INTERNATIONAL VOICES

Pangea 2007, Carleton College
Welcome to Carleton College, class of 2011!

On behalf of all Carleton international students, Pangea would like to welcome you to our small but complete community of Carleton. Your next four years here will be challenging, but definitely one of the most exciting periods of your life. And even though it might be challenging, PANGEA, the International Student Organization, as well as the Office of International Students Programs and the International Student Orientation leaders will be there to assist you throughout your stay here.

PANGEA consists of a group of students, who support international students, raise cross-cultural awareness on campus, and enhance interaction amongst international and American students. As you will be a part of our Carleton community very soon, we are more than anxious to meet and know you! We know that you have a lot of questions about Carleton. So, here is a little preview about Carleton and student life. We hope you get a feel for the place where you will live and learn for the next four years!

Enjoy your summer and hope to see you fall term!
Welcome once again to experiencing all colors of life at Carleton.
Eagerly waiting to meet you,
Your Pangea Officers,
Mio, Prakriti, Sicelo, Noryang and Subinay.
ABOUT PETRA
ISO
SAYLES HILL
THE CHAPEL
BURTON DINING HALL
LANGUAGE & DINING HALL
MUSSER HALL
DAVIS HALL
BURTON HALL
Nourse HALL
MYERS HALL
WATSON HALL
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DACIE MOSES HOUSE
ARE YOU ARTSY?
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CMC
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About Petra

It is such a privilege to write about our International Students Program Director, Petra Crosby (German). She is our mother on campus. She takes care of everything from your immigration status to your tax situation to your academics and personal lives. She will make sure that every one of you is coping well in the Carleton environment and will listen to your problems. The day you arrive to the Minneapolis-St Paul International Airport, you will see a lady holding a small sign that says “Carleton College”.

That is…

Petra! She will warmly greet you, even though she may be tired, and makes sure everyone is alright. During ISO, she will be constantly looking after your needs and any problems that you may encounter while adjusting to the new environment. Where would you find a person who is willing to put all her energy to 30+ people whom she has never known except through application documents?

After ISO, she will continue to have contact with you and have a little talk during the first term to make sure that you have adjusted alright. Even when she is super busy (which is most of the time), if you have a problem and need help, she will manage time to listen to you. And, at every end of the term, she holds an international students dinner at her house, Headley Cottage, just near the Faculty Club. Her welcoming house invites you to meet all the other international students you have not met yet or have not seen since ISO.

The support and energy that she devotes to us is amazing. You sometimes wonder, how on earth is she able to juggle so many things and yet, care about all the international students on campus? There is something extraordinary about her commitment to the international students which no one can imitate. That is why I would personally like to thank her for the time and energy that she has devoted to us international students.

Three Cheers for Petra!

Mio Shimma ‘10
International Student

ISO is one of the most exciting and precious gifts you will be entitled to as an international student upon arriving at Carleton. During the five-day-long orientation, specifically designed to assist incoming international students to settle in to Carleton, you will not only meet other international students from the Class of 2011, but also Petra Crosby and a number of international upper classmates who will be your ISO leaders. Since ISO takes place at the very beginning of the academic year, you will find enough time to settle into your room, open bank accounts, explore the town of Northfield, tour the small but exciting Carleton campus, make some good friends, and much more. Do look forward to ISO as this is one of the few occasions during which you will not be under any type of academic pressure but

What people have said in the past about their ISO experiences...

Getting to know other international students who had similar concerns made me realize that we are all into this whole new Carleton world together. Getting to know the international upperclassmen also helped us to get acquainted with this new world. They helped so much. The most important thing about ISO is that I realized that I’m not alone and people will be on my side. I am thankful for the experiences I had during ISO.

-Mio Shimma ‘10 Japan

ISO was a really great experience, and one of the warmest welcomes I’ve ever received. My parents came to see me off, and after the first day, my mom said, “I’m so relaxed now, all my worries have vanished!” Apart from all the fun and the mixing around, meeting new people and sharing our experiences, it was the best way to begin college. It was simply great!

-Avantika Jalan ‘10 India

Although I had some previous experience in the U.S. through attending an American boarding school, the transition to Carleton would have been quite difficult without ISO. Starting from having breakfast together in the morning, opening a bank account at a local bank, trip to the city, and the Minnesota State Fair, ISO helped me find my right place at Carleton through various events. I am grateful to ISO for the fellowship it has allowed me as well. Lots of people I got to know at the ISO are still the ones with whom I get together often. ISO is a once-in-a-Carleton-time event one should never miss out on. Would I do it all over again? Of course! - Wookie Hwang ‘09 Korea
You’ll be very familiar with Sayles by the time your freshman year is over. This is where your mailbox is located, as well as the post office, which is where you’ll be picking up care-packages from friends and family back home! Sayles is also home to the snack bar, which sells a variety of food ranging from cookies to organic yogurt, salad and sandwiches. You can buy food from the snack bar using your flex-dollars on your OneCard when you want to take a break from the dining hall food. You’ll also find the Carleton Bookstore across the hall from the snack bar, where you can go to buy school supplies, spirited Carleton clothing, and your textbooks. Upper Sayles is a nice place to play pool, ping-pong, or study any time day and night. Sayles often holds dances, and in the spring, the International Festival is also held here. The local florist comes to sell flowers every Friday, so make sure to buy a flower for someone special!

The Chapel

The Chapel is one of the most prominent buildings on campus. The Chapel is where you’ll be welcomed as Carleton students during New Student Week. Every Friday, all classes last only an hour so that people can go to Convocation held in the Chapel—this is something you should take advantage of if you want to listen to some truly inspiring, thought-provoking lectures! Convo is open to everyone, and are not mandatory, so you can go anytime a visiting speaker’s topic seems interesting to you. The Chapel has beautiful stained glass windows and holds a variety of religious services, so make sure to look into that once you arrive.
Burton Dining Hall

The Burton Dining Hall is located in the Complex, so people living on the west side of campus usually eat here. (Dorms on the west side include Musser, Davis and Burton.) Although Burton is commonly known as the dining hall for upper-classmen and athletes, freshmen may also enjoy the dining hall’s unique qualities. If you find yourself involved in sports, you might be eating here quite often with your teammates. Or, if you simply prefer low ceilings, brick walls and wooden tables and chairs, Burton might be the place where you’ll catch most of your meals. People say the food is better here than in the LDC, but you’ll have to decide for yourself!

Emily Cousins ‘10

Language & Dining Center

The LDC is a fairly new building that contains the language classrooms and one of the two dining halls on campus. On one side of the LDC, the huge windows overlook the mini-Bald Spot. Go further in towards the other side and you will face a great view of the Lyman Lakes, the three islands and the Rec center in the distance. The windows create a bright, open atmosphere, unlike Burton’s dimly-lit, tavern-like mood. Take your pick. If you go upstairs, you will find Petra’s office, and also the International Student Lounge, which is a nice place hang out or study. (right: chairs outside of the LDC after a night of snow!)

Emily Cousins ‘10
Do you want to live in a freshmen dorm? Or do you want to choose a dorm that is really close to the town? Confused? Well, don’t be. If you have been chosen for Musser Hall, you will enjoy both options. Mostly freshmen live in Musser, so you can expect to get really close with your floormates. It is also very near to the Burton Dining Hall. Moreover, Musser Hall is the closest dorm to town. This will give you an excellent excuse and opportunity to get out of Carleton and enjoy some fresh air once in a while. Musser is a great place to spend your first year. Therefore, be excited to live in Musser!

Prakriti Thapa Magar ‘10

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You are the lucky one my friend. Davis Hall is one of the Halls that people really want to be in. You live in the Complex, i.e. no need to wear tons of layers to get food, to check your mail and to meet up with people at Sayles-Hill, the main campus center. The Burton dining hall, Burton Hall, Sevy, and Sayles are all connected. You will have a sweet life during winter and even sweeter during spring since the Bald Spot is just a few seconds away. Another thing to note. There is a private bathroom between two rooms, which means that you don’t have worry about towels dropping or forgetting your whole shower kit. Plus, there is an air-conditioner in each room so you can adjust the room temperature according to your liking. Now how does that sound?

Mio Shimma’10
If you get an opportunity to live in Nourse, you should consider yourself one of the most fortunate freshmen. First and foremost, Nourse is situated at the center of the campus. This might not sound like a big deal now but – trust me – you will be very glad for this in winter. Moreover, it is the closest dorm to Language and Dining Center (LDC). This means you can run to LDC with a t-shirt and slippers in -30 F outside to eat or print your paper. Also, there are air-conditioners in each room. So, you can regulate the temperature of your room as you wish and not freeze because the common regulator is not enough. Another thing I really like of Nourse is its quiet environment. It is highly unlikely that you will have problems of not being able to study because of noise. However, I do not imply that Nourse is dull. RAs (Resident Assistants) always plan lots of fun activities and make sure to help you in need and that you are enjoying your stay in the floor. So, if you have been chosen to live in Nourse, you could not ask for more!
Believe it or not, Watson is actually the tallest building on campus. It has 7 floors—but that doesn’t mean you have to climb up the stairs to get to your 7th floor room (there’s an elevator... unless you want to work out!) Also, except for the singles, all the rooms are reserved for the freshmen, the floor is quite small and the walls are quite thin. This means you get to know your floormates pretty well. Even though it is not as close as Myers or Nourse, the LDC is just a minute or two away. You will start to love your location once winter comes. One more thing - if you hate bugs, and you are on the 7th floor... you are the luckiest person, since upper floors of Watson tend to be bug-free.

Mio Shimma ‘10

Myers Hall might have the ugly exterior and tiled walls. But, there is a compensation i.e. you do not need a whiteboard on your door!! The best thing is that the LDC is 30 seconds walk from your room door. That means dinner during winter is not a pain and going to breakfast while wearing your PJs and hurrying to class are totally acceptable. Also, you will have an awesome view of either the Evans hall or Nourse Hall, which are both beautiful buildings, as well as the mini bald spot right in front of you, waiting for you to play Frisbee or to just take a nap on a sunny, warm day. You are a lucky person if you find out that you will be living in Myers!

Mio Shimma ‘10
Goodhue Hall, for most people who don’t live there, is a sad, dismal place. For people who do live there, it is absolutely amazing. Its distance from the rest of the campus does come with benefits. Goodhue floors become really close communities. Goodhue also has the Superlounge— the largest space on campus for students to hang out, aside from Sayles. With a wide-screen TV, plenty of sofas, and a pool table, it is always a fun place to be. Superbowl parties, movie marathons, and parties happen all the time in the Superlounge. Goodhue is also one of the few dorms with public balconies, making it easy to step outside for a view (or to test whether you have enough clothes on for the weather!)

Roommate Experience

Every first-year Carl is paired up with a roommate. Living with a complete stranger may seem overwhelming at first. However, that is exactly why you want to be good friends with your roommate. When you first meet your roommate, do not feel hesitant to smile and introduce yourself. Feel free to ask simple questions. Talk about your passions, hobbies, academic interests, families, friends and concerns you might have as an incoming Carl. Just keep in mind that you and your roommate commonly share the anxieties as first-year students. It is also important to establish some of the common “room-keeping” rules. Be honest and clear about telling your roommate your desirable time to sleep, your wish to maybe keep some food in your room, or your plans to invite friends over. At the same time, be aware that your roommate certainly has needs too and do respect his/her suggestions. Last but not least, BE EXCITED that it is an opportunity for you to make another life-long friend at Carleton!
Parish House

Parish House will seem like home during your first week at Carleton, during International Student Week. Parish is where you’ll first be acquainted with many of your ISO leaders and fellow incoming students. Although you may not have the opportunity or reason to go to Parish once the school year begins, you might want to think about living there your sophomore year. Parish House is also known as the “Language House”—all the language assistants live there, and the students who live there are selected based on their interest and passion in a foreign language, which can also be their first native language. Parish also occasionally hosts parties and nice dinners, so be sure to stop by!

Tobias Grunthal

Dacie Moses House

If you ever get the urge to bake cookies in the wee hours of the morning, or at any time during the day, Dacie’s is the place to go. Dacie Moses House has baking supplies and ingredients that will satisfy the requirements for your favorite cookie recipes! It’s all free to use, but the only rule is that what is baked in Dacie’s stays in Dacie’s. As a result, there are often cookies left in the cookie box, if you’re lucky. The living room has a wide variety of board games, a piano, and some comfortable couches where you can lounge around as you wait for your yummy creations to bake. Be sure to visit Dacie’s at least once during your freshman year, it’ll be worth it!

Emily Cousins ‘10
Are you artsy?

Are you a singer? A dancer? An actor? Or maybe even just an aficionado of the arts. Right next to Hulings is the Music and Drama Center, made up of the Concert Hall and Arena Theater. Linked underground by passage ways that also hold rehearsal rooms, 11 practice rooms and an art gallery, the 450-seat Arena Theater and the 500-seat Concert Hall are right at the center of Carleton’s arts scene. A two minute walk down from Arena, is the 96-seat Nourse Little Theater, home to the Experimental Theater Board (ETB). Student-run theater organizations abound, with the main ones including the Carleton Players, Student Musical Theater (SMuT) and ETB. Also popular are student comedy groups: Cujokra, The Harriers and Lenny Dee Players.

Interested in music? With two classrooms, 12 studios and a Music Listening Room, the Old Music Hall also provides a setting for musicians of all kinds in addition to the Concert Hall. A dance studio equipped with mirrors and barres in both Cowling Gymnasium and the Rec provide facilities for dancers here at Carleton. The ever popular Ebony II, a student-run dance group that performs once a term, is open to dancers of all levels. Carleton also has its own semi-professional Semaphore Repertory Dance Company which caters to more advanced dancers, and the student-run dance company Whoa!, which brings in dancers of all backgrounds. No matter what your interest is, you will always find something here to appeal to your artsy side.

Elizabeth Tan ’10
CMC

First thing to note. The computer labs here are open 24 hours. Which means you can come back from a party on a weekday and directly go to the CMC (Center for Mathematics and Computing) to print out your paper or e-mail your friends that you had an awesome night.

The building mainly has the Math and Computer Science Departments and the Math Skill Center where Ross is waiting for your question in math with his coffee. The computer rooms are brightly lit and are open everyday. In case you want to pull an all-nighter, this would be a good place because you will find similar people. Along with the academics is the ITS and SCIC. If you have any questions about computers... go there!! The student workers are there to help you out with any computer questions you have.

Mio Shimma ‘10

THE WRITE PLACE

Worried about your writing skills? Don’t be! The Write Place is there for you to help writing a paper. From organization to building evidence to clarity to checking grammars, the Writing Assistants are there to improve your writing skills. They are all friendly people and you will start to get fond of them pretty soon. From my own personal experience, I have stopped counting how many times they helped me through my awfully unorganized papers… So don’t be shy and say that you need help because writing papers will be probably be an integral part of your student life for the next four years.

Mio Shimma’10
Library

From the outside, the library, a.k.a. the “Libe” seems just another boring little building. Then, you walk in and you wonder why there is a penguin displayed in a glass case. Tour around and you see signs indicating that you are actually on the 4th floor. You will pass by bed-size couches, fancy electronic equipments and huge glass windows with an incredible view of different sides of campus. As you go down the stairs, it becomes more and more quiet. Welcome to the Gould Library, named after the artic explorer and Carleton Professor/President Laurence McKinley Gould (who brought the penguin). It’s filled with the best couches on campus and has tons of crazy technology that you may or may not use. Built on a hill, the main entrance is actually the top and biggest floor. Each floor is divided by quietness level, and the setting is very diverse. Every floor also has dozens of little cubbies with a comfortably large desk-working space. The Library also has a special system you can use to check out books from the St. Olaf Library, so you will never be lacking material for your next research assignment.

Fang Yu Lee ’10

Career Center

You may be wondering why you should know about the Career Center as a freshman, but it is always good to start using this place early. This is the place you should definitely visit if you have questions about jobs, interviews, writing resumes, graduate schools and a lot more. They have a very friendly, supportive staff that is more than willing to help students out. It always helps to start thinking about internships and possible off-campus studies in your freshman year. The Career Center will help you plan ahead of time and helps you through in each stage. It is always better to complete each stage than rushing through everything at the end. You have the opportunities to learn useful skills when you are applying for a job or an internship. It is never too early to visit the Career Center.

SICELO MASANGO ’10
Sports at Carleton

Carleton offers amazing sporting opportunities to all students including those without any previous experience. So don’t worry if you are one of those students who have never played volleyball, cricket, soccer, basketball, squash, rugby, tennis etc. Ranging from ultimate Frisbee to varsity level sports, there is something for everyone for sure. You will also have an opportunity to meet lots of people outside the class and establish long-lasting connections. You can form your own team to play intramurals and in that way, you learn a lot of organizational skills and importance of team work. Carleton is a small college, but you will be amazed by the number of skilled players Carleton has. There are winter sports like hockey or Carleton tradition, “Broomball”, which prepare you for something adventurous if you have never played winter sports before. So, join in the fun and sharpen your skills for “a healthy mind and a healthy body.”

Sicelo Masango ‘10

The Recreation Center

The recreation center attracts a wide range of students and faculty members from the early birds even to the oh-I don’t-feel-like-working-out-before-9pm types of people. The Rec is well-equipped with the fitness center, the three racquet ball/ squash courts, the climbing wall, bouldering cave, the indoor track, tennis/basketball/indoor soccer courts, and an aerobics room that hosts some P.E. classes like yoga and fitness training. This facility provides the Carleton student body with more than they could ever ask for. Take advantage of these great facilities when you want to take a break from all that studying!

Kye Hyun “Ken” Jeon ‘10
Ahh... the weather. What shall I start with? That in winter, the temperature goes down to -40 Fahrenheit? Which basically means that the same in degrees Celsius? Or that you can see snow in October? Well... these things are true... but Fall Term and Spring terms are always nice. The temperature is just right that you can play Frisbee at the bold spot, go for a run at the arb or just plainly take a nap or chill with your roommates at the bald spot. You will love the weather here. Even in Winter, you can have fun in the snow and push your friends into the snow which is always fun. So don't worry about the weather. If I can survive (I lived in Singapore for 5 years), any one can!

Mio Shimma ‘10

Alternative Life at Carleton

Carleton is not all about studying. You can get involved in so many things if you would only look for it. For example, my everyday schedule on weekdays would be like... running at 6 am, classes until 1 or 2 pm, play the bass, play Frisbee, rock climb, work out, play basket ball, play in the IM teams, swim, and play pool until 5am! On Mondays, I attend the social dance class, Tuesdays I have a radio show, Wednesdays there is a pool tournament in Farmington, Thursdays I attend Japanese and Russian tea and Fridays there are a lot of parties going on! On weekends, I take a very nice sleep until 2pm, go to the Korean Adoptee Program and drink a cup of coffee at the Northfield Library and relax. People are engaged in various activities such as musical and theater productions, sports, and volunteering. Carleton gives you great opportunities to either find or start activities of your own creation. Of course, Carleton is where you study (kind of...), but again, it is not just all about studying. It is more about having opportunities and enjoying them! Since now you have those opportunities too, it's your turn to enjoy them!

Eugene Nishi ‘10
Being an English major with a passion for writing, I’ve always wanted to see how books came into being. The summer of my sophomore year, I got exactly what I wanted when I started my internship with Farrar, Straus & Giroux in Manhattan. Being the naïve intern that I was, I only wanted to work in one place, the adult editorial department. Little did I realize that a lot more is involved in making a book than simply editing a manuscript.

FSG has always worked at giving the interns a holistic view of the publishing world. For a couple of days a week, I worked in the Operations Department of the publishing house. Sure, it may sound boring but I found the most interesting literary tidbits that a book lover would die for. For the duration of my internship, I worked on a project between the house and the New York Public Library. My task was to go through all the correspondence between the publisher Roger Straus and the house’s numerous authors. During this project, I was fortunate enough to come across a handwritten note from Truman Capote, of “In Cold Blood” fame and later of course, the film “Capote.”

When I wasn’t working through these files, I worked in my dream department, Adult Editorial. I read 300 page long manuscripts in a day and wrote reader feedback on them. At the end of the reader feedback, I would recommend whether the manuscript should move any further in the house or whether we should reject the submission. However, I also had to do what many would term as grunt work, which is a part of any internship. I made countless trips to giant copy machine, dropped off parcels at FedEx pickup spots, stuffed publicity envelopes for new books and arranged extra copies of books in the FSG Library.

Finally, I worked in the Design Department and Children’s Publicity. Working in Design was particularly interesting because sometimes a great cover is all you need to get a potential buyer to pick up a book. I pay a lot more attention to covers and even what kinds of fonts are used in a book. While I initially had no interest in FSG’s award-winning Children’s Department, I realized that selling a children’s book is as difficult, if not more than a book for adults. It required even more work to find specific areas like children’s museums where the books may meet potential buyers.

How much did I get paid? Not one cent. I ended up spending a great deal of money on my monthly Subway pass and on life in the city. However, I gained so many valuable contacts in the publishing world (which can be a vicious one) and I was exposed to everything that goes into making a book, from the time the manuscript comes to the office till it’s picked up by a reader.
Are you interested in having your very own radio show? Talk show? Or perhaps you’re more interested in producing news for the Carleton community? Or maybe you just want to become familiar with the inter-workings of a radio station? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then KRLX (88.1 fm), Carleton’s independent and student run radio station, is something to consider. The station gives students the opportunity to learn how to operate the radio equipments and to produce a quality show. So if you don’t have any prior experience and would like to learn, this is a great place to start. And what better time to let your creativity shine. You’re given one to two hours of free time to play whatever music you like and talk about what you want. It doesn’t get much better than that! So don’t be afraid to give it a try, after all, the station relies on student participation.

Anh Nguyen ’10

TRANSPORTATION

Fear you will be stuck at Carleton without Cars? Fear not. There are lots of options. You can go to the Twin Cities during the weekends; go shopping at the local stores and visit the restaurants around Northfield. The Co-op bus takes you to St. Olaf, the Mall of America, the Airport and downtown St. Paul for $5. For shopping, exploring or chilling, the Co-op bus-the savior is always running during weekends. During weekdays, Love bus and Northfield transit bus are excellent options. The buses are always running. You can take these buses to go around for Shopping at the Target store, Kurry Kabab(Indian restaurant) and so on. You can basically call the Northfield transit bus anytime you like, and the bus will take you to your Northfield destination. And good news! It’s Free of charge.

Tenzin Noryang ’10
RE-PETRAFICATION.

“Zweiunddreizeig, Dreunddreizeig…” counted Petra as we boarded the fabled yellow bus during ISO. “What was she going on about back there” I thought to myself. Happened to be a language called German. Four and a half years on, I can’t believe I’m now learning this hideously complicated tongue while the people around me speak a molested version of it. Zurich has its charms, but 6 months since I moved here and 10 months since I left Carleton, I missed the maize and...

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

This is the time when you see the diverse student bodies that in normal days, quietly live on campus. You see performances from Korea, China, South Africa, Singapore, India, Nepal etc and you also get to eat food from Japan, USA, Mexican, Korean, Indian and much more. There is no other days than on International Festival to enjoy cultures around the world. And this is also the day to pride yourself with the different culture that you represent in Carleton. It is, to some extent, to confirm your identity on campus. So enjoy the food, performance and the precious time you spend with your multi-national friends outside ISO!

-Geoffrey Yu ’06, currently working as a foreign exchange flogger in Switzerland.
Eating Out in Northfield

Among the restaurants in Northfield, which cover a surprisingly wide range of cuisines (and budgets), some are more popular than others. This very rigorous academic research paper seeks to analyze fast food consumption trends amongst members of the Northfield community. No, I’m kidding. This is a brief survey of some of the more popular restaurants in Northfield, specifically those within walking distance of the Carleton Campus.

Chapati – Located in the Archer House, this is an Indian restaurant that does not actually sell chapattis (a type of bread), they nonetheless have an impressive lunch buffet Tuesday-Sunday afternoons for about $9. Buffet includes salads, raita, soup, rice, naan, pakoras, two vegetarian entrees, two meat entrees and dessert. Sounds like a lot? Well, come with a big appetite and you won’t be disappointed!

The Tavern – Also located in the Archer House, the Tavern is a good place for a lazy weekend brunch/lunch or a special dinner. The food is great, but it can take a while making its way to the table, especially if it’s a busy time. It’s a good idea to call ahead and make reservations if you don’t want to be kept waiting. It is not a cheap meal (expect to spend $6-10 per person), but the portions are very large, so you could consider sharing a dish or packing a box for later.

Hogan Brothers – What they lack in variety, they make up for with everything else. For about $5 you can get a half-hoagie (a sandwich) and a bowl of soup, or a pita. You can add on a packet of chips, and they also have some ice-cream, but that’s basically it. The service is prompt, and the hoagies make you want to keep coming back for more! I’m told it’s all about the special sauce, which is special alright, but further investigation is needed to ascertain why...

Goodbye Blue Monday Coffee House -- This coffeehouse is a popular stop for students, as well as locals. With its comfortable decor including Retro chairs, tables, and couches, this is the perfect place to study, or hang out with friends, or both. They serve a variety of teas, coffees, bottled cold drinks, cookies, etc. They also have wireless internet, and one computer that customers can use to access the internet (but only for fifteen minutes)!

Mandarin Garden -- Two minutes from Goodbye Blue Monday, the Mandarin Garden serves good Chinese food. Close to authentic, with cozy ambience, this place gets you snapping your chopsticks for more! It’s not expensive (about $6-10 per entrée), but if you come with friends you can try a variety of dishes without burning a deep hole in your pocket.

This is by no means a complete list of eating options in Northfield. Other popular places within walking distance include El Tequila, China Buffet, James Gang Hideaway, etc. If you are looking for ready to eat foods, you can find some interesting and impressive options at the Northfield Co-op, at Econofoods and at Cub Foods. If you or a friend has a car, you should also visit Kurry Kabab, the Quarterback Steakhouse, Papa Murphy’s Pizza, and other places. The point is, there are some great eating options besides the dining halls, and it need not cost a fortune to explore local eateries and enjoy a culinary adventure or two!

Sarojini (Jini) Rao ’09