

IFM sponsors banquet for international students

From staff reports

New and returning international students and their families are invited to attend a Welcome Banquet on Sept. 1, 1989, at 6:30 p.m. in the Jackson Hall of First Presbyterian Church.

This will be the fifth annual "Welcome Banquet" co-sponsored by International Friendship Ministries and the church. The banquet is free for all internationals.

"Over 1200 internationals representing about 100 nations will be enrolling in the Columbia area colleges and universities this fall. For about one third of them, it will be their first visit to America and to Columbia," Rajarathnam S. Aluri, founder and president of IFM, said.

IFM gives them an opportunity to interact with fellow internationals and native Columbians as well.

In fact, of the 1200 international students in the Columbia area, 900 of them will be attending USC.

Aluri knows how it feels to be in a foreign country, because he himself once was an international student from India and studied at USC.

"Many internationals can use some assistance as they adjust in a new country, new culture, and new society. The Welcome Banquet is one way of saying to our international friends, 'We are here to greet you, show hospitality, and help in any way we possibly can to make your transition easy and your stay in Columbia enjoyable,'" he said.

Since then Aluri has earned a

doctorate in education and two master's degrees from USC.

"It will be good for internationals to get right away some taste of Southern hospitality," Aluri said. "First impressions should be the best impressions, and they will last for a lifetime."

IFM has been serving international students in the Columbia area since 1981 and began a similar operation at Winthrop College in Rock Hill in 1984. In addition to the Welcome Banquet, IFM also offers the following programs to international students and the community during the year: Weekly Friday evening friendship dinners; host-family program; Thanksgiving dinner; Thanksgiving Holiday Tour to Hilton Head Island; Christmas banquet and program; Christmas Holiday Tour to Orlando, Florida; Easter Weekend Holiday Tour to Atlanta, Georgia; U.S. Independence Holiday Tour to Washington, D.C.; summer fun activities; temporary housing; social and emotional support; and English and citizenship classes.

Each of these programs not only introduces America to international students, but it also allows people to see what America looks like through international eyes.

IFM recently published a *Guidebook for Internationals*, containing useful information about the Columbia area.

The International Friendship Center is located at Pickens and Blossom Streets, three blocks from the USC campus. For more information, call 799-3452.

The Russell House —student union

Graphics Area — facilities include a mimeograph machine, light table, paper cutter, button machine and workspace.

What's Happening Calendar — published monthly as a free service; contains information submitted by student organizations and the USC community.

The Music Lounge — is a listening facility operated by student staff and the Department of Technical Services. Located in room 310 on the third floor of the Russell House, the lounge provides a comfortable, relaxed area with a variety of available music and playback capabilities. Hours vary, but the lounge is open Monday through Friday whenever class is in session. For more information, call 777-6680.

Student Media

Student Media is a part of Student Life of the division of Student Affairs and is comprised of *The Gamecock* newspaper, *Garnet & Black* yearbook, *Portfolio* literary magazine, *University Telephone Directory*, and WUSC-FM radio station. With the exception of six full-time employees, the operation of each medium is totally run by students.

The Gamecock

Published tri-weekly every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. *The Gamecock* is the official newspaper for the university. With a circulation of 14,000 and a readership of 35,000, *The Gamecock* is provided to USC students, faculty and staff free of charge and can be

of accounting and bookkeeping, advertising sales, distribution, editing, layout, production, reporting and photography. There is no prerequisite or experience needed for becoming a staff member. While most positions are on a volunteer basis, some are paid. Interested persons should go by room 313 in the Russell House.

The Garnet and Black

The Garnet and Black, USC's yearbook, is also produced by an all-student staff. Students with previous yearbook experience or the desire to work on the publication should go by room 316 in the Russell House. Staff members are compensated for their contributions to the yearbook.

Students interested in buying the yearbook may add \$20 to their fees during registration. Or a check can be mailed to the Student Media Business Office or hand-delivered to the office in room 314 of the Russell House.

Photographers will be in the Russell House during the fall semester for portrait shots. Dates and locations will be published in *The Gamecock* and posted around campus. All portraits will be used in the yearbook.

Portfolio

Portfolio is USC's literary magazine. Published four times a year, *Portfolio* gives students an outlet for their literary and artistic talents. Several contests for students wishing to submit their work are sponsored throughout the year.

Staff members are responsible for editing, layout, production and the material published in *Portfolio*. Interested students should go by room 313.

Upon publication in October, December, February and April, students can pick up a copy free of charge at *Gamecock* distribution points around campus.

Students are responsible for advertising sales, as well as assisting in the production and layout of the book. As the directory is published in the summer and distributed at the beginning of fall each semester, the majority of work is done in the summer. This provides students with the opportunity to gain good experience in sales and make some extra money for the fall.

Stop by room 322 of the Russell House for more information.

WUSC-FM

WUSC-FM is the student-operated radio station of USC. Located on 90.5 on the FM dial, the station introduces students to an actual broadcast environment. Practical experience is offered in announcing, editing, news reporting, music selection, public service and sports production.

WUSC's format is alternative and includes diverse music, news, sports, 24-hour musical artists features and public service programs.

The station is open to all students with an interest in radio. For more information call 777-3906 or drop by the station located in room 319 of the Russell House.

ASKUS

ASKUS is a telephone service which provides information to the Carolina and the Columbia communities on a number of specific topics. Anyone can call 777-7777 and receive information on topics ranging from Columbia's historic sites to cultural events at USC and health information to career opportunities.

A list of ASKUS topics can be found in the front of your student directory.

● Registration for fall semester is Monday through Friday, August 21-25. Withdrawal dates. Call 777-4333 for more information.

● School starts Monday, August 28.

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8-25 Rock... Johnny Mac & the Bad Riff Band	\$3.00
8-26 Rock... Johnny Mac & the Bad Riff Band	\$3.00
8-27 Rock... New Potato Caboose	\$6.00
8-29 Acoustic... Jesse Soles	\$2.00

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