ISSO Weekly Newsletter, January 24, 2014

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

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ISSO Weekly Newsletter January 24

**Mall of America Trip**
The bus going to the Mall of America on February 1st is FULL! If you are still interested in going, sign up on the waiting list in our office. This does not guarantee you a spot on the trip! If someone currently going on the trip cannot attend we will begin calling students in the order they appear on the waiting list.

**International Student Design Competition**
The International Students and Scholars Office has a newly remodeled office space and is in need of some artistic international design! This semester, ISSO will be sponsoring an international student design competition where UNI international students will have the opportunity to design one of six bookcase shelves to represent individual countries or regions. Winners will receive a $500 scholarship (teams will split the scholarship) plus up to $150 to cover the costs of materials. If you are interested - pick up a design form from ISSO or print the attached form and fill it out. Applications will be accepted from January 27-March 14 in the ISSO office. Winners will be announced April 4.

**Saudi Mini Orientation Session TODAY from 3-5 pm**
This semester we will be doing mini orientation sessions for Chinese students only and Saudi Arabian students only - degree seeking, exchange and CIEP. These sessions will cover many important aspects of the week long orientation. A staff person from CIEP and ISSO will be at the session along with a Chinese or Saudi interpreter as sometimes it is easier to understand information in your native language. The Saudi mini orientation session will be Friday, January 24 from 3-5 pm, in the Maucker Union State College Room. Cookies and beverages will be provided.

**First Friday Photos**
Photos from the First Friday Party are now available for viewing in our photo gallery. To view photos from the event visit [http://www.uni.edu/internationalservices/programs-and-activities/photo-gallery](http://www.uni.edu/internationalservices/programs-and-activities/photo-gallery) and click on Spring 2014 - First Friday Party.

**Cedar Rapids Gazette Interviews**
Orlan Love, a reporter with the Gazette in Cedar Rapids, would like to interview international students from strife-torn homelands about how they maintain communication with friends and family in their native countries. For details, please email orlan.love@sourcemedia.net or call 319-934-3172.

**Important Information about NEW/RENEWED Iowa Driver's Licenses**
UNI international students are sometimes denied new/renewed Iowa driver's licenses by the Iowa Dept. of Transportation (DOT) and told their paperwork is not in order and they should check with Ross Schupbach at the ISSO office. Ross has consulted with the Waterloo DOT office and learned there could be delays in the verification system for students who have recently entered the U.S., or for students whose records have not been "registered" in SEVIS for the upcoming semester. This SEVIS registration is usually done between the second and fourth week of classes. If you have been denied a driver's license recently, please send an e-mail message to Ross.Schupbach@uni.edu and include your name, UNI ID number, and indicate whether or not you have recently entered the
U.S. Ross will then "register" your SEVIS record earlier than normal (if you have registered for Spring 2014 classes) so you can return to the DOT office and make another request for a license.

**Small Refrigerator for Sale - Price Reduced**

Igloo 4.6 cubic ft refrigerator and freezer for sale. Bought in May for $138, barely used, selling for $75. Cash, first come, first serve, you remove. You may see it at the ISSO office.

**Like and Follow Us!**

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

**ISSO - Enhancing International Experiences**

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