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What's Happening?

This semester there are a number of events happening at Griffith University. As QIBT students, you are welcome and encouraged to attend any of these events. Pick up a what's on guide from the official QIBT notice board on level 5. At QIBT this semester there are a number of organised activities for you to enjoy:

Week 3: Wednesday 14th July
Time: 12.45 meet in front of Christophers office

For the Australian bush experience enjoy a walk through the forest to the **Mt Gravatt Lookout**. From the lookout you can see amazing views of Brisbane CBD; don't forget your camera.

Week 4: Wednesday 21st July
Time: 12.30 – Room 3.05

Everyone loves to listen to music. This is your chance to relax over lunchtime and learn some lyrics to current and classic songs. We hope to see you at the **Music Club**.

Break week: Tuesday 10th August
Meet in front of Christopher Rayners office at 9.30 am.

Brisbane is a lovely city with many bike paths. Join us for the **City Bike Ride**. We will hire bikes in the Brisbane Botanical Gardens and ride various places including: South Bank Parklands, West End and New Farm Park.

Week 9: Thursday 2nd September
Time: 12.30 – Room 3.05 & 3.06

All Nations Day is an annual event which celebrates the many different cultures that we have at QIBT. This is your chance to share your culture and customs through speeches, songs, dances, costumes and food.

Week 13: Tuesday 28th September
Time: 12.30 – Room 3.05 & 3.06

Celebrate your academic achievements at the **End of semester Awards**. Free food and drink will be catered (for the first 150 students) at this very popular event where teachers informally award students.

HAVE YOU JOINED QIBT'S FACEBOOK FAN PAGE YET?

ALL CURRENT QIBT students who "like" that QIBT facebook fan page before 15 July, 2010 will go into the running to win a Nintendo DS or 1 of 4 Westfield gift cards. Prizes will be drawn 15 July. So what are you waiting for? "Like" QIBT TODAY!
<http://www.facebook.com/qibtstudents>



My experiences at QIBT

Rathnayake Mudiyanseelage Chandana Bandara
RATHNAYAKE

This is my last semester at QIBT, so I would like to tell you something of my experiences. This has been a really nice time in my life. While I was in my country I needed to do something extra in my life so I decided to continue my study and go to Australia. I can say that one of my major dreams has now come true. I would say that this has happened because of QIBT. Even when I was in my country QIBT helped me a lot. Their friendly service, quick response time and management of international student services are really appreciated. It is not only me but also my agent who really loves QIBT; he has sent a number of students, and recommends QIBT to anyone who wants to study in Australia.

Since I started study at QIBT I was able to expand my knowledge, in not only studies, but also many relevant programs, such as LDP, the mentoring program, assignment help and consulting. I would especially recommend anyone who wants to develop their language ability and professional skills to go to LDP and/or lunch time workshops. Further, I will gladly remember the QIBT staff, (Christopher Rayner, Chris Hannigan and Lyn Tracey) who help students without limitation. I also met number one lecturers in QIBT: Amanda Hellen, Rebecca Fox, Michael Browne, Tommy Soesanto, Jeremy Tan and Gerard Roache.

The eye of a human can distinguish 500 shades of the gray.

People generally read 25% slower from a computer screen compared to paper

The cornea is the only living tissue in the human body that does not contain any blood vessels.

QIBT End of Semester BBQ 2010_01

On Tuesday 1st June, QIBT held the third end of semester BBQ where we celebrated the achievements of current and graduating students. It was an enormous success, with over one hundred and fifty QIBT students attending. Participants enjoyed free food and drink all served by the SLC representatives and other volunteer students.



Nisha Hettige Don Jayatilleke, a current Griffith student, spoke about her experiences and shared advice about progressing to university. An award presentation was held and over 30 students received certificates. Teachers presented these unique and personalised awards and often spoke of the students individually. Thank you to everyone who helped make this occasion so successful.





Random

RANDOM – SEMESTER 2, 2010

The World Cup Final is now half way through and the competition is down to the final 16 teams in 'knock-out' mode. Unfortunately, Australia did not make it through to the knock-out stage, however, we have many QIBT student and staff nationalities represented including South Korea, Japan, Chile, Argentina, Spain and of course the favourites Brazil. See your nation playing at many of Brisbane's bars, clubs and restaurants over the next two weeks including the Treasury Casino, Balcony 355 on Queen Street in Brisbane, Melbourne Hotel in West End, Arriverderci Restaurant and La Dolce Vita Cafe in Milton, all Pig and Whistle's in numerous locations across Brisbane and you can catch the matches in 3D at Indooroopilly and Chermside for \$22. If you want to stay in, SBS television and radio have full coverage.

The Mercedes Benz Fashion Festival comes to Brisbane from the 7th – 13th of August, 2010. The festival is prominent in launching the new styles for spring and summer and includes designs by Bora, La La Latrobe, Paul Hunt, dogstar and Scanlan and Theodore. Last year's festival saw over 20,000 people attend various events across Brisbane. The major sites for the festival include South Bank and the Queen Street Mall. For more information visit the festival website at <http://www.mbff.com.au/>.

Brisbane is quickly building as the cocktail capital of Australia. Over the last five years, boutique world-class bars have been popping up all over the city serving a range of drinking delights from the Paridiso to the Peanut Brittle and the Absinthe Sour to the Absolute Apple. Many bars offer 'mocktails' for the non-alcoholic drinkers and serve various meal options. For a big night out with friends, or just to relax, try these along with many more favourites and new tastes at bars including

Jade Buddha on Eagle Street Pier in Brisbane, The Bowery and Cloudland in the Valley and my favourite, Sling in West End.

Student Wins iPod

All potential graduate students were recently asked to complete a confidential Graduate Survey. The survey provides QIBT with valuable information on how students feel we deliver our services, and therefore this feedback contributes to the success of future QIBT graduates.

QIBT offered a prize for participating in the survey, a 16GB iPod nano and our lucky winner was Gabriel Gizotti. Gabriel was randomly selected as the prize winner. He is in his final Semester of Diploma of Information Technology and is due to commence his Bachelor program with Griffith University in July. Gabriel was presented with the winning prize by College Director and Principal, Ms Heather Tinsley who also thanked Gabriel for his contribution.

We would like to thank all participants to QIBT's evaluations, your contribution is invaluable.





Electronic Signage

During Semester 2, QIBT will be implementing Digital Signage on Level 3 and Level 4 of M14. The Digital Signage is being installed to assist with sharing of important information. The notice boards that are currently used will still be utilized, however, to a lesser degree. Keep your eyes and ears open as the Digital Signage will be displaying soon.

Studying in Australia

I am Min. I have finished studying at QIBT and going to Griffith University next semester in the Bachelor of Business (Event Management). I came to Australia to study English from Korea about three years ago, and I didn't think I would go to University here in Australia at that time, because I was already studying at Kyungbook University in Korea. However, everything changed while I was actually learning English and spending time with my friends in Australia. I want to recommend that you try not to push yourself too hard, but balance study and life at the same time.



When I first came to Brisbane, I was overwhelmed by the beautiful sky, the sunshine, the beach and the scenery, and I decided to go travel and try something new

with my friends as much as I could before going back to Korea. So far, I have been to Morton Island, Fraser Island, the Whitsunday Islands, Alice Springs (Uluru), Gold Coast, Sydney, Cairns, Canberra and many places in and near Brisbane. While I was travelling to these places, I learnt a lot about the different weather in different parts of Australia. Canberra was freezing like winter in Korea, some places were so hot that I thought my skin was almost burning, and I got a cold in Alice Springs which is desert, because of the night. Also, I took Latin dance classes in Bulimba and jazz dance classes at city. I did many activities as well, like snorkelling and scuba diving, and took light aircraft to look around the whole area when I was in the Whitsunday Islands and the Great Barrier Reef. Of course, to do all of these, I had to work hard and went out to make new friends. I got to know friends from many different countries, such as Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, Switzerland, France, Australia, Spain, and Mexico. I was able to try their traditional food and know different cultures. Apart from travelling, I was also curious about all accommodation in Australia, so I have stayed in dorms, homestay, sharehouse, backpackers and hotels. I think all these are new experiences that I could not have done in Korea.

Travelling and hanging out with friends actually help me to study, since I can get rid of all stresses while spending time with friends and travelling. When I do exciting activities, these accelerate me to study even harder, rather than just staying at home and doing nothing. Consequently, travelling and hanging out with friends lead to good grades; of course you should try your best and do not give up to get good scores. So I strongly recommend that you enjoy many things and try new stuff while you are in Australia. Don't lose your opportunity; it won't come back, once you are back at your own countries. I believe all of us can have our cake and eat it too!



The Ekka

Over the mid-semester break you will have the chance to experience one of Brisbane's biggest cultural events, the Ekka. The Ekka starts on the 5th of August and runs for 10 days. Last year around 400,000 people visited the Royal Queensland Show (the more formal name for the Ekka). At the Ekka there is a chance for you to see many different animals, get samples of food, appreciate art or buy a show bag. One of the most popular attractions is the baby animal pavilion where you have a chance to hand feed many different animals. Other visitors are interested in the fashion parades, wood chopping or the sheep dog trials. This year the Ekka promises to offer loads of educational displays, wonderful fresh food and wine, a great evening program jam-packed with amazing entertainment, live bands and spectacular fireworks.



QIBT Teacher Profile of Bernd Zomerdijk

Hi all,

I am glad that I was asked to provide a brief story about myself for this newsletter. I actually graduated from QIBT in July 2005 with my Diploma of Hotel Management, which is one of the reasons why I particularly enjoy teaching at QIBT, as I know how it is to be a student at QIBT! In 2003 I moved with my family from the Netherlands. After having worked in a ski resort and on Hamilton Island, I commenced my diploma. Without QIBT, I would not have been where I am now. QIBT broadened my horizons and interests. I made friends with people from all over the world. The program is a great way to get you ready for your Bachelor degree. I am currently pursuing my PhD in the area of hotel owner-operator relationships, comparing China and Australia. Before this I did a double bachelor in hotel management and business, following I did honours in hotel management focussing hotel brand development in China. I have been teaching in various courses at Griffith and QIBT but I now primarily focus on hotel subjects, as this is where my passion is. Outside of university, I am very active with the Dutch community and I love to go away on weekends to go scuba diving. I am confident that you will enjoy your time here, and look forward to teaching in the coming semester!

Best regards,

Bernd Zomerdijk