

Chilean Independence Day Celebrated

By Lexi White
Features Editor

Chilean Independence Day, also known as Fiestas Patrias, is celebrated all over the world, not only in Latin countries.

On Sept. 18, 1810, Chile gained their independence from Spain. To honor this occasion, students and faculty at the university gathered in Engleman Hall to commemorate Chilean freedom.

Professor Jesse Gleason, who teaches Spanish for the world languages department, organized the event. Her husband and in-laws are from Chile and said that this holiday hits very close to home.

"I love seeing my family take a moment to celebrate with dancing, music and food," Gleason said. "I wanted to bring that celebration to our school, too."

With the help of the Office of International

Education, chicken and beef empanadas were available for students to eat. In addition, Professor Gleason enlightened students on a new study abroad program, led by faculty, that is launching in December.

"We're going to Patagonia for three weeks," Gleason said. "We'll be going to a national park, studying both biology and Spanish, so students can get up to six credits of coursework done in the three weeks while we're there."

Gleason said that she wanted to "give the students who were interested in visiting a Latin country the opportunity to do so."

To help the 10 students who will be going on this trip financially, there is \$750 available in scholarships and financial aid to reduce the cost.

One student who was interested in learning the details of the study abroad trip to Patagonia

was anthropology major Alayna Petroski, a freshman. She said she came to the event to hear the details from Gleason.

"I'm in my first semester of my freshman year, so to have this kind of opportunity, and then possibly get a scholarship to go on the trip is actually insane," Petroski said. "It's a pretty incredible opportunity, and I am really excited."

Even though Petroski is not of Hispanic heritage, she said she wanted to learn more about the Chilean culture. One way of becoming knowledgeable was by trying the empanadas.

Petroski said, "I am really enjoying the food; everything is so delicious, and what makes it even better is that I am learning about the culture of a fascinating place."

Interdisciplinary studies major Nelson Roman, a junior, was another student who attended the Chilean

Independence Day celebration. He said he came to the event to eat the free empanadas and to learn about a country that he admires.

"I like this event because it is educational and entertaining, and it shows us a culture that is completely different from ours in certain ways," Roman said. "We can enrich our education by attending these events through the food of the country and talking to the people that have traveled to the country."

By hosting this event, Professor Gleason got her students more interested in a culture that is important to her while she shared her Chilean experiences.

Professor Gleason said, "This is an opportunity for all students, not just Latin American students, to come and learn more about the culture, the language and for them to possibly even travel to other parts of the world."



PHOTO | CARLY RUSSELL

English major Galileah Torres, a sophomore, exploratory major Abigail Martinez and physics major Anthony Oquendo, freshmen, at the Chilean Independence day event.



Spanish major Soledad Morales, a junnior, wearing the Chilean flag at the Chilean Independence day event.



PHOTO | LEXI WHITE

"I like corn mazes because they're really fun to do."

-Physics major Scarlet Dombek, a freshman.



"I love going to fairs because you have a glimpse of everything having to do with fall, like apple picking, pumpkin picking and apple cider donuts."

-Interdisciplinary studies major Arielle Chetwynd, a sophomore.

Owls Decide What is your favorite fall activity?

By Lexi White
Features Editor



"Corn mazes because they're fun to figure out."
-Physical education major Travis Christopher, a senior.



"I like to watch scary movies with my friends because it's a good time."

-Sociology major Sophia Davila, a junior.



"I like apple picking because it lets me be in a nature setting where the weather is just right."

-Marketing major Jayme Regan, a freshman.



"Honestly, pumpkin-picking because I think it's fun, and you could do it with family and friends."

-Interdisciplinary studies major Olivia Schaible, a freshman.

Students enjoy a free food truck lunch and snow cones

By Lexi White
Features Editor

The Programs Council, ProCon, filled the stomachs of 200 students at the academic quad on Wednesday, Sept. 18. A Los Mari-achis food truck and a snow cone-making station were available for many students to enjoy.

Biology major Devona Smith, a senior, is a part of the commuter committee of ProCon and said that she "targets her events to commuters," but "any student is welcome."

Students were to give ProCon members their student identification numbers in exchange for a ticket. As this event was first come, first served for free food, the line filled quickly.

"People have been lining up 30 minutes before the event even started," Smith said. "The turnout is really good, and it seems like people are enjoying the food and snow cones."

ProCon has hosted a food truck event for the past few semesters.

Members have said that they get great feedback from students regarding these types of events and that they used a good amount of their funding to make their event come to life.

Smith said, "The amount of money we spent on this food truck would probably equal the total cost of three events, and that's honestly why we only do one event like this a semester."

Smith said that their food truck and snow cones event served as "a great alternative for students to get a meal" because it gives them a variety of food options. Students had the choice of three tacos, a burrito, or a rice bowl from the food truck.

Another member of ProCon helping to host the event was nursing major Melanie Gloster, a junior. She said that this event does not only benefit the students who are looking for something to eat, but it also caters to those who want to branch out.

"Students can talk to each other while they're in line and can

hopefully make new friends," Gloster said. "Because the line is so long right now, socializing can make the time go by faster for them."

One student who enjoyed her food was communications major Dahlona Holmes-McKenna, a senior. She said she came to this event because she was hungry and didn't want to pay for food.

"This is definitely one of the better events they have towards the beginning of the year with all the food trucks and stuff, and I'm super happy that this was free," Holmes-McKenna said. "I'm sure a lot of students don't want to pay for food at the student center or wait in a long line at Conn, so having this option today is way better."

Another student, marketing major Anna Vilenski, a junior, said that she saw the truck on her way out of the Buley Library and was "super excited" to check out the food.

"This event is great because it supports local businesses, and students can eat something other

than the regular dining hall food," Vilenski said.

Gloster said that setting up for the event was a bit hectic due to the limited amount of people that were able to

help, and that planning the event took a lot of work.

"We tried to reach out to different food truck companies, but some people didn't really

cooperate," Gloster said. "So, it was very hard to get a certain food truck here with such limited time, but we're glad that it worked out perfectly in the end."

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