

Global Express

Vol 01 Issue 01 | Feb 17, 2020



Happy Lunar New Year SMSU students!

The International Student Services & Global Studies (ISSGS) office is proud to debut our first E-newsletter, the Global Express.

You are receiving this email newsletter as an international students on the F-1 visa. We wanted to find an easy way to inform you of all the numerous activities you can choose to get involved in as well as inform you of anything that is related to international students and opportunities to study abroad. Any interested SMSU students and colleagues who would like to get involved with international students, participate in our programs, volunteer, or learn more about opportunities to study abroad can also ask to subscribe to this email newsletter.

This newsletter will be published on the first and third Mondays of each month during the academic year. Stay in touch with ISSGS and we will see you at our events!

- ISSGS Staff (Dr. May Lee, Michael Kurowski, Jamie Leonard, Kenneth Lam, Sunita Shrestha)

WHAT'S NEW

Meet Dr. May Lee



Drop by (SC236) to say Hi to Dr. May Lee, Director, International Student Services and Global Studies.

Read about her in [> SMSU Today](#).

Walk-in Advising Hours

To help with staff productivity and to minimize interruptions, we have now introduced Walk-in Advising Hours. Stop by Mondays--Thursdays between 12-4pm and an ISSGS staff can meet with you. Other times are available only by appointment.

Beware of Online Classes

As a reminder to International Students, you must enroll full-time to maintain visa status (12 credits min. for undergraduates, 6 credits min. for graduates). The US Fed Regulations will only allow one online course, up to 3 credits, to count towards your full-time requirement. Check in with ISSGS if you have any questions.

TB Testing for New Students

A *mandatory* briefing/meeting regarding Tuberculosis (TB) screening and immunization information is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, @ BA 229, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Do not miss this or you may have to pay more to do this later on.

Arrangements are also in place to carry out TB skin testing on February 25th (placement) and 27th (reading). Avera hospital staff will be on-campus to do this and will directly bill your students' insurance, so do remember to bring along your insurance information (card).

Who needs testing? [> SMSU Tuberculosis Screening & Testing Policy](#)

RECENT EVENTS

New Students Orientation



SMSU welcomes 21 new students this Spring 2020 semester from Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nepal, Nigeria, Gambia & Mongolia. The ISO Club started a new tradition of organizing a Tour of Marshall town for the new students, making quick stops at iconic landmarks like Walmart, Hobby Lobby, Goodwill & Thrift stores, Asian & Hindi Stores, downtown Marshall, Columbia Imports, Lyon County Museum, and more.

SMSU International student stats:

- International Student active at SMSU = **205** (including OPT)
- International Student enrolled at SMSU = **151**
- Countries represented = **27**
- Top 5 countries of origin:
 1. Nepal / Nigeria
 3. Taiwan
 4. Ethiopia
 5. China

Study Abroad Fair

Some SMSU students and ISS office staff attended the Study Abroad Fair in Mankato on Feb 04 on a fact finding mission. If you are interested to study abroad, come to ISSGS and make an appointment to see Dr. May Lee / Michael / Jamie to find out more.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 18, 25, 27

TB Testing for New Students

Feb 18, TUE 11:00am - 1:00pm -- A mandatory (for all new students!) meeting regarding TB screening and immunization information. Don't miss this or you may have to pay to do this later on.

Feb 25, TUE -- Placement

Feb 27, THUR -- Reading

BA 229

Feb 21, Friday

OPT Workshop

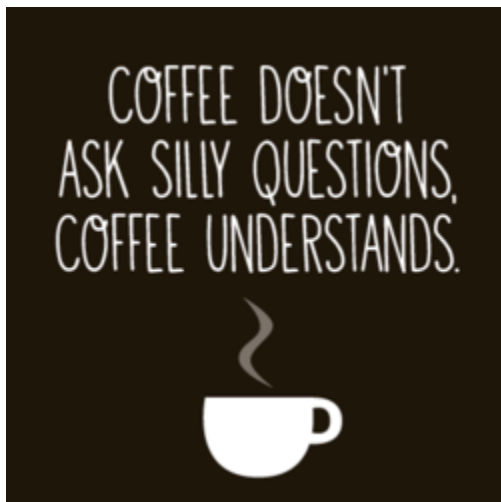
3:30 - 5:00pm

Charter Hall (CH) 219

Anyone who is graduating in May and interested in pursuing OPT opportunities *MUST* attend this workshop presentation to learn about the process for applying and getting approved for OPT. Learn about working off campus after graduation.

M I S C

Yah! Free Coffee



Beat back the cold with FREE Coffee/Tea at ISSGS Office every morning.

Have a great week ahead!

Next issue: Mar 02 (MON)

A publication of the [International Student Services & Global Studies](#)

SC 237

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