FACTS AND FIGURES

44 students representing 13 countries are enrolled in the Fall 2008 session:

China-9, Colombia-1, El Salvador-1, Hong Kong-1, Iran-2, Italy-1, Japan-7, Korea-11, Mexico-1, Saudi Arabia-4, Taiwan-1, Vietnam-4, Yemen-1

29 students plan to begin their undergraduate studies, and 5 students plan to begin their graduate studies after completing the AEI.

AEI FALL 2008 STAFF

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OUR SAN FRANCISCO TRIP

To practice their English skills, students at the AEI write journals. Here are journal entry excerpts from five students who participated in the AEI trip to San Francisco.

...On October 4th we got up at 6:00. It was raining. The weather was very cold, but all the students were very happy. It was very lively on the bus. On one side the students were dancing, on the other side we were playing games and sleeping. It was a long time, but we finally saw the Golden Gate Bridge and the Pacific Ocean.

by Yan He

...The Golden Gate Bridge is so impressive, but not the most. The most interesting thing I saw was the streets. Because the city is built on a mountain, the slope of the streets is sometimes like a hill. What I liked most was Fisherman’s Wharf. The shops there are amazing and interesting. And I saw lots of cute sea lions having a sun bath on the board. I also saw a lot of Chinese. When I heard some pieces of Chinese, I turned around and saw a familiar Asian face. Walking around in the shops was just like in China.

by Aiqi “Daphne” Shi

...We went to Fisherman’s Wharf. There are many souvenir stores there. One of them attracts me most is a crystal store. All kinds of crystal there are really nice. We stood on the coast and watched many seals. They jumped and shouted. I took a picture of them. I enjoyed this trip and I’m looking forward to the next time I go there, because one day is short for me.

by Si Min “Sky” Chen

...I had a wonderful trip to San Francisco. It was my first trip in the United States. I was very excited about it. We met very early in the morning, but everybody seemed very excited. I could see large buildings through the bus window. Some of us shouted out, “San Francisco, we are coming!” I loved the streets and stores so much. I loved everything in San Francisco.

by Meng Ying “Monica” Sun

...There are many farms along the way, which is a beautiful and peaceful scene. The Golden Gate Bridge is long and wide. Various cars unceasing flew through the bridge. Many tourists took pictures, including us. We walked at Pier 39 with friends; it was so happy. There were many boats on the sea. An old fish smell from some place assailed my nostrils, and I found many people looking at something. When I approached, I found a number of sea lions on the wood deck playing. It was so interesting.

by Xing Rui “Henry” Chen

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WHO?

The following question was given to the AEI staff:
What special fact can you reveal about yourself that most people don’t know?
Can you match the special fact(s) with the staff name?

A. I have a bowling ball with my name on it. It is red.
   __1. Winnie Huff

B. I am a big eater. I eat a lot. Anybody that sees me eating says “Oh, my God, you eat a lot. Where does the food go, to your toes?”
   __2. Marcy Gustafson

C. I was hitchhiking, and I later discovered that the man that picked me up was a convicted felon fresh out of jail. He asked me if I needed a fishing buddy or a place to crash.
   __3. Kristi Miller

D. I was a racecar driver (drag races). I’ve traveled to Indonesia, Italy, Thailand, Mexico, England, Canada, Switzerland, France and thirty-two states, including Hawaii and Alaska.
   __4. Eiko Tsuchiya

E. I studied theater because I wanted to have a stage career, but I didn’t have enough guts.
   __5. Amm Liangruenrom

F. I could carry my baby sister around on my unicycle when I was 13. I had a cat named Young Muscles. My first job was pumping gas. I was a Reeder Rockets cheerleader.
   __6. Evan Schackmann

G. I once dressed like a giant squid for Halloween. I’m married to a Spanish professor.
   __7. Jane Moffitt

H. I cannot cook.
   __8. Katsu Watanabe

I. I was on a national team for women’s soccer. Also, my father was on a national baseball team.
   __9. Brian Kniffin

J. While shopping in a store, I was given the phone number of a domestic violence shelter because I was mistaken for a domestic violence victim because of the many bruises on my body. My bruises were from my martial arts practice.
   __10. Erika Sugano

K. I was in a horse riding club and rode in rodeos.
   __11. Zulia Ismailova

L. Before I moved to Fresno, I ran a boarding kennel for cats. I cared for cats when their "owners" went out of town. I did this for five years!
   __12. Margery Toll

M. I received a letter from the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. It was an appreciation letter from the Vice Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army for my work as a translator.
   __13. Denine Lutz

MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?

Dear Ms. Veau Cabulari:

Please tell me the name for a word or phrase that is spelled the same way backward and forward.

Your friend, Anna.

Dear Anna:

The word you are asking about is palindrome. Your name is a palindrome! Here are some more palindromes:

Words: Otto madam racecar level mom dad

Phrases: Madam, I'm Adam.
A man, a plan, a canal—Pangaea
Never odd or even.

You should check out the following Web site: www.fun-with-words.com/palindromes.html

2009 AEI Session Dates

13-week Spring session
January 26 - May 1

10-week Summer Session
June 1 - August 7

13-week Fall session
September 8 - December 4

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