

Syracuse University
Friday, October 22, 2010



By Nitin Mule
Westminster Park - Euclid Avenue



Open Enrollment for SU Health Benefits for GAs, TAs, RAs and Fellows.

Designated session will **begin promptly at the time indicated below. This session will be held once**, to ensure that all GAs, TAs, RAs & Fellows and their dependents have the required information to examine their benefits options carefully.

Friday, November 5th.

Time: 12.00 pm.

Location: Shaffer Art Building, Shemin Auditorium.

Open Enrollment will commence on Oct. 25 and end on Nov. 12, 2010. This is the only time of the year when faculty and staff may elect or change their coverage for many benefits, unless the employee undergoes a "qualifying life event," such as the addition or loss of a family member, and certain losses of benefit coverage.



Importantly, this year all benefits-eligible employees (faculty, staff, GAs) will need to participate in "Positive Enrollment"—a process by which they must actively make choices and provide updated information. Choices from

last year will not simply roll over from the previous year.

To ensure all employees have the time to examine their benefits options carefully, this year the Open Enrollment participation period has been extended to three weeks.

There will be no make-up period, however, after Nov. 12.

In the coming days and weeks, Human Resources will issue a series of enhanced communications campus-wide to highlight the benefits options available during Open Enrollment, as well as provide opportunities for employees to meet with HR benefits staff to discuss this year's process.

Orange Dialogue for Peace Program



If you have ever experienced an unresolved inter-group conflict that you would like to explore or if ethnic/religious/territorial conflict is or was a part of your life, or if you are simply interested in fun interaction with an inclusive group of students in a unique way, then please join us in the third *2010 Syracuse University Orange Dialogue for Peace Program on Saturday, October 30th.*

Orange Dialogue for Peace is designed to provide a safe environment for students to explore individual thoughts about intergroup conflicts and to challenge collective memories of groups in conflict that shape mutual perceptions and influence the dynamics of interaction between these groups. The selected participants will work together in the context of fun, outdoor and indoor teambuilding and adventure activities, including high and low ropes courses. The goal of the project is to help future leaders establish mutual understanding and trust, and move towards discussing the areas of cooperation for sustainable world peace and friendship.

We will be departing from the Slutzker Center on Saturday, October 30th at 9:00 AM. and will return about 6:00pm. Depending on the weather, we may depart a little earlier or later.

This program is free, provided by funding from the Division of Student Affairs and the Fulbright Foundation and will include:

- Travel to Orenda Springs recreational facility
- Conflict Resolution and Communication Skills Discussions
- Indoor / Outdoor Teambuilding Activities
- High and Low Ropes Course
- Campfire Discussion

TO APPLY EMAIL THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS TO elcarras@syr.edu

- Ø First and Last Name
- Ø Department / School
- Ø Country of Citizenship
- Ø SUID / Telephone / Email
- Ø Please provide your affiliation: Fulbright _____ Other _____
- Ø Briefly tell us why you would like to participate in this program

DEADLINE TO APPLY: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2010
SPACE IS LIMITED. FIRST APPLICATIONS WILL BE FIRST SERVED
Applicants will be selected and notified by e-mail by Monday, October 25, 2010

VETERANS DAY

ARMY ★ NAVY ★ AIR FORCE ★ MARINES ★ COAST GUARD

VETERANS DAY
11.11.10

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY VETERANS DAY CEREMONY
AT HENDRICKS CHAPEL

Syracuse University has a proud tradition of supporting veterans. Our historic role educating the post-World War II generation continues in our allegiance to post-9/11 servicemen and women.

You are invited to an event recognizing this commitment and honoring our veterans and service members on campus.

Thursday, November 11
For event details, [click here](#).

11 a.m. Ceremony in Hendricks Chapel—all are invited

Guest reception at Panasci Lounge immediately following the ceremony. Reception seating is limited; reservations are required.

R.S.V.P. for reception by Wednesday, November 3, 2010.
Call 315-443-2462 for special needs parking.

Spring break in Silicon Valley

Students invited to learn about spring break in Silicon Valley opportunity.



The School of Information Studies will offer a two-credit course this spring that takes enrolled graduate and undergraduate students to Silicon Valley for spring break 2011. The course, IST 500, **is open to students from all majors** and will be taught by SU Entrepreneur-in-Residence John Liddy.

The iSchool will host an information session for students to learn about this opportunity at noon, Friday, Oct. 22, in 021 Hinds Hall. Pizza will be served.

"Through this trip, Syracuse students will have the chance to interact on a personal level with the companies, products, services and innovators that are changing the way we live," says Shay Colson G'10, the iSchool director of West Coast relationships, who has helped organize the trip.

Expected visits include such companies as LinkedIn, Google, eBay, Cisco, Hewlett Packard, Intuit, Sequoia Capital, Klout, Mint.com, KickLabs and Stanford Student Enterprises Labs. Colson says participating students can also help shape what companies and ventures the class visits.

"We are creating an ecosystem of entrepreneurship here in Syracuse," Liddy says. "By visiting a well-established ecosystem, students will be better positioned to help build the local Central New York community. They will also come to understand what resources are already in place locally and how they can leverage them to build an entrepreneurial community similar to Silicon Valley."

Liddy will also teach students about the resources available to student entrepreneurs in Syracuse, including the Tech Garden, the Student Sandbox and the Kauffman Foundation-funded Initiative program at SU.

In addition to the trip, students will be required to participate in readings and discussions about the companies, investors, incubators and industries that they will visit. They will also complete some reflective writings after returning from the trip. Estimated costs are approximately \$3,000, including hotel and airfare. Space is limited. For more information, or to attend the information session, contact Liddy at john@thetechgarden.com, or Colson at sccolson@syr.edu.

International Student Support Group every Thursday @3:00pm at the Slutzker Center



What is a support group?

Being an international student is both an exciting and at times a challenging experience. A support group provides a venue to meet other international students who can share and relate to your experiences and concerns; you can receive both support and feedback on how to adjust to the local environment, cope with the difficulties, and achieve academic progress and personal growth through the semester. The group will be facilitated by Jacquie Ye and Susan Levy,

What do I talk about when I am in group?

International students who join these groups usually talk about their own unique reasons for coming to group. Students typically share about difficulties they experience in adjusting to the university culture, strategize together, and brainstorm about effective ways to cope, maintain a healthy balance, and improve one's quality of life.

Some common topics that past groups have covered include:

- o **Experiencing academic and research stressors**
- o **Issues with negotiation with professors/supervisors,**
- o **Homesickness, loneliness, coping with long-distance relationship**
- o **Language and communication barriers**
- o **Making friends or dating someone from a different culture**
- o **US cultural adjustment and shock, etc.**

Who are the facilitators?

The facilitators are Jacquie Ye and Susan Levy, counselors at the SU Counseling Center. Jacquie was born in China and Susan in South Africa. Having been international students themselves, they are enthusiastic about working with and providing support for other international students.

English will be the language that will be used. Any personal information shared in the group is confidential.

Please sign up at the Slutzker Center front desk. Space is limited.

If you are curious, have questions or are downright interested, please feel free to contact Jacquie Ye at hjye@syr.edu and Susan Levy at sulevy@syr.edu.

SU Disability Cultural Center Initiative

This initiative came as a result of recommendations made by the chancellor's task force which identified an opportunity for SU to become a premiere institution supporting inclusion and disability culture for all. As part of our efforts to create such a center I would like to schedule a meeting with students to help us brainstorm about the vision and eventually the creation of the disability cultural center. This meeting will help guide us regarding what YOU would find useful or important in such an initiative, what will help meet your needs and desires as a student at Syracuse University.

I wanted to invite you to participate in this meeting, which will be scheduled around students' availability.

The focus of the Disability Cultural Center is to coordinate campus-wide social, educational, and cultural activities on disability issues for students, faculty, staff, and community members with and without disabilities. It is not a service granting entity, nor do you have to identify as disabled in order to participate. In fact, no prior qualifications are required, only a desire to bring about positive change in the climate of the university towards disability issues.

For more information about the center, please check out our site under construction at <http://thechp.syr.edu/dcc/index.html>

This is a great opportunity to get involved with the campus community, and also something unique to put on your resume or CV.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns

I look forward to working with you on this exciting project

Liat

Liat Ben-Moshe, lbenmosh@maxwell.syr.edu, <http://thechp.syr.edu/dcc/>

Turkish Table Fall 2010

Co-sponsored by the UISFL US Department of Education Grant,
Middle Eastern Studies Program, and
the Turkish Language program within the Department of LLL



Moynihan European Research Centers invite you to:

Turkish Table Fall 2010



Hoş Geldiniz!

Interested in learning more about Turkish culture, language and meeting your fellow students?

Please join us for a Turkish Table!

All are welcome to attend (from beginners to native speakers).

Light refreshments will be provided.

Turkish Table will be led by Professor Jaklin Kornfilt,
Turkish Program Coordinator,
Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics

Thank you! We are all looking forward to meeting you!

Gelin, Tanışalım!

October 1st
October 15th
October 29th
November 12th

4:00 pm- 5:00 pm
352 Eggers Hall



Restock Every Monday

Stock up on free fruit, herbal tea, condoms, lubricant and dental dams courtesy of Health Services and Healthy Monday, a public health initiative that encourages people to commit every Monday to the behaviors and actions that will end preventable disease in the U.S

Location: Student Health services

Move It Monday FREE Fitness Classes @ 1:00pm.

Move it Monday is a part of the Healthy Campus Initiative Healthy Monday. This is a program that focuses on participation in activities that promote the various components of wellness on campus at little or no cost to the user. Various **FREE** fitness classes will be offered every Monday during the Fitness Class schedule **from 1:00-1:50pm** in the Flanagan Exercise Room on a drop-in, first come, first served basis. Please arrive early as the maximum enrollment for each class will vary based on activity.

October 25- Yoga'lates	November 22 - PiYo
November 1- Power Hour	November 29 - Pilates
November 8 - Kickboxing	December 6 - RPM (cycle room)
November 15 - Boot Camp	(advanced registration required for RPM)

Improve Your Interviewing and Public Speaking Skills



FREE workshop to work on your fear of interviews and public speaking skills!

Orange Orators Toastmasters is a public speaking group open to the campus community where members come together to learn valuable communication and leadership skills while having a whole lot of fun!

The group provides a safe place to develop these skills in a mutually supportive and positive learning environment.

Guests are always welcome to come to a meeting to find out what it's all about or even join in the antics!

Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 12:00pm

Location : Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, Bird Library; Contact: Carolyn Rayome, cmrayome@syr.edu, 443-0293

LGBT Resource Center Events

-The Pride Union 'Mas-Queer-Ade' Ball

Friday, October 22; Time: 8.00 p.m-11.00 p.m

Put on your dancing shoes and celebrate Coming Out Month in style with Pride Union and Syracuse University.

Location: HL 500

- Coming Out Stories

Wednesday, October 27; Time : 7.30 p.m

Share your experience with comin out as an LGBT person or as an ally to the community among supportive friends in celebration of Coming Out Month.

Location: Shemin Auditorium, Schaeffer Art Building.

-Cafe Q

Thursday, October 28; Time: 8:00pm-10:30pm

Fuel your Thursday night right with the fall 2010 Grand Opening of Cafe Q! Come back every Thursday evening to unwind and relax at this chill coffeeshouse that blends coffee, tea, music, and a quirky attitude. Keep an eye out for monthly Open Mic and Spoken Word Nights too!

FREE! Location: LGBT Resource Center Contact: Lauren Adamski, lgbt@syr.edu

RAD Classes (Self Defense for Women) *FREE*

Thursday 4 week class 6:00-9:00pm Oct. 28 - Nov. 18

All RAD classes take place in Archbold Gym Fencing Room

For more information please Contact Public Safety publicsafety@syr.edu

Weekly Salsa Update



Your "WEEKLY SALSA UPDATE" is organized as follows:

"BEGINNER SALSA PARTNERING & TURN COMBINATIONS with RUEDA de CASINO"

6 week class series starting Tues, October 19th, 2010

Dates: Tuesdays, Oct 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23rd

Time: 6:30pm - 7:40pm

COST: \$60 (Full time students with college ID pay \$50)

Location: St Claire Theater, 812 N. Salina St., Syracuse, NY (just past Assumption Church on the right... MAP)

NO prior Salsa experience necessary!!!

NO partner necessary...we rotate partners in each class!!!

INSTRUCTOR: Brian A. Bromka - Founder and Artistic Director of "La Familia de la Salsa - Latin Dance Ensemble" and "Salsa-Son-Timba" Latin Orchestra.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: You will learn the following:

- 1) How to discern and move to the multiple rhythms in Latin music,
- 2) The complete repertoire of "basic" Salsa footwork - the building blocks of Latin dance,
- 3) "Lead & Follow technique": the mechanics necessary for seamless partner dancing,
- 4) Scintillating partnered turn combinations.

BONUS No. 1: We will utilize the fundamentals of Rueda de Casino to facilitate speedy learning - this is the preferred method for teaching Salsa in Cuba (see complete description of Rueda, below!)

BONUS No. 2: Each class starts with a 5 minute warm-up of SalsAerobics -guaranteed to pump you up and explore other Latin Dance styles!

This course is designed to get you comfortable and confident on the dance floor in only 6 short weeks.

REGISTRATION: Enrolment will be limited, so it is important that you pre-register by phone or email: 315-636-7133 or lafamilia@twcny.rr.com . As always, please contact us with any questions or concern

!Important Announcements!

- **Special Practical Training Seminars will be held in the evening on November 1st and December 6th @ 5:00 p.m.**
- **Effective November 23, 2010 USCIS will increase the OPT application fee from \$340 to \$380.**
- **Smoking** - all University housing facilities are smoke-free. No smoking is permitted in any of the interior areas of any building. Designated smoking areas exist outside the building.
Alcohol - in the U.S. students who are under **21 years of age** may not be in the presence of alcohol, unless assigned to reside in a space in which one's roommate is 21 years of age or older.
- **Graduate students expecting to graduate this December must complete the File Diploma Request process in MySlice by established deadlines, published at <http://gradsch.syr.edu/pdfs/GraduationDeadlines.pdf> by the Graduate School. This will activate the certification process and awarding of your degree.**
- **Interested in taking Yoga, Pilates, Tae Kwon Do, Tai Chi, Ballet, Zumba, Biking (RPM), Fencing or Swimming Classes this semester please check this website for more details: <http://recreationsservices.syr.edu/Programs/fitnessclasses/flyers/Fall%202010%20fitness%20flyer.pdf>**

- Recreation Services is offering FREE Martial Arts classes on Wednesdays at 4:00pm 'till December 8.
- **Students who will be ending their studies this December 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.**
- **International Student Support Group will be held every Thursday from 3:00pm -4:30pm at the Sutzker Center.**
(for further details about this group please read the article above)
- **Planning to Study Abroad during the Spring 2011 semester? If so, please talk to an international advisor at the Sutzker 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.**
- **MEETING YOUR HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

Syracuse University Health Services has determined that many international students are not in compliance 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!

- **Although rare, a fire drill or evacuation could be an opportunity for a thief to strike. To prevent someone from taking your irreplaceable documents and passports we recommend the following:**

- **Keep your documents in a secure location.**
- **Be able to access and take your documents with you quickly if you need to evacuate the building.**
- **A small safe, briefcase, folder or backpack maybe the best way to keep your documents organized.**
- **Rent a safety deposit box at your local bank (i.e.: HSBC, Chase, etc.)**

You should never spend time searching for your documents in an emergency situation. REMEMBER, while you want to do your best to protect your valuable property, your personal safety is the highest importance in emergency!

- **Travelling During the Fall semester?**

Have all Your Documents with you! If you are travelling within the U.S., you must still carry with you your passport, I-94 card and original I-20/DS-2019. The U.S. Border Patrol often inspects documents at train stations, bus stations, and airports. If you do not have your original documents, you could be fined \$100, or detained until your status can be verified.

If you are travelling outside the U.S., you must make sure you have a valid visa stamp to re-enter the U.S., as well as an unexpired passport valid for at least 6 months into the future, and a blue travel signature from SCIS on your I-20/DS-2019 within the last 1 year (or if you are on OPT, the last 6 months). If you are on OPT, you must also have a valid EAD card and job offer letter to re-enter the United States.

The Slutzker Center for International Services offers Travel Seminars every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month @1:30pm and every Friday @ 12p.m

Worried that your flight might be delayed? Please contact your airline, the airport and check this website - <http://www.fly.faa.gov>

- **Applied for OPT ? The SCIS Needs a Copy of Your EAD Card!**
The SCIS reminds all students who have applied for OPT that once you receive your Employment Authorization Card (EAD), please "scan the front and back of your EAD card" and e-mail us a copy of it to lescis@syr.edu.

- **Students who are planning to do an Internship this Fall semester should apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) Please remember that you have to register for at least 1 credit for CPT.**
Curricular Practical Training Seminar (CPT) - Wednesday @ 3:00pm
Optional Practical Training Seminar (OPT) - Wednesday @ 3:45pm

- **Address Change?**

All International Students and Scholars that will be moving out from the "Campus Housing" must update the US Address where you will be living during the Fall semesters via your "MySlice self-service" and select CURR address.

You must update your address immediately in order to be in compliance with the Immigration. If you do not update your addresses 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 and at Syracuse University.

You must always provide a current physical address to the SCIS in order to keep your SEVIS registration current and to maintain your lawful status. You have 10 days to inform the SCIS of any address changes or you are in violation of your status. http://international.syr.edu/address_update_opt.htm

NEW SCIS Seminars



Starting October 1st due to numerous student requests the SCIS has changed the Seminar times and dates. We hope that this extra service will meet the needs of students who are traveling, seeking on campus employment or applying for practical training.

Seminars begin promptly at time indicated below.

Practical Training:

1st and 3rd Wednesday and 2nd Friday of each month

CPT - 3:00pm

OPT - 3:45pm

Special Practical Training Seminars will be held on November 1st @ 5p.m and December 6th @ 5p.m

Travel Abroad and Within the US Information:

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month @1:30pm and every Friday @ 12p.m.

On Campus Employment:

Tuesday – 2:00pm

Friday – 9:30am

Life after Practical Training:

1st Monday and Thursday of each month at 2:00pm

The Diversity Visa (Green Card) Lottery

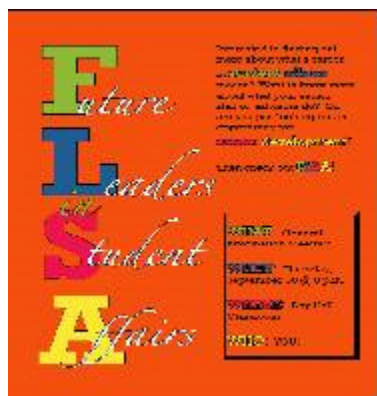
Please be aware that the Diversity Visa lottery started on Tuesday, October 5 and end on Wednesday, November 3.

The Diversity Visa (DV) lottery is a program run by the US State Department, which allots 50,000 Diversity Visas (Green Cards) to applicants from underrepresented countries.

Natives of the following countries are **not eligible** to apply because the countries sent a total of more than 50,000 immigrants to the United States in the previous five years: **BRAZIL, CANADA, CHINA (mainland-born), COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HAITI, INDIA, JAMAICA, MEXICO, PAKISTAN, PERU, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, SOUTH KOREA, UNITED KINGDOM (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and VIETNAM.**

There are no fees associated with submitting the electronic DV lottery application form. Furthermore, the US Government only uses official US mail to inform DV lottery winners; they do not use email to notify winners. Many fraudulent websites exist, which ask you to pay large fees to apply for the DV lottery. Do not be fooled by these websites. Any site that ends with .org, .com, .us, etc. is not a legitimate US government website. Only websites that end with .gov are US government websites. To find the **official** instructions for the DV Lottery, please visit: http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1318.html

For the **Free and Official** online DV Lottery application, please visit: <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov/>

Future Leaders in Student Affairs

Interested in pursuing a career or degree in the student affairs field. We will work feature panel speakers from offices throughout the university, resume reviews, interviewing workshops and other great professional development opportunities throughout the year! If you have students that you think would be interested, please forward them the flyer! Any questions can be directed to Rebecca Daniels, coordinator for communications for the Office of Residence Life at rdaniels@syr.edu, or Karina Hagan, residence director of Ernie Davis Hall at klpipes@syr.edu.

MES Film Series presents: "Tea of the Axis of Evil"

Written and Directed by Jean Marie Offenbacher, 67 minutes

What is it like to live in an "evil" country, as described by the Bush Administration in 2002? For three years, Director J. M. Offenbacher worked to reverse American stereotypes of Syrians during the making of this documentary, winner of the Noor Award for "Outstanding Documentary" at the Arab Film Festival, 2009. "When Syria was admitted to the 'Axis of Evil,' I decided to move there, alone, to record ordinary life and create a document to stimulate healthy curiosity about this Arab community to counter the vilification that dominated the media and White House rhetoric." ReOrient films is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to creating films that question American stereotypes of "Eastern" cultures.

Followed by a Q & A session with Director Jean Marie Offenbacher
Location:060 Eggers Hall; Price:free; Contact:Nellie Jones; E-Mail: nvjones@maxwell.syr.edu, 443-9248

Ph.D. Students: Are You Registered for Fall 2010?

The SEVIS system requires the University to **REPORT REGISTRATION** within 30 days of the beginning of the semester. At this time, many Ph.D. students are not registered for the Fall 2010 term. Thus, you will be reported to the Immigration Service as "NOT REGISTERED" and your SEVIS record will be cancelled!

This is a serious issue. If you are here, working on your research and/or dissertation, and not registered for dissertation hours or regular course work, please register for **GRD 998** and have a Certificate of Full-Time Status filed with the Registrar's Office TODAY! Please provide a COPY of that Certificate of Full-Time Status to the Slutzker

Center TODAY!

Once your SEVIS record has been cancelled due to your failure to register, there is a \$340 fee to apply for re-instatement to F-1 student status. Please do not put yourself into that situation.

Full-time Course of Study

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 **9 credits** every semester. **Undergraduate** students must register for at least **12 credits** every semester. Students are not required to enroll in courses during the Summer. However, **if Summer session is your first 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.

If you are taking less than 9 credits this semester you must fill out a Certificate of Full-Time Status http://international.syr.edu/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/>

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 Fall 2010, 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

Keeping Good Rental Records

Lack of knowledge regarding leases or other rental agreements can cause a variety of problems. By keeping records of rental repair requests, security deposit disputes, and other important issues related to rental agreements, you can alleviate many of these types of problems. The most frustrating problems occur when the tenant cannot document their grievances. To prevent this, start a rental file as soon as you sign the lease and add to it throughout your lease term. A rental file is easy to keep, considering the money you may recover through rental modification or qualifying for full return on your security deposit. If a rental problem arises, it is easier to negotiate a solution with the landlord when you have written records that show the extent of the problem, what you asked the landlord to do about it, and how the landlord responded.

Your Rental File Should Hold:

A Rental Log

Use a simple notebook to write all dates and times you contacted or tried to contact your landlord; make a note of any discussion. Logs are a useful permanent record of how the landlord did or did not respond to problems.

Apartment Condition Checklist

This is proof of the condition of the apartment when you move in and out. Keep a copy and send the original to the landlord by certified mail and return receipt.

Correspondence With Your Landlord

Make any complaints or concerns in writing and keep copies on file. All verbal requests should be followed up in writing with copies in your file.

Reports

Keep copies of the Certificate of Suitability, building inspection reports, police reports, and any other reports from other agencies.

Photographs

Photos may be the evidence you need to document a repair or security deposit problem. Photos should be dated and signed by a witness.

Off-Campus Housing 101

It is that time of year: time to begin looking for off-campus housing for the 2011-12 academic year. The rental season begins very early in Syracuse, but that does not mean that you have to sign a lease right now; you should not rush to sign a lease and should learn about off-campus housing prior to making the decision to move off-campus. A lease should not be signed until the property has been researched, roommates are confirmed, and the lease has been reviewed by Student Legal Services.

There are a number of rental units available in the University area and one of the best sources for advice and information about off-campus housing are friends and classmates. Another good place to search is Orange Housing. Orange Housing maintains a web site of apartment offerings in the neighborhoods adjacent to campus. The Orange Housing website is www.orangehousing.com. It is important to keep in mind that this local company is not affiliated with Syracuse University or SUNY ESF and there are absolutely no guarantees about the quality and reliability of the information posted on the website. Orange Housing also offers roommate searches, sublet listings, and information relevant to apartment hunters. Apartment listings can also be found in the *Daily Orange* and at www.apartmentfinder.com.

Your first step in your apartment search is determining your needs. Important considerations include:

- Distance from campus
- How much you can afford for rent and utilities
- On or off-street parking
- Number of roommates
- Furnished or non-furnished apartment
- Length of lease
- Pets

Once you have determined your needs you will want to view two or more rentals that meet your criteria. Check out each apartment thoroughly; don't be afraid to test faucets, doorknobs, etc. and make sure you are satisfied with the safety features available (window locks, security lights, etc.). You should talk with the current tenants about the apartment; ask about location and experiences with the landlord. Once you decide on an apartment and have done all needed research, you should have the lease reviewed by Student Legal Services.

The Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services (OCCS) is a resource that you should also utilize in your search for off campus housing. OCCS staff will assist you in your search by educating you on what is needed to have a successful off-campus living experience. OCCS is available for in person assistance at 754 Ostrom Avenue, via phone at 315-443-5489, online at offcampus.syr.edu, via email at offcampus@syr.edu

Apartment Safety Tips

Burglars strike in any neighborhood. They are opportunistic and always look for such easy targets as homes that are left open, not well maintained, out of eyesight or earshot of neighbors, or obscured by landscaping or fencing. The best way to minimize your chances of becoming a victim is to take sensible precautions.

The following tips offered by the City of Syracuse Police Department are designed to help you reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime. You may already be aware of some strategies, but others may be new to you. Remember to trust your instincts and use common sense. Do not let yourself become a victim of a crime!

Before Renting an Apartment

Survey the residence for the following security features:

- Does the apartment have metal or solid core wooden entry and exit doors? Are these doors equipped with deadbolts? Are the locks mounted securely? Have the doors been re-keyed since the last tenant moved out?
- Can visitors be observed without opening the apartment door either through a door "peephole" viewer or window?
- Does any outside vegetation block doors or windows from public view? Does the vegetation provide places or concealment at entrances at or along walkways?
- Is there adequate lighting at the building entry doors and along walkways? Are the outer doors kept locked at all times?

In Your Apartment

- Keep your doors locked at all times, especially when you are alone, sleeping, or the apartment is unoccupied (even if only for a few moments).
- Determine who is on the other side of the door before opening it. Have repair or service personnel show official identification and confirm their presence with the person requesting the service. Delivery persons should remain outside to await the person requesting the delivery.
- If you return home and something looks questionable (e.g., a slit screen, broken window, or open door) do not go inside. Call the Syracuse Police Department from a safe location.
- Be sure you have blinds or curtains on your windows to discourage window peepers. Always keep your windows covered at night and leave lights on in two or more rooms.
- Make a list of your valuables and record any serial numbers.
- Be sure all outdoor lighting fixtures are in working condition. Ask your landlord

to make immediate repairs.

- Place items of value out of sight and in locked areas. Do not leave valuables unattended in such common areas as laundry rooms and lounges.
- Ask your landlord to maintain and trim shrubbery.

Getting Repairs Made in Your Apartment

As a tenant, you are entitled to a livable, safe and sanitary apartment. Failure to provide heat or hot water on a regular basis or to rid an apartment of insect infestation is an example of a violation of this entitlement.

All landlords are required to maintain **electrical, plumbing, sanitary, heating and ventilating systems** in good working order. Landlords of buildings with three or more apartments must keep apartments and public areas in "good repair." Landlords also have a duty to keep every part of a dwelling clean and free of vermin, dirt, garbage, and other offensive material.

All landlords in the City of Syracuse must maintain their premises in accordance with Syracuse Property Code. The Housing Complaint section of the Division of Code Enforcement enforces the City Code by responding to reports and complaints about housing maintenance, overgrown yards, trash and debris and disabled vehicles on private property. In addition they work with other agencies to improve residential neighborhoods.

If you have a complaint concerning the habitability or repair of your apartment, contact the Syracuse Division of Code Enforcement at **(315) 448-8695**.

If you have any questions you can call our office @ 443-5489.

Landlord Information Sharing Program

The **Landlord Information Sharing Program (LISP)** is designed to provide students with a method for communicating with each other from year to year about their rental housing challenges and successes.

Process

Any Syracuse University or SUNY ESF student can fill out a Comment Form found on our web site at offcampus.syr.edu or in our office at 754 Ostrom Avenue. Students must clearly explain their concerns or issues in the form provided or by attaching a separate typed letter. They must use facts to describe the situation that is the basis for their documentation—they cannot simply provide an opinion of their landlord with no supporting factual basis.

OCCS staff would also like to hear about any positive interactions that students might have with their landlords. If students have positive experiences that they would like us or other students to know about, they should send us a letter clearly explaining the interaction, using facts to describe the situation—they should not simply provide an opinion of their landlord with no supporting factual basis.

What happens when a Comment Form is filed?

OCCS staff will review all completed Comment Forms. If any include unprofessional language or are not appropriate to share with other students, it will be returned to the student with a letter explaining why. OCCS staff will forward a copy of the submitted Comment Form to the student's landlord. The landlord may respond to the concerns or issues directly or may respond by sending a letter to the OCCS. If the OCCS receives a response, a copy will be mailed to the student. OCCS staff will keep a copy of all Comment Forms and landlord responses in our office at 754 Ostrom Avenue. All names, contact information, and any other identifying information will be redacted from the Comment Forms and responses. Other SU/SUNY ESF students will be able to view your Comment Form and your landlord's response when they are searching for off-campus housing.

We encourage students viewing the landlord files to consider not only the number and type of concerns or issues raised, but the landlords' responses to them. Please note that the views expressed in these materials are solely those of students and local property owners and not those of Syracuse University.

Sometimes your landlord may not respond to your concerns or issues, or may respond unfavorably. OCCS staff will work with you throughout the process to seek to accomplish a resolution to your problem. When appropriate, OCCS staff will refer you to agencies that are better able to assist you, such as the Syracuse Police Department, City of Syracuse Division of Code Enforcement, Conflict Mediation Center, Student Legal Services, etc.

Reminder On Parking Regulations In University Neighborhoods

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.

Cell phone Offers to SU International Students



18% off for Syracuse University Students use Discount Code [2386165](#)

- World Phones available
- Exclusive provider of the Apple iPhone & BlackBerry TORCH
- Competitive domestic and international plans available
- Only domestic carrier that offers rollover minutes
- Receive 18% off monthly voice and data plans (not prepaid)
- Text messaging plan discounts available on select phones
- \$2 Off 200 Message Plan - Your Cost \$3
- \$5 Off 1500 Message Plan - Your Cost \$10
- \$5 Off Unlimited Plan - Your Cost \$15
- Offer excludes iPhone Text Messaging Plans
- Prepaid service plans available
- Waived security deposit for one line of service (only available only at Company Owned Retail Stores, not available online or at Authorized Dealers.)
- Prices reflect 18% Syracuse University Student Discount Code [2386165](#)
- Rates apply to calls made from within the U.S., Puerto Rico and U.S Virgin Islands
- Convenient and affordable calling from the U.S to over 220 countries
- International Roaming agreements in over 100 countries, rates vary
- For more details on International Roaming, see www.att.com/international

T-Mobile also offers prepaid Pay-As-You-Go plans. Which are designed for single subscribers (no family plans) who are in the USA for only a couple of years. For further details please check the following website <http://www.t-mobile.com/shop/plans/prepaid-plans.aspx>

FY 2010 H1B Updates

FY 2011 H-1B Cap Count

Cap Type	Cap Amount	Cap Eligible Petitions	Petition Target	Date of Last Count
H-1B Regular Cap	65,000	42,800		10/15/2010
H-1B Master's Exemption	20,000	15,700		10/15/2010

For more information and latest updates on H1B Visa cap count, please visit the [USCIS](#) website.

Special Registration (NSEERS)

Further security checks after initial immigration inspection are typically required for:

© Certain citizens or nationals of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria, as designated by the DHA Secretary in the Federal Register.

© Males age 16-45 from Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen

© Foreign nationals of any country may be asked by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) officer to undergo Special Registration if they feel they may be a national security threat.

If you are subject to [special registration procedures](#), **it is your responsibility to make certain that your entry and departure is documented by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) inspecting officer, every time you leave and re-enter the U.S. (This may add a significant amount of time onto departure so please plan accordingly).**

A helpful reminder of where the pertinent NSEERS registrations may be found at the following airports in the state of New York. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-28418.htm>

- Buffalo Peace Bridge POE, New York;
- Cape Vincent POE, New York;
- Champlain POE, New York;
- Chateaugay POE, New York;
- Fort Covington POE, New York;
- Heart Island POE, New York;
- John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), New York;
- Lewiston Bridge POE, New York;
- Mooers POE, New York;
- Niagara Falls, Rainbow Bridge, New York;

Newark International Airport (NEW), New Jersey;
Ogdensburg POE, New York;
Rochester-Ferry Terminal, New York;
Rouses Point POE, New York;
Seaway International Bridge/Massena POE, New York;
Thousand Islands POE, New York;
Trout River POE, New York



Pedestrian Safety Tips

Stay safe while you're walking to campus. Here are some tips:

- Use sidewalks and paths whenever possible.
- Use crosswalks, and don't start walking until you see the "WALK" signal. Walk facing traffic so you can see vehicles as they approach, and they can see you.
- Always walk in groups of three or more!
- Remember, pedestrians only have the right-of-way if a driver sees them! As a driver, it is important to be familiar with pedestrian safety laws. When a pedestrian is crossing at a crosswalk, drivers must wait until the pedestrian has *completely* crossed the street and has reached the other side safely.
- When making a right-hand turn at a red light, it is important to come to a complete stop and check for pedestrians crossing the street. Also remember there are many "No Right on Red" turns in the Syracuse University area!



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



For your safety, please remember...

- On campus after dark, use DPS' free escort service. Off campus, use SU Home (it's free); call 315-443-2224 for more information on these services. Additional options are 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.
- 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 and tag number.
- IMMEDIATELY report emergencies or suspicious activities, persons and vehicles. For SU's Department of Public Safety, **dial 711** on campus or #78 (from a cell phone); for the Syracuse Police Department, **dial 911**

Your quick report may help prevent others from becoming victims.

Fall 2010 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. http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/display.cfm?content_ID=%23%28%289%21%0A

QUESTIONS? Contact:

Parking and Transit Services
621 Skytop Road

- Phone: 315-443-1049
- Web: <http://parking.syr.edu>

Frustrated by lack of sufficient free bus service to the area where you live? A committee is now forming to review campus bus service to residence halls and off campus locations. Safety, overcrowding, timing and other issues will be reviewed. If you would like to contribute to this conversation, please contact the director, Dr. Burak, at paburak@syr.edu by email. Your comments might be useful to the discussion, and you might be included in the committee discussions.

Motivational Quotes of the Week:

"The only place where success comes before work is in a dictionary."
~**Vidal Sassoon**

"Try not to become a man of success, but rather, try to become a man of value"
~ **Albert Einstein**

"An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind". ~**Gandhi**

"If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress."
~ **Barack Obama**

"The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing."
~ **Walt Disney**

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If your e-mail account is on a server other than syr.edu, please send an e-mail message to dbabanhu@syr.edu. In the subject line, type: Please subscribe to SCIS Newsletter, your e-mail address, your first and last name.

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

[The Lillian and Emanuel Slutzker Center for International Services,](#)
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