



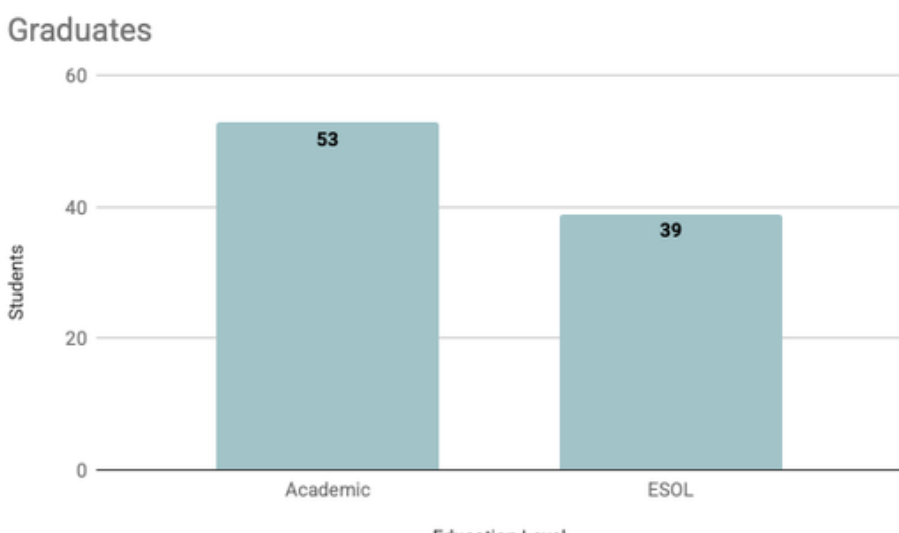
Message from the Director

These extra warm summer days are making me remember the cooler days of Spring!

Spring term in the OISS was busy and filled with celebrations and activities. We celebrated those students finishing their degrees and the ESOL program and cheered them on at commencement. We highlighted international education to the broader community on KGW and our students participated in a handful of fun activities building relationships and connections with one another. Here's a snapshot of what we were up to last term.

Who are our F-1 international students?

Who graduated?



This Spring, our community was comprised of **288 students**, including **14 new students**, representing **57 countries** from around the globe!

With commencement happening in Spring term, we celebrated a total of 92 graduates! (53 Academic and 39 ESOL) These are graduates from Fall 2025, Winter 2026, Spring 2026, and expected graduates for Summer 2026.



Student Leader Spotlight

☀️ Meet **Deisy**, one of PCC's dedicated student leaders!

Originally from Colombia, Deisy began her studies at PCC in Spring 2025 in the ESOL program. She began working as an **International Orientation Mentor (IOM)** in the Fall of 2025, helping new F-1 international students begin their studies at PCC.

Deisy began working in the OISS as a **student receptionist**, helping guests with their questions and helping students find their way. She also moved from her IOM position into an **International Peer Leader (IPL)** in the Spring of 2026, hosting our weekly Talk Time Cafés at Sylvania and planning events for students.

Deisy's favorite part of being a student leader is connecting with people from different cultures and backgrounds. As an international student she understands how important it is to feel welcomed and supported.



Highlights from last term

In Spring term, our students got outside and into nature with many of our events!

🌸 Students had a magical time at the **Japanese Garden** welcoming spring in!

🐛 A visit to Portland Insectarium for **Bugging Out** made for a creepy, crawly event!

🌳 Students got to experience the **Portland Arboretum** on a nature walk!

🎓 An afternoon celebrating our students who were finishing their programs (Academic and ESOL) at our **OISS Graduation Celebration** brought smiles to all!



F-1 International Emergency Fund

Two international students, Liz Fierro Ramos (Mexico) and Laith Dababneh (Jordan), joined me in June on [KGW's "Hello Rose City!"](#) segment to share with our community about international education at PCC. They both told of their experiences as F-1 international students and why they chose PCC.

Thank you so very much to those who watched and donated to the F-1 International Student Emergency Fund!

Your contributions mean so much to our team and our students!



Donate Today 🌟



Why donate?

International students often face significant financial vulnerability. Ineligible for federal financial aid, most scholarships, and many forms of emergency assistance, they have limited options when unexpected expenses arise—such as family job loss, currency fluctuations, rent increases, or car repairs. Visa restrictions require them to maintain full-time enrollment, pay out-of-state tuition, and limit employment to on-campus jobs. As a result, OISS staff frequently encounter students in urgent need with few available resources to provide.

Despite these challenges, international students remain deeply committed to their education and express strong appreciation for the support and kindness of PCC faculty and staff, which plays a critical role in their ability to succeed.