



Boise State International Insider

News for International Students

January 19, 2012

International Student Services

Coming Events & Activities

Every Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00pm - Coffee & Conversation in the Student Diversity Center. Free refreshments!

Every Thursday, 6:00 to 7:00pm - T.E.A. Time (Thursday English Afternoons). Join us in the Writing Center (LA200) to practice your English skills.

January 20th, 3:00 to 4:30pm – International Festival Committee Meeting, in the Student Diversity Center *(please see details on pg 2)*

January 30th - **SHIP waiver deadline**. If you plan to waive the University Health Insurance Plan, you must do so by this date. *(more details on pg 2)*

January 30th - February 3rd, 9:30am - 4:00pm – **MANDATORY** Spring Semester Immigration Check-in for returning students *(please see details below)*

January 31st thru' February 8th - Free workshop, "Starting Your Semester Off Right" *(see details below)*

Immigration Check-in

Check-in for all international students will be held Monday, Jan 30th thru' Friday, Feb 3rd. This check-in is **required by U.S. Immigration to maintain your legal status as an F-1 or J-1 visa holder. Check-in takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. You must come to the Student Diversity Center (SDC) in the Student Union Building (SUB) between 9:30am and 4:00pm any day that week (January 30thru' February 3) to fulfill this requirement.**

Any student who does not attend the check-in session will be fined a \$50 fee.

NOTE: If you are a new international student and attended the orientation January 11 & 12, you are checked-in with immigration. There is no need for you to participate in the check-in session this semester. You will need to attend check in next semester.

Want to Start Your Semester Off Right?

Advising and Academic Enhancement is facilitating free, 50-minute workshops filled with information on study strategies and ways to succeed in your courses at Boise State! All workshops are hands-on and individualized to each student. Workshops are capped at ten participants each session so the facilitator can get to know individual students and their personal situation.

The next workshop, Starting Your Semester Off Right, runs January 31-February 8. This workshop focuses on time management and study skills. Students will learn different ways to manage time and which strategies work best for them. Check out the various times this workshop is offered and register for one that works best for you at <http://aae.boisestate.edu/tutoring/>.

If you have questions please contact stephaniemilne@boisestate.edu, 208-426-1845, or visit the Academic and Career Services Building, Room 102.

Winter Welcome

Boise State has planned a special welcome for new students and their families. Come and be welcomed, Friday, January 20th, 4:00 to 6:00pm. All events will take place on the second floor of the Student Union Building. Bring your children and get to know your Boise State Community! Even students without children can enjoy this event! Please see the flyer on page 3 for more details.

Important Reminder Regarding Health Insurance

The deadline for waiving Boise State's Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) is January 30th.

If you have health insurance with coverage comparable to SHIP, and your insurance company is US-based, you may waive your automatic enrollment in SHIP. If you do not submit a waiver by the deadline, you will be responsible for the \$811 insurance fee.

To access the Waiver Application, sign-in to your student account. Choose "Student Center" under the Finances section. Click on "Health Waiver App" and follow the instructions. Be sure to watch your email for a message from SHIP. You may be asked to provide additional information, and if you don't respond, your waiver request will most likely be denied.

Questions? You may contact Renaissance Insurance Agency at 1-800-537-1777.

Curricular Practical Training (CPT), also called an Internship, allows a student to work off-campus for a specified amount of time in a position related to his/her field of study. If you plan to do an internship as part of your academic program, you need to attend a CPT Workshop.

**January 27, 4:00 to 5:00pm
February 2, 12:00 to 1:00pm**

Please email Christy or Merrilou to sign up for a workshop. Be sure to indicate which session you wish to attend. Workshops will be held in the Student Diversity Center.

Optional Practical Training (OPT) is a one-year work permit that allows international students to work in their field of study after graduation. If you are graduating this semester and are interested in applying for OPT, you *must* attend an OPT Workshop.

**February 6, 3:00 to 5:00pm, in the Chief Joseph Room
February 9, 3:00 to 5:00pm, in the Student Diversity Center
February 10, 10:00am to noon, in the Student Diversity Center**

When attending the workshop, you must bring your I-20, visa, passport and I-94 card, plus 2 passport-size photos (head positioned directly facing the camera) and a Money Order for \$380.00 payable to CIS. **Please email Christy or Merrilou to sign up for a workshop. Be sure to indicate which session you wish to attend.**

REMINDER: The First Festival Committee Meeting is Friday!!

Would you like to promote your country and culture at BSU? Would you like to challenge yourself to organize a big event? The chance is NOW. Come join the Festival Committee meeting where we will discuss and prepare for this year's International Food, Song and Dance Festival.

The agenda includes (1) introduce ourselves, (2) determine the best time to meet, (3) assign some positions. We will meet in the Student Diversity Center, Friday, January 20th from 3:00 to 4:30pm. If you are unable to attend and would like to help, please send an email to Danh Nguyen, Festival Coordinator (danhnguyen@u.boisestate.edu) to discuss about your availability.

The Chinese Club at Boise State will host the annual China Night on Thursday, Jan. 26, to welcome the "Year of the Dragon." The event is from 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. Admission donation is \$2 for students and \$3 general.

Dinner and dessert will be served. Entertainment includes Chinese traditional dances, presentation of modern Chinese songs, a kung-fu exhibition and musical performances with traditional Chinese ethnic instruments. In addition, Boise State Chinese and Japanese language students will present songs and group dances.

The annual event celebrating Chinese culture is open to students, faculty, staff and the general public.



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Involvement & Leadership Center

For accommodations please contact Lenore Weller at (208) 426-1223.



The **Boise State International Insider** is a weekly feature of International Student Services, in the Student Diversity Center.

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