

8-20-2020

ISSO Weekly Newsletter, August 20, 2020

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

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ISSO Weekly Newsletter

Thursday, August 20, 2020

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Important Announcement: Reduced Operations in ISSO

ISSO staff are currently working on a reduced schedule. We want you to know that it will most likely take us longer to respond to your messages and to provide the high-quality services that you have come to expect from us. Despite the reductions, ISSO will remain open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. We care about you immensely and we will certainly do our best.

International Students and Scholars Office Online Services

Good news - our office building reopened on Monday, August 3. Due to the public health and social distancing practices that have been instituted at UNI, masks will be required in all UNI buildings. We are also still available online as well. Office hours will remain Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm. For information contact international.services@uni.edu or Julie.Hill@uni.edu, Immigration & Advising – Ross.Schupbach@uni.edu, Director – Isabela.Varela@uni.edu

Student Emergency Fund

The [Student Emergency Fund](#) assists University of Northern Iowa students by providing limited emergency financial assistance to currently enrolled students who are unable to meet immediate, essential expenses due to an unexpected emergency. Examples of unexpected emergency situations include accidents,

illness, death of a family member, fire damage, or the need for temporary housing. Priority will be given to students whose tenure at the university may be at risk because of said expenses.

Rowe Scholarship Fund

As part of the efforts of the Secretariat for Integral Development of the OAS to help mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the [Rowe Fund](#) is offering **\$2,000 scholarships** to international students from Latin American and Caribbean countries currently completing their studies in the United States. Learn more [here](#) and share.

Scams Involving International Students

A Chinese student had just arrived in California to start her Master's Degree at USC. She received a call telling her a package was stuck in customs. She knew that she was expecting a package so she didn't think this was suspicious. Unfortunately, this was a scam and they took \$43,000 from her bank account. It is more common than you may think. Never give your credit card or personal account details over the phone unless you made the call and the phone number is from a trusted source you recognize. If you think you have provided your bank account details to a scammer, contact your bank or financial institution immediately. When dealing with uninvited contacts from people or businesses, whether it's over the phone, by mail, fax, email, in person or on a social networking site, always consider the possibility that the approach may be a scam. Please contact someone at ISSO and talk through anything that sounds similar to this or suspicious in any way.

IMMIGRATION

Maintaining US Immigration Status

International students are responsible for **maintaining their U.S. immigration statuses**, and an important part of this is **always having a valid, unexpired I-20 or DS-2019 form**. We recommend that F-1 students check the "Program of Study" section near the center of their I-20 forms once per month to make sure they do not study past the program end date indicated in that section. J-1 students should

always be aware of their DS-2019 form validity dates in section 3. Page 3 of all I-20 forms specifies that "If you cannot complete the educational program by the program end date on page 1 of your Form I-20, you should contact your DSO at least 15 days before program end date to request an extension." Ross Schupbach is your Principal DSO, and he is always happy to help when students need extensions.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

UNI Student Health Clinic

The Student Health Clinic is now open for limited in-clinic visits along with Zoom telehealth appointments. Students must call 319-273-2009 opt#1 to be assessed over the phone prior to making any type of appointment. Masks are required for all appointments at the Student Health Center. Clinic staff are available 8-4:30 Monday through Friday. The Counseling Center will also provide mental health services via telehealth (through Zoom). Please call 319-273-2676 to schedule an appointment.

HELP WANTED

Babysitter Wanted

Looking for help babysitting/playing with a 3 year old girl – at our house within walking distance from campus. Pay starting at \$11 an hour. Specifically need help MWF 9-11am, MWF 12-2pm, Friday 12-2, TTh 9-11am, or TTh 12-2pm. Other hours and schedule negotiable. If interested, please contact Oksana at oksana.grybovych@uni.edu or 319-830-0212.

Administrative Assistant Wanted

Immediate opening for an Administrative Assistant 10-15 hours a week, flexible scheduling. Responsibilities are sending and answering e-mails. Taking photos of Saab cars. E-mailing photos and equipment listings of Saabs to customers who expressed interest in purchasing a Saab. Helping to locate specific cars for

customers. Requesting shipping quotes from auto transport companies, organizing files, phone receptionist, organizing office. Prefer evening hours 5-8 pm or 6-9 pm. Contact Randy Friedley at Dan Deery Motor Co. cell phone (319) 529-8530 or e-mail: singingcamel1@gmail.com.

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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.



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Contact Information

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