New TU international advisor impressed by student caliber

by PITU KOLTAI

Leslie Long, the new advisor for foreign faculty and students, is enthusiastic about her job and about the “high caliber” of foreign students at Tufts. Long replaces Mary Hecht, who left Tufts in August.

Coming from Northeastern, link as a liaison with emigration authorities, and offers legal advice to foreign students and faculty.

Long’s interest in international student counseling led to her own voluntary “independent study” of the voluminous emigration and visa instructor of English as a second language employed by Tufts and works with the International Student’s Office as well as other schools in the university.

Craig currently tutors six Medford students and 10 at 4 Tufts dental students in Boston. Students receive no credit for the tutorial course, and Long observed that some students who could benefit from the program don’t attend because “they don’t have the initiative and there is little outside incentive.”

The International Student Office also provides social services for foreign students through the host family program coordinated by volunteer Betina Winter. The program attempts to match foreign students, who request the service, with local families, often members of the Tufts community. In addition, the International Student Office sponsors a furniture pool for foreign students. The pool, which is directed by volunteer Dori Reuss, periodically collects used furniture from the local community and loans it free of charge to interested foreign students.

Long would like her office to become “a resource center for the whole university which American students feel free to utilize for developing their plans for going abroad.” She plans to develop a library of foreign study and travel catalogues, and also a series of “get togethers for students who want to go (abroad), students who have been abroad, or students who are from abroad.” “The whole idea of being here,” said Long referring to her own role, “is so they (foreign students and faculty) will have someone to come to.” The current traffic in the International Student’s Office seems to attest to Long’s early success.

New international student and faculty advisor Leslie Long

where she received an MA in college counseling and worked with Northeastern’s 1000 international students, Long was impressed that a school of Tufts’ size employs a full-time foreign student advisor.

Long is the only full-time person employed by Tufts to deal with the legal, social, and academic problems of the 350 foreign students and 100 foreign faculty currently part of the university community.

Long has lived in England, Turkey, and Paris (where she studied at the Sorbonne one year). She has taught high school Spanish which she feels benefits her work with the many Latin American students at Tufts.

The International Student Office in Curtis Hall has the regulations. She has become familiar with most ordinances and as a result of her thoroughness, was able to procure several thousand dollar in social security rebates for foreign students at Northeastern who did not realize that they were not obligated to deduct social security payments from their pay checks.

Long feels that her second most important function at Tufts is to direct foreign students who need help in English to the proper English program at Tufts or in Boston.

“The key to a student’s success is how well he does in English,” retorted Long as she finished relating the same maxim to a non-English speaking Venezuelan student. Susan Craig is the part time

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