

9-10-2020

ISSO Weekly Newsletter, September 10, 2020

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office.

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Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. International Students and Scholars Office., "ISSO Weekly Newsletter, September 10, 2020" (2020). *ISSO Weekly Newsletter*. 207.

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ISSO Weekly Newsletter

Thursday, September 10, 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

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

Career Readiness Day September 11

Career Readiness Day will be held Friday, September 11, 2020 from 10 am - 2 pm in the Learning Commons. Students can sign up for a time slot for headshots. Five students can come in during each 10-minute time slot. Social distancing will be maintained and masks are required until it is time to have the

headshot taken. There will be no drop-ins allowed. Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/ADWDVjoy3M5WArrBA>

UNI Career Services will have a representative at Career Readiness Day to answer questions about the Fall Career Fair, the job & internship board, as well as direct students to virtual career advisors for resume assistance.

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.

UNI Panther Pantry

In light of the University COVID-19 policies and recommendations from the Northeast Iowa Food Bank beginning August 17 the Panther Pantry will be open Monday-Thursday (Noon-4:00 pm) **by appointment only**. The Pantry will be closed on Fridays for restocking and cleaning. To make an appointment at the Pantry use this link:

<https://rodscheduler.library.uni.edu/Web/schedule.php?sid=8>

You will need your Cat id and password, login and select your day and time. You will need to schedule an appointment for each visit. You will be able to schedule one appointment per week. **PRIOR TO YOUR FIRST VISIT TO THE PANTRY:** Please fill out and submit the [Panther Pantry intake form](#).

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.

SHIP Insurance for International Students

If you have SHIP Insurance, please contact Connie Potter at the Student Health Clinic with your address for the fall semester. You can email your current address to connie.potter@uni.edu.

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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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