Welcome to the second edition of the Florida Tech International Student Newsletter.

This edition includes important information concerning end of the spring semester reminders. Please read the reminders carefully!

The Upcoming Events calendar has reminders concerning the fall 2010 semester.

ISSS provides support for international students and scholars to enable you to achieve your educational goals and objectives. We advocate on your behalf, encourage international and U.S. students to learn from one another, and play a role to expand the university's appreciation for cultural diversity.

Our services include assisting F, J, M and H visa holders (and their dependents) with numerous services, including travel signatures, new-120s/DS-2019s, international student orientation, letters to social security, visa extensions, and many other immigration matters.

If you have any questions/concerns, please come in to the ISSS Office.

ISSS OFFICE INFORMATION

ISSS (International Student and Scholar Services) staff includes Director, Judith Brooke; Assistant Director, Jackie Linger; SEVIS Coordinator, Cindy Dubey; and Student Advisor, Eileen Vaccaro.

The ISSS Office is located in the Keuper Building, 2nd Floor, Room 211. ISSS is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM—5 PM.

Contact us at: isss@fit.edu
(321) 674-8053
www.fit.edu/iss
DID YOU KNOW?

- if you are traveling over the summer break you need to have a travel signature on your I-20 (Travel Workshop April 22; 5 pm; Hartley Room)
- that the ISSS Office requires 3 days lead time on paperwork submitted for signatures, letters, etc. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!
- if you are subject to the NSEERS Special Registration Program, you are required to register your departure before you leave the US
- if you are graduating and are not applying for OPT, F-1 students have 60 days in which to leave the US; J-1 visitors have 30 days
- if you are going to transfer to another school in the US for the summer or fall semester, you must request that the ISSS Office release your SEVIS immigration I-20 to your new school. See an advisor in the ISSS Office for proper procedures.
- if you have to renew your visa over the summer break, you can Request an Enrollment Verification Letter on line from ISSS
- that the 2010 Census Form is in the mail? Each physical address in the US will receive one form:
  - International students living OFF-CAMPUS should designate one person in their house to fill out the Census form and return the form by April 1
  - International students living ON-CAMPUS will have their Census information coordinated through the RA in their dorm
  - the information obtained from the Census is confidential. It is not shared with anyone, including courts of law, law enforcement agencies, and immigration.

- your “my.fit.edu” e-mail account is the university’s official way of reaching you and providing information
- you must change your address through PAWS & the ISSS Office
- that your student billing is going paperless? Check it out: www.fit.edu/sfs

2010 CENSUS: Once every 10 years the US Census Bureau takes a snapshot of everyone residing in the United States regardless of age, race, or citizenship. Please take a moment to read and answer the 10 questions and mail your form back; the deadline is April 1, 2010.

IT’S TAX TIME - DEADLINE 4/15/2010 (FORM 8843 ONLY IS DUE 6/15/2010)

The ISSS Office has once again purchased the tax program CINTAX to help international students & scholars prepare their tax forms.

All internationals in the United States are required to submit tax information to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

If you had a job on (or off) campus during the year 2009, you are required to file Form 1040-NR & Form 8843 with the IRS.

If you received scholarship money, you are required to file form 1040-NR & Form 8843 with the IRS.

If you did not work on or off campus, nor receive any monies you are still required to file Form 8843 with the IRS. Form 8843 is also required for each dependent in the US with you.

Does your I-20 (section 5) have an end date of this May 2010? Are you going to be finished with your program in May? If not you MUST come to the ISSS Office and speak with an advisor about an extension before the end date is reached. You cannot extend an I-20 after the end date.

Are you graduating in May 2010? Have you applied for optional practical training (OPT)? If not you should come to the ISSS Office and do so immediately (before its too late). You cannot work without proper authorization.