

Realize. It starts with you.

The upcoming holiday season will be like no other for two international students at the University of Regina.

Rebeca Araujo Soares and Marcel Cruz, students from Brazil, will spend the holidays in the Queen City. Though far from home, the two are finding the adjustment to prairie life easy. Both sought assistance from UR International – an office on campus that ensures international students have appropriate support to transition to campus life.

“UR International helped me to adjust to living in Regina as a new resident,” says Cruz. “UR International set-up events for me to attend to meet other international students, making me feel at home. They also helped me with challenges like finding transportation and a place to buy groceries.”

Soares agrees saying, “UR International was very helpful. Having the support there when I needed help to find my classes, set-up my accommodation in residence, and open a bank account has made my transition much easier. They answered all my questions, like what kind of clothes I needed to bring for winter.”

First-year and fourth-year industrial engineering students, Soares and Cruz, are attending the University of Regina as part of the Science Without Borders (*Ciencias Sem Fronteiras*) Scholarship program – a joint initiative between the governments of Canada and Brazil. Sixty-five Brazilian students are on campus participating in the program which covers the students' expenses.

Both students will participate in an internship as part of the program, which will allow them to get to know the City well. Their first time in Canada, the two note how polite everyone in Regina have been to them.

They hope to connect with new friends and fellow students throughout the holidays to carry out some traditions from home – exchanging gifts, eating a large meal, and helping others who are less fortunate by donating food or clothing.

“I hope I can do the same traditions that we do back home here in Regina,” says Soares.

This semester more than 1,700 international students from approximately 60 countries around the globe are studying at the University of Regina. In addition to assisting these international students, UR International houses the Global Learning Centre which offers academic support, intercultural skill development, and many cultural activities. UR International also helps domestic students to study abroad.

For more information about UR International, visit www.uregina.ca/international.



Marcel Cruz

Rebeca Araujo Soares

WHAT'S HAPPENING

December 4

Last day of classes for Fall 2013 term.

December 14 10:00 a.m.

Franco Club

Join the Conversation!

Looking for a chance to speak French in Regina? Grab a coffee and join the new Franco Club of the Institut français. Practice and improve your spoken French in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

Location: Riddell Centre, U of R main campus

Admission: free

For more information call Ken Bos at (306) 337-2616.

December 20

Last day of exams for Fall 2013 term.

December 24

The University of Regina closes at 3:00 p.m. for the holidays and re-opens January 2, 2014.

January 7

First day of classes for Winter 2014 term.

Happy Holidays!

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