

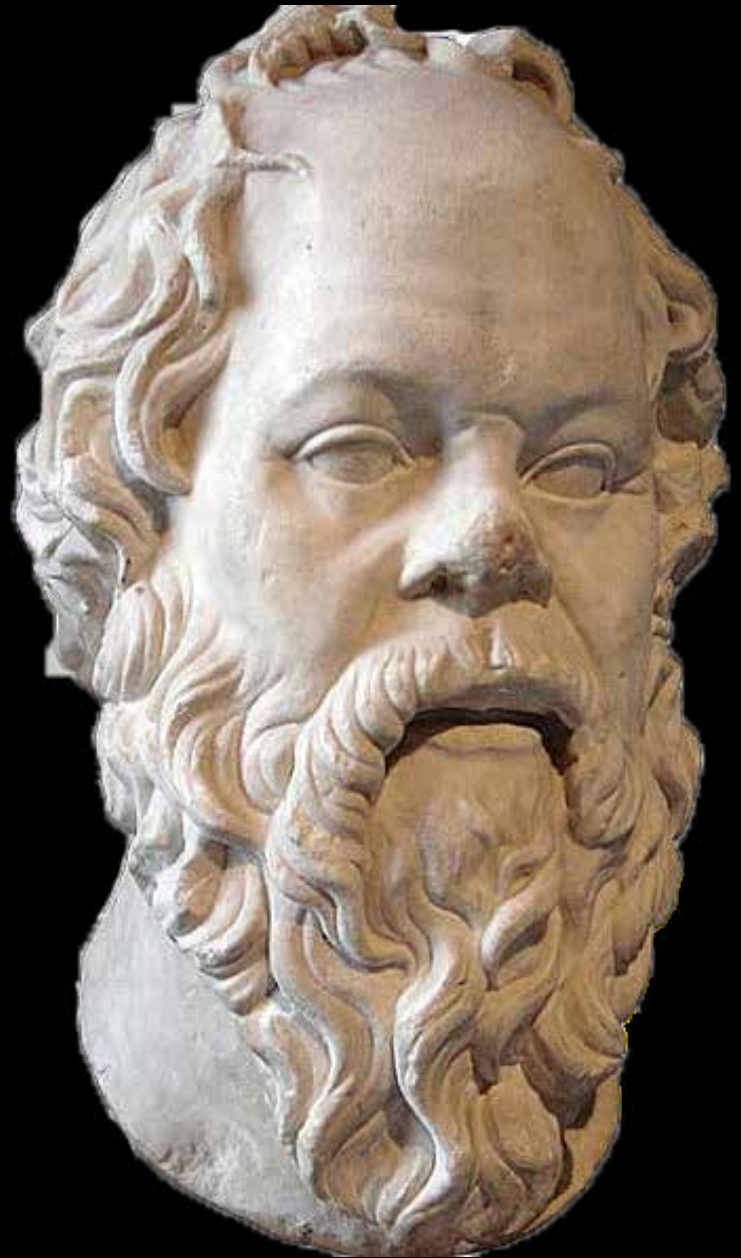
Issue 6 / September 2019

LINCOLN CHRONICLE

By Students, For Students

THE ONLY
TRUE WISDOM
IS KNOWING
YOU KNOW
NOTHING.

- SOCRATES





LINCOLN CHRONICLE

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO WRITE YOUR BEST STORY

-Bryan Hutchinson

Email us:
chronicle@lincolnuca.edu

Editor's Letter

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 6th Issue of Lincoln Chronicle.

Learn about your immigration status in the US from Gibu George, who worked in the Admissions Office. We have a throwback to the 100th year graduation ceremony. Look for your name, class of 2019, in the list of graduates. Student Ebubechukwu Obioma, featured in "Humans of Lincoln" shares his story of his passion in singing. Our professor, Dr. Kruz sheds light on how to suit yourself for the workforce of the future. "Alumni Spotlight" features an interesting conversation with Lincoln Alumni, Monther on his job hunting experience. An anonymous story submission will surely take you on a fun ride.

Many more! We hope you enjoy reading!

Yours Sincerely

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Socrates

Imagine in a University where people come from at least 50 nations all around the world, the magnitude of cultural experience and ideas they bring. Add to that, an institution that has held its ground for 100 years. We deserve a publication like Lincoln Chronicle, that not only shares news and information, but is a voice to all the ideas and opinions simmering beneath this diversity and talent. Take this opportunity to engage and build your community and share your work.

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Lincoln Chronicle

401 15th Street, Oakland, CA 94612

**ONC
ONLINE
ENTERTAINMENT**

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FILM CLUB - TOKYO STORY, 1953



Ashi M. Idicula
Author

A BLIND DATE WITH TOKYO

I was chilling in the basement, waiting for my next class, when the Student Services team invited all the students there to the screening of the movie Tokyo Story (1953). I was quick to join in, however late, to watch Tokyo Story with the host of the film series, Dr. Anokhin. Popcorn was served to everyone. I'm always thrilled to watch a movie that I don't know anything about, and in this case I wasn't even aware of the name of the movie. Yes, not only do blind dates happen but also blind movies. Just like a blind date, I enjoyed the curious adventure of finding out what the movie was about.

Readers, if all of you will allow me, hop on this short ride, and join me on my adventure of curiosity. The movie was in black and white--a tranquilizer to a ubiquitously colored life. The stressors and intonations of words spoken by the characters helped me realize the language was Japanese. The scenes noticeably take place in a small Japanese home where characters spend most of the time sitting on their heels. I started watching the movie late and was only casually watching the scenes, so I couldn't follow the storyline. However I could grasp a few cultural pieces of information. Adults drank "sake" liquor. The characters viewed Tokyo life as busy and overwhelming. "If we got lost, we would never see each other again," the old woman said to the old man about the city.

I didn't pay attention to the subtitles. Taking this risk while watching a movie in an unknown language is not a good idea. But it helped me see the uniqueness of facial expressions and emotions in Japanese culture. It was startling to watch on characters' faces, the folds and curves of happiness, sadness, eagerness, doubt, anger, etc. rather unexpectedly similar to my own culture. In fact, the soul of every human seems to be the same. We are all in the same ocean of emotions, in different cultural boats, perhaps with different destinations.

LIFE OF AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT - 2

WHEN YOU COMPROMISE

When you are confident
When your insecurities cripple you
When your vices stand against you
When you are your biggest enemy

When you doubt your dreams
When you're lost
When you're simply wrong
When you compromise

When you learn
When you pay the price
When you rebound to your values
When you see the light at the end of the tunnel

*Life of an International Student Series
welcomes your thoughts and experiences
as an International Student in the
United States.
Share them at chronicle@lincolnuca.edu

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Our recent graduate from Jordan has been successful in getting a managerial position at a Silicon Valley-based health care company, Care Indeed. He reveals some tips and tricks along with some guidelines one should follow, especially when you're an international student and you have global experience that you are trying to make count here in the US.

What was the first step you took after completing your studies?

I immediately started the process of applying for jobs because I knew it would take a while. First, I tried learning the process of finding a job, how the interview process works in the US, because every country has different requirements, different needs. I started learning about the American job market so that I understood exactly what I needed, for example American resume standards are pretty different. When I felt I was ready, I started applying.

Tip #1: I created a different email account only for the job search process. When you have a separate inbox, it gives you clarity instead of having one inbox with all emails.

Did someone help you through the process?

Professionally no one, but I got support and encouragement from my amazing family and friends.

Did you use any applications or tools?

I used Google. In other words, I used anything and everything that helped me at the moment.

It took three months for you to get a job, right? But in the meantime, you were also working on your own e-commerce website?

Yes, it was part of understanding the American market. You can call it a side business or a startup.

But what was your main goal when you started your website? Was it a step to enhance your portfolio?

I basically had to make a business plan for my final MBA project. I made a business plan for a retail store but I applied it on a smaller scale than the original plan I created.

Are you planning to continue your website on the side?

No, not really. I'm switching from retail to customer service because I believe I can give more that way.

But I saw your e-commerce website. It was very clean and crisp, very user friendly. I would definitely use it as a consumer. Why did you decide to stop it?

An e-commerce website, from my understanding, requires a lot of attention in the first year and it is definitely not a part-time job. You need to work hard on it every day, at least six to seven hours, until you have a stable customer base and a well-renowned name. Also, you need to spend a fortune on marketing if you want to sell your products.

How did you find this job? Through LinkedIn?

Yes, through LinkedIn. But I used Indeed too, and I got many interviews through those two platforms.

What was your strategy?

Tip #2: I gave myself a daily target. I applied to 25-50 companies every day. Some days when I had time, I applied to even more. But I applied to a minimum of 25 companies every day.

Did you have more than one resume that you used?

No, just one resume.

What about the cover letter?

Apart from the minor changes like the position and name of the company, everything was pretty much the same. I applied for only IT-based profiles so I didn't really have to make different resumes, but I know people who apply for different profiles use different resumes and cover letters.

Let's talk about your new job. How is it going?


It's going good.

Are you happy there?

Yes. It's a new experience.

What is your new company like? The work culture?

My company has a very good culture based on kindness. They believe in being kind to one another. The management believes in investing time in each employee to make sure that they are happy which will eventually lead to more productivity.



"if you say you can,
or you can't, you
are right." -Henry
Ford

MONTER ABABNEH
CLASS OF 2019

That's nice. What advice do you have for students at Lincoln?

My advice would be to dream big. And make sure if you want to convert that dream into reality, you need to set up goals and do whatever it takes to accomplish those goals by working hard with a lot of discipline and most importantly, with consistency. Because if you don't, your dreams will stay just dreams in your imagination, which will end up fueling your disappointment and taking you down a bad road where anything and everything will feel negative. And, take wisdom from this quote: " If you say you can, or you can't, you are right."

You worked in Jordan, right? How is it different here?

There are some differences in the environment but mostly work everywhere you go is work. Every company that I have worked for has a similar bunch of people. You know, the good and the bad, the person who tries to take credit for everybody's accomplishments. *laughs*. It is the same everywhere, part of human nature. But in general, working in the US is good.

Talk about your interview process with Care Indeed.

Tip #3: I had realistic interview expectations. I was prepared.

I had three rounds of interviews with them. The first round was with the recruiter/HR which had primarily a lot of generic questions, mainly about my career, about my legal status, why I had a gap in my career, which I explained was because I was pursuing my education.

The second round was with my supervisor and questions got more technical, my weaknesses and strengths. The third round was with my supervisor along with the CEO of the company. This round was more about understanding both parties. To see if I was a good fit for the company and explaining to me more about them.

They say that the interview process is longer than in other places. Is that true?

Depends on the company and the needs of the company. Like the first companies that I applied to three months ago have finally started responding now. Some companies take three months, six months, but nothing less than one month. Especially big companies like Google and Microsoft definitely take more than three months and some take more than six interviews. Back home, it's definitely faster. The whole process may take a month or two.

How was their whole attitude towards the fact that you need sponsorship?

Again, it's different from company to company. Some companies from the start make their plans clear. Some companies make it clear that they can't sponsor, but there are some who sponsor and they have a quota so they hire accordingly. Some have specific positions that they sponsor. But the bottom line is that there are companies that sponsor international students. I know that there is an assumption that our students have made, a rather negative one, that there are no companies that sponsor today. Some do care if you have experience inside the US, but most of them don't really prioritize

that. Every company has at least 5-10% employees that have experience from other countries. Every year about 200,000 applicants enter the lottery for the **85,000 spots for H1B status**, so the odds aren't that bad.

What is that one important thing that you learned in your time at Lincoln University?

Working with people from different cultures. This is the third country that I have worked in. First was Jordan, then Saudi Arabia. All this helped me understand and adapt to people from all around the world. Lincoln University enhanced my knowledge of people from other cultures. I learned how to connect with people from different ideologies, cultures, and religions. And most importantly, I have met some amazing personalities who have become very good friends and have supported me throughout.



TIPS FROM MONTHER

Tip#1: I even created a different email account only for the job search process. When you have a separate inbox, it gives you clarity instead of having one inbox with all emails.

Tip#2: I gave myself a daily target. I applied to 25-50 companies every day. Some days when I had time, I applied even more. But I applied a minimum of 25 companies every day.

Tip#3: I had realistic interview expectations. I was prepared.

YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

“HOW CAN YOU MAINTAIN IT?”



Gibu George
Author

One afternoon while I was working in that admissions office one of our students came to check the procedure to travel to his country. While checking his status we realized that his status was terminated two months ago. He didn't request a renewal on time. While we were explaining the status information, he was literally shocked; he said "I really wonder how it happened because I am still waiting for the comprehensive exam. I registered and got the date already...!". The saddest part of this story is that the student was not aware of the importance of **Form I-20** (also known as the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrants) and the difference between enrolling in a course and their eligibility status. We asked him, "Did you attend any of the orientations conducted at the beginning of each semester?" He replied, "Why should I? My friends told me that it's not a big deal." Controlling my anger at his evasive reply, I said, "Then, will your friends take responsibility for what happened to you now?" A silent gesture was his response. Fortunately the admissions office assisted him in submitting the documents for the reinstatement process. Eventually he gained his status back. This is what happens to most of the students who lose their status accidentally. It starts from underestimating the importance of the orientation program and trusting the advice of friends instead. Remember, as in international student it is our responsibility to keep our legal status valid.

I'd like to discuss a few mistakes and misunderstandings that international students frequently make.

The importance of understanding the facts : missing Orientation

You might feel too lazy to come for orientation, or your friends might tell you there's nothing important about it since they never came to their orientation, because their friends told them the same thing. Or, you might be late to join the school or have another

legitimate reason for missing orientation. But remember, whatever you missed is a loss for you. Orientation is the best start you can have at Lincoln University. You will receive key information from all the departments, including Admissions, Registration, Student Services, Library, Computer Lab, etc. This is where you learn about the importance of **Form I-20**, facts about renewal, international travel requirements, and other essential information. If you miss orientation, simply put, it means you missed the best chance to understand campus life and student life.

It's not about notification it's about life-saving information : missing to follow up Lincoln email

Do you know the school will send you reminder emails about your **OPT application** deadlines, job openings and other important information, especially regarding deadlines through email? If you are not adding your Lincoln email in your email accounts and not checking it regularly you might miss these life-saving reminders. Setting up an email account on your mobile phone will take less than five minutes and those five minutes can spare a lot especially as an international student.



<https://norrismlaughlin.com/ib/wp-content/uploads/sites/26/2017/07/immigration.jpg>

Don't assume when it comes to your legal status : don't mix up academic status with legal status

Most of our international students don't really know the difference between status and legal status. Academic status is handled by the Registrar's Office and is only based on course structure and completion. For example, the **Registrar's Office** helps you with registering for each semester, identifying how many courses you need to complete to be eligible to apply for an internship or OPT, scheduling the date for your comprehensive exam or presentation, issuing grades and transcripts, etc. On the other hand, anything to do with your legal status is handled by the **Admissions Office**, including your legal status (F1 and F2), updating/renewing your I-20, international travel information, work authorization documentation for internships/OPT, transfer in/out, your SEVIS etc.

Your program status and legal status are obviously dependent on each other, but legal status is a more rigid structure and needs to be handled more seriously due to the fact that simple mistakes can result in termination of your status and denial of your applications. I-20s are issued based on the particular program with an estimated time frame. For example, let's say you are enrolled in an MBA program with a regular duration of 2 years, but you need to take foundation courses in the beginning of your studies due to your previous educational background. In this case, your course load might exceed the typical program duration of 2 years. The I-20 will automatically expire after 2 years, so you (the student) must request a renewal of the I-20 before it expires. **Renewal of the I-20** is very important to keep your legal status in the **United States of America**. Whether you are waiting for a presentation date or a comprehensive exam your I-20 must be valid. You need to come to Admissions 45 days before the expiration date on your I-20.

You can't be someone else : don't think your friend's experience will be the same for you

Lots of students get information from friends who went through a similar experience. However, while your situation might look similar, the circumstances might be different than your friends'. Don't assume the advice and experience your friend is giving will be suitable for you. Always check with the admissions office to get exact and updated information. There might be a small difference in your situation that totally alters the outcome of your story. And, you can't blame your friends for your ignorance.

Remember, your legal status is your responsibility, and it affects your future possibilities!

BRAIN TEASERS

THINK OUT OF BOX!

Can you find the
the mistake?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

**YOU'RE RUNNING
A RACE, AND YOU
PASS THE PERSON
IN SECOND PLACE.
WHAT PLACE ARE
YOU NOW?**

Answers published next issue

MATH PUZZLE

			-		66
+		×		-	=
13		12		11	10
×		+		+	-
:		+		×	:

Question & Answer

1. What is unusual about the following words: revive, banana, grammar, voodoo, assess, potato, dresser, uneven?
2. A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?
3. In 1990, a person is 15 years old. In 1995, that same person is 10 years old. How can this be?

Technology and Business Trend Review

Image Source : Hatch

Dr. Walter Kruz
Chairman, MIS Department
Lincoln University

THE WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

Image Source : <https://www.raconteur.net/finance/keeping-up-with-the-robots>

A recent editorial article in Bloomberg Magazine (Aug 14, 2019) brings up an issue of interest to college students. The article is entitled "Employers can't retrain the U.S. by themselves" and it deals with the issue of preparing the workforce for the future, where a great deal of the work will be done by robots. It reveals that more than 7 million job openings remain unfilled and that 20% of employers say that applicants lack the skills necessary for those jobs, not only competency in digital technologies but also in communication and problem-solving skills.

It is also interesting to note that Amazon has recently announced it will spend \$700 million in a six-year program to retrain a third of its U.S. workforce in automation, machine learning, and other technologies. Other companies, such as AT&T, WalMart, and Accenture have embarked upon similar efforts.

These companies understand that a societal effort is required to properly prepare the workforce of the future. This effort would include industry, government, and academic institutions as partners working together toward a common goal: the worker of the future.

How can Lincoln students prepare for this new environment? By ensuring that the elective courses allowed in their programs include the technical subjects mentioned in this article and that their internship choices are pointed in a technical direction whenever possible. One other alternative could be to obtain technical certificates (some are online and at low or no cost) that will make resumes more competitive. And, of course, being proactive in the classroom by asking questions that connect the subject with industry reality.

HOW CAN LINCOLN STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THIS NEW ENVIRONMENT?

HUMANS OF LINCOLN



**MAKING
HIS WAY**

EBUBE OBIOMA

I come from an artistic family. My mum is a gospel recording artist, my kid brother is a recording artist and music producer, and my sister plays the guitar and sings as well. When I was much younger, my mum would sit with me and my siblings on days she had off from work and play the guitar while she sang us one of her many songs. I consider my mum to be my first musical inspiration.



At the age of 21, in my third year of college, I started writing my own music. Mainly love songs, inspired by my relationships at the time. My voice and lyrics managed to catch the attention of my friends and the people around me, who started suggesting that I should consider auditioning for singing competitions.



I joined my local church choir where I gained more experience with music, and more people pushed me to audition for talent shows.



Before The Voice, I auditioned for another popular West African talent show called Project Fame. I made it through the first round of auditions but was unsuccessful later at the TV auditions.

My success at the blind auditions for The Voice was a dream. I got three turns where I thought I might just get one or at most two. I had a lot of support from my family and friends while on the show and made it to the top two.

One funny thing that happened was that the winner and me, the first runner up, had been roommates since the start of the show. We always told each other we would make it to the finals. We would wake up and do voice training together, workout together and even pray together. So it was really exciting when we were announced as winner and first runner up.

One of the downsides to being on TV is that it leaves you vulnerable to all forms of criticism. Nevertheless, it was amazing doing what I love to do in front of thousands of people.



**IT WAS
AMAZING**



**DOING
WHAT I ❤️**

**TO DO IN
FRONT OF**



**THOUSANDS
OF PEOPLE**



GRADUATION - CLASS OF 2019

In Lincoln University's 100th graduation ceremony, the massive arena of the Scottish Rite Temple echoed the success of hundreds of students. It was a proud moment for the University, which has shone relentlessly for a century, as a beacon of hope to aspiring students. There is little doubt that the founder, Officer Benjamin Franklin Lickey, would be amazed by the fighting spirit of this great institution.



The Scottish Rite Temple is a beautiful venue across from by Lake Merritt, and this year it was filled with 153 graduates and hundreds of their family and friends. The ceremony hosted dignitaries and our honorable **President Mikhail Brodsky**. The speakers grounded us with their life experiences and their experiences at Lincoln University. Student performances helped liven up the ceremony, and showed the diverse talents that exist in our University, with dancing and singing traditions from around the globe. **Ms. Assemgul Nurakhmetova**, **Mr. Faisal K. Ahmed** and **Ms. Chandani Ramyamajhi** gave fabulous dance performances. The last entertainment break was songs by **Mr. Ebubechukwu V. Obioma** and **Mr. Bashir M. Rummy**. The keynote speaker was **Mr. Aaron Samson**, an actor, storyteller, marketer and businessman. He shared his personal story and left us with a helpful bit of wisdom: Do not let others define who you are and what you are capable of.

- Ashi Idicula

Congratulations

RECIPIENTS OF DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Doctor of Business Administration Degree

Unenbayar Bayanjargal

Master of Business Administration Degree

Bukunmi Abdullateef Adisa	Hirut Desta Fikiremariam	Xiaoshan Liang
Olalekan Muritala Adisa	Iheb Gabsi	Snezana Lukic
Oluwasholabomi Kafayat Afolabi	Tsegaye Sori Galata	Saltanat Mambetova
Jadesola T. Agarau	Wubet Girma Gebreselassie	Mirabbos Makhmudov
Abimbola Muideen Ahmadu	Anton Generalov	Sevan Samson Samuel Marderosian
Abdufatah Jama Ahmed	Gibu George	Tural Mehdiyev
Faisal Kafeel Ahmed	Yahya Ghaith	Yanit Yoseph Minda
Busayo Seun Akinniranye	Uday Kumar Ghosh	Prafulla Nepal
Femi Ayoola Akinwumi	Pramod Giri	Du Cong Quynh Nguyen
Muhammad Nabil Al Shaman	Matiwos Fufa Godjollo	Spencer Chinedu Nwoke
Oluwatobi Adewale Alade	Niraj Gurung	Mathew Gbemisola Ogayemi
Prince Enyinnaya Alozie	Ekaterina Gushchina	Damilola Esther Omolafe
Oluwadamilola Christiana Anifowose	Asha Gyawali	Felix Oluwafemi Omoniyi
Maneesh Antonyamma Mathias	Ahmed H. A. S. Hassan	Simisola Janet Onikute
MD Rabiul Hasan Arman	Moshood Junior Hassan	Ifeanyi Nelson Onyeocha
Pius Nzotah Asongacha	Shuyuan Hu	Kehinde Tinuke Oshin
Yibrah Negash Atsbaha	Nosakhare Idemudia	Amrit Parajuli
Prampassorn Aumpornpipat	Thanakrit Imjai	Sukanya Phumeesang
Prisadee Autjutamanus	Tanasak Intaraviset	Suphaporn Pongchai
Ramesh Awal	Fadi Nabil Jaber	Pattama Praditpon
Sief Addeen Ali Bani Fawaz	Eniola Florence Jegede	Anand Premkumar
Folake Esther Bankole	Pavitra Jongobklang	Kanicknun Pruangtammakul
Ankhjin Bat-Ireedui	Adithep Jungjaluenchisuk	Krischakorn Putiwattanachai
Begie Segundo Benito	Zafarzhhan Kalanov	Dheeraj Rai
Solomon Fantahun Beyene	Luna Karki	Raju Rai
Maria Boukhval	Prashant Karki	Samriddhi Rana
Ibrahim Oladayo Busari	Rabindra Karki	Chandani Rayamajhi
Shirshendu Chakrabarty	Deepshikha Katara	S R Sakib
Aunchisa Chanpanit	Janak Kumar Katuwal	Orawan Sangmaneedej
Nakul Chaulagain	Satnam Kaur	Kanoksak Sappakittkuntorn
Chutatip Chinsakul	Oluwadara Kehinde	Goumati Ganga Satyal
Vladimir Davydenko	Naphatsawan Khuanprasert	Waddah Abdulkhaleq Shamsan
Kidist Derza Dawana	Maureen Inara Kigimo	Jiang Jiang Shan
Ganzaya Delger	Rediet Terefe Kitaw	Bijay Sharma
Gurveer Dhillon	Ankita Koirala	Hansha Raj Sharma
Salid Ditduang	Uplaksha Kumar	Abdur Rahman Sikder
Thitimaporn Duangjan	Tanakij Kusonthammarat	Siljo Simon
Bold Enkhtuya	Bijaya Laxmi Lama	Satendra Singh
Kingsley Ojinnaka Ezekiel	Noppanat Lertjirakul	Tanawat Siridechnawanunt

Abiola Titilope Sulaiman
Jutinun Suradinkura
Ayush Tamir
Ashish Tamrakar
Cherry Taraphaisarnsuk
Nanthawan Thakulsawad
Priyanka Thapa

Raunak Jung Thapa
Swapna Thapa
Pratishtha Theeng
Wararat Thongyoy
Nursultan Torekhanov
Tin Trang
Quynh Ngoc Khanh Truong

Harpreet Uppal
Tesfaye Fekadu Wolde
Habtom Tsegay Wouneh
Xudong Yang
Nuchsara Zaepoo
Yididiya Damtew Zeleke

Master of Science in Finance Management Degree

Ayotunde Samuel Fasanmi
Mary Ifeoluwa Otegbade

Dharma Prasad Paudel
Chomphunut Saengphayung

Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration Degree

Duy Khanh Nguyen

Bashir Ahmed Rummy

Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Imaging Degree

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Eyerusalem Merid Gebreyesus
Farah Homa Gulparast

Tarana Jamili
Ellyse Magsino
Lina Moradi

Maftuna Mukhamadiev
Gloria Elizabeth Rodriguez
Lorayna Grace Santos

Certificates

Xiaowang Chen
Nuo Nuo Cheng
Hairong Huang
Xiaohang Huang

Deyi Liao
Ziqing Ma
Xiaoming Xie
Yu Yi

Hua Yin
Yunyun Zeng





FEW PICTURES FROM GRADUATION 2019





CRUSH OR NO CRUSH?

For those who are well-versed with John Denver's song "Leaving on a jet plane," I hate to break it to you guys but this story involves a bus not a plane and a crucifyingly long journey from my hometown to the forever dull capital city of Nepal, Kathmandu. Most of us have felt, at one time or another, that gut wrenching feeling of going back to school from a fun summer vacation. No matter how badly you wanted to stay in the sound sanctuary of your home, you have to dive into your books with dedication and sincerity.

This journey soon gained momentum when the bus went crusading through the narrow, downhill roads of the southern lowland of Nepal, called the Terai. With the lack of adequate amusement parks in the country, this is where we seem to get the roller coaster experience, by racing on the highways of Terai bumping and bolting on its ditches and deformities at a NASCAR driver speed.

The anxiety of returning to classes and the anticipation of the painfully boring journey had minimized any conversation between me and my brother. However, I decided to lighten the journey by initiating a conversation with her. We talked about many things, from our favorite movies to fiction novels, finally winding down to discussing our lives, particularly how we felt about the idea of love.

The conversation soon turned into a debate and I stated, "You cannot predict when you have a crush on someone. They happen by chance". A girl turned back and glanced at me with a murderous look. Maybe she felt we were talking about her. Maybe she could relate to our conversation because she was going through a recent crush or breakup. Maybe she was contemplating if it was true. I stared right back into her eyes and telepathically tried to convey to her that I stand by what I said. She saw that I wouldn't withdraw from the game so, to my surprise, she mellowed down her glance. I had won the first round.

I pretended to look elsewhere. I didn't want to give her the satisfaction of ignoring me. Like how men like to say, "ignore them before they ignore you". I won the second round. She wasn't happy. Surprisingly, I wasn't too. Did I just have a crush on her? The dilemma filled my thoughts.

As cold wind hit my face once in a while when our bus driver decided to speed up, I felt like it was cooling my temperature that was scorching due to the intensity of our conversation and how I was feeling about the idea of what a crush really is.

I had to get some rest, so I decided to close my eyes and take a nap but failed to do so as the word "crush" bounced inside my brain. No matter how hard I tried, I kept thinking about what it meant to have a crush. All my crushes from the past came flooding back to my mind, but I failed to stay focused on one person. But the irony of the situation was that I had never been on a date. Ever!

You must be wondering if I am kidding, but no, it is what it is.

In the back of my mind, the common belief of most of friends echoed in my mind, "If you don't go on a date till a certain age, there is something wrong with you". My thoughts fought back, echoing, "No I am a normal person.". My thoughts went bolder, "Stop wasting time on these stupid thoughts." After a long battle with my thoughts I decided to resign from my job of recollecting my past crushes, which I came to the conclusion that I never really had, and got finally my much needed sleep. I had almost descended to a state of sleep, but I woke up from the screeching sound of the brakes. The bus had halted at its first stop. I looked outside the window admiring the scenic beauty of the hills, my gaze met a girl from the local village who was getting onto the bus...

- Anonymous

Continued in the next Issue...

Is a crush accidental or predictable?

Write your answers to chronicle@lincolnuca.edu (answers published next issue)

Ana Maria Gower, our very own alumna and the Director of Student Services, is organizing a grand art opening reception of her new studio in Berkeley on 8th Street. She is a mixed media artist and will be representing her woman series at her reception on October 31st. She believes women have a unique power to shape lives. From birth, to death, every step of the way, we are shaped by the women around us. The nature of influence may vary, the result of it is always meaningful.

In this series, she has created portraits of women who shaped her destiny and made her who she is today.

Ana Maria teaches art class every Wednesday at the student lounge. She believes that art is therapeutic and relaxing, gets people together to socialize, and teaches people how to be creative.



OPENING *ART* RECEPTION

ANA MARIA GOWER



“Art is all
around us”
-ANA

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