A Note From The Editor
Welcome to all new students, and welcome back to those who are returning! The ISSS Newsletter is a way for our office to keep in touch with you about our events, workshops, immigration regulations, and more! If you have any suggestions for our future newsletters, please email your ideas to tleslie@fit.edu.

The ISSS Office wishes you a wonderful and successful semester!

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ISSS Spring 2016 Multicultural Events
Join us for international coffee hours on Fridays from 4:00-5:00pm in the Rathskeller!

Join us and relax with a soothing cup of tea or coffee. The International Coffee Hours provide the entire Florida Tech community with the opportunity to share culture and friendship on an informal, regular basis, as well as to experience tea and coffee traditions from around the world. All are welcome, and faculty and staff are encouraged to attend!

Click here to download the Spring 2016 Multicultural Events schedule

Interested in helping us organize multicultural events? Then consider joining ISSO!

The International Student Service Organization’s (ISSO) goal is to improve multinational understanding and promote relationships between people of different cultures on our campus. Click here for more information.
A Redesigned Form I-20

Have you received your new I-20 yet?
The Student and Exchange Visitor Program released a redesigned Form I-20 in June of 2015. The deadline for conversion of I-20s for all students is July 1, 2016. After this date, the previous versions of I-20s will no longer be valid. Travel signatures on the new I-20s are valid for 1 year. To get your new I-20, please drop your current I-20 off at the ISSS office.

Click here to view a sample redesigned I-20.

10th Annual International Festival

Signup is still open!
Join us for our 10th annual celebration of cultural diversity and international community! Gather your organization members and sign up for the International Festival held on February 20, 2016. We are looking for student groups to set up cultural displays and perform traditional dances, instrumentals, and more!

Click here for more information, including signup forms!

Aaron Blumberg, Immigration Attorney, Visits Florida Tech

Tuesday, April 5, 2016, 10:30AM-12:30PM
Mr. Blumberg will be giving a presentation titled “Immigration 101: What Happens After I Graduate?” This presentation will outline all available options for international students (F-1 and J-1) to remain in the United States after graduation. Following his presentation, Mr. Blumberg will host a question and answer session with the audience.

Click here to reserve a seat
Registration password: immigration101

Off-Campus Employment Workshops

Required workshops for students applying for CPT or OPT.
These workshops cover the rules and procedures for obtaining off-campus work authorization both prior to completion of study and post completion of study, including curricular practical training (CPT) and optional practical training (OPT). You must be in legal F-1 Status for one academic year prior to applying for OPT or CPT.

Click below to view the workshop schedules and sign up:
Spring 2016 OPT Schedule  Spring 2016 CPT Schedule
Registration password: spring2016

ISSO’s Award of Excellence for Staff and Faculty Service to International Students and Scholars

Congratulations Dr. Heather Crawford & Jennifer Nessmith!
Professor Heather Crawford (left) and Administrative Assistant Jennifer Nessmith have been awarded the International Student Service Organization Award of Excellence for Staff & Faculty Service to International Students & Scholars. The award is given each year to a university faculty member and staff member for their outstanding support, help, and care for international students. The nominees are selected by international students at FIT who are asked to select one staff and one faculty member who displayed an extraordinary effort to encourage cultural sensitivity and who made assisting international students with their integration into campus life their top priority. Congratulations Dr. Crawford and Ms. Nessmith!

International Friendship Program

Make a Friend, Be a Friend
The ISSS Office invites you to participate in the Florida Tech International Friendship Program, which is designed to enable students from around the world to meet members of the FIT community by bringing international students together with American “hosts” to share common interests and friendships.

Click here to learn more about the International Friendship Program

Other Important Reminders

Check Your FIT Email
The ISSS office sends all communications, including highly important immigration matters, to your FIT email. Remember to check your FIT email on a regular basis.

ISSS News & Announcements
Make sure you always check the “News & Announcements” section to the ISSS website, www.fit.edu/isss, for the most up-to-date news on immigration and office policies.

Make an Appointment
Do you need to meet with an ISSS advisor? Make sure to schedule an appointment by emailing us at isss@fit.edu or by calling us at (321) 674-8053.