11-13-2015

ISSO Newsletter, November 13, 2015

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.
SIGN UP AND PAY TODAY!!!  SEATS AVAILABLE for Mall of America Trip TOMORROW!!!
Join us for a fun day at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota! The Mall of America is the largest shopping mall in the United States and offers countless shopping opportunities as well as numerous attractions, dining options and more. Pay only $20 for this great opportunity to get out of town, buy winter clothes, or get a head start on your holiday shopping. We will be leaving from campus at 7 am and will return around 8 pm. If you want to go, please complete the Mall of America Sign-Up Form and come to ISSO, 113 Maucker Union, TODAY to pay for your seat. Payments must be made in cash and must be exact change only. We have SEATS AVAILABLE on a first come, first serve basis. Participants are required to print, sign, and date the Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement and submit when paying for your seat.
Open to all UNI students.

UNI Student Health Clinic Confirmed Two Cases of Mumps
The Student Health Clinic has confirmed 2 cases of the mumps and five additional cases are being investigated in the community. The Student Health Clinic is working with the Black Hawk County Health Department and the Iowa Department of Public Health on these cases. Both students who are the confirmed cases live off campus and have been instructed to remain in isolation for the five days or longer if their symptoms persist. The Student Health Clinic will continue to test students who exhibit symptoms and ask them to isolate themselves until tests confirm their diagnosis. For additional information please refer to the mumps webpage at https://www.uni.edu/health/mumps.

Full-Time Enrollment Requirement
This is a friendly reminder that all F-1 and J-1 students must be registered as full-time students. (12+ hours of undergraduate credit or 9+ hours of graduate credit). Being enrolled less than full-time without proper approval will result in the loss of your good immigration status and may prevent your from earning your UNI degree. Even worse, you could be arrested and deported from the USA. If you have questions, do not ask your friends, but ask the professional staff in the International Students and Scholars Office. You should review the reminders at this web page at least once per semester: http://www.uni.edu/internationalservices/immigration-regulations. Exceptions to the full-time rule are: certain academic difficulties (improper course level placement, initial difficulty with American teaching methods), medical/health reasons, final semester of study, and graduate students working full-time on research or dissertation. ALL of these exceptions MUST be approved by the Immigration & Advising Coordinator.

Optional Practical Training (OPT) for Eligible F-1 Students
If you have an F-1 visa and you are planning to graduate in December 2015, 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 here. You may also go ahead and schedule an application appointment with the Immigration and Advising Coordinator if you are ready to submit your application or if you
have questions. Contact the Immigration and Advising Coordinator Ross Schupbach at Ross.Schupbach@uni.edu for questions.

ISSO on Instagram!
ISSO is now on Instagram! Check us out at https://instagram.com/issoniuni/.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK 2015: November 16-20

International Education Week
IEW is just around the corner with various events and activities across campus all week. Visit our website for a full schedule. If your office, department, or student organization is celebrating IEW and is not yet listed on the schedule, please email ISSO Graduate Assistant, Felix Weigel with your event details and you will be included.

International Education Week Kick Off Reception November 16
The Kick Off Reception for International Education Week will be November 16 at 4:00 pm. The Consul of Mexico in Omaha, Consul Guadalupe Sanchez Salazar, will be giving an address on Monday, November 16 at 4:00 pm in Maucker Ballroom C. This event welcomes the campus community to engage with international students and organizations.

Around the World in 180 Minutes
The second annual Around the World in 180 minutes will take place on Wednesday, November 18 from 4-7 pm in the Learning Commons at Rod Library. Come join in celebrating International Education Week and learn about new cultures! This event allows visitors to "experience the world" in three hours or less by visiting booths from various countries. Over 25 countries will be represented: Brazil, Japan, Germany, and Saudi Arabia to name a few. There will be free food samples, prizes, activities, a photo booth, giveaways, and entertainment! TC and TK will make a guest appearance. The event is free and open to the public.

 Volunteers Needed
The Rod Library is looking for volunteers to play international instruments or some international music for the "Around the World in 180 Minutes" diversity event which will be held on November 18 during International Education Week. If you are interested, please contact Leila Rod-Welch at 319-273-3770 or leila.rod-welch@uni.edu.

MONEY MATTERS

Scholarships for 2016-17
Start looking NOW for scholarships for next year 2016-17. For various Scholarships and deadlines, check out the ISSO website online or contact Genevieve Beecher at genevieve.beecher@uni.edu for details.
The Sue Follon Scholarship for Women in Leadership
This scholarship, for undergraduate students, is valued at $5000 and was established in the name of Dr. Follon, a former Vice President of Student Affairs at UNI. To apply, students must use the online scholarship application at http://www.uni.edu/finaid/. Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 and have completed at least 30 credit hours at UNI. They must also be full-time undergraduate students for both Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. In order for students to be considered they must be sure to answer the following questions on the scholarship application: Will you be a full-time UNI undergraduate student for both semesters in the upcoming year? and Have you been involved in making exceptional contributions while at UNI? If yes, explain these contributions and how they model leadership for women. Deadline for the application is January 15, 2016.

Veridian Kickoff Payoff Contest
Veridian is bringing the kickoff payoff back to each home Panthers game this fall. If UNI returns the opening kickoff of a half for a touchdown, one lucky fan will win $10,000. Register here to be a contestant at the next home football game.