

May Newsletter

Special Edition



USF World
International Student Support



Exploring The Origins of Our Newsletter:

THE GLOBULL LENS

By Koki Wada and Mimi Hagino

The GloBull Lens newsletter was developed by the International Student Support team to create a greater understanding and appreciation of the university's vast and vibrant international student population. As the newsletter's name implies, The GloBull Lens spotlights the accomplishments and cultures of international students, providing deeper insights into their diverse community.



We hope that these published stories will inspire more international students to contribute their talents to our newsletter. We accept all types of submissions, including poetry, drawings and doodles, cartoons, commentary, philosophical musings, travel stories, restaurant, movie and music critiques and more! By contributing your voice to our newsletter, you will be broadening multicultural perspectives and promoting inclusivity within the USF community.

Please share your thoughts, work, and stories with us, so that The Globull Lens can become truly global!!!



Meet

JANNA EVELAND:

International Student Support Team Leader

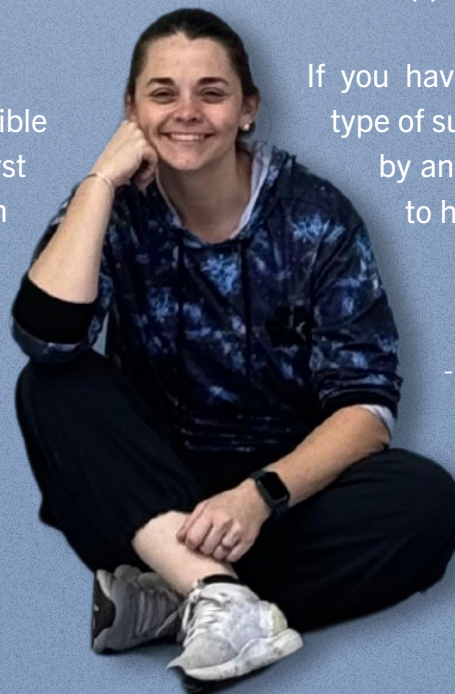
My name is Janna Eveland. I have worked at USF since December 2012. The only thing I have ever done here is help international students!

Before coming to USF, I worked at a small school in Iowa, called William Penn University (WPU) while I got my undergraduate and my masters. I served as a residence hall assistant (RA). I also served on student government in several capacities. I started a sorority and also become very involved in student life and events on campus and in the local community.

It was as an RA that I became responsible for helping international students. The first international students I helped were from South Korea and Rwanda. They all had **unique challenges, cultural differences, and shocks to overcome.** It led me to changing policies within housing and student government, making it easier for our international students to be involved and to stay connected.

My experiences at WPU provided me with the knowledge to start helping international students with everything outside of academics and immigration. **If you don't know who to talk to, ask us!** I'd like to think that we're a little bit of "Everything Coaches" here at International Student Support team!

If you have a problem, need some type of support, or just want to stop by and say, "Hi," we would love to hear from you.



*- Janna Eveland,
Assistant Director at
International Student Support*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Chapters: a period or an episode in a person's life, a nation's history, etc.

Life has a funny way of moving us where we need to go. Sometimes, a door may close unexpectedly, while another door opens wide for us to pass through. Sometimes, a stubbornly closed door may reopen much later in our lives.

At this time of life, I want to remind you all to breathe....

You have a lot going on. Your lives are going to change and evolve. Something that really grabbed your attention last week may not interest you as much this week. That is okay. In my life, I feel like I have seen a new version of myself at least a dozen times.

Give yourself a mental break and know that you are the best version of yourself right now. You will also be the best version of yourself in the future...just because you are here and existing.

Life is too short to stress about things that we cannot control. Breathe through the hard times, laugh through the good and enjoy the magical moments of the present.

Thank you and keep moving forward!

- Janna Eveland,
Assistant Director for
International Student Support



ONBOARDING

with Brian!

FLORIDA
Tampa

A Little Bit About Me

I absolutely love working with international students!

For the past 25 years, I have collaborated with international colleagues on a variety of educational and health-based projects, beginning with a teaching and library development assignment at a rural secondary school in **Zimbabwe in 1998**. This initial experience created a lifelong passion to explore cultures worldwide, which propelled me towards works assignments in **Namibia, Eswatini/Swaziland, and Botswana from 2003 - 2015**.

In **2016**, I traveled over **8,000 miles (12,874 km)** from **Gaborone, Botswana to Tampa, Florida** to begin working in a position at the University of South Florida to support international student with their care and conduct-related needs. This role later expanded, and I began assisting international students with their USF immunization and insurance requirements.

While my current role with the International Student Support team has broadened to include on-and-off campus housing and university-based meal plans, my passion to support international students through these different processes has also grown with this new scope of work.



A TYPICAL CONVERSATION ABOUT ONBOARDING AND THE BIG

4

Insurance and immunization compliance are very important issues, especially as they relate to class registration. Over the past 8 years, I have chatted with so many students about these requirements. The dialogue below represents a typical conversation that I might have with an international student on these matters:

Student: Mr. Brian, what is the deadline to complete my immunization and insurance requirements?

Mr. Brian: Well, when do you want to register for classes?

Student: As soon as possible!

Mr. Brian: Then you need to complete The Big Four requirements...as soon as possible!

Student: What's that???

The Big Four relates to the list of requirements that all undergraduate students must complete before they can register for their classes. This includes immunization and insurance requirements as well as two additional tasks that must complete. Specifically, undergraduate students must...

1. Pay their \$200 admissions deposit
2. Reserve and pay (\$35) for their Orientation session

3. Complete their immunization requirements:

- Proof of two Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccines or a blood titer test lab report within the last five years, showing immunity to measles and rubella
- Proof of three Hepatitis B and one Meningitis vaccines or formally decline them through your Oasis account (Oasis > Personal Information > View Immunization Record)
- Proof of a negative tuberculosis skin or blood (QuantIFERON or T-Spot) blood test, received within six months of a student's program start date

Note: If students are unable to complete these requirements in their home countries, they may also make an appointment at the **USF Clinic** to receive their immunizations/medical screenings. Approximately **3-5 business days** after making an appointment, **students will receive a temporary override**, which will enable them to register for classes.

4. Complete their health insurance agreement form:

Graduate students are only required to complete their immunization and insurance requirements, though they should also check with their departments to determine any other tasks that must be completed.


Questions about Your Home away from Home

Finding a place that you can call your home while studying at USF is extremely important! However, it can be quite challenging knowing what questions to ask and where to look when searching for an apartment or a house. If you are struggling to secure housing, or just have questions about living on-or-off campus, please schedule a 30-minute consultation with me at the link below, and I would be happy to assist you.

Meet

Alex Iler:

Your Program Coordinator



Hey! Hi! I am Alex Iler, a Program Coordinator at the International Student Support (ISS) office. What would you like to know about me? I am living life as young and free as an adult life can be. You might see me longboarding across campus with a backward hat or beanie, admiring the weather, or taking pictures. Otherwise, you might see me watching a baseball game at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, where the Tampa Bay Rays play. If the weather permits, I will explore fun, new, and exciting places like nature parks and preserves, ride the big-scary roller coasters, and even wander at night to see the city lights.

You may have seen me in my workspace from the funny acts we do on our Instagram account [@usfworld_iss](#), but I promise I do a lot more. Besides being an eager volunteer, I host online interactive

seminars with new and incoming international students to tell everyone about how to get involved in campus life, the USF services and resources that are available, things to do on and off campus, and find ways to have fun in the city we all live in and work. I also try to help with such life questions as, *“How do I get from my USF campus to this destination?”* or *“How do I find friends and my community?”* even *“How do I open a bank account, find a job, or get a driver’s license?”* Do not worry. I will try to give you the best advice and wisdom a friend can. In addition, I host (or try to) fun events for our students to grow socially and professionally, such as painting classes or parties!

Stop by the Faculty Administration Office (FAO building) on the Tampa campus in Room 118 to hang out and talk! I always need a distraction from my life to learn more about you!

- Alex Iler,
*Program Coordinator at
International Student Support*

Meet the

CRITTERS

of Simmons Park

Did you know that there is a bird at Simmons Park that swims underwater?

Did you also know that some of the smaller turtles will actually crawl right up to you onto shore when you are throwing feed into the pond?

And if you are lucky, did you know that an American Crow might perch on the green walkover railing just inches from your elbow and pluck bird feed out of the air the moment you toss it skywards?



Cooter (turtle)



Muscovy Duck



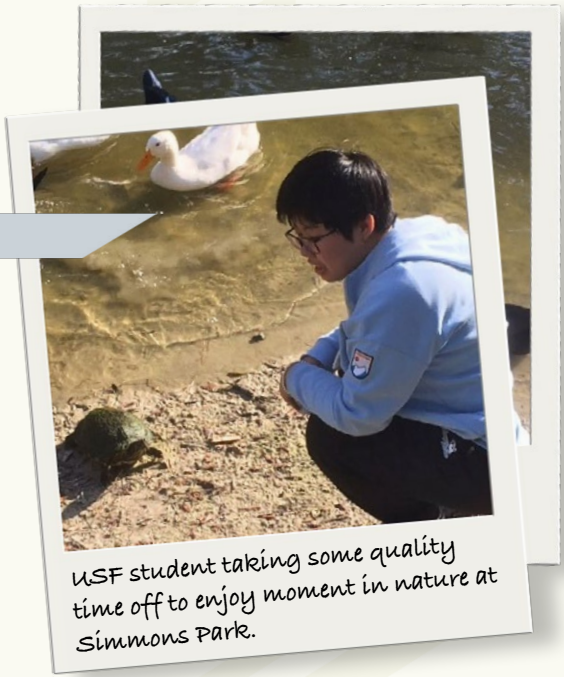
Laughing Gull



American Crow



Anhinga



USF student taking some quality time off to enjoy moment in nature at Simmons Park.

If you are even slightly curious about these colorful critters, the International Student Support (ISS) offers regular guided tours to Simmons Park. You will learn fun facts about the origins, life spans, plumage and diets of the park's wildlife. And occasionally, ISS staff members will bring birdfeed along on the tour, giving you the opportunity to feed the wildlife, who will become exponentially more friendly and curious.



Great Egret



Grey Eastern Squirrel

In addition to enhancing your knowledge about local wildlife, you will likely find these tours to be a relaxing way to temporarily step away from academic and social pressures and enjoy the sights and sounds of nature.

If you are a nature lover or are looking for a fun way to relax, we encourage you to request a free tour by emailing newinternational@usf.edu. Please let us know if you are interested in feeding the birds, turtles, and fish, as well. You may also request a copy of the tour guide booklet, The Critters of Simmons Park. We hope to see you soon!

(813) 974 1415

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CONTACT
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