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ISSO Weekly Newsletter, May 2, 2014

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

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ISSO Weekly Newsletter May 2

Spring Graduation and Farewell Reception Photos

Thank you all for attending our Spring Graduation and Farewell Reception yesterday. We are very proud of all of our graduating and departing students, and you will be missed dearly. Photos from the reception are available at <http://www.uni.edu/internationalservices/programs-and-activities/photo-gallery> and click on Spring 2014 - Spring Graduation and Farewell Reception. If you are graduating or departing, please take a moment to take a brief anonymous electronic survey that will be e-mailed to you next week. Safe travels and have a great summer!

Contacting the International Student Advisor During the Summer

The ISSO Student Advisor Kristen Buldhaupt will be away for the summer beginning Friday, May 2. For assistance, please contact the ISSO office directly at 319-273-6421 or international.services@uni.edu or stop by our office at 113 Maucker Union.

Department of Residence Move Out Procedures

The spring semester portion of the Department of Residence contract ends on Friday, May 9, 2014. Students who are not staying for summer are expected to move out of their rooms by 7 pm on that date. Please see the attached flyer for move out procedures and deadlines. Students may reside on campus over the summer regardless of whether or not they are enrolled in summer courses. Summer housing for students will be provided in the ROTH Complex and Panther Village. Please see <http://www.uni.edu/dor/housing/summer-housing-and-dining-information-2014> for information on summer housing.

Summer Break Travel Reminder

Please be sure to check your I-20 or DS-2019 form to make sure you have a valid travel endorsement if you will travel outside of the US during the summer break and will be returning to UNI to continue your studies in August 2014. For F-1 students, the second page of your I-20 form should have a signature that will be less than one year old upon your return to the U.S., for J-1 students the DS-2019 form should have a similar travel endorsement on the first page in the travel endorsement section. Please be sure to check your visa also; if it will expire before your return to Cedar Falls, you will need to apply for a new visa while in your home country.

IMPORTANT: Student Health Insurance

The Student Health Clinic needs to know if you are going to leave the US during summer break. You must email Connie Potter (connie.potter@uni.edu) or stop by the Student Health Clinic to give them the date that you are leaving and date you are returning to the US. The Student Health Clinic will suspend your insurance coverage during that time and you will not be charged. If you are not enrolled for summer sessions and the Student Health Clinic does not hear from you, they will automatically leave you on the insurance coverage assuming you are staying here and just not taking classes. It is important for you to tell the Health Clinic before you go home as they cannot remove the coverage after you have left.

International Admission Requirement Change

There has been a change of policy to the international admission requirements at UNI. Please note that it will no longer be an option to submit a college level English composition course from a regionally accredited US college or university with a

minimum grade of B as proof of English proficiency. This policy will go into effect on June 1, 2014. The change is noted on the following website -

<http://www.uni.edu/intladm/undergraduate/admissions-requirements/alter-toefl>

Any questions can be directed to Kristi Marchesani at the Office of Admissions, 002 Gilchrist Hall.

Optional Practical Training (OPT) for Eligible F-1 Students

If you have an F-1 visa and you are planning to graduate in May 2014, now is the time to think about applying for Optional Practical Training as you are probably eligible for this 12 month period of employment authorization within the U.S. See our website for more information on OPT at

<http://www.uni.edu/internationalservices/f-1-student-employment-information>.

You may also go ahead and schedule an application appointment with the Immigration and Visa Coordinator if you are ready to submit your application or if you have questions. Contact the Immigration and Visa Coordinator Ross Schupbach at Ross.Schupbach@uni.edu for questions.

Academic Training for Eligible J-1 Students

J-1 students can consider Academic Training if they would like to work off campus in the U.S. before or after graduation. See our website for more information on J-1 Academic Training at

<http://www.uni.edu/internationalservices/j-1-student-employment-information>.

You can also contact the Immigration and Visa Coordinator Ross Schupbach at Ross.Schupbach@uni.edu for questions and for a copy of the Academic Training Information and Application Guide.

UNI Student Garage Sale May 3

Buy, sell and donate. The UNI Student Garage Sale will be May 3, 12-4 pm in the Gilchrist parking lot. Proceeds go the UNI Sustainability Department to rebuild the Maucker Union garden. See the attached flyer for more information.

May's Student Health 101 Newsletter is Now Available

May's Student Health 101 is now available at <https://www.uni.edu/wellrec/>. Some of the great articles in May's issue are: You Snooze, You Win: How Sleep Helps You Retain Memory, What's Next? Conquering Your Fear of the Future, and Stay Focused Anywhere: How to Overcome Study Distractions.

Bicycle for Sale

Selling a 2 year old bicycle. It is a well-maintained, 2011 Specialized Ariel (purchased August 2012, yellow in color, used primarily for road biking). It was placed in storage during winters and was recently checked by a bike mechanic. It is priced at \$280 (negotiable) and comes with free additions (combination lock, front & tail lights). Contact ganesana@uni.edu.

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ISSO Office Hours

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

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International Students and Scholars Office

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Regular office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Summer office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The University of Northern Iowa provides transformative learning experiences that inspire students to embrace challenge, engage in critical inquiry and creative thought, and contribute to society.