

## ISSS Newsletter for New International Students

August 15, 2011

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IMPORTANT TIPS & INFORMATION FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
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### **ADVICE FOR NEW STUDENTS**

#### Personal Safety & the Security of Your Belongings

When you arrive in a new place, it's a good idea to be more cautious than usual about your personal safety and the security of your belongings. That's because you don't know your new environment so should take as few risks as possible. Please follow the tips below to minimize your risks:

- 1) Be sure to keep your belongings with you or locked in your room or apartment at all times. NEVER leave your purse, laptop and backpack unattended in campus lounges, libraries and dining halls.
- 2) NEVER walk alone at night off-campus. Avoid walking alone near UB's South Campus during the day. Walk confidently and assertively, and pay attention to your surroundings (e.g. do not listen to an iPod while walking). If a stranger approaches you on the street, ignore him/her.
- 3) Lock your doors and windows at all times. This includes the door to your residence hall room. It also includes the main entrance to your house off-campus.
- 4) Be especially careful about your immigration documents (e.g. your passport). Keep it in a safe place at all times. Avoid leaving it in a University photocopier.

### **BANK & CELL PHONE ACCOUNTS**

#### Bank & Cell Phone Representatives at International Student Orientation

Students will be able to open bank and cell phone accounts on Sunday, August 21 (12:00-5:00) and Monday, August 22 (9:00-3:00). Representatives from AT&T, Bank of America, HSBC, M&T Bank and Sprint will be in Knox Hall opening accounts on those days, as well as on Friday, August 26 (9:00-1:00).

Note: Students who do not have Social Security Cards and do not want to pay deposits will be able to open cell phone accounts and get their cell phones at that time.

### AT&T Kiosk in the UB Card Office

AT&T will also have a kiosk in the UB Card Office, Student Union 228 and open accounts there as follows:

Week of August 8: Monday-Friday: 10:00-3:00 (2:00 on Friday)

Week of August 15: Monday-Friday: 10:00-3:00

Week of August 22: Tuesday-Thursday, Saturday-Sunday: 12:00-3:00

Week of August 29: Monday-Friday: 10:00-3:00

### Students Who Need ESL Courses

New students who must take ESL courses in addition to their academic courses will be able to register for those courses starting on Sunday, August 21 (12:00-5:00). Keith Otto, Program Director of ESL Programs, will be available then to register students in their ESL classes and lift their ELI hold (formerly F checkstop).

### Students Who Need TOEFL or SPEAK Tests

New students who must take SPEAK or TOEFL tests will be able to do so during International Student Orientation. The TOEFL test will be given at 1:30 on Monday, August 22. The SPEAK test will be given to all graduate students who have been awarded graduate, teaching or research assistantships and graduate students whose departments require it on Monday, August 22. Sign-up for the TOEFL and SPEAK tests is required and will take place in Baldy Hall 320 on Sunday, August 21 (12:00-5:00).

## **HOUSING: OFF-CAMPUS**

### Opportunity for Students to Have Their Lease Checked By an Attorney

Students should have their lease reviewed by an attorney before they sign it. Students seeking such assistance should go to SBI Legal Assistance, Student Union 377 during the hours below:

Monday, August 22: 12:00-5:00

Tuesday, August 23: 12:00-5:00

Wednesday, August 24: 12:00-5:00

Thursday, August 25: 12:00-5:00

Friday, August 26: 12:00-5:00

## **IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT**

### Students who Have Not Submitted their Immunization Form

New students cannot register for classes until they submit their immunization form to UB's Student Health Services. In case some students did not do so yet, SHS medical staff will be present at Orientation Check-In on Sunday, August 21 (12:00-5:00) and Monday, August 22

(9:00-2:30). They will be in Student Union 145 checking new students' immunization records, lifting their registration hold (formerly I checkstop) and giving shots to any student who needs one.

## **ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT**

### Campus Dining & Shops Job Fair

Campus Dining & Shops will offer a Job Fair on Wednesday, August 24 from 11:30-1:30 in the Social Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), Student Union. At the fair, new students who are seeking on-campus food service jobs can meet CDS managers and apply for available positions.

## **SHOPPING EXCURSION**

New students will be able to shop for linens, toiletries, food, household items, clothing, etc. on Wednesday, August 24 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. ISSS will provide a guide and a bus to a local WalMart.

## **SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS**

### Social Security Card Application Requirements

To apply for Social Security Cards, F-1 students must have written job offers and be registered as full-time students. J-1 students and scholars do not need written job offers to apply.

Any student or scholar who meets these requirements and wants to apply for a Social Security Card must attend "Applying for a Social Security Card: Step 1" (Tuesday, August 23 or Wednesday, August 24 at 10:30 in Knox Hall 109) and "Applying for a Social Security Card: Step 2" (Friday, August 26 from 8:00-1:00 in Knox Hall 20). Students and scholars who attend both Step 1 and 2 sessions will be able to take the ISSS bus to the Social Security Office on August 26.

There will be a few make-up "Applying for a Social Security Card: Step 1" sessions during the first week of classes (schedule available in ISSS, Talbert 210) and a make-up "Applying for a Social Security Card: Step 2" session on Thursday, September 1 from 12:00-3:00 in Student Union 145A.

## **UB CARDS**

### UB Cards

UB Cards for students who already submitted their photos to UB will be distributed on Sunday, August 21 (12:00-5:00) in Knox Hall. Students who did not submit their photos should go to the UB Card Office, which will be open on that day from 12:30-3:30.

### Single-Use Password Letters

Letters with single-use password that new students can use to activate their UB computer accounts will be distributed on Sunday, August 21 (12:00-5:00) and Monday, August 22 (9:00-2:30) in Knox Hall. After that, new students can obtain their single-use password letters in ISSS, Talbert Hall 210.