Aomi Mochida, this year’s only incoming freshman from Japan, is returning to America for the first time in 12 years. Her father’s work brought 4-year-old Aomi to Ohio where she lived for three years. During her stay she went to public school, joined the Girl Scouts, and gained many happy memories. It was these memories and a desire to break away from the Japanese education system, which requires one to choose their major before entering a university that brought Aomi to CSC. Aomi’s favorite part of learning and living at CSC has been discovering new cultures and differing opinions from both her American friends and international friends. This culture awakening also brought about a self-discovery in Aomi of both her national and personal identity, which previous to coming to CSC she had never thought about. Aomi hopes to find a major which suits both her interests and personality and a career to pursue in the upcoming years.

In the future he hopes to obtain his graduate degree and possibly pursue accounting in either the US or in Nepal.

| Hannah Lise Raddatz | Hannah Lise Raddatz |

Anup Nepal, a former international student from Nepal and a recent graduate from Colby-Sawyer College now works for the CSC admissions office. Anup found CSC while looking on the internet for small colleges and was happy to find a school that prided itself on a small, tightknit, and diverse community. After obtaining his undergraduate degree in business, Anup took a position in the admissions office where he enjoys helping prospective students decide whether or not CSC is the school for them. Anup’s most favorite memories of being a student at CSC was that everyone was always helpful to him and the small class sizes which helped him to be successful. Though working for the college he recently graduated from was strange at first to Anup, he has become acclimated to his environment, especially thanks to the people he was formerly acquainted with.

“I am happy to find a school that prided itself on a small, tight-knit, and diverse community.”

| Hannah Lise Raddatz | Hannah Lise Raddatz |
Ten new international students started at CSC this January from Vietnam, Jamaica, Nepal, Israel, China, Ghana, Myanmar, and Greece!! Please welcome these students as you meet them around campus!

First year student Anurup Upadhyay, from Nepal, is one of our new student workers in ISS. He is developing a “Speakers Bureau” which will promote international students who have offered to speak to classrooms and organizations in the community, as well as here on campus, about their country, their cultural heritage and their traditions. A website is being created that will help to match the cultural resources that students have to offer with the classrooms and local groups who have an interest in a particular topic or culture. If you are interested in volunteering to be a part of this, please contact Anurup!

First year student Serene Chua, from Malaysia, is also working in our office and has been developing the mentor program, which matches each incoming international student with an upperclass student so he or she has a connection right away with a peer who is familiar with CSC and can answer their questions, show them around, and make them feel at home when they arrive. If you would like to mentor a first year international student, please contact Serene. She has also been developing our web presence so that we can better serve all international students. Please take a look at our website at: http://www.colby-sawyer.edu/international/services/index.html.

What’s new in 2012??

The Chinese New Year (The Lunar New Year) is the biggest festival for the Chinese community worldwide. According to the English calendar, the Chinese New Year 2012 falls on the 23rd of January and the celebration lasts for a fortnight. The celebration starts on the eve where families come together to enjoy the merriment and festivity. Special dinner is served and the dumpling (a ball of dough stuffed with vegetables or sweet and cooked by steaming) is eaten. When the clock strikes 12, fireworks are set off and this is probably the best part. On the day of New Year, children receive pocket money from their parents and grandparents.

According to the Chinese tradition, each year is dedicated to a specific animal from the chosen twelve - The Dragon, Horse, Monkey, Rat, Boar, Rabbit, Dog, Rooster, Ox, Tiger, Snake, and Ram. This year will welcome the year of the dragon. The year of the dragon symbolizes excitement, unpredictability, exhilaration and intensity and people respond to it with energy and enthusiasm. The dragon is all about drama, but taking up unnecessary risks might lead to tragedies resulted by personal choices. People born under the year of dragon are believed to be passionate, courageous and self-assured.

The ISS Corner

What’s on your calendar:

1) Welcome Back “Dessert Social & Hoedown!!” - 7 p.m. Saturday, January 21st – Put on your dancing shoes and come learn traditional dances to the tunes of a fiddle, accordion, and piano.

2) Chinese New Year Celebration - Wheeler Hall, Monday, January 23rd

3) International Festival! - Thursday, March 22, 5-9 p.m. Table displays from around the world, games, prizes, international food samples, fashion show and an international talent show!! This is our biggest event of the year and always draws several hundred people from the campus and the community.
Monday January 23rd
Chinese New Year Global Café
7:00 – 10:00 pm
Celebrate the year of the dragon with Chinese food and activities, including “lucky money” giveaways! Screening of the film “Chunking Express” begins at 8pm.

Tuesday January 24th
Taikoza Japanese Drumming
7:00 pm Sawyer Center
Special Performance of traditional Japanese music and dance.

Thursday January 26th
Civil Rights Brown Bag Lunch
12:00 – 1:30 pm Alumni Lounge
Special lunchtime discussion on civil rights history with professor Randy Hanson, Academic Dean Burton Kirkwood, and lawyer Amy Messer.

Thursday January 26th
The Interrupters
7:00 pm Clements Hall, Ivey
Award-Winning documentary about the Violence Interrupters who work to stop violence in inner-city Chicago. http://interrupters.kartemquin.com/