ISSO Weekly Newsletter, April 24, 2019

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.
International Coffee Hour EVERY THURSDAY!
Free coffee, tea and refreshments every Thursday from 3-4 during our International Coffee Hour. Our goal is to bring people together, share event information, and spread awareness of the international community on campus.

Hot Wings Hot Topic - Nipsey Hussle – Gone too Soon April 25
Join the Center for Multicultural Education with special guest Darrell King, a graduate assistant in the International Students and Scholars Office, in discussing the impact of the death of Nipsey Hussle on the Black community and the myth of Black on Black crime. April 25 from 12-1 pm in the Center for Multicultural Education, 109 Maucker Union.

Celebrating Identities The Banquet April 25
The Muslim Students Association cordially invites all UNI students, faculty, staff and the Cedar Valley Community to the banquet. Join them to get to know the MSA members, listen to the graduating members speak about their journey and enjoy a delicious dinner. 6:30-8:30 pm Maucker Union Ballroom B and C.

Sushi and Cinema April 30
Join the Center for Multicultural Education for a night of free sushi from 23rd Street Market and a showing of Crazy Rich Asians. Tuesday, April 30 at 6 pm in Room 109P Center for Multicultural Education.

Employment in the US and Optional Practical Training Information Session April 30
If you hold F-1 status and you are planning to graduate in May, August or December, you should consider applying for Optional Practical Training (OPT), a valuable benefit of your immigration status that will allow you to work in the U.S. for one year (and possibly more for STEM degrees)! This session will be co-presented by Matt Nuese from UNI Career Services who will cover job searching, interviewing and more; and Ross Schupbach from the ISSO who will elaborate upon OPT and answer your questions. Tuesday, April 30 from 10:30-11:30 am in the OIP Conference Room (just outside ISSO, Maucker 113).
De-Stress Days April 29-30 and May 1
De-Stress Days is April 29-30 and May 1 from 11 am-2 pm in the Maucker Union Ballroom. There will be mini massages, therapy dogs in-training, coloring/crafts, walking meditation and more!

Residence Hall End of Semester Information
The Residence Halls will close at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2019, and all residents are expected to be checked out before this time. If you need to stay past this time you need to pick up a Request to Stay Late Form from the hall office, fill it out and turn it into the hall office by April 29, 2019 at 5 p.m. This request will be reviewed by the Residence Life Coordinator (RLC) for approval. If you are approved to stay past 7 p.m., Saturday, May 11, 2019, there is a $20 fee for each day, which will be assessed to your University U-Bill. If you need to stay an extended period after Saturday, May 11, 2019, due to travel arrangements, working in the summer, or taking classes, summer housing is available. This requires you to complete a summer housing contract. To be eligible, you do not need to be enrolled in summer classes, however you do need to be enrolled for fall classes. More information about summer housing is available: https://dor.uni.edu/conferences-housing/housing. Please know there is a minimum charge of one week’s stay. Additionally, as a reminder, the last day mail will be distributed to the residence halls is Saturday, May 11. We strongly recommend students not order any items after May 3 as they may be returned if you have already checked out of your residence hall.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund Interest Free Loans
The Rowe Fund is an educational loan program of the Organization of American States (OAS) that helps citizens from Latin America and Caribbean OAS Member States finance their studies or research in accredited universities across the United States by awarding interest-free loans of up to $15,000 dollars. See the Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund for more information.

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!

Optional Practical Training (OPT) for Eligible F-1 Students
If you hold F-1 status and you are planning to graduate in May 2019, now is the perfect 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 the attached OPT Procedures and please see our web site for more information about OPT: https://isso.uni.edu/optional-practical-training-opt

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**Important Reminder: Student Health Insurance**
The Student Health Clinic needs to know if you are planning to leave the US during summer break. You must email Connie Potter (connie.potter@uni.edu) or stop by the Student Health Clinic. You will need to provide the date that you are leaving and the date you are returning to the US. The Student Health Clinic will suspend your insurance coverage during that time. If you’re not enrolled for the summer session and the Student Health Clinic does not hear from you, your coverage will automatically continue. It is important for you to tell the Health Clinic before you leave the US as they cannot remove the coverage when you return to UNI in the fall.

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

**Like and Follow Us!**

International Students and Scholars Office
University of Northern Iowa Δ Maucker 113
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0164 USA
Phone: 319-273-6421 (after hours emergency 319-273-2712) Δ Fax: 319-273-6103
E-mail: international.services@uni.edu Δ Web: isso.uni.edu
Facebook: www.facebook.com/uni.isso Δ Twitter: https://twitter.com/ISSO_UNI
Office hours 8:00 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.*