It seems only too reminiscent of last year when we were facing the constraints of the immigration laws in hiring and employing international faculty and research scholars at Tufts. We have just learned that once again the numerical availability of H-1B nonimmigrant visas for the 98-99 year will be reached shortly. This will prevent college and universities nationally from employing incoming faculty/research scholars prior to October 1, 1999. Last year we faced the same problem with the cap being reached on May 1, 1998. This year it appears that the cap will be reached earlier in spite of Congress having recently increased the number of H-1B visas, the problem of running out of visas is happening again!

The International Center is committed to working with the hiring departments and the individuals affected by this situation in looking at all options available to secure work authorization. However, we must warn people that in some cases it may be impossible to work at Tufts prior to October 1, 1999 at which time a new allotment of H-1B visas become available.

For students who are graduating in May and who are eligible to pursue work authorization in the U.S., by obtaining practical training (for F-1 students) and academic training (for J-1 students), we encourage you to seek legal advice once your practical/academic training has been obtained so that you can apply within the time period available for another type of work visa. It is important to remember that the way in which most international students secure work authorization is through the support of a job. Without a job, work visas in the U.S. are extremely limited.

(Continued on page 2)
THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER: MEDFORD CAMPUS

The International Center, located on the first floor of Ballou Hall, telephone 617/627-3458, provides counseling to international students, coordinates international activities on campus, and assists students, faculty and research scholars with immigration regulations and procedures. Our services are provided to undergraduates in Arts & Sciences, Engineering, as well as graduate faculty/scholars in Arts & Sciences, Engineering, the School of Nutrition/HNRCA, BSOT, School of Veterinary Medicine, the Museum School and the New England Conservatory, and faculty/scholars only from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

We advise and counsel on various issues including language difficulties, housing/roommate difficulties, cultural adjustment and employment regulations. Please feel free to set up an appointment to speak with the staff if you have any questions or concerns, or would just like to talk.

THE LGB Center, with TASA, the Women’s Center, the International Center and the Asian American Center, are screening the Indian/Canadian film Fire that has been creating controversy in India since its opening there. Director Deepa Mehta’s film, set in Delhi, portrays two women who escape their painful marriages through an intense, romantic and sexual relationship. This promises to be a great event: come by for a fascinating and provocative narrative, good commentary, and wonderful Indian snacks (samosas, pakoras, sweets).

Fire will be screened in Pearson 106 on Wednesday, April 21 at 7:30pm.

IF YOU NEED A VISAP

If you plan to travel outside of the U.S. and will need a new visa stamp to re-enter the U.S., you will need to bring certain documents to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your home country. Remember to bring your immigration document (Form I-20 or Form IAP-66) with a current signature from the International Center, and financial documentation when you go the embassy or consulate. If you are not sure if you need a new visa stamp, stop by the International Center with your passport for advice.

Those on H-1B visas will need to bring the original I-797 Form that was issued by the INS. You should take this form, proof of financial support, and a current letter from your department, to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate closest to you and apply for the appropriate visa. You do not need to apply for the visa in your home country, but be aware that it may take longer to get a new visa in a third country.

NOTE: If you will be traveling to Canada, Mexico or the adjacent islands* for less than 30 days, you do not need a new visa if you have an expired visa of the requisite category in your passport. Some special restrictions apply for certain nationalities and situations. Please check with the International Center before traveling.

*The adjacent islands are: Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Miquelon, St. Pierre, Trinidad, Windward, Leeward Islands, and some British, French and Netherlands territories or possessions in or bordering on the Caribbean Sea.

H-1 Cap Imminent (Continued from page 1)

In this climate of what is perceived as an increased intolerance of foreign nationals working in the U.S., we urge you to seek legal advice so that you do not get caught unnecessarily in between a change of visa status. You do not want to find yourself in an unmanageable situation which could prevent you from continuing your professional career in the U.S. The International Center is available for assistance with your Practical/Academic Training visa and can provide you with a referral to local immigration attorneys in the Boston area.
HOST A NEW GRADUATE STUDENT THIS FALL!

Tufts does not offer temporary housing for the incoming class of international graduate students. As you are aware, many students do not have adequate resources to pay for a hotel room while they search for a permanent place to live. We would like to identify current graduate students and/or faculty/staff who would be willing to host one or two new students in your own apartment while they look for permanent housing.

The new student would need to spend a few nights with you during the month of August 1999. If you would be interested in being a temporary housing host, please contact the International Center at 617/627-3458. We appreciate your help, and so will the new graduate students!

"BLACKOUT" TIME AT THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Between the dates of August 18, 1999 and September 7, 1999, the International Center will be unable to assist continuing international students, faculty and research scholars with immigration matters which could normally be handled before or after these dates. Only true emergency cases will be taken.

This time period is the office's busiest season as we expect to welcome over 200 new international students, faculty and scholars. We appreciate your patience, cooperation and planning ahead!

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 1999
WELLESLEY COLLEGE
APRIL 16-18

The objective of this conference is to educate college students about relevant international issues. The conference will consist of 4 panels that will address issues relating to 4 different continents. Panelists will include Ambassadors to the United Nations, and representatives from World Bank, IMF, UNIFEM, etc.

The panel topics include: Politics and Economics of European Integration, Political and Economic Crises in Asia, Political Systems in Latin America, and Post-colonial Africa.

For more information and to register, please contact: Leila Toplic, Host Committee, Chair at 781/283-3500 ext 8510 & 8511, by fax at 781/283-3639 or by email at ltoplic@wellesley.edu.
UPDATE

J-1 EXCHANGE VISITORS (Students & Scholars):

To re-enter the U.S. you will need a signature from the International Center on the back of your pink Form IAP-66, a valid J-1 visa stamp, and a passport that is valid for six months beyond your return date. We also suggest that you carry proof of financial support. Since we must check your registration status, you must allow the International Center one week for a signature on your IAP-66.

NOTE: If your J-1 Program Sponsor is not Tufts University, (such as IIE, Amideast, LASPAU, etc.) we cannot sign your pink form. Please contact your program sponsor for details well in advance of your departure.

H-1B FACULTY/SCHOLARS:

To re-enter the U.S. you will need your Form I-797 H-1B Approval Notice, a passport valid at least six months into the future, your I-94 card, a letter from your sponsoring department confirming your appointment at Tufts, and a valid H-1B visa stamp. If you have previously had an H-1B visa stamp in your passport, and it expired less than one year ago, you may be able to get a new H-1B visa before leaving the U.S. However, you will need at least six to eight weeks lead time to renew it. Please contact the International Center well in advance of traveling for details.

TRAVELING OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.

If you are planning to travel outside of the United States, you must be sure that you have all the correct documents and signatures in order to return.

Please see the section below which pertains to your type of visa.

F-1 STUDENTS:

To re-enter the U.S. you will need your I-20 Form signed by the International Center, a valid visa stamp in your passport (Canadians are exempt from this visa requirement), and a passport that is valid 6 months in to the future. It is also suggested that you carry proof of financial support.

We suggest that you have your I-20 form signed once every six months when you travel. Since we need to check your full-time status, bring your I-20 Form to the International Center at least one week before you plan on leaving for us to process it. If you do not allow enough time, the International Center may have to send your form to you, you will be responsible for the cost of the mailing.

ATTENTION J-1 EXCHANGE VISITORS AND THEIR SPONSORING DEPARTMENTS

Please be aware that the 30-day grace period applies only to those J-1 Exchange Visitors who are departing the U.S. at the completion of their program. The completion of their program is determined either by the expiration date as listed on #3 of their IAP-66 J-1 Visa Document or their last official date at Tufts University, whichever comes first. The Exchange Visitor is legally allowed 30-days after his/her last date as determined per above mentioned, for the purpose of preparing to depart the U.S. THE 30-DAY GRACE PERIOD IS NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS A TIME FOR AN EXCHANGE VISITOR TO APPLY TO EXTEND THEIR STAY OR TO REQUEST A CHANGE OF VISA STATUS.

TRAVELING INSIDE THE U.S.

If you are planning to travel within the United States, you do not need to do anything special. Just be sure to carry your passport so that you can present it as identification if necessary.
OPTIONAL POST-COMPLETION PRACTICAL TRAINING

Practical Training permits an international student on an F-1 Visa to accept employment in the U.S. to obtain practical work experience in a position related to your field of study. Most F-1 students are eligible for up to 12 months of practical training. Application for Practical Training must be made no later than 30 days after graduation. If you fail to apply, you FORFEIT your eligibility for Practical Training.

For more information, workshops are being held on Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the 3rd floor Conference Room in Ballou Hall. Call 617/627-3458 to reserve a place.

What follows are the steps required to apply for practical training. Make sure you come to the International Center for further details.

Step 1: Obtain from the International Center the following forms to complete:
- Form I-765
- Form I-765 Signature Card
- Form I-538

Step 2: Submit the following to the International Center for review:
  a.) Your completed Form I-765
  b.) A Signed Form I-765 Signature Card
  c.) Your completed Form I-538
  d.) Your most current Form I-20
  e.) A check, made out to the "I.N.S." in the amount of $100
  f.) Your I-94 Card
  g.) UNDERGRADUATES ONLY: A letter, from the Registrar, documenting you have completed your degree requirements and verifying that you have been in full-time status for the past two semesters, AND confirmation your name is on the "Candidate for Graduation List" at the International Center. GRADUATE STUDENTS ONLY: A letter from your advisor, documenting you have been in full-time status and in good academic standing for the past two semesters, verifying that you have completed all requirements for your degree and listing your completion date for all requirements for your degree.
  h.) Two photos with your full name printed in pencil on the back.* Cost: approximately $7.00.
   * Contact the International Center for detailed information on photo requirements.
  i.) The identification and expiration date pages of your passport.

Step 3: After the International Center reviews your application, you must send the following to the INS:
Form I-765 (original) Form I-20 (COPY)
I-765 Signature Card (original) I-94 Card (COPY)
$100.00 check made out to INS Form I-538 (COPY)
Two photos of yourself Identification & expiration date pages of your passport

Step 4: Send all of the above listed items, VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, to:
Vermont Service Center
75 Lower Welden Street
St. Albans, VT 05479-9765

Step 5: Receive receipt notice from INS indicating they have received your application

Step 6: Receive EAD Card from INS.

ONCE YOU RECEIVE YOUR EAD CARD, AND THE DATE ON IT IS CURRENT, YOU ARE ABLE TO WORK AND BE PAID. PLEASE GIVE A COPY OF THE CARD TO THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER and inform us as to how long it took to receive your EAD card.
POST COMPLETION ACADEMIC TRAINING

Academic Training permits an international student on a J-1 visa to accept employment in the U.S. to obtain practical work experience in a position related to your field of study. Most J-1 students are eligible for up to 18 months of academic training. Application for Academic Training must be made no later than 30 days after graduation. If you fail to apply, you forfeit your eligibility for Academic Training.

For more information, contact the International Center.

What follows are the steps you need to take to apply for Academic Training. Make sure you come to the International Center for further details.

To apply for Academic Training after graduation, you must first obtain a job offer. Once you have secured a job offer, your prospective employer must write a letter describing the position. The letter must include:

**LETTER #1: JOB OFFER LETTER**
- Your job title
- A brief description of the goals of the training program (your employment)
- Dates and location of employment
- Number of hours per week you will be working
- Name and address of your direct supervisor
- Your salary on a monthly basis
- Start and end dates of employment

Once you have your employer letter, you must give this letter to your academic advisor. He or she must then write a letter which recommends that you participate in Academic Training. Your academic advisor’s letter must include:

**LETTER #2: ACADEMIC ADVISOR LETTER**
- The goals and objectives of your training program (employment)
- Description of the training program, including location, name and address of your direct supervisor, number of hours per week, the start and end dates of the job.
- How the training is related to your field of study
- Why this training is an integral part of the academic program
- Statement saying that “The Academic Training for the length of time necessary to complete the goals and objectives of the training is approved”

**LETTER #3: GRADUATION/FULL-TIME STATUS CONFIRMATION LETTER**
You must also obtain a letter confirming your exact date of graduation and your full-time, good academic standing over the past year. If you are an undergraduate student, you must confirm your name is on the “Candidate for Graduation List” at the International Center. You must also obtain a full-time good academic standing letter from the Registrar’s Office. If you are a graduate student, you must obtain a letter from your advisor that reflects this information.

Once you have all three letters, bring them, along with the following to the International Center:
1. All 3 letters, as described above
2. Your Form IAP-66 (pink form)
3. Your Form I-94 (small white card in your passport)
4. Proof of income of at least $1,250 per month as an individual (plus $260 per month additional per child; plus $360 per month additional for a spouse)

(Please note: if you are in the U.S. with family, please be sure to bring Items #2 and 3 listed above for each family member as they apply.)

Please also note: If your Form IAP-66 was issued by another sponsor (for example: IIE, Amideast, LASPAU, etc.) then you will need to apply to your program sponsor for Academic Training permission, not to the International Center.

**VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT:**
Upon approval of your Academic Training, you will be given a new Form IAP-66 indicating your eligibility to work.
PRACTICAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Practical Training workshops are being held every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. These workshops will continue to run through May 13, 1999. **Reservations are required**, so please call the International Center to reserve a place. Individual appointments to discuss work authorization will be scheduled only after a student has attended a workshop or in the case of a scheduling conflict.

**REMEMBER:** Employers like to hire students who are knowledgeable about their eligibility to work. Come to a workshop and learn about your options.

VISA PROCESSING TIME

As a reminder to those of you needing immigration assistance from the International Center, please keep in mind the following time required to process your immigration work:

- Signature of Form I-20 or Form IAP-66 for travel: 1 Week
- F-1 or J-1 Program Extensions: 2 to 4 Weeks
- Change of Status from one Non-Immigrant Status to Another (i.e. F-1 to J-1): 4 to 6 Weeks
- School Transfers: 1 Week
- Practical Training/Academic Training: 2 Weeks
- Initial J-1 Faculty/Research Scholar Visa: 3 Months
- J-1 Faculty/Research Scholar Extensions: 2 Months
- Initial H-1B Faculty/Research Scholar Visa: 3 to 4 Months
- H-1B Faculty/Research Scholar Extensions: 3 to 4 Months

TAX SEASON UPDATE

Please remember that all F and J visa holders, including spouses and children, who had no US-source income in 1998 are still required to file income tax forms 1040NR-EZ and 8843 by June 15, 1999. The Fletcher Library has a small supply of forms and instructions available for those who have until June to file their tax returns. You can also download federal forms from [www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov). This requirement is an individual’s responsibility! Do not forget to comply with the IRS’s requirements.

DO YOU NEED AN EXTENSION OF STAY?

**F-1 STUDENTS:** Extensions must be filed at least 30 days before, but not more than 30 days after the expiration date indicated in Part 5 of your current Form I-20. Contact the International Center if you suspect you need an extension. If an extension of stay is not completed within this period, you will fall out of status and this will have serious implications. Please remember that it is your responsibility to tell us if you need this assistance. Call the International Center if you are unsure if you will need an extension.

**J-1 EXCHANGE VISITORS:** Students and scholars with J-1 visa status must apply for an extension of stay if you plan to remain at Tufts beyond the date specified in Part 3 of your Form IAP-66. If Tufts is your program sponsor, as indicated in Part 2 of the Form IAP-66, you need to request a new IAP-66 from us. If your IAP-66 was issued by another sponsoring agency, you need to contact that agency for information about an extension of stay. They must issue your new Form IAP-66 and they may have additional requirements. You should expect this to take some time, so please plan ahead. **[It is crucial that you apply for and obtain an approval of extension of stay prior to the expiration date on part 3 of your form IAP-66](mailto:)[**}
TUFTS CAREER SERVICES SUMMER HOURS

This is a reminder that the Career Services Office, located in the Bolles House on College Ave., does remain open during the summer break. They will have walk-in hours; please call them for specific hours. You should also feel free to call and set appointments with any of the career counselors during the summer months. Their phone number is 617/627-3299.

RESUMÉ BANK AT THE CAREER SERVICES RECRUITING OFFICE

If you are graduating this May, you may have your resume entered into a resume bank that the Career Services Recruiting Office keeps to help employers locate qualified applicants. To do this, visit the website at (http://job.tufts.edu). Employers will post job openings here and also search for qualified applicants. For details, please call the Recruiting Office at 617/627-2304.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE INTERCULTURAL FESTIVAL!

We would like to thank all who participated in the planning and execution of this year’s Intercultural Festival. Without your help, it would not have been as successful as it was!

We want to extend a special thank you to the following dedicated workers!

Gustavo Gomez
Bill McCarthy
Carl Mould-Millman
Tristan Reed
Tony Rullan
Jacob Silberberg
Alan Silver
Ed Vena

Congrats to the students accepted to the International House for 1999-2000

Sanguan Chanyaputhipong
Frederico Evangelista
Melissa Fernandez
Jon Fischer
Ayesha Gilkes
Hanna Kite
Chinedu Mbadiwe
Stacia Neeley
Mernaysa Rivera
Ryota Satoh

Congratulations to the 1999 International Orientation Host Advisors

Claudia Asch
Katherine Cheung
Harsha Chugani
Ashti Doobay-Persaud
Michael Fraser
Mariela Martinez
Bill McCarthy
Sean McDermott
Dom Meier
Carl Mould-Millman
Mark Nawfal

Yuhei Ogawa
Leela Parker
Tristan Reed
Antonio Rullan
Ryota Satoh
Laura Schuft
Jacob Silberberg
Jaspree Singh
Preeti Singh
Kristi Tough
On February 27, 1999, the International Club presented Nahid Bhadelia with the *Oliver Chapman Leadership & Community Service Award*. The award was given at the end of the "Parade of Nations Show" which serves as a capstone to the annual Intercultural Festival. This award is given each year to a senior who has been active with the international community either on the Tufts campus or off-campus in the local community. The award is named for Oliver Chapman, an undergraduate student from Panama who passed away in 1992. He was loved by all who knew him and was always available to help others.

Nahid is actively interested in issues of global concern to women, in particular with regard to inequality of women. Through her membership on the Peace and Justice Studies Executive Board, she has helped to bring lectures discussing issues on social justice to campus. She presented a workshop with a Tufts graduate student entitled *International Monetary Systems and Women* at the conference entitled, "Women's Rights are Human Rights." This summer, through the Visions worldwide nonprofit organization, she will work towards empowerment of young people with regards to HIV/AIDS in India. We congratulate Nahid on her achievements and wish her much success with her future career.

*Nahid wishes to dedicate this award to her Aunt Gulbas Bidiwala, who passed away because of cancer on February 27, 1999. This is for her kindness, goodness, and her strength. With love and prayers.*