The Clock is Ticking on Some Practical Training Applications:

F-1 students who will be graduating in May 2010 and plan to apply for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) are reminded that they must submit their application paperwork to the SCIS, and then send the processed documents to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) so that it is received at the USCIS no later than 60 days after their degree conferral date, which this year is May 15, 2010.

F-1 students who have not yet begun the practical training application process are urged to do so soon so that you will have the best possible opportunity to obtain your employment authorization card in a timely manner. Currently, it is taking the USCIS Service Centers approximately 12 weeks to process OPT employment authorization applications. Employment cannot begin until you have the card “in your hands.”

Also, a student in F-1 or J-1 status cannot be employed away from the Syracuse University campus unless they have obtained appropriate federal authorization to do so before employment can begin. This includes internships, research and volunteer work.

To accommodate student requests at this busy time of the semester, we will have a “Walk In PT Step 2 Service” session next Wednesday, April 28, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Slutzer Center (for more detailed information please read below).

!! Important Notice !!

The Slutzer Center will be closed this Friday, April 30th from 12:30 - 5:00pm. For urgent matters please call us at 315-443-2457 or for general inquiries please email us at lescis@syr.edu.

Notice: A special letter to international students from the Director of Slutzer Center for International Services, Dr. Patricia A. Burak, regarding MayFest Celebrations. Please read the newsletter below for details.

Recreation Services is offering FREE Meditation classes on Thurs at 3:30pm till April 29.

Interested in taking Yoga, Pilates, Vinyasa, Tae Kwon Do, Tai Chi, Ballet, Zumba, Hip Hop, Biking (RPM), Fencing or Swimming Classes please check this website for more details: http://recreationservices.syr.edu/Programs/fitnessclasses/index.htm
Graduate students expecting to graduate this May must complete the File Diploma Request process in MySlice by established deadlines, published at http://gradsch.syr.edu/pdfs/GraduationDeadlines.pdf by the Graduate School. This will activate the certification process and awarding of your degree.

Transferring out of SU?

If you are planning to transfer out of SU, the immigration regulatory process for transferring your F-1 status from Syracuse University to a new school in the United States requires you to complete a Transfer Out Form with the SCIS so that your federal SEVIS record can be transferred to your new school. The Transfer Out Form and more detailed information may be found on our website: http://international.syr.edu/transfer_out.htm

Students who will be ending their studies this May but have no plans to apply for practical training (F-1), academic training (J-1) or continue at a new school or in a new field or level of study (i.e. Master’s, J.D., Ph.D.), or seek a change of non-immigrant status must depart the United States within 60 days of their academic program end date if they are in F-1 status (see item #5 on your current I-20), or within 30 days if they are in J-1 status.

Planning to Study Abroad during the Summer semester? If so, please talk to an international advisor at the Slutzker Center soon. There are steps which you must take in order to insure your continued non-immigrant status for re-entry to the U.S.

Regal Movie Tickets

The Schine Student Center Box Office offers two types of Regal Movie Tickets - both at discounted prices.

The VIP Super Saver ticket program is $7.00 and does carry some minor restrictions during the first 12 days of selected new release films. VIP Super Saver Tickets have No Expiration Date.

The PREMIERE Super Saver ticket is $8.00, BUT WITH NO RESTRICTIONS! Premiere Super Saver tickets are valid anytime, any show, seven days a week. Yes, even on the opening night of blockbuster films! Premiere Super Saver Tickets have No Expiration Date.

For more information visit the website: http://students.syr.edu/boxoffice/content/regal.html

Although rare, a fire drill or evacuation could be an opportunity for a thief to strike. To prevent someone from taking your irreplaceable documents and passports we recommend the following:

- Keep your documents in a secure location.
- Be able to access and take your documents with you quickly if you need to evacuate the building.
- A small safe, briefcase, folder or backpack maybe the best way to keep your documents organized.
- Rent a safety deposit box at your local bank (i.e.: HSBC, Chase, etc.)

You should never spend time searching for your documents in an emergency situation. REMEMBER, while you want to do your best to protect your valuable property, your personal safety is the highest importance in emergency!

Travelling During the Summer?

Have all Your Documents with you! If you are travelling within the U.S., you must still carry with you your passport, I-94 card and original I-20/DS-2019. The U.S. Border Patrol often inspects documents at train stations, bus stations, and airports. If you do not have your original documents, you could be fined $100, or detained until your status can be verified.

If you are travelling outside the U.S., you must make sure you have a valid visa stamp to re-enter the U.S., as well as an unexpired passport valid for at least 6 months into the future, and a blue travel signature from SCIS on your I-20/DS-2019 within the last 1 year (or if you are on OPT, the last 6 months). If you are on OPT, you must also have a valid EAD card and job offer letter to re-enter the United States.

The Travel Seminar - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 1:30pm at the Slutzker Center.

The Slutzker Center for International Services will offer additional Travel Seminars beginning Wednesday, April 28th to Friday, May 14th. Please read the newsletter below for seminar dates and time.

Worried that your flight might be delayed due to the weather conditions? Please contact your airline, the airport and check this website - http://www.fly.faa.gov (for more traveling tips please read below)
Applied for OPT? The SCIS Needs a Copy of Your EAD Card!

The SCIS reminds all students who have applied for OPT that once you receive your Employment Authorization Card (EAD), please "scan the front and back of your EAD card" and e-mail us a copy of it to lescis@syr.edu.

Students who are planning to do an Internship this Spring semester should apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT). Please remember that you have to register for at least 1 credit for CPT.

Curricular Practical Training Seminar (CPT) - Wednesday @ 3:00pm
Optional Practical Training Seminar (OPT) - Wednesday @ 3:45pm

Address Change?

You must always provide a current physical address to the SCIS in order to keep your SEVIS registration current and to maintain your lawful status. You have 10 days to inform the SCIS of any address changes or you are in violation of your status. http://international.syr.edu/address_update_opt.htm

Walk In PT Step 2 Service

At this time of the semester, appointment requests for curricular and optional practical training begin to "back up."

To accommodate student requests at this busy time of the semester, we will have another "Walk In PT Step 2 Service" session next Wednesday afternoon, April 28, from 2:00 to 4:00p.m. at the Slutzker Center. A number of advisers will be on hand to process your applications on a first come, first served basis. You may have to wait, so please bring something to read, or plan to watch television or work on the computer. We will process as many student applications as possible during the two hours. If we have more applications than we can process, we will take them in and work on them throughout the rest of the week.

Please be sure to have all documents completed and ready for advisor review. We will work diligently to see as many students as possible during this time. If you feel that your case needs personal attention or you have many questions, please call our office to schedule a regular CPT or OPT Step 2 Appointment so that your case can get the attention it needs.

We hope that this extra service will meet the needs of students who are applying for practical training. Of course, we will continue our regular schedule of CPT and OPT Step 2 Appointments throughout April and May. Depending on the utility (and success) of this walk-in session, we will consider another future date for an evening session.

We look forward to serving you.

MayFest Celebrations on April 30, 2010

A special letter to international students from the Director

Dear Students,

As you must be aware, the University will be hosting a celebration of the end of the semester on April 30 right outside the Slutzker Center, on Walnut Park. This party will be well supported by the University, with free food, drinks (both alcoholic for those over 21 and non-alcoholic for those under 21 or who do not choose to drink alcohol) and entertainment. I encourage you to participate and enjoy the afternoon, and perhaps some of the SCIS staff will see you there!

However, we understand that some students may be planning parties in other locations that day. It is our VERY STRONG WARNING to you not to participate in any parties which might violate university, city, state or federal laws or regulations. "Open container" laws will be strictly enforced by the Syracuse Police Department.

If you are found to have an "open container" of an alcoholic beverage in public (i.e. not at a sanctioned event such as Walnut Park), you might be arrested. Also, "public intoxication" is a serious offense and could result not only in suspension from the university, but loss of your non-immigrant student status in the U.S.

Please don't put yourself in jeopardy! Enjoy the sponsored party on Walnut Park, and the Block Party in the Dome afterwards (if you have a ticket!) and then be sure to have a good night's sleep at home, in your own comfortable bed! Spending the night in the local jail or hospital after excessive "partying" is not a good way to end the semester.

My colleague at Binghamton University has a good article on the topic of arrest and the international student. The link is http://www.binghamton.edu/isss/pubs/instudarrst.html. I strongly advise every international student to read this article if you are thinking about attending any unsanctioned events.

We hope that you have a wonderful end to this semester. If we can be of any assistance, please feel free to call upon us!

Sincerely,
Dr. Patricia A. Burak
Director, Slutzker Center for International Services
DAILY TRAVEL SEMINARS - BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, 4/28

Planning to Travel During Summer?
The Slutzker Center for International Services will offer additional Travel Seminars beginning Wednesday, April 28th to Friday, May 14th. 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 per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April Seminar Dates:</th>
<th>May Seminar Dates:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4/28 1:30PM</td>
<td>Monday 5/3 - Friday 5/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 4/29 10:00AM</td>
<td>Monday - 5:00PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4/30 10:00AM</td>
<td>Tuesday - 10:00AM</td>
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Mayfest Notice
Friday, April 30, from 1 to 5:30 p.m., a new "Mayfest student celebration" will take place in Walnut Park, open to SU and SUNY-ESF students only. Mayfest will be a regular instruction day (classes will be scheduled as normal). This event has been designed collaboratively by representatives of Syracuse University, the SU Student Association, University Union, and the City of Syracuse with the shared, paramount goal of providing a safe, controlled environment in which our students may celebrate the end of the school year and the arrival of spring.

FY 2010 H1B Updates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cap Type</th>
<th>Cap Amount</th>
<th>Cap Eligible Petitions</th>
<th>Petition Target</th>
<th>Date of Last Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>H-1B Regular Cap</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>13,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>H-1B Master's Exemption</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>5,800</td>
<td>4/15/2010</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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For more information and latest updates on H1B Visa cap count, please visit the USCIS website.

Susan G. Komen - Race for the Cure

16th Annual CNY Race for the Cure

Date: May 15, 2010
Location: NY-State Fairgrounds
Events: 5k run-walk/1 mile walk
Register online at: www.komencny.org

An Evening with Emmy Award Winner Bill Persky - May 5
Syracuse University and the Bleier Center for Television and Popular Culture in the Newhouse School will host a special event with Emmy Award-winning writer, director and producer Bill Persky ’53 on Wednesday, May 5, in New York City.

"From 'That Girl' to 'Cougars': How Laughter Helped Move the Women's Movement Forward," an informal conversation with Persky moderated by Newhouse School professor Robert Thompson, will be held at 7 p.m. at SU's Joseph I. Lubin House, 11 E. 61st St., Manhattan. A reception will precede the event at 6 p.m. For more information or to R.S.V.P., contact SU's Office of Gift Planning at (888) 352-9535 or giftplan@syr.edu.

Persky is a five-time Emmy Award winner for such shows as "The Dick Van Dyke Show," "That Girl," "Sid Caesar," "Bill Cosby" and "Kate & Allie."

The event is co-sponsored by SU, the Bleier Center, the Newhouse School and Pathfinders

Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2010
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Location: Lubin House, New York City

Spring into Action Fun Run and Walk - April 26
Get off your bum! Healthy Monday, Recreation Services, and the Division of Student Affairs Student Leadership Institute present the Move-It Monday program, "Spring Into Action!" Fun Run and Walk - **Monday, April 26 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** Join us on the **Quad** for a fun run and walk. Registration starts on the Quad at 11:30 a.m. and the fun run/walk will start at noon.

**Mynavi Global Career EXPO 2010/ "Tokyo Summer"**
(Job Fair for Japanese-speaking Students!)
**Date & Time:**
Monday, June 21st 10:00-17:30
Tuesday, June 22nd 10:00-17:30

**Place:** Tokyo Big Sight (Tokyo, Japan)

All majors are welcome.

Companies from the following industries participated in 2009.

Automobile/ Banking/ Chemical/ Communication/ Consulting/ Education/Electronic/ Energy/ Entertainment/ Financial/ Food/ Human Resources/Insurance/ IT/ Manufacturing/ Media/ NGO/ NPO/ Publication/ Real Estate/ Research/ Trade/ Travel etc.

**SU Choirs and Symphony Orchestra**
The SU choirs and Symphony Orchestra will combine for a festive, year-end concert featuring Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms.

The program features the winners of the Setnor School of Music annual Concerto and Aria Competition. Senior Robert Brotherton will sing "Dalla Sua Pace" from Mozart's Don Giovanni, and senior Erika Mitchell will sing "Stephano's Song" from Gounod's Romeo and Juliet. Graduate cellist Lian Qiao will be the soloist for Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations. The Setnor Brass and University Singers will present Jubilate Deo by Giovanni Gabrieli. The concert will conclude with forces combined for Bernstein's Chichester Psalms.

Come early to hear a cello ensemble perform music of Villa Lobos in the lobby of the Chapel starting at **7:30 p.m.**

Parking is available in Irving Garage.

**Date:** Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
**Location:** Hendricks Chapel
**Sponsor:** Setnor School of Music, College of Visual and Performing Arts

**Syracuse Chiefs vs. Rochester Red Wings**
Wild Ocean will flood your senses as it fills the big screen in our Bristol IMAXR Omnitheater. This action-packed, inspirational documentary explores the interplay between man and our endangered ocean ecosystem. Using the breathtaking panoramas of the Wild Coast, a rocky coastline off the Southern tip of Africa, Wild Ocean throws you into the water to swim alongside sardines, sharks, dolphins and whales.

**Dates:** 04/23/2010, 04/24/2010, 04/25/2010, 04/26/2010

**Location:**
1 Tex Simone Dr.
Syracuse, NY 13208

**Time:** 6:00 pm; 2:00 pm Sunday
**Cost:** Call for ticket prices and information
**Telephone:** 315-474-7833
**Website:** [http://syracusechiefs.com/](http://syracusechiefs.com/)

**WEEKLY SALSA UPDATE**
Your "WEEKLY SALSA UPDATE" is organized as follows:

Weekend Lessons
La Familia's Weekly Dance Class Schedule

Brought to you by "la Familia de la Salsa"
Brian A. Bromka - Founder/Artistic Director
"bridging cultures through dance...one step at a time"

**Website:** www.lafamilialadelasalsa.com
**Phone:** 315-636-7133

**Weekend Lessons:**
EVERY FRIDAY - Syracuse:
Beginner Salsa "Survival" Lesson!
OUR MOST POPULAR CLASS taught by Roberto Perez, Cardio Salsa Instructor and co-founder of La Familia de la Salsa!
Friday nights ... 8:15 - 9:30pm, just prior to Havana Nights Latin Dance! (see Sec 2,
Research Survey: Characteristics that lead to friendship satisfaction with closest friends among college students - by Kyoung Mi Choi

We invite you to participate in the research survey exploring the characteristics that lead to friendship satisfaction with closest friends among college students. This survey is administered by Kyoung Mi Choi who is a Graduate Assistant at the Slutzker Center and also a doctoral candidate in Counselor Education and Supervision at Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

If you are interested in participating in this research, please contact Kyoung Mi Choi at kmchoi01@maxwell.syr.edu.

For more information about the project, please visit the Slutzker Center website.

Undergraduate Students in Academic Difficulty

We have found that many new students in fall 2009 are now facing academic warnings or probation as a result of poor academic performance in the fall 2009 semester. Kyoung-Mi ("Rebecca") Choi, a graduate assistant in the Slutzker Center, is reaching out to you! She will be emailing you soon, inviting you to meet with her, and find ways to improve your academic performance this semester. Please reply to her email as soon as you receive it. After one semester of probation, many students find themselves facing a year suspension! This could be a way out of that situation! Please take advantage of this opportunity.

Say Yes to Education Overview

The Say Yes to Education: Syracuse program combines comprehensive, high-quality and sustained academic, social, emotional, health and family supports throughout the K-12 years, and culminates with the incentive of free college tuition for SCSD graduates who meet residency and college admission requirements into one of nearly 100 higher education institutions in the Say Yes compact. The Say Yes Higher Education Compact eliminates the most significant obstacle faced by families across the income spectrum—the high cost of a quality post-secondary education...

The mission of Say Yes is to value and realize the promise and extraordinary potential of economically disadvantaged youth and families. Say Yes recognizes the daunting challenges faced by children living in poverty, but knows through experience and field-tested results that children can overcome these challenges when given holistic support.

To find out more about the Say Yes to Education you can read the December 2009 Newsletter: http://wpbdc.syr.edu/email/sayyes/enews12-09.pdf

Special Registration (NSEERS)

Further security checks after initial immigration inspection are typically required for:

© Certain citizens or nationals of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria, as designated by the DHA Secretary in the Federal Register.

© Males age 16-45 from Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen

©Foreign nationals of any country may be asked by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) officer to undergo Special Registration if they feel they may be a national security threat.

If you are subject to special registration procedures, it is your responsibility to make certain that your entry and departure is documented by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) inspecting officer, every time you leave and re-enter the U.S. (This may add a significant amount of time onto departure so please plan accordingly). A helpful reminder of where the pertinent NSEERS registrations may be found at the following airports in the state of New York. http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-28418.htm

Buffalo Peace Bridge POE, New York;
R.A.P.E. Center volunteers

R.A.P.E. Center volunteers help promote the work of the R.A.P.E. Center. So far this fall, volunteers have accomplished the following activities:

- Assisted at the Syracuse Welcome 2009 event, "Everyday Heroes"
- Met with first-year students in the L.O.O.P. (Leadership Outdoor Orientation Program) to talk about becoming empowered bystanders
- Facilitated an Empowered Bystander training for Orientation Leaders
- Led discussions in First-Year Forum classes
- Tabled in Schine Student Center for Healthy Monday
- Prepared materials to be distributed to First-Year Forums
- Organized packets of information for new volunteers
- Prepared booklets for participants in the Mentors in Violence Prevention trainings
- Attended the Mentors in Violence Prevention peer facilitator training
- Led 5 Sex Jeopardy workshops in residence halls
- Facilitated conversations reaching over 180 students with e5m presentations.

If you are interested in becoming part of the R.A.P.E Center team by joining one of these volunteer groups or would like more information please email Jill Sneider at jasneide@syr.edu.

Pedestrian Safety Tips

Stay safe while you’re walking to campus. Here are some tips:

- Use sidewalks and paths whenever possible.
- Use crosswalks, and don’t start walking until you see the “WALK” signal. Walking facing traffic so you can see vehicles as they approach, and they can see you.
- Always walk in groups of three or more!
- Remember, pedestrians only have the right-of-way if a driver sees them! As a driver, it is important to be familiar with pedestrian safety laws. When a pedestrian is crossing at a crosswalk, drivers must wait until the pedestrian has completely crossed the street and has reached the other side safely.
- When making a right-hand turn at a red light, it is important to come to a complete stop and check for pedestrians crossing the street. Also remember there are many “No Right on Red” turns in the Syracuse University area.

Protect your Property

The SCIS supports this policy and we encourage every student to have this insurance.

- Laptops, cell phones, MP3 Players, clothes, books, sports equipment, furniture all your “stuff” is covered. You’re insured for countless types of loss, including theft, vandalism, fire, water, and accidental damage
- Worldwide coverage on and off campus
- Property of the University is covered while in your care
- Buy $4,000 of coverage for less than $95!

For more information about our student personal property program, call 1-800-289-1501 and ask for a college specialist. Or better yet Enroll online! It's fast and easy.
Simply log on to: www.haylor.com/student

For your safety, please remember...

- On campus after dark, use DPS’ free escort service. Off campus, use SU Home (it’s free); call 443-2224 for more information on these services. Additional options are Centro Bus or taxi service.
- Walk, bike or jog in groups of three or more — away from bushes, cars and other objects a suspect could hide behind.
- Look and listen. Headphones and cell phones can create tunnel vision.
- Travel in well-lighted and well-traveled areas.
- Don't approach strangers or let them get close to you.
- If you think someone is following you, switch directions or cross the street. Go toward an open business or lighted house.
- Have your house or car keys in hand before you reach your door.
- Know where “Blue Light” phones are and how to use them.
- If someone tries to rob you, don't resist. Give up your property, not your life.
- Try to get a description of the suspect(s) and any associated vehicle and tag number.
- IMMEDIATELY report emergencies or suspicious activities, persons and vehicles. For SU's Department of Public Safety, dial 711 on campus or #78 (from a cell phone); for the Syracuse Police Department, dial 911

Your quick report may help prevent others from becoming victims.

Spring 2010 Bus Schedule

Centro is the provider of public transportation in Syracuse and throughout Onondaga, Cayuga and Oswego Counties. Centro operates a system of shuttle routes on campus under contract with Syracuse University. These are regular transit routes which Syracuse University students can board for free. Centro also operates an extensive system of bus routes connecting the Syracuse University campus to points throughout the area. Students may ride free on these routes within certain specified “free fare zones”. If you wish to travel to an area outside of these zones, you must pay a fare.

http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/display.cfm?content_ID=%28%21

QUESTIONS? Contact:
Parking and Transit Services
621 Skytop Road
- Phone: 443-1049
- Web: http://parking.syr.edu

Motivational Quotes of the Week:

"A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on sympathy, education, and social ties; no religious basis is necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained by fear of punishment and hope of reward after death."
- Albert Einstein

"Our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective."
- Martin Luther King Jr.

"If one is going to err, one should err on the side of liberty and freedom."
- Kofi Annan

"If some Birkenstock-wearing knucklehead driving around in a SUV and wearing sneakers someone was sold into slavery to make is sniffing about the poor animals, that person is clearly never going to experience the world."
- Anthony Bourdain

"Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself."
- Leo Tolstoy

"One of the reasons why we crave love, & seek it so desperately, is that love is the only cure for loneliness, & shame, & sorrow. But some feelings sink so deep into the heart that only loneliness can help you find them again. Some truths about yourself are so painful that only shame can help you live with them. And some things are just so sad that only your soul can do the crying for you."
- Shantaram - Gregory David Roberts

SCIS News is a listserv owned and managed by the Slutzker Center for International Services, Division of Student Affairs, at Syracuse University. It is the publisher of SCIS News. Permission is granted to freely distribute the information posted to this list as long as its contents remain unchanged.

If your e-mail account is on a server other than syr.edu, please send an e-mail
message to dabanhu@syr.edu. In the subject line, type: Please subscribe to SCIS Newsletter, your e-mail address, your first and last name.

Note: If you would like to submit a request to publish your news or events in our SCIS Newsletter. Please contact Daniela Baban Hurrle at dabanhu@syr.edu

The Lillian and Emanuel Slutzker Center for International Services, Syracuse University
310 Walnut Place, Syracuse, NY, 13244-2380. Email: lscis@syr.edu - Phone: (315) 443-2457