September 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.

HOLIDAY CLOSING: Banks, government offices and GSU will be closed Monday, Sept. 7th for Labor Day.

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1. Welcome Back!
ISSS wishes a warm welcome to 445 new international students joining the Georgia State University Panther family this year representing 65 different countries!

2. Thank you V.I.S.A Leaders
ISSS thanks: Chau Nguyen, Dami Fakunle, Zhenfei Yue, Yong Lun Lee, Loc Hoang, Xuan Wang, Shahzad Irani, Nelly Ouedraoga, Hilda Dwumfuor, Anurag Paliwal, Tenzin Dongchung, Saima Yawar, Mary Egbonike, Angie Akproh, Ashley Williams, Brian Nguyen, Janelle Wright, Jezreel Amica, Priscillah Mogaka, and Jean-Marcien Kablansi for serving so well as V.I.S.A. Leaders during Fall 2015 New International Student Orientation:
3. **Georgia State Football Season Opener**
   Watch the GSU Panthers open the season Friday, Sept. 4 at the Georgia Dome at 3:30 p.m. All info is >> [here](#).

![Georgia State Football](image)

4. **ISAC Update (International Student Association Council)**
   ISAC is hosting a free Welcome Dinner for all new and returning students on Wednesday, September 9th from 7-9pm in Dahlberg Hall. No reservation needed. All are welcome! To get involved with an international student group of your choice, to receive the ISAC newsletter or for more information, please click >> [here](#).

5. **Employment Workshops**
   **PLEASE NOTE:** Fall 2015 CPT applications will close at 5pm on Friday Sept. 4th. You may begin applying for Spring semester CPT when Spring enrollment opens on Oct. 26th.

   Considering Curricular Practical Training (CPT) during a course, or Optional Practical Training (OPT) after graduation? There will be several in-person employment workshops throughout the semester in the Map room at ISSS. The next one will be **September 16**. Log-in to [iStart](#) and click “Session Sign-ups” to sign up. Completion of a workshop is required for employment authorization. For more information click >> [here](#).

6. **Study Abroad Fair**
   All international students are encouraged to consider completing part of their degree requirements outside the U.S. Scholarships are available! Check out this event to learn more.

   - **When:** September 23, 10:00-3:00
   - **Where:** Student Center East Ballroom
   - For more info, click >> [here](#).

7. **Picnic at Stone Mountain – for International Students**
   - **When:** Sunday, October 4th
   - **Where:** Stone Mountain, GA
   - **Cost:** $5 covers transportation, picnic, hiking and laser show
   - **How:** Just meet at BCM by 11am on the day of the trip. 125 Edgewood Ave, Atlanta, 30303
8. **All Atlanta Welcome Reception – for International Students**

AMIS has 2 meanings: 1. “friend” in French 2. Atlanta Ministry with International Students. AMIS is hosting a welcome reception at Georgia Tech campus for all new international students in Atlanta. Enjoy food and music by the Kennesaw State University Jazz Trio too. ISSS is happy to cross promote this opportunity to meet other international students from all around Atlanta.

   When: Sunday, October 11, 3-4pm
   Where: Georgia Tech Student Center Ballroom
   Cost: Free. Just show up.

9. **Welcome Back to the Student Recreation Center!**

This fall your GSU Rec Center has so much to offer outside class! ISSS has a great relationship with the Rec Center and you can personally reach out to the coordinator Carson Tortorige (404-413-1773), stop in or click below!

- Yoga, River Rafting, Snow Skiing, Snow Boarding and more. For info, click >> [here](#)
- Bike rental, camping equipment. For info on GSU bikes, click >> [here](#)

10. **Climb Mount Rainier with the President of Georgia State University**

ISSS encourages all brave, fit, daring international students to consider this unique opportunity. GSU President, Dr. Mark Becker, will lead a small group to the peak of this famous mountain in Washington State next year. ISSS encourages all brave, fit, daring international students to consider this unique opportunity. International students at GSU represent 6% of total enrollment, so it would be a once in a lifetime honor to represent your country and ISSS on this epic journey. An information session is scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 15th, 6pm, Meeting Room 215 in the Rec. Center.

For more information on the experience, click >> [here](#)
11. Like ISSS on Facebook!

Just click the Facebook icon above! ISSS posts helpful reminders about deadlines, workshops, events and campus jobs on our Facebook page. Receive these updates immediately via Facebook!

For questions about any of the information mentioned above, contact:
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Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30am-5:15pm

Walk-in Advising Hours
Monday & Wednesday Mornings:
9am-11:30am
Monday-Friday Afternoons:
1pm-4:00pm