

**Syracuse University**  
**March 26, 2015 Edition**

Visit us at: [international.syr.edu](http://international.syr.edu)

**IN THIS EDITION**

**Events and Programs to Introduce you to Campus & Community**

**Immigration Reminders**

- **Warning:** Ice Alert, Phone Call Scams
- **Important:** Changes to University Health Insurance Policy

**Slutzker Center News and Events**

- Immigration Status After Practical Training
- CPT/OPT Seminars
- New American Beat
- Picture of the Week

**Syracuse University Events**

- OrangeAbility
- The Art of the Female Workforce
- Take Back the Night
- Human Library

**Cultural and Community Events**

- TGIF Tours
- Trees of Onondaga

**Important Reminders**

**Quotes to keep you thinking**

**Immigration News and Events**

**WARNING**

**ICE Alert on Scams Targeting Non-citizens**

ICE issued an alert that it has received information indicating a possible scam targeting non-citizens by individuals claiming to work for ICE's Detention Reporting and Information Line (DRIL). ICE received information indicating that imposters have contacted non-citizens claiming that there are issues with their immigration cases and requesting money be sent in to rectify the situation. **Please note**, ICE's DRIL operators do NOT make outbound calls or EVER request money from individuals. If you receive a call, **alert ICE as soon as possible**.

To notify ICE of any suspicious activity as mentioned above, contact the Joint Intake Center at (866) 347-2423 or submit an online form. You may also contact DRIL directly at (888) 351-4024, Monday – Friday (except holidays) from 8 AM – A PM (Eastern Time). Online information is available at the [DRIL page on ice.gov](http://dril.page.on.ice.gov).

**Students Victimized by Phone Call Scams**

The Slutzker Center has been informed by several students that they have received calls from people identifying themselves as employees of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and other U.S. government agencies. The callers insist that students send them money to avoid immediate arrest or other legal action against them.

**DO NOT RESPOND TO THESE CALLS. HANG UP THE PHONE IMMEDIATELY. DO NOT BE TRICKED BY SUCH THREATS.**

This is not the way the U.S. government conducts this type of business. If the U.S. government has a claim against you, you will be notified in writing and a formal proceeding would be held to determine your responsibility and the sanction or punishment against you.

If you receive such a call, please notify SU Department of Public Safety (DPS) Investigations unit immediately. Call the DPS number, 315-443-2224 and ask for Investigations. Tell them you want to report a telephone call you received that you believe is a scam for money. Or you may email ([lescis@syr.edu](mailto:lescis@syr.edu)), call (315-443-2457) or come to the Slutzker Center (310 Walnut Place) for assistance in filing such a report with the Department of Public Safety.

The Syracuse local News has also been covering phone call/text message scams. You can read about other types of scams [here](#). According to local police, you should never return calls/ engage the scammers. This could unintentionally reveal information about you. If you receive a call/ message claiming to be urgent (example: an emergency involving money or family) contact the authorities before responding to the call/ message. Many scammers call from overseas, but the police can help determine if there is any legitimacy to the call and alleviate

your panic/ concern. Government officials have said, if you receive an unexpected call from someone claiming to be with a US government entity who is making aggressive demands, it is a scam.

On February 22, the Post Standard offered advice for avoiding these scams. Keep in mind, the IRS will not initiate contact with you via phone or email to ask for your personal financial information. If you are unsure about a tax bill, call the IRS at (800) 829-1040. The IRS will NOT give you an ultimatum to pay up immediately or else. Nor will the agency call to congratulate you on getting your refund (this is a variation of the scam). The IRS will not dictate how you pay your bill either (example: they will not direct you to a certain ATM location while you are on the phone).

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Important Changes to University Health Insurance Policy**

Beginning August 1, 2015, Syracuse University is making changes to the University Health Insurance Policy. All international students will be automatically enrolled in the new Health Insurance Plan on August 1, 2015. For more information about the new Health Insurance policy, please see the information [here](#).

## **Slutzker Center News and Events**

### **Immigration Status after Practical Training**

**April 2, 4 – 6 PM  
Crouse Hinds 010  
Dan Berger**

Dan Berger from the law firm of Curran and Berger in Northampton, MA will present on matters related to immigration after OPT including H-1B Temporary Workers, Permanent Residence/Green Cards, O-1, Labor Certification and more.

If you have questions, contact [lescis@syr.edu](mailto:lescis@syr.edu).



### **CPT/OPT Seminars...apply early!**

Students who will be applying for OPT to begin after the end of the Spring 2015 semester (May 2015) can file their applications as early as February 10. Processing of OPT applications at the immigration service (USCIS) can take up to 90 days. Therefore, we advise students planning to apply for OPT to apply as early as possible!

Due to the large number of students who attend OPT/CPT Seminars in the Spring Semester, we will move these seminars to other areas on campus.

CPT Seminars begin at 3 PM and OPT begins at 3:45 PM, dates and locations listed below.

OPT and CPT processing times are on Mondays from 3 – 5 PM or Thursdays from 10 AM – Noon.

We will hold extra CPT/OPT seminars tomorrow, Friday, March 27, in Kittredge Auditorium, HBC.

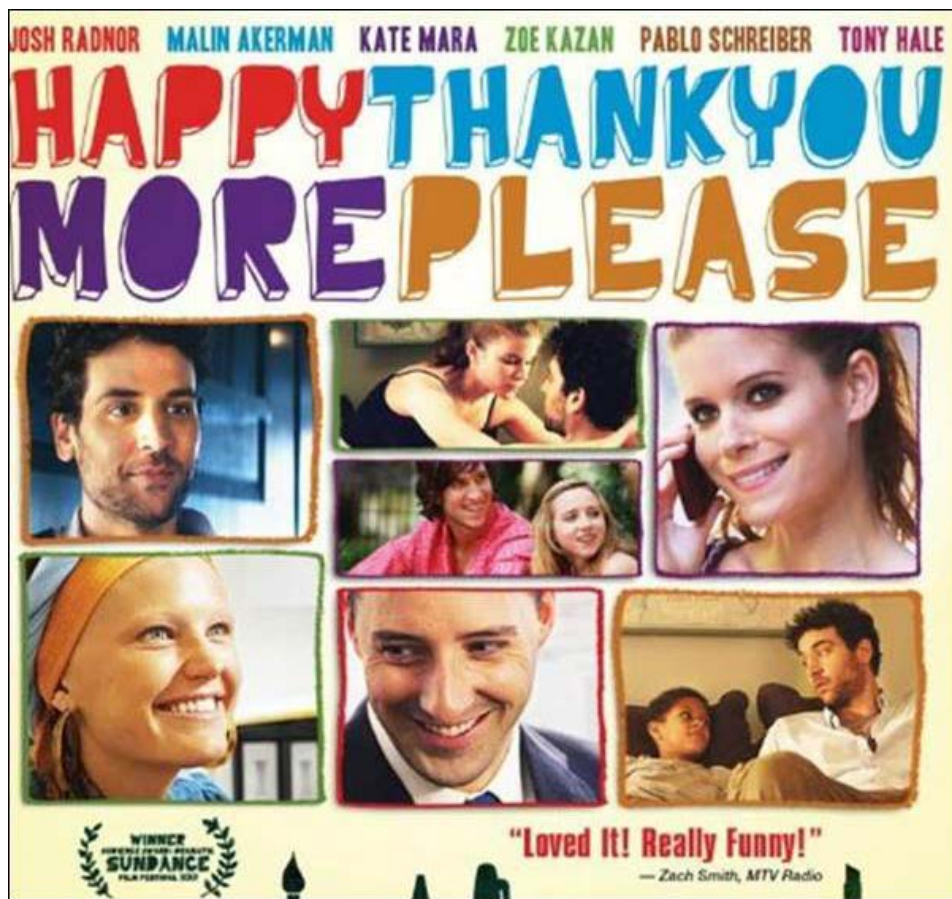
OPT/ CPT Seminars will be at the same times in Kittredge Auditorium, HBC on April 10, 15, 24, 29. We will also hold CPT/OPT seminars on April 1 in the Slutzker Center. Due to space limitations, you must RSVP to [lescis@syr.edu](mailto:lescis@syr.edu) to attend a seminar on April 1.

### **New American Beat**

**April 3, 2015  
5:00 p.m. at the Slutzker Center**

Join us for another session of the graduate students workshop: "New American Beat" tomorrow, Friday, March 27. We will screen the movie, "HAPPY THANK YOU MORE PLEASE" which provides an interesting, engaging picture of life in the US. Mirit Hadar PhD Candidate from the IDD&E program from the school of Education will facilitate the workshop with a faculty guest, Dr. Richard Breyer, Co-director, Documentary Film & History Professor, from the department of Television, Radio & Film in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. We will reflect on how movies about life in the US influence international students perspective in the US and what cultural attributes we can learn from this genre.

Pizza and drinks will be served.



### Picture of the Week

On Friday, March 20, over 100 SU students, faculty, and staff were inducted into the Alpha Sigma chapter of [Phi Beta Delta](#).



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

## Syracuse University Events

### **OrangeAbility 2015: Accessible Athletics Expo March 28, 1 - 4 PM Flanagan Gym**

Experience Relays, Sled Hockey, Wheelchair Basketball, Power Soccer, and more! Engage with local teams on the court, as well as organizations in our expo area. Try some equipment out yourself, and bring some friends along! You don't have to be able-bodied to play, and you don't have to have a disability to play accessible sports! Drop in to join or sign up online to: play with a team, volunteer, table with your group request specific accommodations (ASL Interpretation Provided)

For more information, [click here](#).

### **Take Back the Night March 31, 7 PM Hendricks Chapel**

Join this event to create a community committed to ending sexual and relationship violence. Take Back the Night (TBTN) consists of a rally, march and speak out.

For more information, click [here](#) or visit the [Facebook](#) page.



**The Art of the Female Workforce:  
Women's Retreat  
March 28, 3 - 9 PM  
Hinds Hall**

This is an opportunity to discuss and learn about navigating the professional world as a women. The retreat costs \$5 and is open to undergraduate and graduate women in any program at Syracuse University. Attendance is limited.

The evening includes wellness techniques, motivational talk, dinner, dining etiquette workshop, and tips for dressing professionally.

For more information and to register, click [here](#).



**Human Library  
April 1, 2 - 5 PM  
Bird Library**

Syracuse University's second Human Library!

A Human Library is an event that encourages people from different backgrounds to talk with and learn from each other in a safe environment. The purpose of the event is to promote tolerance, challenge assumptions, and celebrate diversity within our community. During this event, you can have conversations with *human books*, volunteers from the SU community who share stories about their experiences and backgrounds.

The full schedule is available [here](#).



## Cultural and Community Events

**TGIF Tours  
Everson Museum of Art  
March 27, 12:15 - 1:15 PM  
401 Harrison St, 13202**

Tour begins at 12:15. Start your weekend early with an Everson TGIF Tour, informative and fun tours led by various members of the Everson's talented staff - from the Director to the Registrar, each with a special point-of-view. After a 30 minute tour of *Prendergast to Pollock*, stay to chat and eat your brown bag lunch with the Museum's pros in the newly opened Everson Lounge.

[Click here](#) for more information.



**Trees of Onondaga:  
An Art Exhibition  
March 14 - 31, various times**

**Onondaga Free Library  
4840 West Seneca Turnpike, 13215**

In 2014, East Syracuse-based fine artist, Maria Rizzo, received the Individual Artist Commission Grant from the CNY Arts Decentralization Program to promote nature appreciation and community education and involvement in an artistic creation.

For more information, [click here](#).



---

## 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](#)

---

“Your heart is full of fertile seeds, waiting to sprout.”—**Morihei Ueshiba**

---

## Stay informed about the latest news, important reminders and updates



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” and you would like to receive our newsletter, please e-mail your request to [lescis@syr.edu](mailto:lescis@syr.edu). In the subject line, please type: “Subscribe to SCIS Newsletter” and mention your e-mail address and full name in the message.

If you would like to submit news or events for the SCIS Newsletter, please send your information and any related graphics to [ejvoigt@syr.edu](mailto:ejvoigt@syr.edu) with subject line as “Article for SCIS Newsletter”