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ISSO Weekly Newsletter, April 25, 2014

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

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ISSO Weekly Newsletter April 25

Fall Graduation and Farewell Reception May 1

You are invited to a reception on Thursday, May 1 at 3 pm in Seerley's Great Reading Room. Come celebrate with us as we recognize international students who will graduate in May 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! TC and TK 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, April 25 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.

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.

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.

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.

Intramural 11 on 11 Co-Rec Soccer

The Intramural 11 on 11 Co-rec Soccer team is looking for female soccer players to join their IM team "The Boys". They need a minimum of 4 women to be eligible to play this Sunday, April 27 at 12:30 pm until approximately 5:30 pm in the UNI Dome.

Abdullaha Bavaidan is the captain of the team and his contact information is abu_nawaf2004@Hotmail.com, phone [319-610-9246](tel:319-610-9246).

2014-15 Reaching for Higher Ground campus meetings

The theme for the 2014-15 Reaching for Higher Ground (RHG) project is Media and Social Media: A Networked Society. Learn about recent changes to the RHG project and how you can get involved during one of the campus meetings from 3:30-4:20 pm, Tuesday, April 29 or from 8-8:50 am, Wednesday, April 30 in the Oak Room, Maucker Union. If you have questions, contact higherground@uni.edu.

Like and Follow Us!

Like us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/UNI.ISSO?ref=tn_tnmn and follow us on Twitter https://twitter.com/ISSO_UNI 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.

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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.