International Engagement Weekly Newsletter, January 28, 2022

University of Northern Iowa. Office of International Engagement.

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Announcements

Winter Clothes Available
The Office of International Engagement has your back covered this winter! We have a collection of warmer clothing, including gloves, scarfs, coats, and more! If you need warmer clothes, come to our office and ask to look through our items! (Maucker 113) There is no need to sign up or register, just come on in! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email international@uni.edu

Academic English Coaching
Are you looking for help with academic english? OIE offers walk-in coaching to international and English learning students, as well as exchange students and visiting scholars. Topics include language support, citation and research skills, listening, and intercultural communication. We're located in Maucker Union 113E. Current availability is:

- Monday 1:00-2:00pm
- Tuesday 2:00-3:00pm
- Wednesday 1:00-2:00pm
- Thursday 1:00-3:00pm
- Friday 1:00-3:00pm

The most updated schedule can be found here.
Adjusted Counseling Center Crisis and Consultation Hours

The Counseling Center is adjusting their schedules to increase their overall clinical capacity for all types of appointments they offer. Effective immediately they are adjusting their walk in crisis and consultation hours to be 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Monday - Friday when classes are in session.

If you are not in crisis, but simply need to talk to someone, you can try the Let's Talk stations that are available Monday -Thursday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM around campus to access peer mental health support.

If you need crisis support outside of the newly defined walk-in hours at the Counseling Center, you can go to the Unity Point walk-in mental health clinic connected to the emergency room at Allen hospital, or go to any emergency room.

Upcoming OIE Events

Weekly Coffee Hour

The Office of International Engagement holds a weekly coffee hour every Friday! If you want to make some new friends, hang out, have some snacks and drink some coffee, this is the event for you!

Next weeks coffee hour will be held in the WRC. Join us from 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM on February 4th!

Chinese New Year Celebration

OIE is celebrating Chinese New Year and ringing in the Year of the Tiger! Join us February 1st from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM in the Commons Lounge to enjoy dumplings, learn more about the Chinese Zodiac, and what it means to be a “tiger” this year. Come and take pictures, enjoy good conversation, and join us in eating some yummy treats!
Get Involved Around Campus

The UNI Iowa High School Model United Nations (IHSMUN) student organization is seeking new members—no experience needed! IHSMUN runs two two-day conferences each year for high school students—one in October in Des Moines and the other on the UNI campus in April. IHSMUN helps develop speaking and critical thinking skills among both high school and UNI students as they engage on topics of international importance.

UNI students who participate in IHSMUN will:

• Earn 1 History Dept elective credit per semester
• Meet other UNI students interested in critical global issues
• Create debate topics, and lead high school students in conference committees
• Be excused from classes on conference days
• Enjoy free pizza during IHSMUN campus meetings as we prepare for our conferences!

To join IHSMUN or for more information, send a brief email to the IHSMUN faculty adviser, Konrad Sadkowski, at konrad.sadkowski@uni.edu
Nino Mateshvili is a second year graduate student from The Republic of Georgia, also known as Sakartvelo, studying Geography. As a part of her research assistantship, she is involved in the ARCTIC Covid-19 project as a Research Associate under the supervision of Dr. Andrey Petrov in the department of Geography, as a part of her research assistantship. She is studying socio-economic vulnerability of Arctic (Alaska as the 1st target area) communities regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

She gained a B.A. in Human Geography and another M.A. in Demography at Tbilisi State University, Georgia. Currently she is interested in studying Geographic Information Systems at UNI to implement GIS as a data analyst tool in socio-economic and demographic research. She has approximately 8-years of variety of work experiences in Georgia, such as statistics, data quality management, socio-economic research in the communities affected by the big energy infrastructure (HPP) projects, property inventorization and acquisition in the project area, and teaching.
Studying in the US, at UNI is my 1st "study abroad" experience and it has been very important giant step forward for me as professional and a person. Iowan hospitality, friends I've got here, super-friendly and high professional UNI/faculty stuff, events and meetings organized by the International Engagement Office, all these people working hard to make international student's life easier here have been the best parts of my "study abroad" experience. Also, it's the 1st time for me to have an opportunity to tell people about my tiny, but very interesting country, Georgian people and culture to let them know more about our part of the world with our happiness or struggles, about our prospective of life."

Staff Highlight: Edyta Cichon-Barche

This week we want to welcome a new member of the Office of International Engagement staff, our Immigration Advisor, Edyta. She just started this spring semester, and is here to help with all things immigration related.

*Edyta Cichon-Barche* is originally from Poland. She came to the U.S. 21 years ago as an Au-Pair. After a year, she decided to pursue a degree in the states as an international student. She earned a Masters of Science degree in Management at Walsh College of Accounting and Business Administration. She recently worked at Upper Iowa University as an International Student Services Coordinator and was referred to as "mom on campus" by international students. She enjoys working with students and sharing their joys and sorrows. A fun fact about Edyta is that she has never lived in a place without winter.
Tips From our CIEP Instructors

Are you being a Copycat?

Did you know that there are 5 Academic English Coaches ready to help you every day in the Office of International Engagement? The coaches are here to answer your questions about academic life here at UNI. Some of the most common questions we get from students are about plagiarism.

What is plagiarism and how do you avoid it?

Check out the rest of the article on our website for some tips to avoid plagiarism!

Last Week at OIE

Last week OIE hosted our first coffee hour of the spring semester! What a great turn out, thank you to everyone who attended. We hope to see you next week, for our WRC coffee hour!

Office of International Engagement (OIE)
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