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IN THIS EDITION

Events and Programs to Introduce you to Campus & Community

- Immigration Status after Practical Training
- RecycleMania
- Career Crash Course
- SAC Presents: Joanne Waghorne - *Hindu Gurus Moving Up: New Sites for Spiritual Practices in Singapore*
- Filmmaker Kiarostami to Hold Residency in VPA
- Relay for Life
- 12th Annual NY State Green Building Conference
- The Good Woman of Setzuan
- Poster Design Contest

Immigration News

- Group Debates International Standards for Higher Education
- DHS Releases Report on the US Nonimmigrant Population

Other News

- SCIS Helpful Hint: Tax Deadline is April 15
- Phi Beta Delta Induction Ceremony
- Fulbright Visit to West Genesee High School
- Spandita Seouli Dutta is winner of Picture of the Week!

Immigration News and Events

Group Debates International Standards for Higher Education

At a recent meeting of the Council for Higher Education's International Quality Group, members discussed the idea of developing one set of global standards for quality assurance and accreditation to address the rise in student mobility and the need for adequate evaluation of educational experiences abroad.

Among the benefits discussed in regards to the establishment of a single set of quality standards was that such international standards would help to facilitate transnational education and enable greater collaboration between higher education institutions around the world, with students assured of the quality, equivalence and portability of degrees.

One of the drawbacks of such a system is the danger that, in efforts to comply with international standards, higher education systems could become less relevant to the socio-cultural needs of local communities, leaving local needs under-served.

A single set of standards would require unanimity and consensus, would need to recognize the uniqueness of different countries and institutions, and would need to avoid the same standards of excellence for all institutions.

[Read Full Article](#)



DHS Releases Report on the US Nonimmigrant Population

This report presents estimates of the size and characteristics of the resident nonimmigrant population in the United States. The estimates are daily averages for the 12-month period centered on January 1, 2012. In this report, the term resident nonimmigrant refers to foreign nationals who are legally admitted into the United States for specific, temporary purposes and whose classes of admission are associated with residency (e.g., students and temporary workers, as opposed to tourists and business travelers). The characteristics analyzed include category of admission, country of citizenship, age, sex, and destination state. The estimates are derived from U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) administrative records of nonimmigrant arrivals and departures.

[View the Full Report](#)



Slutzker Center News and Events

Phi Beta Delta Induction Ceremony

March 21

The Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society inducted 90 new members last Friday, March 21st at Hendricks Chapel.

Professor Mehrzad Boroujerdi inspired new and continuing Phi Beta Delta members and their guests by emphasizing the responsibility we all share in an increasingly global world. Kung Hwan Kim, Vice President of the Korean Student Association and graduating master's student in Information Management in the ISchool, shared his experience at SU and encouraged attendees to break out of culturally segregated groups and take a small step out of their comfort zone to embrace the cultural diversity on campus. Yutian Yang, student Vice President for Phi Beta Delta programming and Ph.D. Candidate in Chemical Engineering in the L. C. Smith School of Engineering, reviewed the year's Phi Beta Delta events and announced the opening of student positions on the Phi Beta Delta Board of Directors.

Kathleen Joyce, Vice President of Phi Beta Delta and Assistant Dean in the L.C. Smith School of Engineering, Suzanne Shane, Director of Programs at SU Abroad, Richard Breyer, co-director of Documentary Film and History and Television, Radio and Film professor in the S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Patricia Burak, Chapter Coordinator and Director of the Slutzker Center for International Services, (SCIS) and Elane Granger, president of Phi Beta Delta and Associate Director of SCIS presided at the event.



For more information about this society committed to providing leadership for the internationalization of our campus, and an online form to nominate members for the 2015-2016 year, see <http://international.syr.edu/programs-and-activities/phi-beta-delta.html>.

Fulbright Visit to West Genesee High School

March 22

Eight Fulbright students visited the West Genesee High School Cultural Fair last Saturday, March 22nd. They wrote the names of the children in their own language, which included French, Urdu, Arabic, Russian, Farsi, Yoruba and Turkish. The students also shared artifacts and stories from their countries and enjoyed the abundant international food provided by diverse intercultural groups of the community.

Photo from left to right: Game Ibrahim from Togo, Zunaira Latif from Pakistan, Tahani Alzoubi from Jordan, Elane Granger from Chicago and the Slutzker Center Fulbright coordinator, Kachikwu "Theo" Omodia from Nigeria, Kusturie Moodley from South Africa, Nour Taher from Palestine, Seval Komurcu from Turkey. Not pictured is Idris Jonmamadov from Tajikistan who was very much in demand by the Ukrainian, Russian and Kazakhstan cultural tables!



Immigration Status after Practical Training

Crouse Hinds, Rm 010
March 31, 3-5pm

Margaret Catillaz, an immigration attorney from the law firm Harter, Secrest & Emery in Rochester, NY will present on:

- H-1B Temporary Workers
- O-1 Aliens of Extraordinary Ability
- TNs under NAFTA
- Permanent Residence/Green Cards
 - Labor Certification
 - Outstanding Professors/Researchers
 - Extraordinary Ability Aliens
- And more...

This event is sponsored by the Slutzker Center for International Services.



RecycleMania

Slutzker Center

April 1, 3pm

What is proper recycling? And how about the water we drink?

Come take a blind water taste test with Shao Mei Zhang, Public Health and Policy Studies major. Learn what items can be recycled and what can't.

Refreshments will be served to all attendees. This event is sponsored by the Slutzker Center for International Services.



Helpful Hints from SCIS: Tax Deadline is April 15

The Slutzker Center would like to remind you to file your taxes by the deadline of April 15. Current SU international students and scholars, including those participating in OPT or AT can prepare their Federal tax return using GLACIER Tax Prep.

[Apply for GLACIER access now](#)

It is important that you complete all fields on the form to receive an access code. There is a maximum of 3 – 5 business days turnaround time for the access code. If you don't receive a response within this time period, please contact us immediately.

For information on preparing your New York State tax return, please visit the [New York State Department of Taxation and Finance](#). You may also find useful information in the [Taxes](#) section of the SCIS website. You can view the NY State Income Tax Workshop powerpoint slides or watch a webcast on the topic.

If you have a question or concern that you would like addressed in a future "Helpful Hints" article, please send an email to lescis@syr.edu. Maybe your question will be featured in next week's issue!



Picture of the Week

This week's photo was taken by Spandita Seouli Dutta, a PhD student in the Department of Biology. This is Spandita's first year in the US. She came from India, which has a tropical climate, and was initially overwhelmed by the snow in Syracuse. She took this picture during spring break so she could send it to her parents back home in India and show them how much it snows here, even in March!



For the chance to have your picture featured as Picture of the Week, please send it via email to lescis@syr.edu with the subject line of "Picture of the Week." Submissions can be from anywhere on the globe!

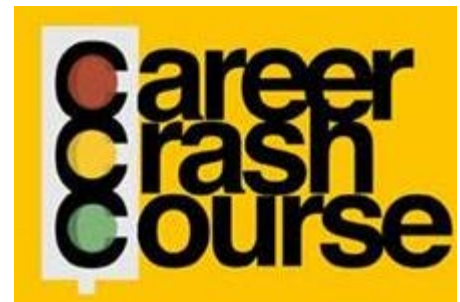
Syracuse University Events

Career Crash Course

304ABC Schine
March 28, 11am-3:45pm

This one-day crash course features consecutive workshops on career essentials including resumes, interviewing, networking, and job search resources.

Workshops will be led by employer experts from GE, IBM, Turning Stone, Northwestern Mutual, and JPMorgan Chase. Students can attend one, multiple, or all sessions to gain knowledge about landing their next internship or full-time job.



SAC Presents: Joanne Waghorne
Hindu Gurus Moving Up:
New Sites for Spiritual Practices in Singapore
341 Eggers Hall
April 1, 12:30-1:30pm

Joanne Waghorne, Professor of Religion at Syracuse University will discuss *Hindu Gurus Moving Up: New Sites for Spiritual Practices in Singapore*.

Singapore led Asia in the development of a high-rise world with its largely successful scheme of owner-occupied government-built housing. These high-rises nurture some surprising Hindu-inspired movements in spite of arguments that such an environment supposedly kills the human spirit. All these events are Hindu in flavor but often explicitly above ethnicity and even "religion." What kind of religiosity flourishes in this soon-to-be dominant spatial régime in Asia? One answer: Hindu gurus, but how and why?

This event is sponsored by the South Asia Center at the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs.



Filmmaker Kiarostami to Hold Residency in VPA Events throughout April

Iranian filmmaker, photographer, video artist and poet Abbas Kiarostami will be in residence at SU for two weeks this spring as the College of Visual and Performing Arts' (VPA) 2014 Sandra Kahn Alpert Visiting Artist.

While in Syracuse, Kiarostami will participate in several events open to the public. They include:

- Free screening on Tuesday, April 1, at 7 p.m. at Watson Theater, Watson Hall on the SU campus.
- FilmTalks conversation on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the W. Carroll Coyne Center for the Performing Arts (the PAC) at Le Moyne College.
- Poetry reading on Thursday, April 10, at 6 p.m. at the Point of Contact Gallery in SU's Nancy Cantor Warehouse, 350 W. Fayette St., Syracuse.
- Reception and double-bill screening on Friday, April 11, at the Palace Theatre, 2384 James St., Syracuse, sponsored by the Syracuse International Film Festival.

For more information about Kiarostami and the above events, including ticket information, please read the full Syracuse University News [story](#).



Relay for Life Carrier Dome April 4, 6pm

In the fight against cancer, silence is the last thing we need. Relay

For Life of Syracuse University is a great place to take action and make noise. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life movement symbolizes hope and our shared goal to end a disease that threatens the lives of so many people we love.

If cancer has touched your life, participating in Relay For Life of Syracuse University is a great way to take action and help finish the fight. This is your opportunity to honor cancer survivors, remember those we have lost, and raise funds and awareness to fight back and help end cancer forever.

Get involved by going to www.relayforlife.org/syracuseuniversity and signing up on an already existing team or creating a team with your friends or campus organization. For more information about Relay for Life you can visit the above link, or email the American Cancer Society staff person at sara.curtin@cancer.org.



Cultural and Community Events

12th Annual NY State Green Building Conference The OnCenter March 27-28

The New York State Green Building Conference is hosted by the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council New York Upstate Chapter and the Syracuse Center of Excellence in Environmental and Energy Systems (Syracuse CoE).

We are excited to announce that Mr. Tedd Benson and Dr. Anthony Ingraffea will be keynote speakers at this year's conference that will be held at The Oncenter in Syracuse, NY. Mr. Benson is the founder of Bensonwood which is recognized as a designer and builder of energy-efficient timber frame and hybrid high-performance homes and commercial buildings. Dr. Ingraffea, professor at Cornell University, will focus on the feasibility of converting New York State's current energy infrastructure to one that utilizes wind, water, and sunlight.

This conference will feature exciting sessions on: LEED v4, Material Science, Biomimicry & Resiliency, Living Infrastructure, High Performance Commercial, High Performance Residential, & More!

For more information, visit the www.esf.edu/greenbuilding.



The Good Woman of Setzuan Syracuse Stage March 28 - April 13

Can we practice goodness and create a world to sustain it? In Brecht's comic and complex play, this question is raised by one of his most entertaining characters — Shen Tei the good-hearted, penniless, cross-dressing prostitute, who is forced to disguise herself as a savvy businessman named Sui Ta so she can master the ruthlessness needed to be a "good person" in a brutal world. She can fool just about everyone, but how will she be judged by the gods?

The Good Woman of Setzuan will be the first SU Drama mainstage production performed in the Loft Theater, located on the second floor of the Syracuse Stage/Drama Complex. As a 60-seat black box theater, The Loft allows for flexible seating arrangements and a unique, up-close audience experience. Patrons may enter the building through the Irving Street doors (the usual entrance for the Arthur Storch Theater), and will be guided by ushers to the Loft Theater. Patrons who use wheelchairs or need physical assistance are asked to please arrive early.

For a complete list of showtimes and to purchase tickets, please visit the [Syracuse Stage](#).



Poster Design Contest

Open Hand Theater

April 16 Deadline

Help us celebrate the International Art & Puppet Festival with YOUR ART! [Open Hand Theater](#) is now accepting original artwork from all age and skill levels to use as the poster design for the festival. The following items are REQUIRED for each submission:

1. The design must fit within the dimensions 8.5 x 11"
2. The following text must appear as part of the design:
 - International Arts and Puppet Festival
 - Saturday, September 13, 2013, 10:00am to 4:00pm
 - Produced by Open Hand Theater
 - At the corner of N. Salina and Ash Streets in Syracuse's historic Northside neighborhood
3. The submission must be received by APRIL 16.
4. The artist's name, address, phone number, and e-mail must appear clearly on the BACK

The staff and board of directors of Open Hand Theater will judge the submissions on the criteria of meeting the requirements and overall artistic merit. One winning design will be announced at the beginning of April and will appear on promotional materials on display at the festival and around the neighborhood. Submissions will NOT be returned. They can be sent digitally to



info@openhandtheater.org or by regular mail to 518 Prospect Ave., Syracuse, NY 13208 ATTN: POSTER DESIGN CONTEST.

Important Reminders

[Full-Time Course of Study](#)

[Meeting Your Health Requirements](#)

[HR notice for on-campus employees](#)

[Is it your last semester of study?](#)

[Transferring from SU to a new U.S. school](#)

[Optional Practical Training EAD cards](#)

[Address Change Reporting Requirements](#)

[Keeping Good Rental Records](#)

[Protecting Your Property](#)

[US Embassy Announcements](#)

[Check your VISA Application Status in India](#)

[E-Verify Employers & Federal Contractors List](#)

[Copycat "Immigration Help" Sites](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

Quotes to keep you thinking

- "The happiness of life is made up of minute fractions - the little, soon forgotten charities of a kiss or a smile, a kind look or heartfelt compliment." – **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**
- "In a controversy the instant we feel anger we have already ceased striving for the truth, and have begun striving for ourselves." – **Buddha**
- "The family is the first essential cell of human society." – **Pope John XXIII**
- "All things are subject to interpretation whichever interpretation prevails at a given time is a function of power and not truth." – **Friedrich Nietzsche**

Stay informed about the latest news, important reminders and updates



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If you would like to submit news or events for the SCIS Newsletter, please send your information and any related graphics to arwagone@syr.edu with subject line as "Article for SCIS Newsletter"

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