November 2015

Published monthly by International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS), a division of Enrollment Services, the International Services newsletter brings you updates on immigration rules and regulations, University services and programs, and conveys opportunities for campus and community involvement.

Contents:
1. International Education Week 2015: Nov. 1 -6
2. Halloween - What and Why?
3. International Thanksgiving Feast at GSU
4. ISSS Director Wins Career Achievement Award
5. Now Hiring: Graduate Assistant in ISSS
6. Upcoming CPT and OPT Workshops
7. Your GSU Rec Center
8. Invitation to Pot-luck lunch
9. Invitation to Multicultural Center Holiday Event
10. GSU Holiday Closings Ahead
11. Flu Shots Available
12. Like ISSS on Facebook

1. International Education Week: Nov. 1 – 6

International Education Week (IEW) is an initiative of the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Dept. of Education, which encourage colleges and campuses across the U.S. to recognize, celebrate and promote international education. **See all IEW details at the end of this newsletter and watch the ISSS FB page next week for reminders.**

2. Halloween

Halloween is not a Holiday, but rather a custom that is celebrated in many ways from children “trick or treating” to adults partying like silly kids. Some prefer the idea of “Fall Festivals”. Halloween is confusing. What is it?? Watch >> [this 2 minute video from The History Channel](#) to learn more.
3. **International Thanksgiving Feast at GSU**

**What:** The International Student Association Council (ISAC) invites all international students at Georgia State to traditional American Thanksgiving lunch! First Lady Laura Voisinet (wife of GSU President, Dr. Mark Becker) will be our guest speaker. Come experience an American tradition with an exchange of international holidays and customs. Space is limited to only F-1 and J-1 students and scholars.

**When:** Friday, Nov. 20th, 12:00pm – 1:30pm

**Where:** GSU’s Rialto Theatre (Across from Aderburg Hall)

**Tickets:** Free, but required for entry. 1 per student only.

**How to get Tickets:** Sign up via “iStart” at [http://istart.gsu.edu](http://istart.gsu.edu).

1. Log-on with your student ID and password
2. Select “Session Sign-ups” then “International Thanksgiving Feast” on Nov. 20th.
3. Come to ISSS at your convenience to collect your ticket (Required for entry).

4. **Director of ISSS Wins Career Achievement Award**

ISSS is proud of our Director, Heather Housley, who was honored with a career achievement award on Tuesday, Oct. 27th in Savannah in the presence of 650+ peers from around the Southeast U.S. The award is a reflection of Heather’s 17+ years at GSU, including 12 leading ISSS.
5. **Another Graduate Assistant Needed in ISSS**

- ISSS is taking applications for a Graduate Assistant to work with the Assistant Director.
- Preference will be given to those experienced with Excel, attention to detail, social media, logical problem solving skills, and the ability to clearly articulate steps in a process in English to applicants from all over the world via email.
- Must have at least 1 academic year (Spring, Summer, Fall) remaining at GSU with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Start Date: January 2016 with a flexible schedule
- Stipend: Spring $3000, Summer $2000, Fall $3000, + full tuition waiver
- To apply, email: breichert@gsu.edu to request the job description and application instructions
- **Deadline to apply:** Friday, Nov. 6th, 5pm.

6. **Upcoming CPT and OPT Workshops**

Thinking about Spring Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or post-graduation Optional Practical Training (OPT)? Workshop participation is **required** for authorization. Final workshops are: Nov. 11, and Dec. 2.

- Sign up via iStart under “Session Sign-ups”.
- For more information click >>[here](#).
- **Note:** Spring 2016 CPT applications open Monday, October, 26th in iStart

7. **Your GSU Rec Center!**

Take advantage of these wonderful opportunities that are supported by your student fees. To sign up just visit the Rec Center desk. For details on all Recreation Center programs and activities, click>>[here](#).

- **Train Like a Tribute:** In honor of the “Hunger Games” movies, participate in a series of fitness obstacles to test your speed, power, agility, strength and endurance! T-shirts go to the first 100 to compete in the Games. **When:** Nov. 11th, 6 – 9 p.m. **FREE**.
• **Okefenokee Swamp Canoe Trip:** Cross through one of the Southeast’s great natural inland water treasures during a 3 day canoe / camping trip with beautiful fall colors. **When:** Nov. 6-8. **Cost:** $45-55. Includes all equipment. Rating: 10-14 miles per day paddling in a canoe and primitive camping.

• **Geocaching 101:** From the French word, *cacher* (to hide). Learn this great new sport that teaches you to use GPS devices to locate hidden objects all around the country. This is a training course with camping and adventure included. GPS device include. Learn the language and techniques of finding what others have hidden. **When:** Nov. 14-15. **Cost:** $18-24. Rating: easy, few miles

• **Fitness Classes:** A variety of fitness classes continue through December 8.

• **Aquatics / Swimming:** The swimming pool will reopen January 12, 2016 after major repairs.

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8. **Invitation to Pot-luck lunch**

The GSU Linguistics Society invites all interested students to their November potluck (shared meal of different food offered by hosts). Learn about the Applied Linguistics Program at GSU, which offers undergraduate, Masters and PhD degrees. **When:** Thursday, November, 19th, 12:00pm - 2:00pm, Troy Moore library in Langdale Hall.

- For more info about the potluck: Contact rboone2@student.gsu.edu
- For more info about Linguistics at GSU: http://alsl.gsu.edu/

9. **Invitation to Participate in Multicultural Center Holiday Event**

The GSU Multicultural Center is hosting *Winter Holidays Around the World* with a reception to honor the many holiday traditions at this time of year. You are invited to participate!

- **Just to name a few:** Junkanoo, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Advent, Three Kings Day, Eid-al-Adha, Lunar New Year, Bodhi Day, Japanese New Year, Las Posadas, Hmong New Year...

**When:** Thursday, December 3, Rialto Center for the Arts, 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **You are invited** to share your cultural with a dance, poem, song, monologue, or PowerPoint with photos, to name a few.

**To get involved:** contact Tonya Cook, 404-413-1587, or by email, Tcook3@gsu.edu

**Key dates for Participants:**
October 16-31: Submit your idea.
November 1-15: dress rehearsal to be determined.
December 3: The event.
For more info on the Multicultural Center: http://multicultural.gsu.edu/

10. Holidays Ahead

- GSU will close for Thanksgiving: Thursday and Friday, November 26-27
- GSU will close for Winter Break: Friday, December 18th, 5:15pm – Monday, January 4th, 8:30am
- There will be no access to campus facilities, offices or services during these times.

11. Flu Shots Available

Get a flu shot and stay healthy this winter. Visit the Student Health Clinic for a low-cost vaccine shot for $25. The cost of missing 2 weeks of class and feeling terrible with flu is...well, much more expensive! Also:

- Wash your hands with soap frequently
- Drink plenty of water
- Get enough rest
- Don’t touch your nose, eyes or lips after touching dirty stuff, which is everything.

12. Like ISSS on Facebook!

We’re up to 1550 likes. Thank you. Just click the Facebook icon above! ISSS posts helpful reminders about deadlines, workshops, events and campus jobs on our Facebook page.

For questions about any of the information mentioned above, contact:
International Student & Scholar Services
Georgia State University
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404.413.2070 (phone)
iss.s.gsu.edu