February 2016

Published monthly by International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS), a division of Enrollment Services, to provide reminders about immigration regulations, services, programs, and opportunities for cross-cultural involvement. Previous editions of the ISSS Newsletter are archived on the ISSS website under the “About” tab.

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1. Health Insurance Waiver Deadline

The deadline to apply for a waiver of the mandatory (required) student health insurance was Jan. 29. At this point, charges for the plan cannot be removed and you are covered through Summer semester (until July 31, 2016). The next opportunity to request a waiver is Fall 2016. For more information about the coverage and benefits, click >> here

2. U.S. Tax Season is Here

All international students and scholars are required to report U.S. income and physical presence each year to
the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Spring 2016 is the time to report this information for tax year 2015 (January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015.) **Deadline:** April 18th, 2016

- ISSS offers free assistance through Sprintax, which is safe, secure, online software designed specifically for international students and scholars.

  ![Sprintax](image)

- **To get started, click here:** [http://isss.gsu.edu/current-students/financial-tax-assistance/tax-information/](http://isss.gsu.edu/current-students/financial-tax-assistance/tax-information/)

3. **On-Site Employment Workshop Schedule**

- On-site Employment workshops are offered to prepare you to apply for CPT or OPT and to answer specific questions. All workshops are held in Sparks Hall room 248 on the following dates:
- Workshops are mandatory before you can apply for CPT or OPT.
- You can attend either the CPT, OPT or both sessions.
- OPT applicants should complete the workshop only in the semester you plan to graduate.
- **Space is limited:** To sign up for a workshop, click >> here. There is no cost. A minimum of 4 students must sign up in advance, or the session will be cancelled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>OPT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 10</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 3</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 23</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 31</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
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4. **Fall 2016 V.I.S.A Leaders Needed!**

[Image of V.I.S.A Leaders]

**VISA (Volunteer International Student Assistant) Leaders** are needed for the Fall 2016 orientation.

- Do you need leadership experience for your resume?
- Are you looking to make new friends and help out new international students at Georgia State?
This is a short-term paid, on-campus position, and you don’t need CPT or OPT authorization. Being a VISA Leader is the experience for you! VISA Leaders are provided a 3-day FUN training course.

- **To apply**, please click >> [here](http://example.com) or
- Contact Huan Wang at [hwang45@gsu.edu](mailto:hwang45@gsu.edu).
- Applications are due by **Friday, March 11th at 5 p.m.**

5. **Get Off Campus This Semester with ISSS - 1 Spot Left**

   **A. Spring Break - Beach and Build!**

   ![Spring Break Group](image1.jpg)

   **What:** Join a small group for a Habitat for Humanity service project and beach trip to Florida! Know that you have helped change someone’s life and made a difference! No construction experience required. This is a great opportunity to visit Florida, develop friendships, and explore Tampa, FL and its famous beaches!
   **When:** March 13-19, 2016
   **Where:** Tampa, FL (on the beach!)
   **Application:** Submit your application here
   **Estimated Cost:** $200. Includes all meals and transportation. Application and $30 deposit due Jan. 29, 2016.
   **For more information:** Email Mike Townsend at: [ctownsend@gsu.edu](mailto:ctownsend@gsu.edu)

   **B. Visit the U.S. Capital - Washington, D.C.**

   ![Washington Monument](image2.jpg)

   **What:** ISSS sponsors an exciting 5 day trip to Washington, D.C. each Spring. It’s a great, low-cost opportunity! Visit all the major sites of the U.S. Capitol with free time to explore on your own too.
   **When:** May 3-7, 2016. Departure after Spring semester finals and return in time for Maymester classes.
   **Estimated Cost:** $225. Includes round trip transportation by chartered coach (nice bus), 3 hotel nights, and entry to Monticello (home of US President Thomas Jefferson). Early bird sign up will start in March 2016.
   **For more info:** Contact Mike Townsend at: [ctownsend@gsu.edu](mailto:ctownsend@gsu.edu)
6. Graduate and Professional School Networking Reception

Want an advanced degree from Georgia State University? Attend the Graduate and Professional School Networking Reception. Connect with admissions staff, faculty and students from Georgia State University graduate programs. Program representatives are eager to speak with you, answer your questions and help you take your grad school plans to the next level! Refreshments will be served!

**When:** February 16, 2016 from 3- 5 p.m.
**Where:** Student Center East Ballroom

7. Events for You - All in One Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>For More Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02/08</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>Dahlberg Hall</td>
<td>Taste of the World I</td>
<td>Please, click &gt;&gt; <a href="#">here</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/09</td>
<td>2 - 3pm</td>
<td>Multicultural Center, Suite 206, Student Center East</td>
<td>Community Hours: First-Generation Students &amp; Hispanic/Latino Students</td>
<td>Contact: Christina Wan, at <a href="mailto:cwan@gsu.edu">cwan@gsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/11</td>
<td>2 - 3pm</td>
<td>Multicultural Center, Suite 206, Student Center East</td>
<td>Community Hours: Bahai Students &amp; Jewish Students</td>
<td>Contact: Christina Wan, at <a href="mailto:cwan@gsu.edu">cwan@gsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Cataloochee Ski Trip</td>
<td><a href="#">http://recreation.gsu.edu/touch-the-earth/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12</td>
<td>2:15 - 5:15pm</td>
<td>Center for Civil and Human Rights</td>
<td>Visit the Center for Civil and Human Rights</td>
<td>Contact: Christina Wan, at <a href="mailto:cwan@gsu.edu">cwan@gsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Contact Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/13-19</td>
<td>Spring Break - Beach &amp; Build!</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/15 - 03/06</td>
<td>Phase 2 registration for Intramurals</td>
<td>Register at, <a href="http://www.gsuim.com">www.gsuim.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/16</td>
<td>Community Hours: Men and Women of Diverse Backgrounds</td>
<td>Contact: Christina Wan, at <a href="mailto:cwan@gsu.edu">cwan@gsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/17</td>
<td>We’re Here, We’re Femme, Get Used to It!</td>
<td>Contact: Laci Lee Adams, at <a href="mailto:ladams25@gsu.edu">ladams25@gsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/18</td>
<td>Global Social</td>
<td>Please, click &gt;&gt; <a href="http://www.gsuim.com">here</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/18</td>
<td>Safe Zone Training for Students</td>
<td>Contact: Christina Wan, at <a href="mailto:cwan@gsu.edu">cwan@gsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/18</td>
<td>Community Hours: LGBTQIQA Students &amp; Student-Veterans</td>
<td>Contact: Laci Lee Adams, at <a href="mailto:ladams25@gsu.edu">ladams25@gsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/23</td>
<td>Community Hours: Multiracial/Multiethnic &amp; Non-Traditional Students</td>
<td>Contact: Laci Lee Adams, at <a href="mailto:ladams25@gsu.edu">ladams25@gsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>02/25</td>
<td>Community Hours: Native American &amp; Muslim Students</td>
<td>Contact: Christina Wan, at <a href="mailto:cwan@gsu.edu">cwan@gsu.edu</a></td>
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<td>05/03-07</td>
<td>Visit the U.S. Capital</td>
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8. Follow ISSS on Facebook

![ISSS on Facebook](https://iss.gsu.edu)

Current Likes = 1690

Just click the Facebook icon above and like ISSS to get helpful reminders about deadlines, workshops, events and campus jobs right on your smart phone!

For questions about any of the information mentioned above, contact:

**International Student & Scholar Services**

Georgia State University  
252 Sparks Hall  
404.413.2070 (phone)  
[iss.gsu.edu](http://iss.gsu.edu)