St. Norbert College · Center for Global Engagement · ESL Institute

T. NORBERT COLLEGE ESL PREŠ MAY 2023

SPRING HAS SPRUNG AS ESL INSTITUTE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

WRITTEN BY: SAVANNAH GRASS

The spring semester has sprung here at SNC! All year this year we are also celebrating the 30th anniversary of our ESL Institute, founded by Mr. Richard Porior in 1993. Let us take a look at what 2023 has brought to our students so far.





ESL MISSION

We are here to enable students to acquire the language and cultural skills necessary to read, write, speak, and understand American English for academic and professional purposes.

> **Street Address:** 100 Grant Street

Caption: (L to R) Sr. My Tran and Sr. Hoai Vu pose for a photo in front of the arch

CONGRATULATIONS TO SR. HOAI AND SR. MY!

WRITTEN BY: SAVANNAH GRASS, SR. MY TRAN, AND SR. HOAI VU

On May 12, 2023, our ESL students Sr. Hoai Vu and Sr. My Tran are graduating from the ESL program! The sisters have completed all of the advanced courses in the program and are planning to attend Hilbert College in Hamburg, New York in Fall 2023, and major in psychology.

Sr. Hoai's favorite memory at SNC has been Titletown District and her very first time iceskating. Sister hopes to "continue skating in New York." She also appreciated that "people actually stop for you to cross the street here because that is not common back in Vietnam." She also reflects that "everyone is very patient and understanding here especially when I am speaking."

Sr. My has appreciated "how friendly the people here in De Pere are." Her favorite memory is "volunteering at Paul's Pantry." She really enjoyed the charity aspect of this experience. She felt that she "learned a new and meaningful skill to share with the poor." She thinks that "it is a good idea for international students to do some sort of charity work." She is going to miss everyone saying hello to her in the morning as she was not used to this. She also enjoys how everyone encourages her to ask more questions about a subject that is unfamiliar to her.

Caption: Our Spring 2, 2023 ESL students visit with the Racing Sausages at the Milwaukee **Brewer game**

EXCURSION TO WAUKFF

WRITTEN BY: SAVANNAH GRASS. YUKA WATANABE. **AND MOMOKO NAKAHARA**

One memorable experience this semester was the excursion to Milwaukee on April 28, 2023. Our ESL students were able visit the Milwaukee Art Museum, the Milwaukee County Zoo, and attend a Milwaukee **Brewers Baseball game!**

Yuka Watanabe's favoite part of the trip was the baseball game because it was her "first time ever watching baseball." She also enjoyed watching the fans during the game. She appreciated the Art Museum and felt that "Milwaukee felt more like a city compared to Green Bay."

Momoko Nakahara's favorite part of the trip was the baseball game, too. She was really happy to see a Japanese professional baseball player, Mr. Shohei Ohtani (L.A. Angels), in the game in Milwaukee! Momoko loved the game so much that she went back to Milwaukee to watch another game on April 30, 2023.

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PEER TO PEER PROGRAM

WRITTEN BY: MACY EDWARDS, MAI NAGASAWA, AND SAVANNAH GRASS



Caption: (L to R) Karin Kamijo and Mai Nagasawa at Crumbl Cookies

Our peer to peer mentor Macy reflected on her time in the program. "The privilege of working as the Peer-2-Peer Coordinator this semester has been not only a wildly fun experience but also an educational one! My role is to help our global students engage with campus activities and the joys Green Bay has to offer. From elaborately planned frozen yogurt trips to impromptu dinners, my time with our ESL students has been a highlight of my spring semester. Of course I enjoy my time with the crew in the library for tutoring, but the real fun happens when we venture off campus for a sweet treat! I took several groups to Crumbl Cookie where we indulged in whatever delectable flavors the bakery offered that week. It never failed to put a smile on my face to see how the students' faces lit up when they opened their boxes of massive cookies." Macy adds that "one of the greatest takeaways I have from working with the students is the insight to foreign cuisine! It warms my heart to get to work with these fabulous groups each week, and I look forward to all the events we have planned in the near future."

One of our peer to peer participants, Ms. Mai Nagasawa, considers this program her favorite part of the ESL program. She explains "I love that it is so immersive and that I can work on my English speaking skills."



Caption: (L to R) Macy Edwards, Momoka Watanabe, Airi Shibayama, Aya, Tanii, Honoka Isojima, and Yuka Watanabe at Smart Cow yogurt bar

OUR SPRING 2023 ESL STUDENTS

TESTIMONIES FROM OUR NEWEST STUDENTS

Fr. Juan Zarate, Mexico



Fr. Juan joined us in January 2023. He has been very excited to be here. Fr. Juan's favorite part of the SNC campus are "the buildings and the ESL program because it encompasses every subject." Fr. Juan also appreciates his teachers and the fact that "they have so much enthusiasm for the subjects they teach." His favorite memory of his time here is when he went skating at Titletown in February. He also enjoyed the trip to Milwaukee where he saw his very first baseball game ever!

Momoka Uchiya, Japan



Momoka joined us in March 2023 along with a group of students from Tsuru University, Japan. Momoka's favorite memory from her time at SNC has been spending time with her "roommate and enjoying the wonderful meals at the cafeteria." Momoka really likes that she was able to form a relationship with her teachers. She enjoyed listening to the different guest speakers that came and presented on various topics. Momoka states that "everyone is so friendly and confident, and I am inspired by them every day."

Yusef Barabaa, Saudi Arabia

Yusef came to SNC in March 2023. He started learning English in Saudi Arabia almost a year ago. He then decided to come to SNC to strengthen his English language skills. Yusef enjoys the student housing as well as the great food at the cafeteria. In his classes he likes having classmates and good teachers. Yusef states that "at first learning English will feel difficult, but if you focus your English will improve."

Sena Ono, Japan

Sena arrived on SNC campus in March 2023. She had a great time here and especially enjoyed the excursion to Milwaukee. She loved the baseball game so much that she went back again a few days later to watch the final game of that series. Reflecting on her time here, Sena has enjoyed learning English and hopes to continue learning English when she returns to Japan. Sena hopes "to visit SNC again in the future."







Caption: Spring 2, 2023 ESL students at a service project at Paul's Pantry



Caption: Spring 2, 2023 ESL students with De Pere Mayor Mr. James Boyd and De Pere Fire Chief Mr. Alan Matzke