire and what happened afterwards at the Chicago History Museum. The museum web site, www.chicagohs.org has the *Encyclopedia of Chicago* and other interesting reading materials, along with information that will allow you to plan an in-person visit.

Getting Around Chicago

It's easy to find your way in Chicago. The first thing to remember is that when you're downtown, "the lake is always east." A second thing to remember is that Chicago addresses have a logical numbering system. The "0-0" point is the intersection of State St. and Madison St.

An address is north, south, east, or west according to how far a building is from the intersection of State and Madison. If you want to see a Chicago map, go to www.explorechicago.org/city/en/travel_tools/guides_maps.html. The same web site has a public transportation map. For general information on how to get around on public transportation use tripsweb.rtachicago.com.



Mark Your Calendar!

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ELP Welcome Day | Thursday, September 3 |
| ELP Halloween Party | Saturday, October 24 |
| ELP Thanksgiving Potluck | Monday, November 23 |

Talk to your ELP instructors, or visit the ELP Office in Room 686 AUD to get additional information.

Word Puzzle

Use the clues and unscramble these words.

1. alek L A K E
Chicago has a river. It also has one of these.
2. sutsdnet _____
The most important people at RU.
3. dwniy _____
Chicago's weather is sometimes like this.
4. opol _____
Downtown Chicago is called the _____.
5. rlrbayi _____
RU students can go here to find a quiet place to study.
6. gpinpohs _____
Go to Michigan Ave. or Roosevelt Rd. if you want to do this.
7. uswyba _____
The CTA trains that are underground.
8. sresptiden _____
Chicago's downtown streets have the names of these men.

You can play more word games and improve your English vocabulary at www.manythings.org/e/vocabulary.html.

ANSWERS: lake, students, wind, Loop, library, shopping, subway, presidents



How much should you tip a cab driver, waiter, or hairdresser? Find out at www.lifeintheusa.com/services2/tipping.htm.

Increase your English vocabulary with The Slang Game at www.vocabulary.co.il. Advanced students should try the game at www.freerice.com. For every word you get right, 10 grains of rice will be donated to the UN World Food Program.

English idioms are organized by topic at www.learn-english-today.com/idioms/idioms_proverbs.html. Look up idioms alphabetically at www.usingenglish.com/reference/idioms.

To improve your English listening skills, watch full episodes of *Lost* and other popular TV shows at beta.abc.go.com.



International Food Corner

Hummus

Hummus is one of the more popular Middle Eastern dips. Served with pita bread, crackers, or raw vegetables, it makes a great snack or appetizer. This super simple recipe comes from ELP secretary Saema Afzal.

- 1 (16 ounce) can garbanzo beans, drained, liquid reserved
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 3–5 tablespoons lemon juice (depending on taste)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

1. Drain garbanzo beans and set aside liquid from can.
2. In a blender or food processor combine garbanzo beans, garlic, cumin, lemon juice, salt and olive oil. Blend on low speed, gradually adding reserved garbanzo bean liquid, until thoroughly mixed and smooth.
3. Serve immediately with fresh or toasted pita bread, bread, crackers or raw dip vegetables, or cover and refrigerate.

Storing Hummus:

Hummus can be refrigerated for up to 3 days and can be kept in the freezer for up to one month. Add a little olive oil if it appears to be too dry.



This group of smiling students has just arrived from China to begin their special master's program in public administration at RU. ELP would like to welcome them and all of our new and continuing students to the 2009-2010 academic year. Good luck, everyone. Work hard—and have fun!