



Don't miss mix-it-up today at 5pm

# IN THIS ISSUE Syracuse University Slutzker Center News



February 17, 2012



Click Here to go to our New Website



http://international.syr.edu/

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- If you have trouble viewing this message, please view this email using your SYR email account. Every week we also post this SCIS Newsletter on the Slutzker Center website. http://international.syr.edu/newsletters/index.html
- The GLACIER Tax Prep password is now available. (Please note CINTAX no longer exists, it has been replaced with GLACIER Tax Prep).
- Starting the first Monday in March Life After Practical Training changed from 2x a month (the 1st Monday & Thursday) to 1x a month (just the 1st Monday of each month)

- There will not be a Practical Training Seminar on Wednesday, March 21, instead it will be held the following Wednesday, March 28, same time CPT at 3:00pm and OPT at 3:45pm
- We will start having daily Travel Seminars on Monday, February 20 through Friday, March 9. Monday 5:00pm, Tuesday 11:00am, Wednesday 1:30pm, Thursday 3:00pm, Friday 12:00pm
- Feeling sick? Pick up your over the counter medications at the Health Services Pharmacy. All purchases can be charged to your bursar account. Call 315-443-5691 if you want to know if your medicine is in the pharmacy. Call (315) 443-9005 if you're interested to get a flu shot! SU Health Services

## Tax Seminar:

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# The GLACIER Tax Prep access code is now available! (Please note CINTAX no longer exists, it has been replaced with GLACIER Tax Prep).

It is your obligation as a student/scholar to file a federal and maybe a state tax return **by April 17, 2012**! The Slutzker Center for International Services has tried to set up systems to help you meet those obligations. Information about **GLACIER Tax Prep** is available on our website <a href="http://international.syr.edu/current-students/taxes/index.html">http://international.syr.edu/current-students/taxes/index.html</a>, and through this newsletter. In addition, we will have one tax seminar.

#### TAX SEMINARS will be offered:

#### Friday - March 23, 2012

Where: Maxwell Auditorium Time: 12:30PM - 3:00PM

A Federal and a State representative will present at the seminar.

The Slutzker Center for International Services has opened access to **GLACIER Tax Prep**, the web-based income tax preparation software for filing your federal tax forms. **GLACIER Tax Prep** access codes are now available! The only way to request a **GLACIER Tax Prep** access codes is from our website. Click here to go to the form.

It is important that you complete all the fields on the form to receive this access codes. There is a maximum of 2-4 business day turnaround time for the access code.

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#### Are You Employed This Semester? Here's an Important Tax Tip for F-1s and J-1s!

If you are an international student in F-1 or J-1 status who is working on campus for Spring 2012, have you examined your paychecks carefully? Here is some important information for you. The information that comes with your paycheck may show that both federal and state income tax (or just federal income tax) are being withheld from your paycheck. This is correct, since students in F-1 or J-1 status do pay federal and state income taxes on money they earn through on-campus employment. However, if your paycheck information shows that social security tax and/or Medicare tax are being withheld from your paycheck, this may be an error! F-1 or J-1 students who have been in the United States in F-1 or J-1 status for five years or less do not pay social security or Medicare tax on employment earnings authorized by federal Immigration regulations, including on-campus employment. So, if you believe a mistake has been made, speak with someone in the appropriate payroll office, and have your pay stub with you. You are entitled to a refund of any social security or Medicare tax incorrectly withheld.

The rules are explained in IRS Publication 519: US Tax Guide for Aliens. To access a copy, go to: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p519.pdf You need print only pages 1, 54 and 55

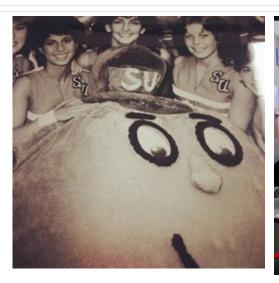
#### WANT TO BE SHOWCASED IN AN UPCOMING INDIA VIDEO PROJECT? Back>>

Attention Syracuse students looking for an opportunity to showcase your work: The India programs Team at the Maxwell School's Executive Education Programs is looking for India related campus videos and pictures that has potential to feature in an upcoming video project. Successful submissions will be acknowledged at the Executive Education-India Video Showcase Event! Please send your pictures & clips to Payitra Ramaswamy at pramaswa@syr.edu by February 24.

# Join us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter and stay informed and updated about news @ SU $_{ m Back}>>$

One of the earliest versions of Otto. He looks more like a giant pumpkin than an orange!

Ellen's Dance Dare Featuring Otto The Orange





- Midnight Snow Tubing at Greek Peak- Orange After Dark Event. Saturday, February 18, 2012, 9:00pm Click here for more information
- On Thursday, March 1, the Deputy Counsel of the Consulate General of France in New York will be here at the Slutzker Center from 3:00pm to 5:00pm to help register French citizens to vote in the French Presidential Elections. Click here for more information.
- Career Services offers trainings to seniors on job searches in February http://syr.edu/news/articles/2012/career-services-training-01-12.html
- Totally Fabulous X Drag Show Finals! Friday, February 24, 2012;8:00pm. Click here for more infomation
- The Newhouse School will host a session on networking and dining etiquette for students on Thursday, March 1 at 5 p.m. in the Goldstein Alumni & Faculty Center. The Newhouse School will host a session on networking and dining etiquette for students on Thursday, March 1 at 5 p.m. in the Goldstein Alumni & Faculty Center. Click here for more info.
- \$15 to see Aziz Ansari on 4/13! Go to http://Ticketmaster.com/ & use your SUId as your password to take advantage of the student discount!
- Indian students or students of Indian origin, please check out this opportunity. Applications are due on March 1st. http://www.indicorps.org/
- www.campuswestsyracuse.com This is the new student housing complex under construction on an SU surface lot just west of the Carrier Dome.
- Orange Orators (Student Organizations); Tuesday, February 21, 2012; 12:00pm to 1:00pm; Location: Peter Graham Scholarly Commons: The Syracuse University chapter of Toastmasters, The Orange Orators of Syracuse University, meet Tuesdays from noon-1 p.m. in Bird Library. Toastmasters is a group that helps to develop and hone public speaking skills in a supportive and friendly environment.

Join us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter and stay informed and updated about news, important announcements, seminar schedules, events, insights, galleries and much more!!



Scan the QR code to go to our new website. (What's a QR code?)

- How To Scan QR Codes On iPhone
- How To Scan QR Codes On Android

How to Scan QR Codes on Blackberry





http://www.facebook.com/slutzkercenter https://twitter.com/SlutzkerCenter

# Mix-it-up

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Something on your mind? Bring it to the circle!

# Starts @ 5:00 PM On Fridays

# WHEN?

January 20 January 27

February 3 February 10

February 17

# WHERE?

Events Room, 220 Eggers Hall Events Room, 220 Eggers Hall Schine 304 ABC

Schine 304 ABC

Slutzker Center 310 Walnut Place (at Waverly)

Students of all backgrounds meet, share their stories, and have fun.

5:00 PM—Meet & Greet, Food, and Activities

6:00 PM — Circle Discussion

SILUTZIKER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND YOUR STUDENT THE

RSVP REQUIRED to Elane Granger: elcarras@syr.edu

# International Ambassador Program Opportunity

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The Office of Admissions has an exciting new volunteer opportunity! Please see the attachment or the email below for more information. Volunteering with the Office of Admissions is a great way to help new international students before they arrive -- volunteering at the Slutzker Center in August and January is a great way to help them after they've arrived! Make sure you respond to Cristalyn or Whitney (emails below) by Feb 20th to reserve a spot in their training on Feb 24th from 4-5:30pm in Hall of Languages 114



#### We are looking to recruit current SU international students for this semester to help with:

- · Emailing prospective students (those thinking of applying to SU) and later in the year, admitted students (those thinking of enrolling here)
- · Talking with students and families who visit campus
- · Visiting their home high school during holiday breaks or over the summer
  - Creating an international student leader profile for the Office of Admissions website (and perhaps blogging about what your life is like at SU, if you are interested)

Please see the attachments to this email for a more detailed description of the IAP. Please write back to

Cristalyn Vargas at <a href="mailto:crvargas@syr.edu">crvargas@syr.edu</a> or Whitney Losapio at <a href="mailto:wllosapi@syr.edu">wllosapi@syr.edu</a> by <a href="mailto:Monday, February 20 at 5:00pm">Monday, February 20 at 5:00pm</a> to let me know if you (or your friends) are interested in joining this group this semester.

# Middle Eastern Studies Program (grants available)



Middle Eastern Studies Program Summer Grants

#### For Undergraduate Students

As part of its Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program (UISFL) grant, the Middle Eastern Studies (MES) Program has allocated \$7,000 to Syarcuse University undergraduate students who wish to take part in the new study abroad program in Istanbul entitled "Read to Democracy in the Islamic World" (<a href="http://suabroad.svv.edu/dest/program.html?id=649">http://suabroad.svv.edu/dest/program.html?id=649</a>). Upon applying to SU Abroad and being admitted into this program students are encouraged to send an e-mail to SU Abroad subject of their financial need. Please note that admitted students can simultaneously apply for grants from SU Abroad as well. Submission deadline is March 1, 2012.

#### For Maxwell Doctoral Students

This year the Middle Eastern Studies Program will grant awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000 to Maxwell doctoral students to support field research in the Middle East during the summer of 2012. The purpose of the award is to provide students the opportunity to gather data, undergo advanced language training, and increase competiveness of future proposals for funding. The proposals will be evaluated on the basis of (I) originality and significance of the proposed research, (II) organization and clarity of the proposal, (III) appropriateness and feasibility of the research plan in relation to the student's background and qualifications, and (IV) cost effectiveness.

Applicants should e-mail their 2-3 page proposals to mes@maxwell.svr.edu. Submission deadline is March 9, 2012.

# South Asia Center presents: "Aarakshan" (2011)

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Wednesday, February 22, 2012; 5:00pm

#### South Asia Center presents: "Aarakshan" (2011)

The film is a socio-political drama based on the controversial policy of caste-based reservations in government jobs and educational institutions. The film opens in 2008 with Deepak Kumar (Saif Ali Khan) at an interview for the post of a teacher at an affluent school. The interviewers quickly turn him down when they discover his low caste background. His mentor, Prabhakar Anand (Amitabh Bachchan), consoles Deepak and offers him an interim job at STM College. However, the situation becomes complicated when Anand refuses to enroll the no-good nephew of State Minister Baburam. The film then takes a dramatic turn as politics, corruption and greed threaten the educational system for those who do not come from privileged backgrounds.

#### Refreshments will be served at Intermission

Directed by Prakash Jha 164 min

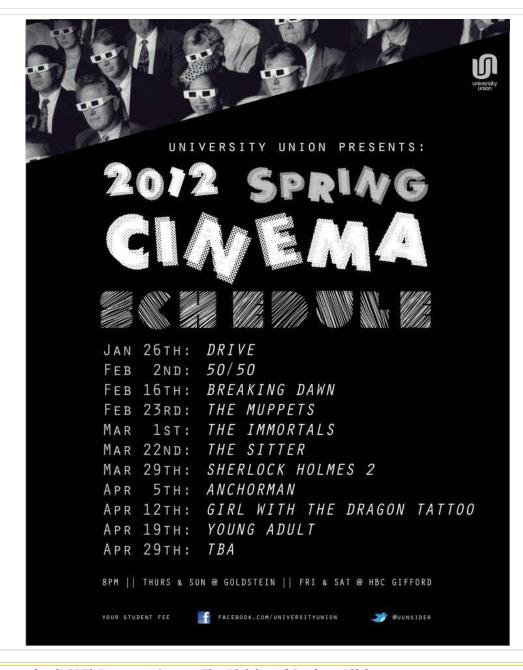
#### More information...

Location: Maxwell Auditorium; Price: free

Sponsoring department/organization: Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs Contact: Nicholas Turner; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:npturner@maxwell.syr.edu">npturner@maxwell.syr.edu</a>; 443-9248

# 2012 Spring Cinema Schedule

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Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center, The Division of Student Affairs Back>>

**New to 'Quse**: Monday, February 20, 2012, 7:30pm to 9:00pm:

A weekly discussion group for all those new to the LGBT campus community! Join us for food, fun, games, and the opportunity to get to know the LGBT community at SU!.

Location: 750 Ostrom Ave; Price:Free;

Contact: Danielle Sutton; E-Mail: dssutton@syr.edu; 443-3983

TransCuse: Tuesday, February 14, 2012; 5:30pm to 7:00pm

A bi-weekly discussion group for transgender-identified folks, their partners, and friends.

Location: 750 Ostrom Ave.; Price: Free

Contact: Lauren Adamski; E-Mail: lgbt@syr.edu; 443-3983

#### Submit your OPT application!

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An advisor will be able to process your CPT or OPT on one of the days listed below:

#### February 21, 23, 28 from 10:00am - 12:00pm





F-1 students who will graduate this May 12 and plan to apply for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) are reminded that they must submit their application paperwork to the Slutzker Center, and then send the processed documents to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) so that it is received at the USCIS no later than 60 days after their degree completion date, which was May 9, 2012.

F-1 students who have not yet begun the practical training application process are urged to do so soon so that you will have the best possible opportunity to obtain your employment authorization card (EAD) in a timely manner. Currently, it is taking the USCIS Service Centers approximately 70-90 days to process OPT employment authorization applications. Employment cannot begin until you have the card "in your hands".

- Also, a student in F-1 or J-1 status cannot be employed away from the Syracuse University campus unless they have obtained appropriate federal authorization to do so before employment can begin. This includes internships, research and volunteering.

# **Recreation Services**

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Syracuse University Fit-Campus Challenge! Have Fun, Get Fit, Win Prizes!

Click here for details...

New M/W Cycle Class at 6:10pm added to schedule

Fitness Class Registration starts January 23 at 10:00am

Online Registration ends Sunday 1/29/2012 Registrations will be taken in office after Sunday

Late Night at the Gym - Spring 2012 Schedule

Moonlight Snowshoe Hike Thursday March 1

Register Now!

Cross Country China

**Cross Country Skiing** 

Sunday March 4 and 25

# Register Now!

NIRSA Region One Conference Evaluation:

- Word Doc
- PDF Version

NIRSA Conference Region I Conference: Fall 2011 Picture Gallery

Recreation Facility Reservation Fee Schedule Effective June 1, 2011

Check out our Facebook page!

## **Healthy Monday Syracuse**

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#### **Meditation Monday**

Monday, February 20, 2012, 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Come relax and de-stress with this free meditation class. This class is located in the small chapel of Hendricks (on the lower level).

Location: Hendricks Chapel, lower level small chapel; **Price: free** Sponsoring department/organization: Healthy Monday Campaign Contact: Matt MacDougall; E-Mail: healthymonday@syr.edu; 443-4526

#### **Move It Monday Fitness Class**

Monday, February 20, 2012, 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Free fitness class for Move It Monday, located in the Flanagan Fitness Room.

Location: Flanagan Exercise Room; Price: free

Sponsoring department/organization: Healthy Monday Syracuse Contact: Matt MacDougall; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:healthymonday@syr.edu">healthymonday@syr.edu</a>; 443-4526

# Information for Japanese-English bilingual students from DISCO International

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DISCO International, organizer of the largest job fair for Japanese-English bilingual students, invite you to the New York Career Forum.

--- New York Career Forum ---

February 24th & 25th, 2012 (Fri. & Sat.) Penn Plaza Pavilion http://www.careerforum.net/event/ny/index.asp?lang=E

- No free to register or attend
- Meet face-to-face with companies
- Travel scholarships available

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at cfn@careerforum.net.

Sincerely, CareerForum.Net DISCO International, Inc. cfn@careerforum.net

#### Full-time Course of Study

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**NOTE:** For Syracuse University F-1 students, a full-time course load is required during the Fall and Spring semesters. Full time enrollment means **Graduate** students must enroll for at least <u>9 credits</u> every semester. **Undergraduate** students must register for at least <u>12 credits</u> every semester. Students are not required to enroll in courses during the Summer. However, **if Summer session is your** <u>first</u> **semester** then you must maintain full time enrollment of at least 6 credits for that summer session.

Under Federal Immigration Rules, **to maintain F-1 status**, **no more than 3 online credits per semester may count towards the "full course of study" requirement.** For example, a graduate student required to register for 9 credits per semester to maintain full time status can take only 3 of those credits through an on-line class each semester – **6 credits must be live**, **in classroom courses**.

However, an F-1 student can take as many on-line or distance education as they wish (with SCIS's approval) during the Summer or over Winter break.

If it is your last semester and fewer than 12 credits are required to graduate for undergrads and 9 credits for grads; it is acceptable to carry only those credits required to complete your degree. If a student needs less than a full course load in the final semester to finish his/her degree, the course(s) cannot be taken solely online or as distance education. You must be enrolled in a live, in classroom course during your last semester.

Students considering on-line courses or courses at a different institution should first discuss the plan with an SCIS advisor. It is necessary to maintain valid F-1 status at all times.

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If you are taking fewer than 9 credits this semester you must fill out a Certificate of Full-Time Status http://international.svr.edu/ documents/forms/full time status certification-Jan04.pdf

If this is your last semester you will have to fill out the Last Semester Memo http://international.syr.edu/\_documents/forms/2008/astsemestermemo-su.pdf

# Important Reminders

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# A Reminder About Optional Practical Training EAD Cards

F-1 students who have obtained authorization for Optional Practical Training from the USCIS are reminded to please email a copy of their EAD cards (front + back) to the SCIS at <a href="lescis@syr.edu">lescis@syr.edu</a> so that we can keep a copy for your files. Having a photocopy in the SCIS could become very important to you in the future, if we need to verify your F-1 status or if the card is lost or stolen.

#### **Important Reminder from Human Resources**

International students who have jobs on campus (GA positions, TA positions, RA positions and hourly wage assignments) are reminded to be sure to copy the appropriate Human Resources Office on campus for any change of U.S. address. Be sure to look at your address on your most recent pay stub. If it is not accurate, report it to your department or office where you work so that the address can be updated by your department. If you are on any payroll, your change of address is needed so that you can receive your W-2 Wage and Tax Statement forms in late January, as well as any checks that may be coming to you if you are leaving at the end of this semester.

Also, if you have obtained a social security number since starting work, it is essential that you report your social security number to your payroll office for W-2 purposes. If you are uncertain whether or not this is a problem for you, check your most recent pay stub, and look to see if your social security number as well as your current address are included properly.

#### MEETING YOUR HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

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Please be certain that you are currently enrolled in an approved health insurance policy for the upcoming 2012 academic year. If you have renewed or changed your health insurance please provide the Slutzker Center with an updated copy of it via e-mail <a href="lescis@syr.edu">lescis@syr.edu</a> or in person. If you have questions, or need helping enrolling in an approved health insurance policy, please make an appointment with an adviser at the Slutzker Center, or see Linda Deon at the Health Center for assistance.

Syracuse University Health Services has determined that many international students are <u>not in compliance</u> with immunization requirements defined by New York State public health law. Enrolled students found not to be in compliance risk strict administrative consequences including **inability to register**, **suspension of I.D. card privileges**, **and may be required to leave campus**.

You must be in compliance with these immunization requirements in order to remain on campus.

The Health Service will be sending an email to all those who are not in compliance via the syr.edu email address. Please watch for that notice (check your syr.edu email address!). If your registration is cancelled, you will also lose your F-1 or J-1 student status. Don't put yourself at risk. Contact the Health Service as soon as you receive that email!

## Transferring out of SU?

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If you are planning to transfer out of SU, the immigration regulatory process for **transferring** your F-1 status from Syracuse University to a new school in the United States requires you to complete a Transfer Out Form with the SCIS so that your federal SEVIS record can be transferred to your new school. The Transfer Out Form and more detailed information may be found on our website: http://international.syr.edu/current-students/maintaining-visa-status/transfer-out.html

#### Is this your last semester at SU?

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Students who will be completing their studies this May but have no plans to apply for practical training (F-1), academic training (J-1) or continue at a new school or in a new field or level of study (i.e. Master's, J.D., Ph.D), or seek a change of non-immigrant status must depart the United States within 60 days of their academic program end date if they are in F-1 status (see item #5 on your current I-20), or within 30 days if they are in J-1 status.

# Studying Abroad?

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Planning to Study Abroad during the Spring/Summer 2012 semester? If so, please talk to an international advisor at the Slutzker Center soon. There are steps which you must take in order to insure your continued non-immigrant status for re-entry to the U.S

# **IMMIGRATION UPDATES**

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# USCIS FY 2012 H-1B Cap Count

#### FY 2012 H-1B Cap Count

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that it received a sufficient number of H-1B petitions to reach the statutory cap for fiscal year (FY) 2012. USCIS notified the public that November 22, 2011 was the final receipt date for new H-1B specialty occupation petitions for FY2012. USCIS will reject cap-subject H-1B petitions that arrived after November 22, 2011. H-1B petitions reached the statutory cap for the past fiscal years: (FY) 2011 on Jan. 26, 2011

(FY) 2010 on Dec. 21, 2009

(FY) 2009 on April 7, 2008

(FY) 2008 on April 2, 2007

USCIS will start accepting H-1B petitions subject to the fiscal year (FY) 2013 cap on April 1, 2012.

For more information and latest updates on H1B Visa cap count, please visit the USCIS website.

 $\underline{http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vanextoid=4b7cdd1d5fd37210VqnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73566811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73568811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73568811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73568811264a3210VqnVCM10000b92ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=73568811264a3210VqnVCM100000b92ca60aRCPD&vgnextchannel=735688112644A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A04404A044$ 

# Is Your I-20 or DS-2019 Expiring Soon? Do You Need an Extension of Stay?

This is the time of year when many international students whose I-20 or DS-2019 will expire this May, but who will be continuing their studies for Summer 2012, are applying for an extension of stay. Students who will begin a new level of study (e.g., completing bachelor's and commencing master's or completing master's and commencing PhD) receive a new I-20 for the new level of study. Changes in level of study require an admission letter from the Graduate School (if completing a bachelor's and commencing master's) or from the student's academic department (if completing master's and commencing PhD) verifying that the student has been approved for the new level of study, and the semester that the new level will begin.

Student's with I-20s or DS-2019s expiring in May 2012 but who will continue their studies at SU *must* begin the extension of stay process (or change in level of study process) well before that date so that the new I-20 is issued before the I-20 expiration date.

Complete information and the required forms are available on-line at: http://international.syr.edu/ documents/forms/I-20 Extension.pdf

## Don't Be Fooled by Copycat Immigration-Help Sites Back>>

Some private websites that charge to prepare immigration forms mimic the look and feel of official government sites, leading users to mistakenly believe they are dealing directly with the government and paying USCIS fees. Many copycat sites add to the confusion by charging applicants the same amount for preparing an immigration form that USCIS charges for filing that same form. As a result, some applicants have sent forms to USCIS without submitting the filing fees. These applicants mistakenly believed they had paid the USCIS filing fee when they paid the private firm for preparing the forms.

To learn more, visit: http://blog.uscis.gov/2011/09/dont-be-fooled-by-copycat-immigration.html

# International Students and Arrests Back>>

Although it is not a pleasant subject, there are a few situations where an international student might be arrested in the United States and charged with a crime. Common misdemeanor or felony arrests can include theft, drunk driving, shoplifting (stealing goods from a store without paying for them) and drug possession (with or without intent to sell).

Binghamton University has published an article that discusses the consequences such arrests can create with a student's U.S. immigration status, even if the charges themselves are dismissed or reduced. The article may be viewed at: <a href="http://www2.binghamton.edu/isss/publications/instuarrest.html">http://www2.binghamton.edu/isss/publications/instuarrest.html</a>

# **Housing and Safety**

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# Housing Update : Address Change

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#### Address Change?

All International Students and Scholars that will be moving into their new on-campus and off-campus housing must update their US Address where you will be living during this Fall semester via your "MySlice self-service" and select CURR address.

You must update your address immediately in order to be in compliance with the Immigration Regulations. If you do not update your address we will not be able to register your record with SEVIS and you will be jeopardizing your Immigration requirements to comply with reporting changes of addresses while you are here in the USA studying at Syracuse University.

Please always update your address within 10 days of your move on MySlice.

# Department of Public Safety Reminder

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#### FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- To safeguard your personal property—DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PROPERTY UNATTENDED
- On campus after dark, use DPS' free escort service. Off campus, use SU Home (it's free), call 443-SAFE (7233) for more information about these services.
- Centro Bus or taxi service
- Walk, bike or jog in groups of three or more away from bushes, cars, and other objects a suspect could hide behind.
- Look and listen. Headphones and cell phones can create tunnel vision.
- Travel in well-lighted and well-traveled areas.
- Keep porch lights on at night.
- Don't approach strangers or let them get close to you.
- If you think someone is following you, switch directions or cross the street. Go toward an open business or lighted house.
- Have your house or car keys in hand before you reach your door.
- Know where "Blue Light" phones are and how to use them.
- If someone tries to rob you, don't resist. Give up your property, not your life.
- Try to get a description of the suspect(s) and any associated vehicle & tag number.

"Your Safety and Security at Syracuse University" is part of Syracuse University's ongoing commitment to the prevention of crime. It is available online at: <a href="http://publicsafety.syr.edu/">http://publicsafety.syr.edu/</a>/PublicSafety/ckfinder/userfiles/files/2011%20Clery.pdf

The booklet includes information on crime prevention, residential security, crime reporting policies, fire safety and crime statistics for the calendar years 2008, 2009, and 2010.

## Parking Regulations In University Neighborhoods – by OCCS

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#### Reminder: Parking Regulations In University Neighborhoods – by OCCS

Parking in the neighborhoods surrounding campus may be a new experience for some. To avoid ticketing and towing, and to help maintain the quality of life in the University area, members of the University community are reminded to observe city parking regulations.

Many city streets have alternate side (odd-even) parking, which takes effect at 6 p.m. On odd dates, parking begins at 6 p.m. on the side of the street with odd address numbers; on even dates, parking begins at 6 p.m. on the side with even-number addresses.

Parking illegally on a city street creates traffic hazards to motorists and pedestrians, obstructs vehicular and pedestrian traffic, prevents emergency vehicles from entering areas, and delays public services such as trash collection and snow removal. And parking on front lawns and across sidewalks is not only illegal, but also poses a safety threat to pedestrians who are forced to walk off the sidewalks. To reduce and discourage illegal parking, the Syracuse Police Department will strictly enforce the parking regulations in the University area and will routinely conduct Ticket and Tow Operations in persistent violator areas.

Drivers should obey the posted parking regulations in order to avoid being ticketed and towed, and should be mindful that failure to respond to parking violations may result in collection agency involvement or other punitive action against the registrant and/or the vehicle.

#### **Protect your Property**

All your personal belongings are insured against a wide range of losses. The SCIS supports this policy and we encourage every student to have this insurance.

• Laptops, cell phones, jewelry, watches, iPods, cameras, clothes, books, sports equipment, furniture all your "stuff" is covered. You're insured for countless types of losses, including theft, vandalism,

fire, and accidental damage.

- Worldwide coverage on and off campus (in your apartment, in a foreign country, "at home", in storage, or anywhere else they may be.
- Property of the University is covered while in your care
- Buy \$4,000 of coverage for less than \$94! Also there is up to \$20,000 coverage available for an annual premium of only \$250.

For more information about our student personal property program, call 1-866-535-0456 and ask for a college specialist to assist you. Or better yet Enroll online! It's fast and easy. Simply log on to:www.haylor.com/student or send an e-mail to: student@haylor.com

#### Spring 2012 Bus Schedule

Centro is the provider of public transportation in Syracuse and throughout Onondaga, Cayuga and Oswego Counties. Centro operates a system of shuttle routes on campus under contract with Syracuse University. These are regular transit routes which Syracuse University students can board for free. Centro also operates an extensive system of bus routes connecting the Syracuse University campus to points throughout the area. Students may ride free on these routes within certain specified "free fare zones". If you wish to travel to an area outside of these zones, you must pay a fare. <a href="http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/display.cfm?content\_ID=%23%28%289%21%0A">http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/display.cfm?content\_ID=%23%28%289%21%0A</a>

## **QUESTIONS? Contact:**

Parking and Transit Services 621 Skytop Road

Phone: 315-443-1049Web: <a href="http://parking.syr.edu">http://parking.syr.edu</a>

# Motivational Quotes of the Week:

"Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions."

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

"Example isn't another way to teach, it is the only way to teach."

-Albert Einstein

"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."

-Aristotle

"Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

"You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing."

- Michael Pritchard

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Note: If you would like to submit a request to publish your news or events in our SCIS Newsletter. Please contact Daniela Baban Hurrle at dbabanhu@syr.edu

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