

Suggestions for Website Redesign

Student Housing, Student Activities

Web Redesign Meeting, June 25, 2009

by Gail Lu, Coordinator of Student Services

Student Housing

Current website:

Campus Resources

INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES | TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION | LANGUAGE TEACHER EDUCATION | INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS | RESEARCH CENTERS | LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

Student Services

Student Housing

New Student Webinars

Health Insurance

Student Activities

Local Resources

Students with Children

Disability Services

LGBT Resources

MAP-Peer Mentoring Program

[home](#) | [offices & services](#) | [student services](#) | [housing](#) [Printable Version](#)

STUDENT HOUSING

Good to Know

- The Monterey Institute **does not have dormitories** or on-campus housing.
- About **half of our students live in rental units** where they go to class by walking, biking or going a short distance by bus/car.
- **90% of new students find housing within 3-5 days** after arriving.
- We provide **exclusive short-term & long-term rental databases**.
- **To access the databases:** must be admitted to a MA program and/or Summer Language Program & pay the deposit.

Types of Housing

- Rooms in private homes
- Houses shared with other students
- Shared apartments
- Private apartments with one or more bedrooms or with one all-purpose room (studio)
- Furnished & unfurnished housing is available

Watch Our Helpful Video

The Student Affairs Housing Database

The Student Affairs Office maintains a long-term and short-term housing database for Monterey Institute students and confirmed, incoming students (individuals who have been admitted and have paid their tuition deposit). **Access to this protected database is obtained only through the Student Affairs Office.** Please contact us for the link: email: student.affairs@miis.edu Tel: 831-647-4128.

Other Web-Based Housing Resources

[Viva International Homestays](#) | Web Link
[Nationwide Roommate Referral Service](#) | Web Link
[Monterey Apartments and Rentals.com](#) | Web Link
[Monterey County Rental List](#) | Web Link
[Craigslist Monterey](#) | Web Link

Additional Housing Information & Resources

[Property Management Companies](#) | Acrobat PDF
[Tips for Securing Housing](#) | Acrobat PDF
[Setting up Utilities](#) | Acrobat PDF
[Housing: Frequently Asked Questions](#) | Acrobat PDF
[California Tenants Rights](#) | Web Link
[Temporary Accommodations](#) | Acrobat PDF
[Inventory Checklist](#) | Acrobat PDF
[Temporary Housing Furniture Rental with Brooks Furniture Rental Co.](#) | Web Link

Contact Information

Ashey Fera Arrocha
Director of Student Services
Student Affairs Office
Monterey Institute of International Studies

Suggested changes to Student Housing website:

Monterey Institute of International Studies
An affiliate of Middlebury College

العربية Español
中文 Français
Deutsche 日本語
English Русский

Search MIIS Go

Students Alumni
Faculty & Staff Employers

About Admissions Academics Community Careers Giving Offices & Services

Housing

(Click on the blue text for more information)

The Monterey Institute **does not have dormitories** or on-campus housing. **Many of our students live in rental units** where they go to class by walking, biking or going a short distance by bus/car.

Types of housing vary from rooms in private homes, houses shared with other students, and apartments and more. Learn more by checking out our [Tips for Securing Housing](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions about Housing](#). To begin your housing search, you can start by arranging [Temporary Accommodations](#) for when you arrive.

International Students:
Would you like to live with an American Family?

Try Viva International Homestays!

MIIS Casa: Students show you their housing...

MIIS Casa - One bedroom

Begin your search

Monterey Craigslist, Monterey Herald, Local Property Management Companies, Monterey County Rental List and Monterey Apartments and Rentals.com can be used to search for rentals. Our Monterey Institute **private housing database** is available for confirmed, incoming students who have paid their tuition deposits. For access to the private housing database, [contact us](#).

If you will be with us for a short time only, please check out our [Hints for Short Term Housing](#).

After you've found a rental

Setting up Utilities is a must. Also, check your [California Tenant's Rights](#) if you have any questions about being a tenant. If you need to rent furniture temporarily, [Brooks Furniture Rental Co.](#) can be of assistance.

Ask the Office of Student Services if you have any questions or need advice on your housing search.

Hear more advice from Student Services...

Notes: Blue text indicates web links to pages, pdf documents and other housing portals. Peach colored text is used to draw attention highlighted text. Instead of listing the contact information, the text links for “contact us” and “ask the Office of Student Services” should go to one page that lists our contact info. The contact info page should include hyperlinks for emailing Student Services and possibly a chat with a student services representative box if we can do online chat boxes on the new website.

One concern that I have is that housing portal links to Craigslist and others need to be included on the page but will send the viewer off site. Also, I was not sure how (or if I should) instruct people on how to access the links behind the blue text, so I included it under the header in smaller font for now. Also, per a conversation with Patricia, it would be great to make this page even more “international student friendly.” Please give me lots of suggestions about this!

Links on page include: [Tips for Securing Housing](#), [Frequently Asked Questions about Housing](#), [Temporary Accommodations](#), [Monterey Craigslist](#), [Monterey Herald](#), [Local Property Management Companies](#), [Monterey County Rental List](#), [Monterey Apartments and Rentals.com](#), [Setting up Utilities](#), [California Tenant's Rights](#), [Brooks Furniture Rental Co.](#) and “Ask the Office of Student Services”. Proposed: New page or PDF titled “Hints for Short Term Housing”.

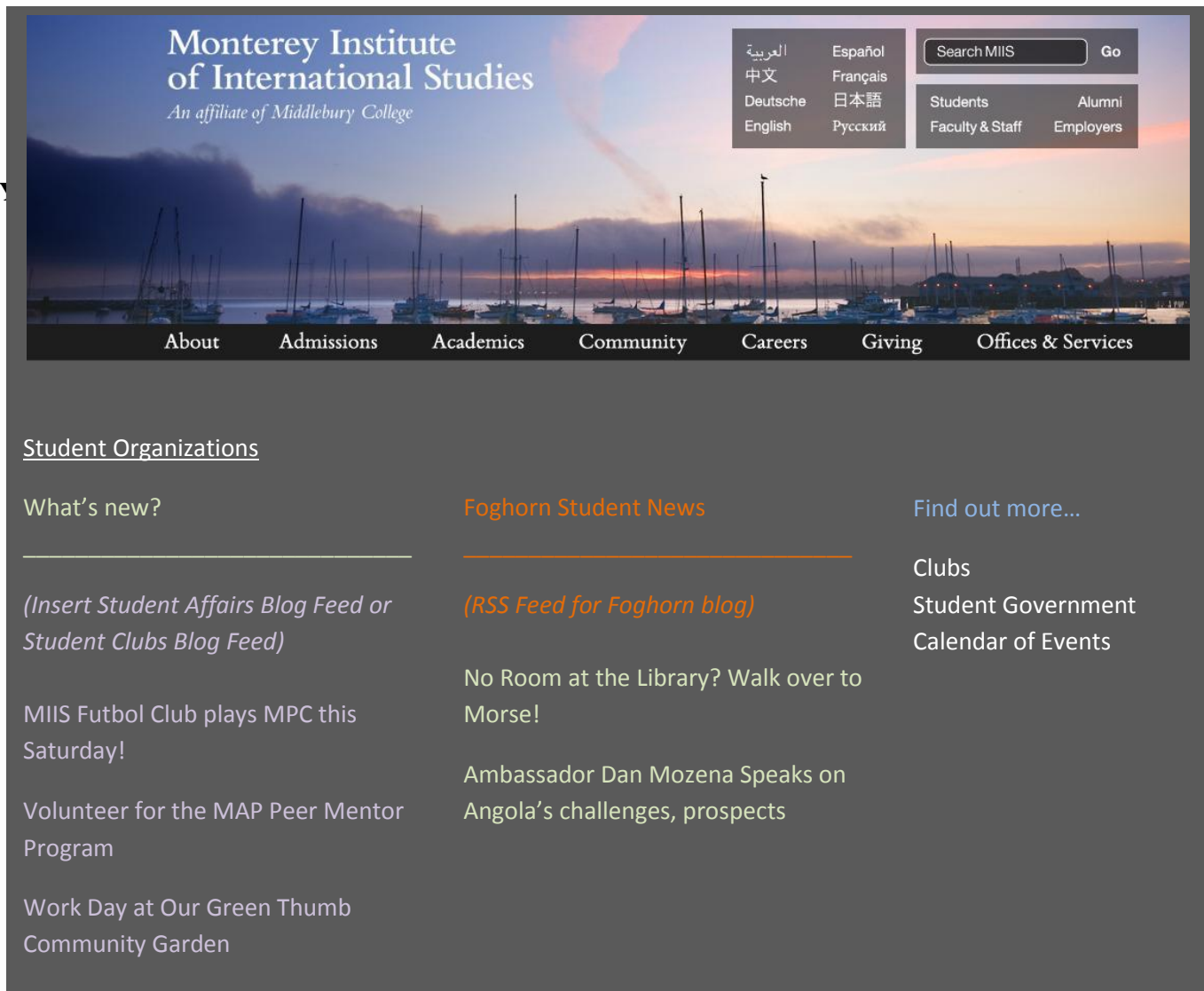
Student Activities

Current website:

The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with categories: INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES, TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION, LANGUAGE TEACHER EDUCATION, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, RESEARCH CENTERS, and LANGUAGE PROGRAMS. A left sidebar lists 'Student Services' with links to Student Housing, New Student Webinars, Health Insurance, Student Activities, Local Resources, Students with Children, Disability Services, LGBT Resources, and MAP-Peer Mentoring Program. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail (home | offices & services | student services | student activities) and a 'Printable Version' link. The page title is 'STUDENT ACTIVITIES' with sub-links for Annual Events, Clubs/Organizations, Things To Do, and Student Government. Under 'ANNUAL EVENTS', the 'Follies Talent Show' is highlighted, with a description of the event. Below it, the 'International Bazaar' is described as another annual tradition. On the right, a testimonial from Luan Dalipi, an MBA 2007 graduate from Prishtina, Kosovo, is displayed with a photo and a 'Read More' button.

Suggested Changes to Student Activities Website

Separate out “Things to Do” and put in section “Life in Monterey” (see current page). Integrate links into text on a “Things to Do” page instead of listing the links as we do now. Keep info about events on RSS Feed of Student Affairs blog updates rather than static on page. Include mini Calendar of Events link in sidebar among other links.



Notes: Change Student Activities to Student Organizations. RSS feeds for blogs are based upon mockups done by White Whale. I think these feeds would be appropriate for this page as it gives current and prospective students a page that is constantly updated with student activities occurring on campus. They can use it as a way to begin to navigate events on campus. Also, it keeps the page dynamic.

On the right is a menu bar to subpages. Subpages can include:

Clubs (Include list of clubs, info for how to reserve space for events and start up a club)

Student Government (Featuring annual events description and including photos and video of annual events. Include spotlights of student government members as well)

Calendar of Events (Link sends user to main MIIS calendar of events)

We should avoid duplicating info on the site, i.e. calendar of events links to main calendar on website.