Student Spotlight
The Pride of Kuwait: Huda Alawi and Faisal Alhubail

Every semester the ELI hosts students from all over the world. Most students are dedicated and disciplined. However, sometimes students excel above and beyond our expectations. This is the case of two brilliant students from Kuwait who have honored us with their presence and their high academic standards, making us proud to have them as part of our university.

Faisal Alhubail excelled in all of his classes last semester. Therefore, he received the ELI Academic Excellence Award. In addition, Faisal also received a scholarship to study at FIU, an honor not easily bestowed on many students. It is due to all this that Faisal has become a true ambassador to the United States. We are sure that his parents and his country are just as proud of his academic accomplishments as we are.

Huda Alawi, one of our most dedicated students, has also received accolades from her instructors and has won the respect of her classmates for her sincerity and willingness to teach all of us about her language, culture, and religion. She really represents what the ideal ELI student should be.

At the end of last term, Huda had to travel to Kuwait to receive an award honoring excellence from Kuwait’s Public Authority for Applied Education. We are pleased to inform you that Huda won first place in the College of Health Sciences competition and was awarded a medal for her accomplishments.

We are honored to have Huda and Faisal at FIU’s ELI. They are examples for other students to follow, and they are truly the pride of Kuwait!
The Advantages of Cruising by Christine Caly-Sanchez

We are lucky to be living in Miami, the cruising capital of the world. Therefore, I wouldn’t pass up the chance to tell you that if you have time, you should book a short cruise. You would be surprise of all of its advantages: ease of travel, cost savings, and shopping bargains.

Traveling by ship could not be any easier. If you dread going to the airport and waiting for all those people to go through passport check and security before it’s your turn, you’d be surprised that none of that takes that long when you cruise.

Two things contribute to making things easy. First, the lines are short. That is due to the fact that most people give their luggage to bag handlers before going through security. Also, since most travelers do not take carry-on bags or computers with them aboard the ship, the process is very fast. In addition, you do not need to take your shoes off! Second, since there are so many cruise line employees manning the counters, your check-in is also fast. They take your picture and give you a card that will let you get on and off the ship during the ship’s ports of call.

In addition, your savings are really incredible. Have you checked the price of plane tickets from Miami to Jamaica, Cozumel, or the Bahamas? It’s very expensive. However, when you book a cruise, you will travel to all those places for one price. However, there is more: how about hotel and meals? Your ship is your floating hotel and restaurant all in one! You just can’t beat that deal.

If you love shopping and find it as much fun as I do, cruising is for you! All the items you buy aboard your ship are duty free. That means that any liquor, perfume, or jewelry is at least 15-20% cheaper than in the USA. Also, you cannot beat some of the deals you may find on your ports of call.

As you may have guessed by now, I am a fan of cruising, and I hope you can take advantage of being in Miami to do some cruising while you are here. The possibilities are endless, and you will find out how easy, cost effective, and fun it is. I highly recommend it.

The results were outstanding. 92% of our students scored at or above their level. Congratulations, ELI students. You have done it once again!!! We are proud of you, our curriculum and instructors. We have proven again that the ELI at FIU is one of the best in the country.
Academics Cont’d

The ELI Scholarship winners from Winter 2013

I am really glad to have received the scholarship. It means a lot to me because Mr. Sanchez and my professors appreciate the progress that I have made and my interest in learning. It also means a lot to know that they thought I was deserving of such an award. In all sincerity, it makes me feel proud of myself because winning the scholarship means that I have been learning very well throughout all these months. I am really grateful to all my professors and especially Mr. Sanchez, who has helped me a lot. Thank you so much. You guys are simply amazing!

Virginia Melendez

When Mr. Sanchez said my name at the end-of-term luncheon, I was very surprised and excited at the same time. I felt very proud of myself because I knew that I had worked very hard. It also meant that my parents were going to be very proud of me. Moreover, for me, winning the scholarship means that I am closer to achieving my goals. I feel like it is a first step in numerous ones. It also shows that if you work hard and do your absolute best, you can obtain positive results.

Alexander Oganezov

Being able to get the scholarship showed me that any effort is not wasted. Although many times we do not immediately see the desired results, they will eventually manifest. It is always worth it to try to give 100%. It is gratifying to see how one’s effort and dedication is valued and rewarded. Despite being in a foreign country, I understand that mediocrity often does not tend to reign. Also, it is so pleasing to know that I could reward my parents and teachers, who every morning with such dedication have something new to teach us, and thus lead us to fulfill our goals.

Leslie Mejia
The ELI newsletter is a bi-weekly publication of the English Language Institute that updates students on upcoming events and important dates. It invites students to participate in its publication process. It also includes news, trivia, quotes and reading suggestions. You may e-mail any suggestion to Laura Lamour at: llamo001@fiu.edu. The ELI newsletter is produced by ELI instructor Laura Lamour.

Student Activities
Student activities have kicked off this semester. Here are some pictures of the 2 events that took place during our first week.

Earth Day on April 22

Did you know that Earth Day just passed? Did you even know there was such a thing as Earth Day?

Earth Day is an annual event, celebrated on April 22, on which events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first celebrated in 1970, and it is now celebrated in more than 192 countries each year! Numerous communities around the world celebrate Earth Week for an entire week as opposed to just one day. The reason why this day (week) is chosen is to maximize the participation of college students on campus. It is also the best time since it does not fall on holidays, finals week, or spring break.