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1. Greetings!
This is the Weekly ISSS Newsletter that we send out every Friday. It includes very important immigration updates that you must be aware of, as well as information about events happening on campus and in the area.

Are you a part of a student organization and want to see your event advertised to your fellow students? Please send the details and/or flyer to ISSS@albany.edu.

2. Important Announcements
International Celebration December 6th - Registration Now Open!

The Center for International Education and Global Strategy will host a ceremony for graduating international students, study abroad students who are graduating, departing exchange students, and scholars who are returning to their home countries at the end of the semester.

If you are a graduating international student or departing scholar, please register here: https://goo.gl/forms/SuT9zD6seUQDmDJ02

If you are a departing exchange student or visiting student, please register here: https://goo.gl/forms/gsQLLctR35mHYTAU2
ISSS Seeking Graduate Assistant for Spring 2019

The International Student and Scholar Services Office is seeking applicants for a graduate student assistant position, to start in the Spring 2019 semester. Preference is given to a student who will be available starting in early January. Benefits include a $12,000 academic year stipend (pro-rated because you will be starting mid-year) as well as health insurance. **To be eligible, a student must be a registered graduate student at UAlbany and expected to take a minimum of 6 credits in Spring 2019.**

The work obligation is 20 hours per week during the appointed period. Work during vacation periods will be discussed with a supervisor. A work schedule will be agreed upon no later than the end of the first week of class each semester. Availability during winter session & summers to continue work as a student assistant is preferred.

GAs are responsible for a variety of tasks, including assisting ISSS with document processing requests; planning, facilitating and assisting with programs such as off-campus trips, International Education Week, Orientation, and Commencement Week activities; creating the weekly newsletter; and supporting the international student community.

**To apply, please complete the application here:** [https://goo.gl/forms/0E2rN3B4ccJXNYhw1](https://goo.gl/forms/0E2rN3B4ccJXNYhw1) and email your resume and cover letter to ISSS@albany.edu. Please confirm that you intend to be a registered student (minimum 6 credits) for the Spring 19 semester. **The deadline for applications November 9th, 2018 at 5pm.**

Applications for Spring 2019 Orientation Assistant Now Open

Looking for a fun on-campus job this winter? **ISSS is seeking Orientation Assistants for New International Student Orientation, January 17th-January 22nd, 2019!**

The overall objective of an Orientation Assistant is to welcome new students and to assist them during the first days of their adjustment to the University and the Capital District. We consider Orientation Assistants to be important members of the program and we expect the appropriate commitment of time and energy from each assistant. Students will receive a stipend of $250 for approximately 25 hours of work.

Please click [https://goo.gl/forms/VDPoq3f8Cov6tlGP2](https://goo.gl/forms/VDPoq3f8Cov6tlGP2) to apply! **The deadline for applications is Wednesday, November 14 at 5pm.** If you have any questions please contact isss@albany.edu.
Sign Up to Represent Your Country!

Do you want to be the ambassador of your country at the International Fair on November 14th? You will be assigned a place where you can table your country!

Come share your culture with UAlbany students!

If you have any questions, please contact Jing Zhang-Benavot, jzhang6@albany.edu

Here is the link for sign up to table:

https://goo.gl/forms/rzz925Ph23feLFUU2

INTERNATIONAL FAIR
LEcTURE CENTER CONCOURSE
SCAN THE CODE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED TO PRESENT YOUR COUNTRY!
**Immigration Reminder: Student Reporting Responsibilities**

This is a reminder that immigration regulations require all F-1 and J-1 students to notify ISSS within 10 days of any change to legal name, address, phone number, and/or email.

To meet their immigration obligations, students can report a name change to ISSS by providing official documentation (e.g. an updated passport) of the change. All students must also update the Registrar of any name change for University purposes. To update your address, please update your SEVIS USA address in MyUAlbany. You can also update your phone number and email in MyUAlbany under demographic data.

Because it is a **legal** requirement that F-1 and J-1 students make these reporting updates within 10 business days, please be sure you are making timely updates to ISSS.
3. Other ISSS Updates and Events

**OPT and CPT Workshops**

ISSS offers weekly workshops for off-campus employment—both for OPT and CPT. No reservation is required. If you are graduating in December, the OPT filing period opens September 20th. Students are encouraged to apply for OPT as early as possible because it can take USCIS 3-5 months (or longer) to process a request for OPT. Please view the schedule here.

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**CPT and OPT Workshops**

**Fall 2018**

**CPT Workshops**

- Tuesday, 9/11, 2:30-3:30pm, SL Go5
- Thursday, 10/11, 10:30-11:30am, SL Go5
- Friday 11/9, 4:00-5:00pm SL Go5— for Master's of Computer Science students
- Wednesday, 11/14, 2:00-3:00pm, SL Go5
- Monday 11/26, 10:00-11:00am, SL Go5
- Monday 12/3, 3:00-4:00pm, SL Go5

**OPT Workshops**

- Thursday, 9/6, 3:430pm, SL Go5
- Wednesday, 9/19, 12:00-1:30pm, SL Go5
- Monday, 9/24, 10:00-11:30am, SL Go5
- Friday 10/5, 4:00-5:30pm, SL Go5
- Tuesday, 10/16, 3:00-4:30pm, SL Go5
- Friday, 10/26, 10:00-11:30am, SL Go5
- Thursday, 11/1, 1:00-2:30pm, SL Go5
- Thursday, 11/15, 10:00-11:30am, SL Go5
- Tuesday, 11/20, 11:00am-12:30pm, SL Go5
- Friday, 11/30, 1:30-5:00pm, SL Go5
- Wednesday, 12/5, 2:00-3:30pm, SL Go5
- Friday, 12/14, 10:30am-12:00pm, SL Go5

**Other Important Dates**

- Wednesday, September 12th: Job and Internship Fair, SECU Arena
- Thursday, September 20th: First day USCIS may receive OPT requests from December 2016 graduates
- Tuesday, December 18th: Program end date for December graduates
- Friday, February 15th, 2019: Latest OPT start date for December graduates to request. All OPT applications for December graduates must be received by USCIS before this date.

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**International Student and Scholar Services**

- Suite 110, Noyes Hall
- 518-393-5732
- ISSS@albany.edu

**Walk-in Advising**

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- 9am-4pm
- No Appointment Needed
Immigration Art: Free Consultations and Workshops with an Attorney

We are excited to inform you of a great opportunity to receive a 1-on-1 consultation and advice from immigration attorney Arthur Serratelli, Esq. Mr Serratelli— from the Virginia law firm of Seratelli Mijal PLLC—will be here to provide international students with information on: OPT extensions, Academic Training, H-1B visa applications, other possible visa options, or petitions for Permanent Residency. Immigration Art has been working with the UAlbany international community for the last ten years, and we are happy to welcome him back!

Personal Consultations via Skype or phone are available by appointment online on November 12th and November 13th. See flyer for details.

November 12th and November 13th, please RSVP to ISSS@albany.edu. See flyer for details.
ISSS Thanksgiving Dinner November 15th

You are cordially invited to the annual ISSS Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 15th from 5pm-7pm. Come join us in an American holiday tradition! The event will feature dinner, games, prizes, and more! Cost to attend is only $8 per person. This event is possible due to the generous donation of UAS. Register here: https://tinyurl.com/ThanksgivingISSS
EVOLVE: The Study Abroad Returnee Conference
RETURN, REBOOT, REFOCUS: From the Capital Region to the World!
Saturday, November 3, 2018 | 9:30AM – 3:30PM | Siena College, Snyder Hall

Dear International Students at UAlbany,

We hope you are enjoying your time here in the Capitol Region of New York! Whether you just arrived this semester or you are about to graduate, consider signing up for the EVOLVE conference!

Join globally-minded professionals, talented experts, and study abroad returnees from around New York’s Capital Region and beyond for a day of panel discussions, networking and workshops dedicated to helping you refocus the lens through which you view your international experience.

As an international student, you bring a unique perspective to our US students in the classroom and beyond. Let us know if you have any questions!

REGISTER NOW
FREE! Breakfast and Lunch Included!
Albany Festival of Nations

The annual Albany Festival of Nations will be held on November 4, 2018 from 12-5pm in the Empire State Plaza Convention Center. This event brings together the Albany community and includes food, a parade, and performances. Volunteers are also needed for the event (and remember that volunteering looks good on a student’s resume!) To volunteer, please email Ayaz Malik at ayaz7@att.net

47th Annual
FESTIVAL of NATIONS
Celebrating art and culture in the Capital District since 1972

The Festival is presented by ethnic groups from Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Burma, China, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Korea, Liberia, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Puerto Rico, Russia, Scotland, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine

Come and Be Part of a Celebration
Of Cultural Diversity!

Parade of Nations
Crowning of Miss Festival of Nations
Native Dances/Music,
Tasty Ethnic Foods,
Unique Crafts and
Entertainment from
Around the World

Sunday, November 4, 2018 — 12 Noon — 5:00PM
Empire State Plaza Convention Center — Albany, New York

General Admission
Adults $5.00; Children (3-12) $2.00
For further information call - (518) 371-3737
or visit http://www.festivalofnations.net
Reminder: Emergency Fund Available for Students in Need

The UAlbany Emergency Fund is available for students in financial need (it cannot be used towards tuition expenses). For more information on eligibility requirements and how to apply please click here: [https://albany.sef.suny.edu/](https://albany.sef.suny.edu/)

University No Smoking/Tobacco Free Policy Effective January 2019

The University will become tobacco free in January 2019, which means smoking and other tobacco use will be prohibited on campus. For additional information on this new policy, please click here: [https://www.albany.edu/tobaccofree/FAQs.shtml#q12](https://www.albany.edu/tobaccofree/FAQs.shtml#q12)

Cessation Resources (i.e. programs to help students quit smoking) are available through the University and community. A list of resources is available here: [https://www.albany.edu/tobaccofree/resources-for-students.shtml](https://www.albany.edu/tobaccofree/resources-for-students.shtml). Counseling and Psychological Services will also have a Cessation Group to help students quit smoking/other tobacco usage. For more information, please contact Dr. Brian Freidenberg at [bfreidenberg@albany.edu](mailto:bfreidenberg@albany.edu)
Participants Needed in Research Project on English Language Learners

Do you use English learning strategies when you are speaking English? How many English learning strategies do you know and use frequently? A Ph.D. student from Educational Psychology Program is conducting research relating to international students’ Motivation and English learning strategy use.

If you are 18 years old and over, an English language learner (i.e. English is not your first language), and interested in this study, please click the link and finish the surveys: https://albany.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2udlxet1r7MpBT. All information obtained in the surveys is confidential, and there is no personal information required. It usually takes 10-15 minutes to complete.

By completing the surveys you will have an increased awareness of your use of English and motivation in English learning. It will help to increase your consciousness of using English learning strategies in your daily and academic life.

4. University at Albany Events
Click Here for a full list of upcoming UAlbany events!

On Campus Job Opportunities Informational
Friday, November 2 1-3pm
Stop by the State Quad’s Student Success Center to learn about on-campus job opportunities. Joining us, we will have representatives from Residential Life, Orientation and Transition Programs, Campus Recreation, University Bookstore, University Dining, Campus Center Connections and the UAlbany Programming Board.

Day of Service
Saturday, November 3 2-4pm
The Hub in the Campus Center
Come out and join members of Fraternity and Sorority Life who will be participating in this Day of Service event by making sandwiches for Joe'sph's House, downtown Albany.

Managing Personal Finances
Tuesday, November 6 6-7pm  
Lecture Center 5

How are you managing your personal finances as a graduate student? This workshop will cover credit scores, financial values and goals, budgeting, and debt repayment.

RSVP: https://admissions.albany.edu/register/PersonalFinancesFall18

Well-Being Lunch Series
Sponsored by CAPS, this lunchtime well-being series is designed to help students manage stress and promote their personal well-being.

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<td>Better Sleep, Better Lives</td>
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<td>Reducing Stress</td>
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Location
Campus Center Student Success Center, located on 1st floor of CC, adjacent to staircase leading down to Niko's Cafe and Star Ginger

Who We Are: A Banquet for Diversity
Wednesday, November 7 8-10pm
The UAlbany Programming Board is hosting its second annual Diversity Banquet on November 7, 2018, from 8 PM to 10 PM on campus in the Campus Center Ballroom. This event will be an evening of food, performances, and art all while promoting diversity and inclusion around campus and in our everyday lives.

5. Capital District Events

The Art of New York: Annual Juried Art Show Opening Day
Friday, November 2 10am-5pm
Canajoharie Library and Arkell Museum, 2 Erie Blvd. Canajoharie, NY 13317
Cost: FREE ADMISSION to the Regional Art Galleries; Museum admission $9 Adults / $6.50 Seniors / FREE for Members & Children under 11

The show will be in the Regional Art Galleries of the Arkell Museum and Canajoharie Library. Juror Corey Pitkin, local, national, and international competition winner and painting instructor, selected twenty-nine artists from across New York State for the show. Represented are wood-fired stoneware, black and white infrared photography, and encaustic, oil, acrylic, and pastel paintings. The show is sponsored by Blick Art Materials and Golden Artist Colors, Inc. and is free to the public. A Reception and Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 7th from 5-7 pm with the juror and exhibiting artists in attendance. All are welcome to attend.

The Museum, Regional Art Galleries, and Library are open Tues - Fri, 10 am-5 pm; Sat & Sun, Noon-5 pm. The Regional Art Galleries and Library remain open until 7:30 pm on Wednesdays. The Arkell Museum & Canajoharie Library are located at 2 Erie Boulevard. The building has off street parking and is wheelchair accessible.

On view 11/2 through 12/30/2018

**Capital Region Wing Wars**
Saturday, November 3 @5pm
Franklin Terrace Ballroom, 126 Campbell Avenue Troy, NY 12180
Cost: $25, $40 VIP

The Capital District’s hottest event is back! Sample amazing wings from Capital Region restaurants. One ticket includes 2 wings from each of the 15+ restaurant vendors, so you can enjoy a minimum of 30 wings per person!

General admission tickets cost $25. A limited number of VIP tickets are also available for $40. VIP tickets include a VIP entrance, a private VIP room with seating, a helping of wings from each vendor delivered to you, and a Wing Wars t-shirt.
There will also be beer and wine available for purchase, free pizza, a live DJ, a 50/50 raffle, and a dessert table! Tickets may be purchased through EventBrite, or a limited number will be available for purchase at The Beverage Mart, 79 Main Avenue, Wynantskill, or at St. Jude the Apostle School at 42 Dana Avenue in Wynantskill.

All Wing Wars proceeds go to the St. Jude the Apostle School Tuition Assistance Program.

Check out the participants and more mouthwatering details >>
For additional information, visit http://www.capitalwingwars.com