ISSO Weekly Newsletter, December 13, 2018

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

Recommended Citation
https://scholarworks.uni.edu/issonews/126

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ISSO Weekly Newsletter
Thursday, December 13, 2018

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE:
The International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO) will be closed from December 24 – 28 and on December 31 for the winter break. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, January 2. Please make sure to complete any immigration or advising business with the Office before December 18. Otherwise, it will have to wait until Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Now is the perfect time to check your immigration documents (I-20 or DS-2019) for expiration so that there is time to extend your status before December 18. For those who will travel outside the U.S. over the winter break, please don't forget to check your I-20 or DS-2019 for a valid travel endorsement before you depart.

International Coffee Hour
International Coffee Hour will return on Thursday, January 17, 2019. Thank you for joining our social coffee hour event on Thursdays during the fall semester and we hope to see you again in the spring semester. Happy Holidays and see you in January!

End of Semester for Residence Halls
For Winter/Semester break the last move out date for the residence halls is Saturday, December 15, 2018 by 7 p.m. Students will need to check out of their spaces prior to this time if they are not returning for the Spring semester. If a student will not be able to be out by December 15, they need to ask for a "Late Stay" form from their Residence Hall Office. For students that will be continuing in the Spring 2019 semester, the residence halls will remain accessible with an on-call RA 24 hours a day. We do ask that if students plan to be in the halls over the break period, they must sign-up via the weblink that was sent to them in their End of Semester email from their Residence Life Coordinator. Keep in mind that the Dining Centers will be closed during the Winter/Semester Break.

Fall 2018 Commencement Ceremony
UNI will host its annual fall Commencement ceremony at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15, in the McLeod Center. The ceremony will be streamed live at it.uni.edu/live.

UNI Ukulele Club
Come join the UNI Ukulele Club which meets on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm in 116 Russell Hall. Beginners are welcome and ukuleles are provided!

Korean Language and Culture Club
Are you interested in learning about the Korean language and culture? Join the Korean Language and Culture Club. Contact Dongyub Back at backd@uni.edu.
International Students in Business (ISB) is a business student organization created to become the voice of international students to support both academic and professional success. Bi-weekly meetings 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm @ CBB Hall of Flags. Leadership opportunities are available. If interested, please contact shahina.amin@uni.edu or parksaf@uni.edu.

IMMIGRATION

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 you 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 on our web site (https://isso.uni.edu/immigration) at least once per semester. 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 in advance!

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Health Hub Newsletter
Check out the November issue of Health Hub for events and services offered by the Health Clinic, Student Wellness Services and the Counseling Center.

Make Time to Take Care of You
As we go about our busy schedules, it can often be difficult to slow down, take a break, and consider getting some much needed rest before our health begins to spiral. Here is a list of ways to exercise self-care and ensure steps toward a healthier and better life. The top three on the list are (1) know your limits; (2) get enough sleep; and (3) make nutritious choices. See attachment. Follow UNI Student Health on Twitter for more tips to take care of your mind and body.

Homesick on Holidays
It is not uncommon that homesickness strikes you during the holiday season. When you see the decorations and the empty campus during holidays, the feeling of “homesick blues” may occur. Sometimes, it is the other way around. Some holidays that you enthusiastically celebrate in your home country are nonexistent in the US. You may experience the “homesick blues” when going to classes or work without the day off, knowing everyone in your home country is celebrating. Many people share similar feelings when they are overseas during the holiday. You are not alone. Here are some tips to help you survive it. (1) Feeling homesick on holidays is okay; (2) Surround yourself with people during the holidays; (3) Keep in contact with your family and friends; (4) Celebrate your holiday in creative ways; (5) Learn and observe local traditions about different holidays.
SUBLEASER WANTED

Subleaser Wanted
One female subleaser needed for 4 bedroom apartment located at 2616 Olive Street. Rent is $325 per month. Sublease is from 12/16/18 to 5/28/19. December’s rent will be covered. Contact ayalagy@uni.edu.

Like and Follow Us!

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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.