Friday, September 26, 2008

Fall Harvest Festivals
Various harvest festivals take place in farms around Syracuse this time of the year. Sponsored on private farms, these festivals promise great family fun including hayrides, apple picking, live music, and even petting farm animals. Along with the various farmers' markets, these festivals are another way to experience Central New York.

For more information about timings, activities and admission charges please visit:
CritzFarms Fall Festival
Abbot Farms Fall Festival

Soccer at SU
Enjoy a busy soccer weekend with the SU men's soccer team facing-off against Providence on Friday, Sep 26th and UConn on Sunday, Sep 28th at South Campus.

For more information about the game, tickets and timing click here.

SU vs. Providence
Day: Friday, Sept 26th, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: South Campus

SU vs. UConn
Day: Sunday, Sept 28th, 2008
Time: 3 p.m.
Location: South Campus

Dawn of a New Age: Bird Library Exhibition on Immigrant Art
In conjunction with this year's Syracuse Symposium and its theme of "migration", the Special Collections Research Center presents a fall exhibition titled "Dawn of a New Age: The Immigrant Contribution to the Arts in America." The exhibition is free and open to the public and runs Sept. 8, 2008 - Jan. 20, 2009 in the SCRC Gallery of Syracuse University's E.S. Bird Library. For more information, call 315-443-2697 or visit.

Day: Monday – Friday, Until Jan 20th, 2009
Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: SCRC gallery, E.S. Bird Library

Human Rights Film Festival
Illuminating Oppression: The Sixth Human Rights Film Festival involves the screening of several intriguing documentaries that highlight human rights issues from gay/lesbianism to poverty to exploitation. For detailed listings, check the events sidebar in this week's newsletter. Or contact Tula Goenka at tgoenka@syr.edu.

Date: Thursday, Sep 25 – Saturday, Sep 26
Time: Various
Location: Life Sciences Complex Auditorium

Theatre Artist Ping Chong at SU
Syracuse Symposium 2008 presents the critically acclaimed theater director and installation artist Ping Chong in a special appearance at Syracuse University on Monday, Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Joyce Hergenhan Auditorium in Newhouse 3. The lecture is presented in conjunction with the world premiere of Chong's "Tales from the Salt City" at Syracuse Stage Oct. 14-Nov. 2. For more information about Ping Chong and his lecture and works visit SU News.

Day: Monday, Oct 6
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Joyce Hergenhan Auditorium, Newhouse 3

Research Credit Registration
All graduate students working only on research, final dissertation, or thesis must enroll for credit to maintain their full-time student status. Students are required to register under course GRD 998. You must also file a Certificate of Full-Time Status with the Registrar's Office. Please do this as soon as possible so that your enrollment status will be considered full-time.

Director's Note: Health Insurance Reminder
All international students, scholars, and their dependents, should have a comprehensive health insurance policy throughout the entire duration of their program of study, including summer vacation, and during optional practical training.

Students who are eligible for the University policy (currently Blue Cross/Blue Shield, but changing to POMCO in January 2009) must also have a separate annual policy for medical evacuation and repatriation, "MEDEX." The MEDEX applications are available at the Slutzker Center; the premium for one year is $25.00.
While it maybe expensive, health insurance is an essential aspect of living in the United States. Students fall ill, have injuries or suffer from medical problems while they are in school, just as anyone else does. Without insurance, you might not be able to afford to obtain proper care. Remember, health care is even more expensive than health insurance.

Check the status of your health insurance today. If your policy has expired, come into the Slutzker Center immediately and begin a new period of enrollment with HTH Worldwide. If you are a TA, RA, or GA and you have not purchased your MEDEX coverage for 2008-2009, please do so today! This is your responsibility. No one sends you a personal reminder. Consider this your reminder! If you have difficulty with this aspect of your stay in the U.S., please make an appointment to meet with an adviser at the Slutzker Center. We may withhold signatures for travel, on-or-off campus employment, and practical training authorization if you do not have a comprehensive health insurance policy in effect until adequate documentation is submitted.

Lost I-94
Sometimes, when a student departs the United States, the airline forgets to collect the white I-94 card. Or, perhaps you traveled through a land port or sea port and the I-94 card was not collected (Exception: travel to Canada, Mexico, and the adjacent islands). It is essential that I-94 cards be turned in to the appropriate US federal agency so that your departure is correctly reported. Failure to do so could cause consequences during your next trip back to the United States.

The U.S. Department of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) provides specific information for mailing the I-94 card back to the U.S. for processing. More information about I-94 (including the above) can be found at SUNY – Binghamton's Web site. Additional information is also available online at the CBP's FAQ page.