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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. To find out more, pick up a free 'What's On' guide from the level 5 official notice board table.

In the guide you will find market days at both Nathan and Mt Gravatt campuses as well as many other events to help you get the most out of the university experience. Take some time away from your study and go to the games day or participate in Music Madness (a talent show). As you can see, there are many things that you could do.

Ramadan

As many of you are aware, Muslim students at QIBT are observing Ramadan.



Ramadan is a Muslim religious observance that takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. It is the Islamic month of fasting in which participating Muslims do not eat or drink anything from dawn until sunset. Fasting is meant to teach the person patience, sacrifice and humility. Ramadan is a time to fast for the sake of God, and to offer even more prayer than usual. In Ramadan, Muslims ask forgiveness for past sins, pray for guidance into the future, ask for help in refraining from everyday evils and try to purify themselves through self-restraint and good deeds.

In Australia, Ramadan started on August 22 and will finish on the September 21.

Jing Jing Shares her Thoughts



Time flies, I can not believe that I have graduated from QIBT and am now a student of Griffith University. I will never forget the day on which I got lost on campus but now it is a story that happened more than a year ago.

I missed the orientation week as I had to wait for my visa to be approved in China. I arrived in Australia on June 26 and went to school for enrolment the following day. No friend, no guide, the only thing I could do was ask each person I met. Fortunately, I met the welfare advisor Chris Hannigan. He is responsible for the late orientation. I did the English test, course enrolment and schedule arrangement, step by step with the mentors' and teachers' help. All of them were very friendly which gave me great comfort.

It seems that everything went well, but dramatically, I got lost on campus. I did not know why I could not find the right way to the Busway station no matter which direction I tried. God, I even thought I would be the food of the wolves. Just at that time, a boy appeared and took me to the Busway. He told me he was from Vietnam. Although he was not good at speaking English he tried his best to understand me and only left when he saw me get on the bus. I was so grateful; he was the first person to give me a hand when I encountered difficulty in Australia.

The longer I stayed in QIBT, the more friends I had. Each semester, I could have new friends. Different culture and different languages made my life colourful. In the marketing course, I cooperated with two

Japanese guys named Shun and Satoru for all the group work. Both of them were very dedicated and we spent the whole semester happily with the support and encouragement from each other. Now Shun is studying in Nathan campus and Satoru has gone back to Japan to run his own business. Before Satoru went back, he told me his girlfriend asked him to make a choice between his study and her because she had separated with him for long time and wanted to end this kind of life. Satoru chose to get together with the other half because he knew as a 28-year old guy, he had responsibility for his girlfriend and their future. Before he left, we had lunch in a Japanese restaurant and took some pictures for our memory. I asked him to spend his honeymoon in Australia if possible so that we could reunite. Good luck to my friend and best wishes to him and his girlfriend.

In my second semester, I met a guy from Burma in the Food and Beverage Management course. Now he calls me jiejie (older sister in China) even though he is three years older than me. It is because he learnt a lot from me and I helped him get over a period of difficult time in Australia. I felt warm and lucky when he calls me sister and tell me everything happened to him. I have no family in this country but I am not lonely.

I want to say thank you to my Academic Skills tutor, Mary-Anne Smith. She supported me the whole year studying in QIBT. She is not just an excellent teacher but also my good friend. In her class, I learnt lots of essential skills needed in the future study and in daily life, we keep in touch to talk about my study, my life, my work and my thought. She inspired me to go further and further and also enjoy life with occasional entertainment.

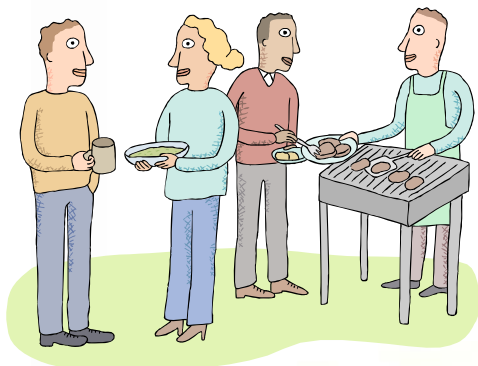
In my LDP course, I met Christopher and enjoyed the time when I improved my English. Every time when I had some problems, the first name that jumped into my mind is his

because he always could help me solve my problem quickly or gave me very practical instructions. I love my teachers who ever gave me knowledge, power and confidence. Saju, Melanie, Mingshu, Erin, Cassandra and Miklos, all of my teachers were so nice and helped me lay a good foundation for my future.

This July, I entered year two at Griffith. I know a lot of challenges are waiting for me and I need to put more effort into my study. There is no recipe for success. Hard work and support would lead you to the destination, as Lyn Tracy told us. I am planning to take the Master of Education after getting my Bachelor degree. If one day, I could come back to QIBT as a teacher, I will try my best to teach well and give as much help to my students. All of my teachers have set a good example for me. Today I feel honoured to be a student of QIBT; I hope one day QIBT will feel honoured to have me as a student when I could do something to reward it. [XUJJD82] Jing Jing is from China.

End of Semester BBQ

On Thursday of week 13 (1st October) there will be a free BBQ and presentation to celebrate the completion of semester 2, 2009. Selected students will be presented with awards decided by the teachers. The BBQ will start at 12pm and the presentation will be at 1pm.



All teachers and students are welcome and encouraged to attend. Posters will be put on notice boards to remind you as we get closer to the event.

Peer Assisted Learning

The PAL program uses QIBT students (PALs) who achieved D or HD grades in one or more of their courses to provide you with assistance in your studies. PALs are available from weeks 6 to 13.

A list of PALs, their contact details and the courses they can help you with is available from:

Support > Learning & Welfare Support
> Learning Support > Peer Assisted Learning (PAL)

What you need to do:

1. Select a PAL from the list
2. Send them an email asking for help
3. Indicate the days and times you are available

Interesting facts

Every time you sneeze some of your brain cells die.

Google is actually the common name for a number with a million zeros.

Colgate faced big obstacles marketing toothpaste in Spanish speaking countries. Colgate translates into the command "go hang yourself."

Large kangaroos cover more than 30 feet with each jump.

There are exactly 485 baked beans in every can of Heinz Baked Beans Trust me I have just counted them.

Graduating Students

QIBT students graduating this semester (or with one course remaining) are **REQUIRED** to attend the following information sessions, presented by Griffith staff:

Wednesday 2 September: Program Info for Hotel Management students, 12.30-1.30pm in room 4.07

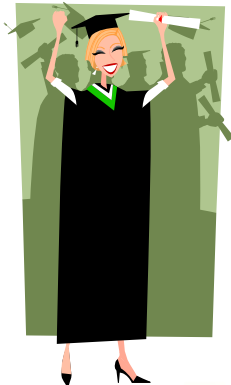
Thursday 3 September: Admission Info, 12.30-1.30pm in the following rooms:

- M23 Auditorium - International Diploma students
- room 4.16 - Local students
- room 4.17 - Foundation students

Wednesday 9 September: Program Info, 12.30-1.30pm in the following rooms:

- room 4.07 - Bachelor of Commerce
- room 4.18 - Bachelor of Business
- room 4.17 - Bachelor of International Business
- room 4.04 - Bachelor of Design
- room 4.16 - Bachelor of IT

Wednesday 30 September: Transition Information session for International Diploma students, 12 - 1.30pm, M23 Auditorium.



Key Dates for Continuing Students

Semester 3, 2009

Commences Monday 26 October

Fees

Semester 3, 2009

- Due date for payment is **Midday Friday, 2 October 2009**
- A late fee of \$200 applies to payments after this date

Results

Semester 2, 2009

- Results will be released **9.00am Friday, 16 October 2009**

Enrolment

Semester 3, 2009

- Enrolment commences **10.00am Monday, 19 October 2009**

Due to Graduate?

Transcripts will be posted to your correspondence address on Friday **6 November 2009**.

Please ensure that you update both your local and correspondence contact details via the student portal.

Inoka's experiences at QIBT and GU

I chose to study at QIBT due to its popularity for supportive study environment and ability to provide a pathway to gain a Diploma as well as Bachelor degree within just three years. Coming with an accounting background, I was also able to receive exemptions for my previous studies. One of the greatest opportunities I was given by QIBT was to embrace different cultures in order to cope constructively within a multi-cultural environment which is a necessity in this fast moving globe. The warm welcoming environment, combined with classes with small number of students facilitated high performance in my studies.



The support I received from my committed team of lectures and management is highly appreciated. The teaching facilities are extremely sophisticated and the methods very modern. I am so grateful to Ms Lyn Tracey (The Academic Advisor) for the ongoing enormous support - she extended, and she was an inspiration. If it was not for the support and encouragement given to me by her, I would not have been able to get high distinction for all my subjects gaining Grade

Point Average of 7.0 of a maximum possible 7.0. Most importantly, I should mention my parents and brother who have made many sacrifices to assist me to achieve my goals. They are always my strength and the hope for the future. Their advice, assistance and encouragement are what sustained me during my study.

I studied Diploma of Commerce at QIBT and graduated winning two special awards- The Dux of the Program and Award for Academic Excellence. Though I achieved quite well in the field of commerce and accounting, upon completion of my diploma I realized that I would enjoy it more if my career is people oriented. I decided to work towards making my childhood dream come true, i.e. to become a registered nurse. Since, QIBT or Griffith University did not offer endorsed enrolled courses during that period, I decided to study at another education institute and gained the license at Queensland Nursing Council as an Endorsed Enrolled Nurse. Subsequently, I returned to Griffith University; the environment I considered most comfortable to do higher studies in nursing. Currently, I am in my final semester in Bachelor of Nursing. Griffith University enhanced my knowledge and personality to work ethically with legal and professional accountability within the scope of practice. My goal is to gain a position in the hospital health care system as a registered nurse.

Living in Australia is a unique experience. This young and multicultural country has a friendly environment – an essential fact for a student living far from family and friends, but the supportive and understanding environment at QIBT made my way to new friends. It is also important to point out that there is plenty of respect given to different cultural backgrounds. Griffith University is a very well-known university and having a degree gives me more chance of a good job in the future.

QIBT Graduation Ceremony

For Graduates of 2009

Date: Wednesday 7th April 2010 at 6.30pm

Venue: Queensland Conservatorium
Griffith University, 16 Russell Street
South Bank QLD 4101

Drinks and savouries will be provided and a professional photographer will be present.

Students must arrive at 4.30pm for robing.

Academic Gown Hire is \$65.00 [inc. GST]

Family and friends are welcome
at \$35.00 per guest [inc. GST].

Tickets on sale NOW!

Please see QIBT reception for details

Please RSVP by Friday 19th March 2010



Interesting facts

The pupil of the eye expands as much as 45 % when a person looks at something pleasing.

Laughing lowers levels of stress hormones and strengthens the immune system. The average person laughs 13 times a day.

Bats always turn left when exiting a cave.

The colour blue has a calming effect. It causes the brain to release calming hormones.

Where to go in and around Brisbane

Often students ask where to go and what to do in their spare time or when they have visitors from their home country. The following suggestions include popular and

beautiful destinations in and around south east Queensland that you could put on your list of things to do. For more information follow the links.

1. Take a trip to world heritage [Fraser Island](#).
2. A day at [Australia Zoo](#), Beerwah
3. Brisbane River Adventures, which includes abseiling, kayaking and more at [River life](#) or [exploring the river](#) in other ways
4. An adventure holiday to [Moreton Island](#).
5. Feed the birds at [Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary](#).
6. Cuddle a koala at [Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary](#).
7. Enjoy a steak at the [Brekky Creek Hotel](#) (also a winner in our Best of Brisbane series).
8. Go on the big thrill rides at [Dream World](#).
9. Explore Underwater World at Mooloolaba.
10. Go to the Saturday Eumundi Markets and then for a walk in Noosa National Park.



Thanks to Icon Distribution who provided our recent video volunteers with free passes to see [Push](#) (in cinemas Sept 10).

The action packed sci-fi thriller involves a group of young American expats with telekinetic and clairvoyant abilities, hiding from a U.S

Government Agency. They must utilise their different talents and band together for a final job enabling them to escape the agency forever. www.push-themovie.com