Friday, September 8, 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
- ISSS Graduate Assistant Position
- Integrated ISSS + Career Advising (9/11 and 9/14)
- Text Student Auto
- Coffee with the Dean (9/21)

Other Announcements/Upcoming Events:
- Library Workshops for International Students (ongoing)
- Webinar: Launching Your Tech Careers Beyond Big Tech
- Student Participants Needed for Research Study (Proccoli)
- Student Participants Needed for Dissertation Study Recruitment
- Arabic Speakers Needed
**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.

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**ISSS Graduate Assistant Position**

ISSS is currently accepting applications for a graduate assistant position. For more details and to apply please [click here](#). Applications will not begin to be reviewed until the fourth week of September. If you are interested please follow the process in the application instructions (in person requests for consideration for the position will not be considered).

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**Integrated ISSS + Career Advising (9/11 and 9/14)**

Join us for these special joint walk in hours next week. Learn about obtaining proper work authorization and the skills required for the job search all in the same visit. International students will be able to speak with an ISSS advisor and Career Coach.

**Monday, September 11 and Thursday, September 14**

1pm-3:30pm

Science Library G-40
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."

Coffee with the Dean (9/21)

Join us on Thursday, September 21 from 3:30-4:30pm in the Science Library atrium for coffee, tea, treats and conversation! Dean Valverde will be there with other CIEGS staff. We hope that you can stop by to say hello!

Other Announcements/Upcoming Events:

Library Workshops for International Students (ongoing)

Workshop I: Introduction to Research Process

Date: Friday, September 1

Time: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
Place: LI – B48 (University Library, Basement level)

Topics: what is a research paper, steps in the research process, choosing a research topic, finding background information and articles, using research databases, evaluating research materials, and hands-on exercises.

Workshop II: What is “plagiarism” all about? How to avoid it?

Date: Friday, September 8

Time: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Place: LI – B48 (University Library, Basement level)

Topics: in-text citations and bibliography; why acknowledge sources; when to cite; differences among quoting, summarizing, and paraphrasing; types of plagiarism; how to cite; tips for avoiding plagiarism; academic integrity; and hands-on exercises.

Workshop III: Citation Practice

Date: Friday, September 15

Time: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Place: LI – B48 (University Library, Basement level)

Topics: DOI (digital object identifier), ways of providing in-text citations, formulating citations, and hands-on paraphrasing practice.

As Workshop II and Workshop III are closely related, you are strongly encouraged to attend Workshop II first.

To sign up for any of the workshops, please fill out the form at https://albany.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cSYfm1wtPRi0WY6

If you have any questions about the workshops, please contact Dr. Yu-Hui Chen (ychen@albany.edu) at University Libraries.
ICAway, an empowering community for international students, and CodePath, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that brings together employers, students, and colleges to eliminate inequities in tech education are hosting a groundbreaking webinar that could reshape the trajectory of your career: "Launching Your Tech Careers Beyond Big Tech"

Date: Friday, September 15, 2023

Time: 9 AM PST | 11 AM CST | 12 PM EST

Duration: 1-Hour

Platform: Zoom Meeting

Registration Link: Eventbrite

Bonus: Win a $500-Value Scholarship!

Registered participants have a chance to win a valuable $500 scholarship, which can be used for any of ICAway's career search services. It's our way of supporting your career journey beyond the webinar.

Key Insights:

- **Navigational Guidance**: Coach Kwan Segal, Founder of ICAway, and Kelsey Johnson, a Program Manager and Career Coach at CodePath, will provide actionable strategies to navigate your career journey.
• **Expert Perspectives:** Jennifer Peters, Director of BI & Analytics at Nestlé Purina, is a trailblazer in implementing AI/ML at scale in operations. Her invaluable expertise will showcase how a STEM background can revolutionize industries beyond tech while also offering a comprehensive exploration of the current trends shaping technology integration within non-tech sectors.

• **Diverse Career Paths and Inspirational Stories:** Vaish Hatrote, an F-1 international student and skilled engineer in the FMCG industry, will share her remarkable journey of finding a job in a non-tech industry while also advocating for diversity and inclusion initiatives.

Don't miss this opportunity to gain insights, inspiration, and strategies to launch your tech careers. Join us in this eye-opening experience that could redefine your professional path.

For those who can't join live, registering guarantees access to the recording.

Register now: [Eventbrite](#)

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**Student Participants Needed for Research Study (Proccoli)**

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

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

Student Participants Needed for Dissertation Study Recruitment

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](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](mailto:ktwang@albany.edu), or my faculty advisor (Dr. Hung-Bin Sheu at [hsheu@albany.edu](mailto:hsheu@albany.edu)).

In humble solidarity,

Xiao Ting (Kitty) Wang

Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology

University at Albany, SUNY

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**Arabic Speakers Needed**

This is an urgent need for Arabic speaking volunteers at St Vincent's Food Pantry (located between here and the Downtown Campus) Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:00pm. They also need Farsi and Spanish speaking volunteers but Arabic is the most urgent need. Students can reach directly out to the Food Pantry's Director, Jeff Vigliotta, at [foodpantry@stvincentalbany.org](mailto:foodpantry@stvincentalbany.org), or they can contact me at [sstevens@albany.edu](mailto:sstevens@albany.edu) if they'd like assistance with an introduction. Undergraduates can do this service for college credit through the CPSP if they are interested.
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