A Note from ISSS
During winter term, students took classes in a wide variety of academic areas including the arts, humanities, languages, sciences and more. Students also had the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of engaging and fun workshops on topics such as dogsledding, Tibetan dream yoga, activism on campus and backcountry cooking in winter. Other students were off campus pursuing internships. This adventurous time is over but our international students thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

On February 4, the new international students arrived for our Early Arrival Program for February students (“Febs”). After an introduction to life at Middlebury, guided by the ISSS team and our fabulous Feb Mentors, we sent them on their way so they could join the rest of the Febs for Orientation. We are happy to welcome them to our community and wish them the best of luck as they begin their studies at Middlebury.

Spring term has begun but the winter weather continues. During this snowy season students truly appreciate a home-cooked meal or a fun activity with their host family. For example, why not take a tour of local covered bridges? Many international students have never seen these amazing Vermont landmarks. For more information, visit https://www.addisoncounty.com/covered-bridges. See our Local Events & Opportunities section for more ideas.

If you or anyone you know is interested in hosting a student in the fall, please let us know at isss@middlebury.edu.
Important Dates and Reminders
Host Information Changes
Please keep us posted if you have any address, phone or email changes so we can keep our records up-to-date. Don’t miss out on any important FIS program information!

Student Employment Restrictions
International students are allowed to work up to 20 hours/week on campus for Middlebury College during the school year and full time during the summer and vacation breaks. However, international students in the U.S. in F-1 student or J-1 Exchange Visitor visa status (which describes most of Middlebury’s international students) are not allowed to work off campus, unless they obtain specific authorization.

- International students cannot pursue informal off-campus employment (such as house sitting, childcare/babysitting, pet sitting, and yard work, etc.) for pay or any form of remuneration.
- To accept off-campus employment related to their academic major or program of study, international students need to secure special employment authorization with assistance from ISSS. (In some cases, students must apply to USCIS, which may take 4 months or more.)

Internships that take place off campus during the summer are possible, but require advance planning. See the ISSS website at http://www.middlebury.edu/international/isss/employment for more information. ISSS offers sessions to inform students of the employment authorization application process. Please encourage your student to attend these important meetings. It is helpful for students to attend a session well in advance of the opportunity they seek, so they are aware of the process and can anticipate the steps involved.

Winter Carnival
Our 97th Annual Winter Carnival, the oldest student-run Winter Carnival in the nation, kicks off with fireworks on Thursday evening, February 27, and continues until Sunday, March 1, with a wide variety of activities. As part of the special weekend, students have the day off from classes on Friday, February 28, to participate in Carnival activities. Come join us! http://www.middlebury.edu/student-life/annual-events/winter-carnival

Spring Break
Spring break this year is the week of March 23-27. Some students may go away during the break, participating in volunteer activities, traveling with friends or visiting their families. Others may stay on campus so this may be another great time to make plans with your student.

Spring Student Symposium
Friday, April 17, 2020, McCardell Bicentennial Hall and other locations on campus
The 2020 Spring Student Symposium highlights the academic and creative endeavors of our students through oral presentations, performances, artwork and readings. Come support our students and be inspired!
http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/resources/ctlr/students/uro/symposium
Local Events & Opportunities

21st Century Theater Festival: Mrs. Macbeth
Friday, March 6, 2020 – 7:30-9:30 PM
Mahaney Arts Center, Dance Theatre
Shakespeare inspired theater performance.
Free and open to the public, no tickets required
http://www.middlebury.edu/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D386256034

Celtic Music Concert
Sunday, March 15, 2020 – 3-5 PM
Mahaney Arts Center, Robison Hall
St. Patrick’s Day event featuring Irish and Scottish traditional elements.
Free and open to the public; no tickets required
http://www.middlebury.edu/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D386252565

Stargazing at Mittelman Observatory
April 24 and May 1, 9-10:30 PM
Mittelman Observatory, McCardell Bicentennial Hall
Join fellow stargazers and enjoy a telescopic view of stars, star clusters and nebulae (interstellar clouds of dust and gases). These events will take place only if the sky is expected to be mostly clear. Please check the Observatory web site at http://sites.middlebury.edu/observatory/ or call the Observatory at 443-2266 after 6:30 PM on the evening of the event for weather status.
Free and open to the public; no tickets required

Vermont Byways and Driving Tours
Why not take to the road this spring with your host student and check out some beautiful scenery and cultural sights? Visit the Addison County Chamber of Commerce website for information about Vermont’s scenic byways and suggested driving tours.
https://www.addisoncounty.com/driving-tours

Vermont Council on World Affairs
Learn more about the valuable work of this organization and how to get involved through volunteer work and hosting international visitors.
https://www.vermont.org/vcwa/

Find other local exhibitions, performances and events by clicking on the following links:
- The College Calendar: http://www.middlebury.edu/events
- Middlebury College Museum of Art: http://museum.middlebury.edu/
- Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs: http://www.middlebury.edu/international/rcga/events
- Addison County Chamber of Commerce: http://www.addisoncounty.com/pages/calendar.asp?content=events
- More area events: http://www.sevendaysvt.com/
FIS Story Corner
Thank you to hosts who have shared these memorable moments with us. Send your stories and photos to us anytime at isss@middlebury.edu.

Hosts Susan Polk and Glen Wehrwein met up with their former exchange student, Machi Niiya, in Colorado last fall. Looks like a happy reunion to us!

Host Lyn DeGraff and her daughter, Kristen DeGraff ’13.5, enjoyed a beautiful fall day with host students. Pictured (L to R) are Zale Young ’20, Ariana Popa ’22, Kristen, Lyn and Masud Lewis ’22.
Thank you for supporting our international students. Enjoy the spring term and keep in touch!

ISSS Staff
Kathy Foley, Associate Dean and Director of ISSS
Christy Fry, Assistant Director of ISSS
Kas Singh, International Student and Scholar Advisor
Loren Scott, International Services Specialist
Carolyn Dahm, Administrative Coordinator