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1. Greetings!

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

2. Important Announcements

Immediate Opening for Graduate Assistant, ISSS

The International Student and Scholar Services Office is seeking applicants for a graduate student assistant position, to start as soon as possible for the 2017-2018 academic year.
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.

To apply, please complete this Google Form [https://goo.gl/forms/kVY3hN9oFivzSiJx2](https://goo.gl/forms/kVY3hN9oFivzSiJx2) and email your resume and cover letter to [ISSS@albany.edu](mailto:ISSS@albany.edu). Please include your full name and UAlbany ID number in the email, and format your subject line “GA Application Materials LAST NAME, First.” Applications are due by December 18th, 2017 to be considered.

Benefits:

- $12,000 stipend for the academic year or $15.00/hour (because the position is starting mid-year this will be pro-rated)
- No tuition waiver or other benefits available

**ISSS Travel Signature Days**

Don’t miss the opportunity to have your I-20 or DS-2019 signed for travel on the spot in the Science Library, G-05!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 19th</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
<td>G-40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 1st</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
<td>G-05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 12th</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
<td>G-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 18th</td>
<td>2:00-4:00</td>
<td>G-05</td>
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Bring your I-20 or DS-2019. Travel signatures are valid for one year for most full-time students. If you are uncertain if your signature is still valid, check with an ISSS.
ETAP 500 Academic Writing In English as a Second Language

ACADEMIC WRITING IN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Class Hours: Monday 01:15-04:05 PM
Class number: 10762

Instructor: Liya Zalaltdinova
For permission numbers email the instructor at lzalaltdinova@albany.edu,
the secretary at bbruner@albany.edu or ETAP advisors at etapcn@albany.edu.

Course Description

Designed specifically for international graduate students, this course introduces the conventions of academic literacy by engaging students in a series of graduate-level writing projects such as argumentative essays, critical reviews, and research papers. Students will first explore the processes of academic writing by analyzing and evaluating sample academic papers and scholarly articles, and then will move on to produce their own written work by employing strategies such as drafting and revising as well as providing and responding to constructive feedback.

Writing projects will also focus on the fundamental aspects of an academic research paper (e.g., introduction, literature review, and citing sources) enabling students to produce a research paper on their topics of interest.

Through assigned readings, classroom discussions, writing assignments, and peer reviews, students are expected to develop an awareness of writing for scholarly purposes and to gain confidence in providing feedback to other students’ written work.
December Graduation 2017

Applying for graduation and attending the commencement ceremonies are two different processes. All students who plan to graduate this December must apply for graduation through the Registrar’s Office. This is not the same as the ceremony. Commencement is the ceremonies that students participate in to have their graduation publicly recognized.

The University at Albany will not hold Commencement ceremonies in December. All students who graduate in the 2017-2018 academic year will be invited to May Commencement. The ISSS office recognize that this could be a burden for some international students, so we invite you to participate in our International Celebration this December. Here is more information on each process:

**Apply for Graduation:**

- Students completing all of their degree requirements and graduating this December, 2017 should apply for graduation.
- You will apply through MyUAlbany. Instructions can be found here: [http://www.albany.edu/registrar/degree-application.php](http://www.albany.edu/registrar/degree-application.php).
- This is how you ensure that you get your degree.

**Register for Commencement:**

- Students who graduate during the 2017-2018 academic year will be invited to attend the Commencement Ceremonies May 18-20, 2018. There are no university wide commencement ceremonies in December.
- Commencement registration is not open yet, but information will be sent to all students who apply for graduation in the 2017-2018 academic year.
- You can find also out more about Commencement here: [http://www.albany.edu/commencement/](http://www.albany.edu/commencement/).
3. Other ISSS Updates and Events

OPT/CPT Workshops

The OPT filling period is now open of December graduates! Start the process for applying for OPT early!

Students applying for OPT are required to attend one of the below mandatory workshop sessions. Students who are applying for CPT are strongly encouraged to attend a workshop as well.

CPT and OPT Workshops

Fall 2017

CPT Workshops
- Tuesday, 9/12, 4pm-5pm, SL G05
- Wednesday, 10/18, 3-4pm, SL G05
- Thursday, 11/16, 10am-11am, SL G05
- Monday, 12/11, 4pm-5pm, SL G05

OPT Workshops
- Monday, 9/18, 3pm-4pm, SL G05
- Wednesday, 9/19, 2pm-3pm, SL G05
- Thursday, 10/5, 10am-11am, Downtown Campus, Draper Hall 246
- Friday, 10/13, 10am-11am, SL G05
- Tuesday, 10/24, 11am-12pm, East Campus Room C2
- Monday, 10/30, 10am-11am, SL G05
- Friday, 11/10, 4pm-5pm, SL G05
- Monday 11/20, 2-4pm, Downtown Campus, Husted Hall 305
- Wednesday 11/29, 3-4pm, SL G05
- Thursday, 12/7, 3-4pm SL G05
- Friday, 12/15, 10am-11am, SL G05
- Tuesday, 12/19, 3pm-4pm, SL G05

Other Important Dates
- Wednesday, 9/13: University Job and Internship Fair, 12pm-5pm, SEUFC Arena
- Wednesday, 9/20: Beginning of OPT filing season for December 2017 graduates.
- Monday, 12/18: Term end date for December graduates
- Friday, 12/18: Latest OPT start date for December graduates to request. All OPT applications for December graduates must be received by USCIS before this date.
Join Cultural Connections and IFP Next Semester!

APPLY HERE: https://goo.gl/forms/ooTXSGBw9GsZozwf2

Cultural Connections is a student group which coordinates the International Friendship Partners, a series of programs designed to help both American and international students make friends with each other. Participants will also learn different cultures and languages through cultural activities. You can choose to participate in one or more programs listed below:

**Part I**

*International Buddies Program:* You will be helping new international students adjust to academic and community life at UAlbany.

**Part II**

*Language & Cultural Exchange Program:* The International Friendship Partners Program is designed to provide an opportunity for U.S. and international students to interact regularly on a small group basis outside of the classroom setting.

**Part III**

*Community & Public Service Program:* You can take RSSW 291 (2 credits) for meeting friends and doing cultural activities! Please find program syllabus in application.

**APPLY FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE PROGRAMS, HERE:**

https://goo.gl/forms/ooTXSGBw9GsZozwf2
Call for Photographers!
Click, send and get it published in ISSS Newsletter

Do you want your photographs published in the header block in the ISSS newsletter? You can send us a landscape picture of any On-Campus attractions, buildings, diversity on-campus and more.

You can email your entry to ISSS@albany.edu with a subject "Newsletter Photograph Entry"
When We Were Young: Rethinking Abstracts from the University at Albany Art Collections (1967-present)

**When:** Friday, December 15, 2017 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Where:** University Art Museum Fine Arts Building

**Description:** When We Were Young looks back and highlights the earliest years of the University at Albany Art Collections. Shining a fresh light on late-Modernist abstraction as it relates to current trends in contemporary art. Artists include Josef Albers, Max Bill, Jack Bosson, Chryssa, Gene Davis, Donald Judd, Ellsworth Kelly, Michael Kidner, Kim Lim, Luis Molinari Flores, Henry Pearson, Peter Taylor among others. Museum Hours: Tues 10
am – 7 pm; Weds through Fri, 10 am – 5 pm; Sat noon – 4 pm

See: http://www.albany.edu/museum/

**Men's Basketball vs. Canisius**

*When:* Saturday, December 16, 2017 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
*Where:* SEFCU Arena

See: http://www.ualbanysports.com/

**Description:** Men's Basketball hosts Canisius.

**Aromatherapy**

*When:* Sunday, December 17, 2017 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
*Where:* University Libraries - Dewey Library Downtown Campus
See: http://libguides.library.albany.edu/stresslessdewey

Description: Upper and Lower Levels. Pick up a scratch-and-smell aromatherapy bookmark to take aromatherapy on the go! #StressLessUAlbany @ Dewey Library

**ITS Class Microsoft Excel 2013: Charts, Filters and Printing**

**When:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM  
**Where:** LC SB 30A Lecture Center Sub Basement  
**See:** https://doodle.com/poll/qd7hfcwsmi43dmzz
Food for Finals: Late Night Coffee & Cookies

**When:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 8:30 PM - 10:30 PM

**Where:** Campus Center

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Description: Join UAS at the Campus Center for late night coffee and cookies! All students are welcome with a valid student ID.

For more UAlbany Events,
https://events.albany.edu/cal/main/showMainEnd.rdo

5. Capital Region Event

Melodies of Christmas at Proctors

Hosted By: Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc
When: Today 7:00 PM
Where: Proctors, 432 State Street Schenectady, NY

See: http://www.proctors.org/events/cbs-6-melodies-christmas

Disney On Ice: Frozen

Hosted By: Times Union Center
When: Saturday, Dec 16, 2017 at 11:00 AM
Where: Times Union Center, 51 S Pearl Street Albany, NY 12207
Description: Discover the full story of Disney’s Frozen like never before at Disney On Ice presents Frozen! Dazzling ice skating, special effects, and unforgettable music will magically transport you to wintry Arendelle. Be a part of Anna’s fearless adventure to find her sister, Queen Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom in an eternal winter. Join the hilarious snowman Olaf, rugged mountain man Kristoff, and his loyal reindeer sidekick Sven as they help Anna in a race to bring back summer.

More timings at https://www.albany.com/event/disney-on-ice-frozen-159753/

Chanukah in the Chocolate Factory

When: Sunday, Dec 17, 2017 - 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM
Where: Bethlehem Chabad, 393 Delaware Ave Delmar, NY 12054
BETHLEHEM CHABAD PRESENTS

CHANUKAH AT THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

SUNDAY, DEC. 17
3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
BETHLEHEM CHABAD
393 DELAWARE AVE

CRAZY CAR MENORAH PARADE
FULL OF SURPRISES
CHOCOLATE GELT DROP
OOMPA LOOMPA LATKES
CREATE A 6 FT. CHOCOLATE MENORAH
HOT CHOCOLATE BAR
GOLDEN TICKET WINNERS
ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT
FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

FUN FOR ALL AGES!

NO CHARGE
RSVP WWW.BETHLEHEMCHABAD.COM
INFO@BETHLEHEMCHABAD.COM 518-439-3310

See: https://www.albany.com/event/chanukah-in-the-chocolate-factory-159600/
The Snow Sisters at The Egg

Hosted By: The Egg Center for the Performing Arts
When: Sunday, Dec 17, 2017 - 1:00 PM
Where: The Egg, 1 Empire State Plaza, South Mall Arterial Albany, NY 12203

Description: Join the Snow Sisters as they retell the story of their magical journey through a winter adventure. This show is full of interaction, sing-a-longs, and surprises. It’s designed for young children but can be enjoyed by the whole family together. Children are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite princess!

See: http://www.theegg.org/event/the-snow-sisters

Empire "Skate" Plaza - Part of Winter at the Plaza

When: Today until Sunday, Dec 17, 2017 - 11:00 AM
**Where:** Empire State Plaza Ice Rink, Albany, NY 12210

**Description:** Now in its 7th year, the tremendously popular Empire State Plaza Ice Rink is open daily December 1 through March 11, from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. (closed for maintenance from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.) and skating is free. Located in the shadow of Albany's majestic State Capitol, amenities include a full-service snack bar on Friday nights and weekends and a skate lounge with lockers.

**See:** [https://www.albany.com/event/empire-skate-plaza-159679/](https://www.albany.com/event/empire-skate-plaza-159679/)