



**UNIVERSITY
AT ALBANY**
State University of New York

**Office of International Education
International Student & Scholar Services**
Science Library G 40
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222 USA
PH: 518-591-8189 FX: 518-591-8171

December 2009

Dear UAlbany Transfer Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance at UAlbany! While you are getting ready for your next important academic step in the United States, the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) staff are preparing for your arrival in Albany. We are responsible for assisting you in adjusting to your new educational and cultural experiences, as well as providing on-going advisement during your stay here. We look forward to welcoming you personally to the University at Albany. You will be joining nearly 1,200 other international students from about 100 different countries—we are truly an international university that values our multicultural opportunities for personal enrichment and intellectual growth.

A special International Student Orientation Program for all new international students will be held on Tuesday, January 19, at 1:00 p.m. Your participation in orientation is required as the official start of your University study, regardless of the academic program to which you have been admitted. While you are expected to attend the entire orientation program, please keep in mind that one particular session, Immigration Regulations, is mandatory. If you do not attend this session, your course registration will be cancelled or blocked.

If you wish to live on campus, you must reserve a room by completing and saving a housing application online at www.albany.edu/myualbany. You will receive an email informing you of your room assignment during the week of January 11, and you may move into your dorm room beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 17. If you plan to live off campus, you should come about two weeks before the start of classes to allow enough time to find an apartment. If you arrive in Albany earlier in January, you must make arrangements to stay in a nearby hotel as no temporary housing is available on campus. Keep in mind that you are required to visit the International Student and Scholar Services office within two business days of your arrival (bring your passport, I-94 card and I-20 or DS-2019 form). Please note: Jan. 18 is a national holiday (Martin Luther King Day) and most University offices, including ISSS, will be CLOSED that day.

In keeping with UAlbany's commitment to "Going Green," we will not be mailing printed copies of our "Welcome Packet." Instead, you should visit our website at www.albany.edu/iss. Once there, please click on New Students and then Welcome Packets. It is here that you will find all of the information that you need in order to make an easy transition to UAlbany. Once you have read through all of the Welcome Packet information, please feel free to contact the appropriate department if you have questions or concerns. The most efficient way to reach ISSS is through email: iss@uamail.albany.edu.

In order to help us prepare for your arrival, please return the Personal Data Form located at www.albany.edu/iss/pdf/Welcome/ALL/Personal%20Data%20Form.pdf as soon as possible.

With our very best wishes for your new adventure,

Margaret Reich, Director, International Student and Scholar Services