Friday, September 22, 2023

This is your ISSS weekly newsletter. Please read this newsletter every Friday for important reminders, updates, and upcoming events you may be interested in.

**ISSS Announcements:**
- ISSS Advising Hours- Fall 2023
- OPT Application Instructions for Fall Graduates
- Career and Professional Development Resources
- Orientation Survey for New Students
- Fraud & Scam Awareness & Preparation

**Other Announcements/Upcoming Events:**
- Text Student Auto
- Student Participants Needed for Research Study (Proccoli)
- Student Participants Needed for Dissertation Study Recruitment
- Albany Book Festival (9/23)
- Applying to Graduate School Webinar (9/25)
- Munch with the Majors (9/26)
- Promoting Empowerment: Bystander Intervention Training (9/27)

**ISSS Advising Hours- Fall 2023**

*Walk In Advising Hours, In-Person or by Phone (518-591-8172)*

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 1:00-3:30pm
- No appointment needed, just visit Science Library G-40 or call 518-591-8172
Student and scholars can also email ISSS@albany.edu for assistance. The email inbox is monitored Monday-Friday during business hours.

Please allow up to 5-7 business days for processing of any EForm requests. There is no expedite process, but you can help ensure efficient processing of your case by carefully reviewing all form instructions and submitting a complete request.

OPT Application Instructions for Fall Graduates

Important OPT Dates for Fall Graduates to Know:

- I-20 Program End Date for students graduating this Fall: December 12, 2023
  - Bachelor's/Master's students graduating this Fall will all have a program end date of December 12, 2023
  - PhD students may use defense date, thesis submission date, or last date of final term as the program end date for post-completion OPT purposes. The date you choose will change your application timetable, see OPT workshop for details.
- Filing Opens September 14th for students with a December 12, 2023 program end date
- Filing Closes February 9th for students with a December 12, 2023 program end date
- Students with a December 12, 2023 program end date may submit a request for an OPT start date for any date in this range: December 13, 2023-February 9, 2024

Students who are graduating and planning to apply for Post-Completion OPT Work Authorization should complete the following steps to apply:

1. Watch the required OPT workshop
2. Review all instructions on the OPT Request EForm website, including the Supplemental Forms and Instructions
3. Submit the EForm to ISSS to request a new I-20 recommending you for post-completion OPT
4. File with DHS-USCIS within 30 days of receiving the new I-20 from ISSS recommending you for post-completion OPT

If you have questions please speak with an ISSS advisor.

Read More
Are you a student applying for OPT this Fall or Spring? Are you looking for summer internships? Or maybe trying to find an on campus jobs?

Make sure you utilize the resources and services of the Career and Professional Development Office to make yourself a more qualified and attractive candidate. Here are some tips:

1. **Are you work authorized for the position and/or can you get work authorized?** Make sure you review the rules for on-campus employment off-campus work authorization before applying for positions, so you know whether or not you could seek authorization for the position if offered.

2. **Update your resume and cover letter.** Make sure it follows the standard format expected by American employers and does not contain information that should not be included (such as your photo or date of birth). Your cover letter should be unique to you and convey your professional voice to make you an interesting and compelling candidate (something ChatGPT will not be able to accomplish—use your own words and writing!) For each job you apply to edit your cover letter/resume so that you highlight the skills most applicable to the position posting.

3. **Prepare for the interview.** Know what to expect before, the day of, and after the interview.

4. **Use the resources** on Career Services and ISSS’s websites.

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**Orientation Survey for New Students**

ISSS would like to know your thoughts on the Fall 2023 International Student Orientation. Your feedback is very important and needed! Please help us by completing the orientation evaluation. If you would like to be entered into the prize drawing, please leave your name and email at the end of the evaluation. You can find the evaluation at this link: [https://forms.gle/H9pGNQHGrWdqz6u96](https://forms.gle/H9pGNQHGrWdqz6u96). The evaluation will close on Friday, October 6
Fraud & Scam Awareness & Preparation

Reminder: Beware of scams! Law enforcement will never contact you to demand money and/or gift cards. Such an incident is a scam and you should hang up on the caller and not provide any personal and financial information. Please take the time to review the information on our website about how to avoid frauds/scams.

Read More

Other Announcements/Upcoming Events:

Text Student Auto

Text Student Auto is a free, non-University affiliated service connecting college students to auto resources near campus. For more information on this service and the assistance it can provide please select "Read More."

This does not constitute an endorsement of this business on the part of the University nor a vouching for their business practices.

Read More
We are looking for students to participate in a semester-long research study involving using a mobile application that helps students in planning, time management, keeping track of assignments, and class projects. Our goal is to study procrastination in individual and group tasks. The study also involves completing a number of initial questionnaires electronically and during the semester. You will receive $50 in Amazon electronic gift card upon completion of this study (see Consent Form for conditions). If you are interested and have an iPhone or iPad to install the app on, please complete the following consent form, and we will get in touch with you for the subsequent steps. At this point, we do not have an Android version of the application.

[https://forms.gle/1B3MBgywM4fvhGsy7](https://forms.gle/1B3MBgywM4fvhGsy7)

If you participated in our study last semester, you are eligible to participate this semester as well!

Thank you for your time!

Dr. Reza Feyzi Behnagh  
Associate Professor, Department of Educational Theory & Practice  
Dr. Shaghayegh Sahebi  
Associate Professor, Computer Science Department
Hello fellow student,

My name is Xiao Ting (Kitty) Wang, and I am a Counseling Psychology doctoral student at the University at Albany, State University of New York. I hereby sincerely invite you to participate in my dissertation study, which studies how family members may influence Asian and Asian American college students’ STEM career development. This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board of the University at Albany (IRB study number: 23X122).

You are invited to participate in the study if you:

1. Are at least 18 years old.
2. Identify as Asian or Asian-American where at least one parent identifies as Asian or Asian-American.
3. Are currently enrolled full-time as an undergraduate student at a SUNY university.
4. Are currently in your first year of college.
5. Are currently undecided/undeclared in major.

Upon completing a valid survey, you have the option to enter a raffle for a $10 gift card (details available on the first page of the study link). Your responses to the survey are confidential and cannot be linked to your personal identity. If you are interested in participating in the study, please click on the following survey link, which will further direct you to an informed consent page with more information regarding your participation:

Qualtrics: https://albany.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cMSouhgcN8AMd8y

Thank you so much for helping me with this research! Your participation will contribute greatly to the scientific knowledge base of how family members influence college students’ career decisions, a crucial yet understudied subject pertaining to Asian and Asian American college students in the US.

If you have further questions, please contact me (Xiao Ting Wang, principal investigator) at ktwang@albany.edu, or my faculty advisor (Dr. Hung-Bin Sheu at hsheu@albany.edu).

In humble solidarity,

Xiao Ting (Kitty) Wang
Albany Book Festival (9/23)

Saturday, September 23 from 10:30am-5:00pm in the Campus Center

We are excited to host the 6th annual Albany Book Festival on Saturday, September 23, at the University at Albany.

Stay tuned to https://www.albanybookfestival.com/ for schedule updates, featured guests, and more information.

Applying to Graduate School Webinar (9/25)

Monday 9/25 from 7:00-8:00pm Online.

If you plan to continue your education beyond the bachelors, you should start the planning now! This workshop will cover the different graduate education options, how to determine the best program and degree, important steps in the application process and what makes a strong application.

Munch with the Majors (9/26)

Date: Tuesday, September 26th
When: 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Where: Campus Center, 2nd Floor

Come and attend Munch with the Majors on Tuesday, September 26th from 6:30 – 8:30 in the Campus Center. This event is an opportunity for you to connect to the important people within each major and minor and help you with the process of deciding on an academic focus and goal.

Promoting Empowerment: Bystander Intervention Training (9/27)

Wednesday 9/27 from 5:30-7:00pm, Humanities 124

This training will explore the foundations of power based personal violence and the key components of both healthy and unhealthy
relationships. This training will examine the experiences of sexual violence on college campuses and the systems and structures which uphold and perpetuate sexual violence within communities. You will explore your personal values around relationships and your values around supporting others in developing healthy relationships with their peers and overall community and learn about resources, knowledge, and skills to develop an action plan based in empowered bystander intervention and support.

Unsubscribe

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ISSS@albany.edu
https://www.albany.edu/isss

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