Friday, November 26, 2008

**Early Thanksgiving Dinner for International Students**

About 450 international students and their family members celebrated a traditional American Thanksgiving meal on Sunday, November 23. Held in the Goldstein Auditorium of the Schine Student Center, the event was organized by the staff of Slutzker Center and Hendricks Chapel.

Each of the 50 tables at the dinner was hosted by a member of the Syracuse University, SUNY ESF, or general Syracuse community. Some of the table hosts were also generous donors of the food which included turkey, squash, peas, sweet breads, potatoes, and pie.

The guest list this year included among others, Chancellor Nancy Cantor, President and Mrs. Murphy from SUNY ESF and the benefactor of the Slutzker Center, Lillian Slutzker. Entertainment in the form of traditional Greek song and dance was provided by the St. Sophia Adult Dance Group. Photos were provided by SU students: Jolyn Wu, Katie Strunk and Colleen Miller and may be viewed online.

Thank you all those who came for making the event a success!

**Thanksgiving Break Emergencies**

The University will be closed Thursday - Sunday, November 27-30, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. If there is an emergency, please contact the Department of Public Safety at 315-443-2224 and they will know how to reach us if necessary.

**Thanksgiving Buffet**

For those students who may not be going home this Thanksgiving, here are a couple of very affordable options for a homemade turkey dinner with all the trimmings:

**Location:** Schine Dining, Schine Student Center  
**Date:** Thursday, November 27  
**Time:** 11a-5pm  
**Price:** $9.79 per person. Students on the meal plan can use Supercards money.

A formal Thanksgiving buffet with tablecloths, china and silver will be held. The experience will be different from the regular dining hall atmosphere.

**Location:** Rachel's Restaurant, Sheraton Hotel  
**Date:** Thursday, November 27  
**Time:** 1-8pm  
**Price:** $24.95 per person, $19.95 with SUID  
This will include a Thanksgiving buffet in the restaurant.

**University Winter Schedule Update**

In continuation of Syracuse University's Flexible Work and Sustainability Initiative, the University has announced a new 2008-09 winter break work schedule. In addition to the previously scheduled holidays of Dec. 24, 25, 26 and Jan. 1, Dec. 29, 30, 31 and Jan. 2 have now been designated as "Green Days." Therefore, the Slutzker Center (and most university offices) will be closed! The SU Library will also be open for reduced hours during the break period. Faculty and graduate students may make arrangements through their school and college offices regarding lab and other research space.

*Please make your plans for travel signatures and CPT/OPT applications accordingly. The Slutzker Center will be open on Monday and Tuesday, December 22 and 23 for such concerns.*

Also, if you are in contact with any new students who are arriving for the spring term, please advise them to arrive after Monday, January 5. Our Orientation for new students is scheduled for Friday, January 9, from 1 to 5 p.m.

**Help Decorate the Slutzker Center for Holidays**

(note from Director Pat Burak)

Many years ago, we did a survey on SCISNEWS about whether or not to have a tree decorated for the holidays in the Slutzker Center. Because we do not observe any other holidays in such an overt fashion, we had resisted the temptation to decorate with a tree in December.

However, an overwhelmingly positive response came back to the Slutzker Center within 24 hours, expressing a strong sentiment among our students to have a decorated tree in the building at this time of year.

So, to that end, we are bringing a live tree to the building on **Sunday, November 30 at 2 p.m.**, and I need 2-3 strong volunteers to help me take it from my car into the building and set it up! Please email me if you are able and willing to meet me at the Slutzker Center on Sunday to do this. I will also use the two summer tables and chairs in from the front porch and put them in the basement. If you have 30 minutes of free time on Sunday, please volunteer and come help me keep this center warm and friendly for all of our students! I hope to hear from you soon (paburak@syr.edu). Thank you!

Pat Burak, Director

**Food for Thought**
Project It Takes a Village (PITAV) extends a personal invitation to the international student community to a special event and buffet lunch on Monday December 1 (World AIDS Day). This opportunity to meet other PITAV board members and learn about how this new nonprofit organization founded by SU’s Zimbabwean doctoral student Joy Fashu Kanu is connecting the Syracuse community to school children in Zimbabwe.

As teachers and professionals who help young people make a difference in the world, they seek your input and advice about growing this project. Please feel free to extend this invitation to other colleagues and/or students who are committed to changing what can be changed.

Location: 220 Eggers Hall
Day: Monday, December 1
Time: 11:30 a.m.

Japanese Translation Help

Professor Owen Shapiro, director of the Syracuse International Film Festival, needs a volunteer Japanese translator. The translator’s duties would include writing several emails to be sent to the Japanese Society of Cinematographers between now and the end of December. The volunteer would also need to translate the return emails for him. Some more help with emails will be required between the middle of March and the beginning of April. Finally, the film festival will need hosts and interpreters for Japanese delegates visiting the festival. Tentative dates for the film festival are: April 30 - May 3.

Email the director of the Slutzker Center, Pat Burak at paburak@syr.edu to let her know if you are interested and available, now and again later in April.

Thanksgiving Centro Bus Schedule and Free University Shuttle

Traveling during Thanksgiving Break? Use Centro’s bus services from Bird Library to the Regional Transportation Center and back instead of taking a cab to save a few bucks.

Departing times for the bus service on Monday, November 30 from the RTC and returning to Bird Library:

RTC – Bird
12:38 p.m. – 1:13 p.m.
1:48 p.m. – 2:23 p.m.
2:58 p.m. – 3:32 p.m.
4:08 p.m. – 4:42 p.m.
5:47 p.m. – 6:23 p.m.

You may also want to use the free bus shuttle sponsored by the Student Association, operating to and from Syracuse University to Hancock International airport and the Regional Transportation Center. As students return from their
Thanksgiving travel, Quality Coach shuttles will be in service on Sunday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m.–midnight. Buses will pick up from the Regional Transportation Center at 15 minutes past the hour; pick up at Hancock International Airport at 30 minutes past the hour; and drop off at the Schine Student Center on the hour. For more information contact Greg Klotz, Student Association at gfklotz@syr.edu

Additional Travel Seminars Daily November 17 - December 23

Due to the high volume of students traveling outside of the United States at this time of the year, the Slutzker Center will offer additional Travel Seminars. From November 17th through the December 23rd, seminars will be held every business day at the Slutzker Center. When you come for the seminar, please make sure to bring your original I-20/DS-2019, passport, visa, I-94 card, and proof of health insurance. Your health insurance should contain medical evacuation and repatriation, if it does not, you must purchase the supplemental MedEx policy, which costs $25/person/year.

Monday-12:00 p.m.
Tuesday-10:00 a.m.
Wednesday-12:00 p.m.
Thursday-11:00 a.m.
Friday-12:00 p.m.