

11-21-2014

## ISSO Weekly Newsletter, November 21, 2014

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

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### Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office., "ISSO Weekly Newsletter, November 21, 2014" (2014). *ISSO Weekly Newsletter*. 11.

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# ISSO Weekly Newsletter November 21

## **Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving**

November 24-28 will be Thanksgiving Break. There are no classes during this week, but most University offices will be open on the 24, 25 and 26. The International Students and Scholars Office will be closed on the 26, 27 and 28. If you require emergency assistance during this time, please call UNI Public Safety at 273-2712. You should also call Public Safety after hours and during weekends for emergency assistance.

## **Thanksgiving Holiday Dining Hours**

Due to the holiday break all dining centers will be closed Saturday, November 22 through Sunday, November 30. Regular hours will resume Monday, December 1. 23rd Street Market, located in Commons, will be open daily November 22 through November 29 from 11 am to 2 pm over Thanksgiving break, with the exception of November 27 and 28. Both 23rd Street Market and Biscotti's open at 4 pm on Sunday, November 30. Prexy's, Chats and Essentials in Maucker Union will not be open over break. See attached flyer.

## **Fall Graduation and Farewell Reception December 11**

You are invited to a reception on Thursday, December 11 at 3 pm in the University Room, Maucker Union. Come celebrate with us as we recognize international students who will graduate in December and as we say farewell to the exchange students who will be leaving us at the end of the semester. Enjoy tasty appetizers and graduation cake! Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be on hand to take pictures with students from 3-3:30 pm. Graduates and departing exchange students, if you plan to attend, please contact the International Students and Scholars Office by Friday, December 5 so we know who to expect and who to include in our program. You may call [319-273-6421](tel:319-273-6421) or send an e-mail message to [international.services@uni.edu](mailto:international.services@uni.edu).

## **Meal Option during Thanksgiving Break November 26**

Redeemer Church located at 815 Orchard Drive in Cedar Falls will be offering a free meal to international students on the evening of November 26 from 6-9 pm. In addition, they will be playing board games and showing a movie in the church building for students who would like something to do that evening. Redeemer Church will also provide transportation for those students who would like to attend and are in need of a ride. Please contact Sally Roos ([sally.roos@uni.edu](mailto:sally.roos@uni.edu)) or Tom Ogston ([tom@redeemerhome.com](mailto:tom@redeemerhome.com)) if you are interested in attending and/or need a ride.

## **Students Leaving Following Fall Semester**

Students currently living on campus who are NOT returning to UNI in the spring must cancel their housing contract prior to departure to avoid charges. Students must go to their hall office and complete an Intent to Cancel form. By doing this, your contract will be canceled without any penalty or fees. This ONLY applies to students who are not returning to UNI in the spring, not those who would simply like to move off campus. Please direct any additional questions to Jean Wiesley at [jean.wiesley@uni.edu](mailto:jean.wiesley@uni.edu).

## **Full-Time Enrollment Requirement**

This is a reminder that all F-1 and J-1 students must be registered as full-time students (12+ hours of undergraduate credit or 9+ hours of graduate credit). Being enrolled less than full-time without proper approval will result in the loss of your good immigration status and may prevent you from earning your UNI degree. Even worse, you could be arrested and deported from the USA! If you have questions, do not ask your friends, but ask the professional staff in the International Students and Scholars Office. You should review the reminders here at least once per semester. Exceptions to the full-time rule are: certain academic difficulties (improper course

level placement, initial difficulty with American teaching methods), medical/health reasons, final semester of study, and graduate students working full-time on research or dissertation. ALL of these exceptions MUST be approved by the Immigration & Visa Coordinator in advance!

### **Local Community School Cultural Exchange Program**

Become a part of our Local Community School Exchange Program by volunteering to educate local community school children about your country's culture and customs. Play a game, create arts and crafts, cook a national dish, or come up with your own ideas! We are currently looking for students to present both this semester and Spring 2015. If you are passionate about educating others about your culture, and you want to interact with the community, then sign-up TODAY!! More information and application forms can be found [here](#). If you have questions, please contact Shelby Huster at [international.services@uni.edu](mailto:international.services@uni.edu).

### **Native Irish Speaker Wanted**

The Cedar Valley Rang Gaeilge is a group of people who meet each Monday evening to study the Irish Language (Munster Dialect). They would like to find a local native Irish speaker to help answer questions about pronunciation and grammar. Please contact Kate Schildroth at [kate.schildroth@gr-rebels.net](mailto:kate.schildroth@gr-rebels.net).

### **UNI On-Campus Break Meal Options**

As a convenience for those living on-campus over academic breaks, UNI dining will provide a food option for 3 meals per day during the time that a dining center and retail dining operations are not open on-campus. The option(s) provided will be based on the number of students signed up. Options could include opening a dining center, opening a retail operation, providing sack meals to halls, providing transportation and meals at local restaurants (will have a purchase limit) or groceries to make your own meals. Your U-bill will be charged a daily rate of \$28.45 for each day you request meals. Sign up deadline is December 1 for Winter Break. The UNI On-Campus Winter Holiday Meal Option can be found [here](#).

### **International Student Profile Feature**

The International Students and Scholars Office is excited to feature a new international student profile each week. To be featured, please submit the form found [here](#).

### **Like and Follow Us!**

Like us on [Facebook](#) here and follow us on [Twitter](#) to stay informed about ISSO news and events!

### **ISSO Office Hours**

ISSO office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### ***ISSO - Enhancing International Experiences***

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