



OISS NEWS

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

FEBRUARY 2007

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OISS STAFF NEWS.....	2
HEALTH	2
INSURANCE.....	
TAXES.....	2
ISO CORNER...	3
WORLD TRADITIONS...	3
US TRADITIONS...	3
JOB/ INTERNSHIP...	4
ENGLISH GONE MAD? CRAZY?..	4
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.....	4
CALENDAR...	4-6
REMINDERS	6

WELCOME BACK

Welcome to the Spring Semester 2007 to our continuing international students and to our over 30 new international students. We hope all of you have begun the semester with excitement for the semester and are looking forward to the many activities at IUSB. The Food Fest and Commencement are just two examples of exciting

events scheduled this spring. The OISS is always here if you need help and assistance. Please do not hesitate to visit, email or call us if you have questions. Vivian, Daisy, Duc and I are available to help you with your academic and non-academic concerns.



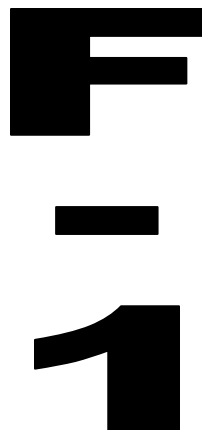
Julie M. Williams, Director
Office of International Student Services.

H1-B WORKSHOP

For those with questions or wanting more information about H1-B, work in the US, etc., we are happy to announce that on February 1st, Mr. Tom J Arkell of the Bloomington, Illinois law firm of Dunn, Willard, Arkell & Bugg will be here to discuss H1-B issues. His firm specializes in immigra-

tion and labor law. If you are interested in working in the United States after graduation, come to this important and informative workshop. It will be at 3:30 PM in the Wiekamp 1001. There is limited space, so please RSVP by Tuesday, January 30, if you would like to attend.

OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING



- Are you an F-1 student?
- Do you plan to work off campus in the summer or after graduation?
- Do you want to work a year in the US before you go home?

Now is the time to start thinking about Optional Practical Training (OPT). You need to

plan ahead. It can take up to three months to get the authorization you need. There will be one-on-one Optional Practical Training Workshops on February 9th and 16th and March 2nd, 9th and 23rd. Please call the OISS or come in to sign up for a time to meet with Vivian.

For information about how to obtain a job or internship in the United States, please go to page 4 to get information about the IUSB Career Office.

OISS News

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Newsletter

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OISS STAFF NEWS

HELLO VIVIAN

Vivian Yamoah, the new Assistant Director, started work at OISS on November 24, 2006. She recently graduated from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in the United Kingdom, with an MA in Cross Cultural Communi-

cation and International Management. Since graduating with a BA from the University of Virginia with degrees in Foreign Affairs and Asian Studies, she has worked in international education at the middle school,

high school and college level with US and international students. She is enjoying her new home in South Bend and meeting the students and staff. Vivian will be taking over the F1-immigration duties and programming and activities.



GOODBYE SHEILA

Please join the OISS in saying goodbye to Sheila. She has been with the OISS and IPO for 4 years. We wish her

well in her new position. We hope to have a new person in the position of International Student

Representative soon. Please come by and say hello to the new person.

BON VOYAGE JULIE

In March, Julie will be leaving for her annual admissions tour of Southeast Asia. She

will be out of the Office from March 8th–29th. If you are a J-1 student and have any

questions or concerns, please see her before she leaves on her trip.

HEALTH INSURANCE

As you all are hopefully aware, international students are required to have health insurance. If you do not want the Indiana University health insurance for Spring/

Summer, you **MUST** turn in your waiver form into the Office of International Student Services by 4 p.m. on February 1st. The charge for the Spring/Summer is

\$846. If you do not turn in the waiver form **YOU** are responsible for the charge. The bill will be posted to your student account in late February or early March.

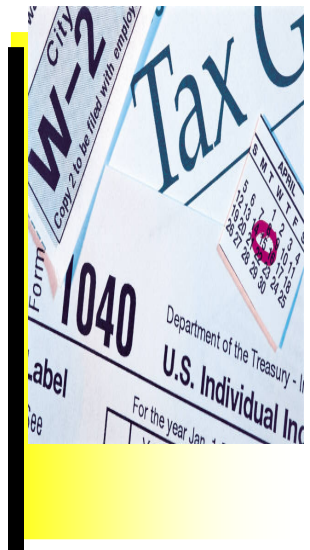
TAXES

This year taxes are due on Monday, April 16th. Even if you do not have taxable income, the OISS highly recommends that you file the tax forms. Please do not wait till the last minute. You will need to file both Federal and Indiana State taxes. The

OISS will have the federal 1040NR & 1040NR-EZ and 8843 forms and instructions available from February until April. The Indiana forms and instructions will be available from January until April. Also if you worked last year expect to receive the W-2 form

in the mail from your employer. Remember your employer should not be (withholding) taking Social Security Tax (FICA).

OISS Tax Help will be available on February 17th and March 3rd.



ISO CORNER

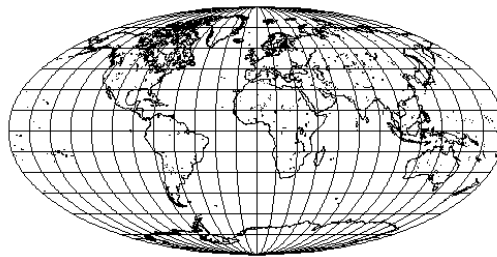
INTERNATIONAL FOOD FEST

International Food Fest
March 31st.

The International Food Fest has become a tradition for international students and the community in South Bend area for the last 7 years. The idea of the Food Fest is to promote international students at the South Bend campus and to help expose the South Bend community to different cultures in the world. It started out with a few countries participating in the Food fest and then later

on it became a big event in the Michiana area.

Today, about 15 to 20 countries take part in this great event, along with about 150 to 200 people including students, faculty and staff as well as the community. The event is organized by the IU South Bend International Student Organization (ISO). The food is made by the students from different countries with the help of their friends and relatives who reside here in the Michiana area. As the event gets bigger



every year, the ISO also organizes different entertainments for the event, such as Middle Eastern, Flamenco dance etc. This year, our event is going to take place on March 31st, and we hope that people come out to support us as they have done these past years.

Thanks

International Student Organization

WORLD CULTURE

SPRING FESTIVAL (LUNAR NEW YEAR)

The Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival, is the most important festival for the Chinese people. The Spring Festival in 2007 is on Sunday, February 18. The Spring Festival, just like Christmas in the West, is the time for all family members to get together. People clean their houses thoroughly and decorate them with Spring Festival couplets, highlighting

Chinese calligraphy with black characters on red paper because the color of red represents luck, wealth, and harmony. Children would get money wrapped with the red paper as a New Year gift from their parents and relatives. Burning fireworks was once the most typical custom on the Spring Festival. A series of activities such as lion dancing, dragon lantern

dancing, lantern festivals, and temple fairs will be held for days. This lunar new year festival is also celebrated by people from Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Laos and

also Chinese-speaking communities from Philippines, Indonesia, India, Singapore, Malaysia and others. This year, the year of the pig begins on February 18th.



AMERICAN CULTURE

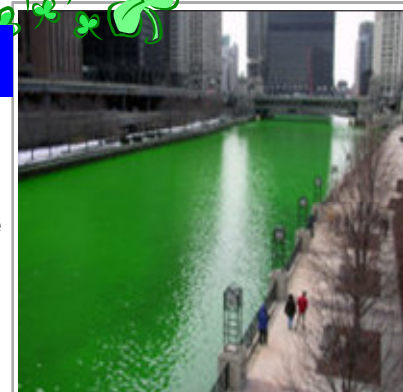
SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick's Day is a feast day celebrated annually worldwide by Irish people and increasingly by many non-Irish people who proclaim themselves "Irish for a day" on March 17. St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is one of Christianity's most widely known figures. He is believed to have died on March 17 in the 5th century. Thus, St. Pat-

rick Day became the anniversary of his death. It is a national holiday in the Republic of Ireland.

Celebrations are generally connected around all things green and Irish. Both Christians and non-Christians celebrate the holiday by wearing green, eating Irish food and drinking Irish beer

or coffee, and attending parades. The largest St. Patrick's Day parade is held in New York City and it is watched by 2 million people each year. The Chicago River is dyed green each year to celebrate this feast day. (wikipedia.com)



Chicago River dyed green for St. Patrick's Day (wikipedia.com)

JOB/INTERNSHIP HUNTING

You want to work or do an internship in the United States.

- Have you thought about or updated your résumé?
- Do you know what a résumé is?
- Do you know what jobs or internships are available?
- Need help writing your résumé?

Go visit the Career Services Office. Find out about fairs

and workshops on campus. Go to the [Career Services](#) website for more information.

For information specifically for international students go to [International Student Career Resources](#).



ENGLISH GONE CRAZY? MAD?

The English language is not easy to speak or write even for native English speakers. The grammar and spelling rules we learn are often broken. Even after all our hard work, we (Native and non-Native speakers) still often make mistakes.

However, sometimes we can have fun with the language

because it is so confusing. Below are some sentences for you to figure out.

Sentences

He rose and picked a rose.

The sewer went down the sewer.

I accept that everyone will be here except Tim.

The bow-legged man bowed and shot a bow from the bough of a tree.

A dessert was deserted in the desert.

He was present to present a present to the patient patient.

The bass player liked to eat bass.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Dear Advisors,

I am going home for university holidays. The signature on my I-20 is still good and my visa has not expired. Do I still need to come to the

OISS before I leave? I don't have any free time.

Dear Busy Student,

Although your I-20 is still valid, and your visa is unexpired, we still need to see you. The De-

partment of Homeland is always making changes, and we need to make sure that you have all the information and signed documents you need to come back legally as a student at IUSB.



JANUARY 2007

Yellow boxes are OISS events.
Green boxes are ISO-events.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
21	22	23	24	25 Note-taking Workshop	26	27
28	29 Pass/Fail Option Deadline	30 Internship Workshop	31 Internship Workshop Textbook reading Workshop			

FEBRUARY 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 H1-B Work- shop Health Waiver Form Due	2	3
4	5 Last Day withdrawal with W grade	6 Forming Study Groups Workshop	7	8	9 OPT Work- shop	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 ISO Recipes due OPT Work- shop	17 Tax Preparation Workshop
18	19	20 Time Management Workshop	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Internship Workshop	28 Internship Workshop			

Yellow boxes are OISS events.

Green boxes are ISOevents.

MARCH 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 OPT Workshop	3 Tax Preparation Workshop
4	5	6 Writing Resumes for Career Fairs	7 Selling Yourself	8 Career Fair Etiquette	9 OPT Workshop	10 Spring Break
11 Spring Break	12 Spring Break	13 Spring Break	14 Spring Break	15 Spring Break	16 Spring Break	17 Spring Break
18 Spring Break	19	20	21	22	23 Career and Internship OPT Workshop	24
25	26 Last day withdrawal from classes with W or F grade	27	28	29	30	31 ISO Food Fest

Yellow boxes are OISS events.
 Green boxes are ISO events.
 Blue

Office of International Student Services NEWS

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REMINDERS

- HEALTH WAIVER FORMS DUE FEBRUARY 1ST
- COME TO H1-B WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 1ST
- INTERNATIONAL FOOD FEST MARCH 31ST
- SIGN UP FOR OPT WORKSHOPS
- SEE OISS BEFORE TRAVELING IN THE US OR OVERSEAS