International Engagement Weekly Newsletter, April 8, 2022

University of Northern Iowa. Office of International Engagement.

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Announcements

Yucatan Student Welcome Party

This spring II session, the CIEP is hosting a hybrid program as part of the Partners of the Americas award that we received in 2018 to develop an exchange program with Universidad Maristas of Yucatan, Mexico.

Pre-COVID, we had Mexican students studying English at the Culture and Intensive English Program (CIEP) and worked with UNI students as conversation partners. During COVID, this collaboration switched to a virtual exchange. Students at the University of Marista completed the program through UNI online and worked with UNI's Spanish students in SPAN 3001: Advanced Writing to meet and practice English/Spanish via Zoom.

Thanks to the TESOL and Spanish programs, we have been able to provide wonderful opportunities for both our English and Spanish learners. The support of Elise Duboar and Elena Dobrilla has been instrumental in developing and executing this partnership between UNI and Universidad Marista.

This spring, a group of 7 students from the Universidad Marista will be studying English virtually from March 23-April 8 through the CIEP at UNI. Then they will be on campus from April 10-24. They will then return to their
home campus to complete the rest of the semester. This May, a group of UNI students will be going to Yucatan with Professor Fernando Calderon, organized by UNI's Study Abroad Center, to learn more about the Mexican indigenous culture and history.

Please join International Engagement next Tuesday for a welcoming party for these new students and their university administrators from Mexico! *There will be snacks, including tres leches cake!* This welcome party will be held **Tuesday, April 12 from 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM.** Provost Hererra will be attending to welcome our students. Hope to see you there!

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**Residence Hall Move Out Information**

Residence halls will close at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, 2022, and all residents are expected to be checked out before this time.

We hope with this advance notice you’ll be able to make your travel arrangements to coincide with our hall closing date. It is an expectation of University Housing that once you have completed your Spring semester classes/exams that you check out of the residence halls.

If you need to stay an extended period after Saturday, May 14, 2022, due to travel arrangements, working, or taking classes, summer housing is available. This requires you to complete a summer housing contract. To be eligible, you do not need to be enrolled in summer classes, however you do need to be enrolled for fall classes. Find more information about summer housing here: [https://uhd.uni.edu/housing/student-summer-housing](https://uhd.uni.edu/housing/student-summer-housing).

*If you have any questions, please contact staff in the hall office or your Resident Assistant (RA).*

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**Important reminder: Student Health Insurance**

The Student Health Clinic needs to know if you are planning to leave the US during summer break. If you are, please email Connie
Potter connie.potter@uni.edu and provide the date that you are leaving and the date you are returning to the US.

The Student Health Clinic will suspend your insurance coverage during that time. If you’re not enrolled for the summer session and the Student Health Clinic does not hear from you, your coverage will automatically continue. It is important for you to tell the Health Clinic before you leave the US as they cannot remove the coverage when you return to UNI in the fall.

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**Upcoming OIE Events**

THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND CSBS PRESENT:

**COFFEE HOUR WITH CSBS**

APRIL 15TH FROM 4-5PM IN SABIN 207!

COME FOR THE COFFEE AND STAY FOR THE CONVERSATION!

[Image of event poster]
Events Around Campus

Campus Activities Board is excited to present:
Jesse McCartney

Thursday, April 28, see Jesse McCartney live in the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. Students are able to purchase VIP Meet and Greet tickets [Here].

Each student can receive two free tickets for this event! This event is for students only.

Head over to the UNItix website, or visit UNItix in person - Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Their two offices are located in the McLeod Center (glass connector between the UNI-Dome and McLeod) and the Gallagher Bluedorn. UNItix is also open at the Maucker Union Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Students purchasing in person will need to present their Student ID.

INSPIRE Conference: Presenting Virtual Conversations with la Universidad Marista

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Graduate College are proud to present the 2022 INSPIRE Student Research & Engagement Conference! The conference is an opportunity for students to showcase the wide variety of experiential activities in which they participate inside and outside of
the classroom, including: research, internship, volunteer or study abroad experiences, club activities and/or creative performances. There will be many great Poster and Oral presentations, but we want to highlight Sara Petersen who will be discussing our incoming Yucatan students. **Sara's Oral Presentation will be Monday, April 11, at 11:00 AM in Rod Library 287.**

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**Spanish Conversation Hour**

Come practice your Spanish speaking skills in a relaxed and welcoming environment! Spanish Conversation Hour is held Mondays from 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM in Bartlett 1039. Anyone at any proficiency level is welcome.

¡Nos vemos!

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**Practical Approaches to Recruiting for Language Teaching Programs**

Dr. Shelby Miller, Lecturer of Applied Linguistics at the University of North-Texas at Dallas, will use her experience to share practical approaches to recruitment and retention of students in both undergraduate and graduate programs (with a focus on programs in TESOL). The goal of the session is to equip you with best practices in recruitment that you and your team can begin implementing right away. This event will be held in-person, Monday, April 11 at 3:30 PM in Bartlett 1039. **You can also join by Zoom.**

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**Immigration Tips from Edyta**

**April 18, 2022, is the last day to file income tax.**

If you did not take advantage of the VITA services on campus and still need to file taxes, [please follow this link to learn more about the tax filing for nonresidents.](#) April 18, 2022, is the last day to file income tax.

**OPT Q and A**
Every Wednesday at noon starting April 6th thru July 7th students will have the opportunity to ask OPT-related questions over Zoom. Feel free to “drop by” ask your question and leave or stay if you have time. Follow the link to join: https://uni.zoom.us/

Planning on an Internship during the summer?

The internship needs to be properly approved. The first step is to contact Career Services. After Career Service contact Edyta for CPT Authorization (Curricular Practical Training) that covers internships. You will receive a new I-20 with the authorization that proves you can legally engage in the internship and maintain your status.

Any other questions regarding immigration can be directed to our Immigration Advisor, Edyta. Email her at edyta.cichon-barche@uni.edu, or schedule a meeting using her Calendly.

Tips From our CIEP Instructors

Academic English Coaching

Final exam week is coming up soon! Are you looking for help using English in an academic setting? No matter how well you perform on the TOEFL or IELTS, your language learning never stops. You might ask yourself:

“What do professors expect from my writing, especially if I am from a different academic culture?”

"I am taking classes here that are completely different from those I am used to. How can I survive?“

“We need to use APA or MLA? What are citations and when do I need to use them?“

If you are a current UNI student, CIEP can help. There are expert and
experienced consultants and teachers who advise students in the CIEP section of Rod Library (3rd floor). The goal is to help international students to achieve academically and socially. We can help with

- Grammar
- Reading
- Pronunciation
- Citations and research writing skill
- Listening and lecture note-taking
- Intercultural communication
- Any other questions you might have

This coaching is free and you don’t need an appointment. We also offer online help. Just visit any time during advising hours, which are listed at This Link. For live, online help, log on to Zoom during walk-in hours at https://uni.zoom.us/my/intlengagement.

Last Week at OIE

Last week, a group of students went and saw the new Morbius movie. It was a ton of fun! Look out for future Movie Nights with OIE, as there will be more coming up! Last week we also celebrated the beginning of Ramadan at our Weekly Coffee Hour. There was tons of food, and some great conversation!
Office of International Engagement (OIE)
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