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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.
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

Fall 2018 Orientation Assistant Application OPEN

Looking for a fun on-campus job this summer? ISSS is seeking Orientation Assistants for New International Student Orientation, August 19th-26th, 2018!

The overall objective of an Orientation Assistant is to provide a genuine welcome for new students and to assist them during the first days of their adjustment to the University and the Capital District. We consider the 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 25 hours of work.

Please click https://goo.gl/forms/vQReawera6xOBeGh1 to apply! Applications will close TODAY AT 5PM. If you have any questions please contact isss@albany.edu

Boston Day Trip Registration is closing soon!

Students are invited to take a trip to Boston on Saturday April 21. The price is $45 which covers the cost of travel. Once in Boston, students are welcome to go on activities with ISSS staff or explore the city with friends. Register today as there are VERY limited spots remaining.
Presentation Skills in American Classrooms

April 6

Do you have a Powerpoint presentation for your final project? Are you nervous about presenting in English in front of your professor and classmates? ISSS organize the workshop called "Presentation Skills in American Classrooms" to familiarize you with American presentation styles, give you tips on how to be confident in public speaking, and offer one-on-one advising regarding your personal presentation projects. Bring your ideas or your PPTs to the workshop and have fun sharpening your skills.
Save the Date International Celebration - May 16th

The international celebration will be held on Wednesday, May 16th 2018 at 2:30pm in the Campus Center Ballroom. More information on how to RSVP is forthcoming. Graduating international students, departing exchange students and scholars, and graduating study abroad returners will all be recognized at this special ceremony.

Information on the SEVP OPT Portal

On March 23rd, 2018, SEVP (the government office which runs SEVIS) is expected to launch an OPT portal which students on OPT can access to view and update certain information in SEVIS. Please note this is a new system, and updates may be frequent as both students and advisors become accustomed to the system’s capability.

For information on how to use the Portal and what to expect, please click here.
3. Other ISSS Updates and Events

OPT/CPT Workshops-- Revised Schedule

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. Below are the dates of workshops for Spring 2018. No pre-registration is needed for the workshops.

CPT and OPT Workshops
Spring 2018
Updated 2.22.18

CPT Workshops
- Friday, 3/2, 10am-11am, SL Go5
- Monday, 3/5, 4pm-5pm, SL Basement Classroom H
- Wednesday, 4/4, 3pm-4pm, SL Basement Classroom H—intended for first semester MS CSCI students
- Thursday, 4/19, 11am-12pm, SL Go5

OPT Workshops
- Friday, 2/23, 4pm-5pm, SL Basement H
- Thursday, 3/8, 10am-11am, SL Go5
- Monday, 3/19, 3pm-4pm, SL Basement H
- Tuesday, 3/27, 11am-12pm, SL Go5
- Friday, 4/13, 3pm-4pm, SL Basement H
- Wednesday, 4/25, 1pm-2pm, SL Go5
- Thursday, 5/3, 3pm-4pm, East Campus, George Education Center C4
- Tuesday, 5/8, 10am-11am, SL Go5
- Thursday, 5/17, 7pm-8pm, SL Go5

Other Important Dates
- Saturday, 2/17/18: Beginning of OPT filing season with USCIS for May 2018 graduates
- Wednesday, 2/21/18: Job and Internship Fair, 12pm-3pm, SEFUC Arena
- Thursday, 3/15/18: Program and date for May graduates
- Friday, 3/16/18: Latest OPT start date for May graduates to request. All OPT applications for May graduates must be received by USCIS before this date.

Sprintax and Other Tax Filing Information

ISSS has purchased Sprintax tax software to help international students and scholars to file their 2017 tax returns. Codes for Sprintax will be available on
Monday, February 5, 2018. To obtain a Sprintax tax code, please email isss@albany.edu. Please include the following information in your email: first & last name, student id number, and the name of your employer. If you were not employed, please go to: https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf, to obtain form 8843. For questions, please contact ISSS.

Intercultural Connections Survey

We are looking for your help as we update the International Connections resources guide. This is a booklet we put out at orientation for new international students.

You are the experts at being an international student at UAlbany, so we want to know what grocery stores and restaurants you go to. We are also interested to know if there are religious or other organizations (on or off-campus) that you belong to.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the parts of this survey you have ideas about. Thank you for your time.

Webinar for International Students Seeking Summer Internships
ICAWay will offer a webinar to international students seeking assistance with finding summer internships. The cost to register is $10 early bird, $15 after March 31st. The webinar will take place on Friday April 6th at 1:30pm. For more information, including how to register, please click here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gear-up-for-summer-internship-hunting-registration-44207150778

Human Library

Tuesday, March 27th
4:15-7:15
CC West Addition
4. University at Albany Events
Click [Here](#) for a full list of upcoming UAlbany events!

**Women's Lacrosse vs. Hartford**
Saturday, March 24 @ 7:00pm
Tom & Mary Casey Stadium (Bob Ford Field)
Your Nationally #1 ranked Men's Lacrosse teams hosts the Harvard Crimson on Wednesday, March 28th at 7 pm in Casey Stadium. UAlbany students are FREE with a valid SUNY ID!

**Kickboxing**
Monday, March 26 @ 5:30pm
Physical Education Building - Group Exercise Studio
Ready to punch, kick, and jump your way into a sweaty workout? This cardiovascular class will do just that by combining martial arts, kickboxing, and more!

**Me Too - Community Conversations about the Me Too movement**
Tuesday, March 27 @ 7:30pm
Education 120 (Free food)
It is nearly impossible to look at the news or social media over the past few months and not be inundated by women sharing their stories of sexual harassment, abuse, and assault by well known people in our society, community and within our personal lives and experiences. With everyone from actors, musicians, business professionals, and politicians being accused of—and many admitting to—engaging in harmful sexual behaviors, many of us have had to grapple with reconciling the person we thought we knew with the behaviors they have chosen to engage in. While this is a normal reaction, it is no less difficult to deal with.

The Advocacy Center strives to provide support to our community during times like these. We invite all those in need of space to share, process, or gain support from others to join members of the Sexual Violence Prevention Ambassadors for this conversation on Tuesday, March 27th from 7:30pm-9:30pm. This conversation will be informal with support from Advocacy Center staff skilled in working with survivors and educating our
community on the issue of sexual violence. We ask all who attend to come in the spirit of kindness, respect and understanding of the complexity of these issues, and a willingness to support one another without judgement.

RSVP Here

Therapy Dogs
Wednesday, March 28 @ 12:15pm
Downtown Campus; Milne 200
Come take a "Paws" amidst your tests and exams with the Therapy Dogs. Everyone’s favorite furry friends are coming back to help us relax during finals and midterms. Come play while practicing positive mental health!

RSVP Here

Men's Lacrosse vs. Harvard
Wednesday, March 28 @ 7:00pm
Tom & Mary Casey Stadium (Bob Ford Field)
Your Nationally #1 ranked Men’s Lacrosse teams hosts the Harvard Crimson on Wednesday, March 28th at 7 pm in Casey Stadium. UAlbany students are FREE with a valid SUNY ID!

University Symphony Orchestra
Thursday, March 29 @ 7:30pm
Performing Arts Center (Main Theatre)
With conductor Christopher David Neubert, this large ensemble presents works representing outstanding repertoire from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods of the 20th and 21st centuries. The group is well-known for programming works by Dvořák, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Hindemith. PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND THEATRE

Cultural Carnival Fashion Show
April 22 (Sign up now!)
On April 22nd Student Association will be holding our first Cultural Fashion Show!!
don't need any previous experience. We welcome you help us give everyone an accurate representation of what our culture is all about. #RepresentationMatters
#WeAreTheCulture

SIGN UP HERE

**AdvisingPLUS tutoring schedule**
AdvisingPLUS offers weekly tutoring in a number of subjects to help undergraduate students with their academic success. Attend these tutoring sessions to help you get that A!

Full schedule is available [here](#).

### 5. Capital District Events

**Maestro: One Comedian to Rule Them All!**
Friday March 23, 2018 | 8-10pm | $6-$10 for admission

This a comedy elimination showdown. Many competitors enter but only one will emerge as the "Maestro." A king or queen to rule the stage! In this exciting format, improvisors compete to escape elimination and be crowned the evening's Maestro. Actors perform in a barrage of scenes and songs for the audience's delight and approval. Will they succeed, or join the ranks of the eliminated? Come laugh and cheer to see who will be this months' Maestro!

Doors open at 7:30pm, show starts at 8pm.
Tickets at mopco.org/shows
Discover the Pine Bush Preserve
Saturday, Mar 24, 2018 - 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Free Admission
Albany Pine Bush Preserve, Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Road #1 Albany, NY 12205
An extraordinary journey into the Albany Pine Bush – a globally rare, nationally significant and locally distinct inland pine barrens. Our experts will guide you along this 0.9-mile hike over rolling sand dunes where you will discover Pine Bush natural history, seasonal surprises and transformations.
Click here for more details and required registration.

Billy Cobham Crosswinds at The Egg
Sunday, March 25 @7:30pm | $34
The Egg, 1 Empire State Plaza, S Mall Artial Albany, NY 12203
Widely regarded as one of the world’s great drummers and revered for his musical ingenuity, jazz fusion virtuoso Billy Cobham has contributed seminally as a master percussionist, composer, producer, educator, clinician and tireless musical explorer.
This performance is part of the American Roots & Branches Series.

Screening: The Vietnam War, Episode 1: "Deja? Vu" (1858-1961)
Wednesday, Mar 28, 2018 - 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM | Free Admission
Albany Public Library Pine Hills Branch, 517 Western Ave Albany, NY 12203
After a century of French occupation, Vietnam emerges independent but divided.
LinkedIn Lunch & Learn
Thursday, March 29 @ 12pm | Free Admission

How's your LinkedIn looking? Are you overwhelmed by recommendations vs references? Is your photo a poorly cropped image from a less-than-professional event? Or maybe you're a LinkedIn All-Star looking to advance your professional branding to the next level, or maybe you've never logged onto LinkedIn before. Join us March 29th for a lunch & learn with LinkedIn professionals and get your professional headshot taken as well!! This event is FREE and open to anyone who is interested. However, space is limited, so please RSVP by calling 518.579.5115 or emailing Ashley.Wysocarski@ugoc.com

Italian Easter Bake Sale
Friday March 30 - Saturday March 31 | 11am-3pm
American Italian Heritage Museum, 1227 Central Ave. Albany, NY 12205
Come, discover, and partake in locally and home baked traditional Italian goods such as Ricotta Pie, Ricotta Wheat Pie, Guanti (ewonds), Paski Bread (Babka), Ham & Cheese Pie, Easter Bread and Classic Italian Cookies (Genets & Pizzelles). To ensure you get your favorite treats, please pre-order by picking up, completing, and returning your order form at the Museum. All pre-orders will be available for pick-up between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 30th and 31st.