Congratulations to the Trinity International Student class of 2016!

As another academic year winds down, we continue to be amazed at the talent and achievements of the Trinity University International Student population. Encompassing nearly 10% of Trinity’s total student body, Trinity International Students add to the unique and exciting cultural diversity of Trinity. This May, the ISSS Office will be proud to congratulate 28 international students on their academic achievements as they cross the stage during the May 14 Spring Commencement.
Congratulations to Trinity University
International Students Class of 2016!

Dima Faiq Alhourani
Claudia Marisol Ayala
Maria Alejandra Cano
Daniela Chur Corleto
Michael Andrew Curran
Nicolas Echeverria
Paola Fernanda Espinosa
Murray Fraser
Arsenio Gonzalez Larrauri
Hector Moises Inestroza Kawas
Miraziz Khidoyatov
Diego Lucas (Lucas) Maldonado
Abbas Manji
Outlwile Thato (Mizz T) Matome
Carter Joseph McEachern
Mark Michael Mlella
Hanna Nessim Macia
Huyen Minh (Maddie) Nguyen
Le Quyen Vu Pham
Juan Carlos Pineda
Matthias Resch
Marco Koehler Sant Anna
Jose Rolando Santos
Zixiang Sun
Monica Sofia Vasconez
Ikuyo Ikeda
Eun Saem Eun Saem Jun
Han Sol Kim
Chih Ju Wei
Hsin Ye Yeo

*These students have applied for graduation.
**Upcoming Spring Semester 2016 events planned by the International Students & Scholar Services Office in collaboration with on/off campus partners. Check the ISSS website and Facebook page for updates!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| ALL international students are required to get a new form I-20 before July 1. | April 6, 7, 8, 11, 12  
  *April 14, 15, 18, 19, 20  
  11 AM—1 PM  
  Coates University Center 1st floor |
| **Trips to Social Security Administration and Department of Public Safety** | Friday, February 19th, departing from the Witt Center at 2:30PM  
  Friday, March 4th, departing from the Witt Center at 2:30PM  
  Friday, April 15th, departing from the Witt Center at 2:30PM  
  *Friday, January 22nd (ONE SHUTTLE TO SOCIAL SECURITY ONLY!!!), departs from the Witt Center at 2:30PM |
| Sign up for trip at: [http://goo.gl/UdVp4g](http://goo.gl/UdVp4g)            |                                                                         |
| Review Required Documents:  
  License/Texas ID: [http://goo.gl/LyKCPU](http://goo.gl/LyKCPU)  
  SSN ID: [http://goo.gl/D3ERsp](http://goo.gl/D3ERsp) |                                                                         |
| **Tax Workshop for International Students, presented by Larry Barker from H&R Block** | Thursday, March 24  
  3:30—4:30 PM  
  Coates University Center, Woodlawn Room - CUC239 |
| **International Club Annual International Banquet** | Thursday, April 14  
  5:30PM—9:00PM  
  The Great Hall (Chapman) |
| **Spring Finals Study Lounge (Room to study and free snacks!)** | In Halsell Center, room 329, from 8:00am—5:00pm  
  May 2—May 10 |
| **Save the Date — Fall 2016 International Student Orientation (ISO)!** |                                                                         |
| **Tuesday, August 16—Wednesday, August 17 2016** | Please visit our website for more ISO 2016 information:  
  [https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students-0](https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students-0) |
| August 15—Official move-in day for all new international students  
  August 18—New Student Orientation starts |                                                                         |
Get your new form I-20

NEW FORM I-20 Upper Right-Hand Corner

The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) requires ALL F-1 STUDENTS to get a New Form I-20 by July 1, 2016.

You will be refused reentering the U.S. or experience long delays.

OLD FORM I-20 Upper Right-Hand Corner

• YOU MUST OBTAIN IT BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE SUMMER BREAK!

• TAKE 10 MINUTES, AND GET YOURS THIS WEEK!

WHERE: Coates University Center
TIME: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM (ISSS Temporary Office Location)

DATES:
Thursday, April 14
Friday, April 15
Monday, April 18
Tuesday, April 19
Wednesday, April 20

** Seniors will receive their new form I-20 when they apply for OPT.
RECENT ISSS EVENTS!

ISSS Office
New Staff - Jessie Jiang

Originally from Guangzhou, China, I first came to the United States as an international student to pursue a Master’s Degree in Communication. After working in a university international office for a while, I found my passion in international student services. I am interested in looking into the cultural complexity between different groups, as well as the nuances between their communication and learning styles. I worked at the international office at The College of Wooster before joining Trinity.

I like to explore cultures of different countries by travelling and making international friends. I still keep close relationships with many of my former students, and I enjoy being around them, listening to their stories, and cheering for their successes.

To all international students, I would love to meet you. Please stop by the ISSS office some time!

Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration

ISSS partnered with FTIS (Friends of trinity International Students) and InterVarsity to host a wonderful and traditional Thanksgiving feast on November 22, 2015. The celebration was at the home of a volunteer family involved with InterVarsity and the FTIS program. There were at least 100 people from Trinity and the community in attendance and lots of delicious food and good conversation!
ISSS
Spurs International Night!

International students from several local universities, including Trinity, St. Mary’s, Texas State, UTSA and UT- Austin participated in the Spurs game night. Pictured are Trinity international students and ISSS Staff on the AT&T Center basketball court, where the Spurs beat the New Orleans Pelicans 110 to 97.

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Do you love to cook with friends but just don’t have any cookware? Fear not—the ISSS office has got you covered!

**HOW TO RENT COOKWARE FROM ISSS:**

1. Go to [https://goo.gl/q6Isol](https://goo.gl/q6Isol) to view a list of available items
2. Rent items for up to 7 days by emailing isss@trinity.edu with a reservation request
3. Pay a deposit (refundable), pick up your reserved items from the ISSS office
4. Return (or renew via an e-mail request) items that you borrow

*Students are responsible for keeping the cookware clean and in good condition. Any damages will result in being charged a replacement or repair fee!*

Brought to you by the International Student and Scholar Services

For more information please contact us at isss@trinity.edu
UPCOMING EVENTS:

The Trinity University International Club will be hosting its annual International Banquet on Thursday, April 14th. Please join the Trinity International community for this celebrated annual event!

WHAT: International Banquet
WHEN: Thursday, April 14
TIME: 5:30PM—8:30PM
WHERE: the Great Hall at Chapman Center (ticket purchase required!)
WHO: Everyone is invited!
TICKETS: for the International Banquet are going to be on sale at Coates University Center April 6-April 13, from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Students: $10. Faculty, Staff and Guests: $15

International Club has unveiled their new logo! Please visit the IC Website at:
https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/life-trinity/international-club

ISSSS Study Lounge for Finals Week!

Need a change of pace from studying in the library? Stop by the ISSSS Study Lounge during Reading Days and Final exams to meet up with friends, get some work done, enjoy free snacks, and get your I-20 signed!

When: May 2nd—May 10th
Time: 8:00AM—5:00PM
Where: The International Lounge—Halsell Center, Room 329 (3rd floor)
Sign-Up for a ride to the Social Security Administration (SSA) and Department of Public Safety (DPS)!

This trip is for international students who need to apply for a Texas State ID, Learner License or a Social Security Number.

**Spring 2016 Dates and Times:**
- Friday, January 22nd (ONE SHUTTLE TO SOCIAL SECURITY ONLY!!), departs from the Witt Center at 2:30PM
- Friday, February 19th, departing from the Witt Center at 2:30PM
- Friday, March 4th, departing from the Witt Center at 2:30PM
- Friday, April 15th, departing from the Witt Center at 2:30PM (FINAL TRIP in Spring 2016!)

Sign-up Here:
[https://docs.google.com/a/trinity.edu/forms/d/17A2mb5gWwN4Mvfg0P_k-anUVCxU5rPYyECm70K9hhk/viewform](https://docs.google.com/a/trinity.edu/forms/d/17A2mb5gWwN4Mvfg0P_k-anUVCxU5rPYyECm70K9hhk/viewform)

Information about getting a Texas State ID or Driver’s License:

Information about applying for your Social Security number:
Many International Students have heard the familiar acronym “OPT”—but what exactly is OPT?

OPT stand for “Optional Practical Training” and it is a temporary employment authorization for which F-1 visa students qualify. OPT employment must be related to the F-1 student’s major academic program. Unlike Curricular Practical Training (CPT), the work done does not count towards course credit. OPT employment may be completed either during one’s degree program or after completion of degree requirements.

### FACTS About OPT...

- Students who are eligible to apply for OPT must pay $380 and submit paperwork to USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services).
- The average wait time for an OPT application to be processed is 2-3 months.
- 40-50% of Trinity International students decide to apply for the Post-Completion OPT benefit upon graduating.
- OPT grants the student a period of 12 months of employment authorization in the U.S.
- Students get 12 months of OPT for every degree level that they complete.
- A one-time extension of 24 months (for a total of 36 months) is available to certain STEM degree recipients.
- OPT employment must be directly related to and commensurate with the level of the student’s course of study. Students should seek advice from their academic advisor/ professors for questions about which jobs will apply.
- Students receive up to 90 cumulative days of unemployment during their OPT period, which leaves flexibility for job searching.

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For more information about OPT, visit our ISSS Website, at: [https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/current-students](https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/current-students) and look under the “Employment and Career Planning” heading.

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**Senior students,**

it’s time to apply for your OPT. Please make an appointment with Bob Seese (isss@trinity.edu) to apply. A job offer is **NOT** required in order to apply for OPT.
Contact Us:

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

The ISSS office is located in:
Halsell Center, room 330

Webpage: https://inside.trinity.edu/international-student-scholar-services

“Like” Us on Facebook for more updates: https://www.facebook.com/trinityisss

TRAVEL SIGNATURE REMINDER

F-1 visa holders must get their form I-20’s signed by a DSO at the ISSS Office at least every 12 months! If you are on OPT it must be signed at least every six months!

- Before departing Trinity’s campus for summer, be sure to check the 2nd page on your form I-20 to see when it was last signed by a Trinity DSO

- If the signature date will no longer be valid by the date you plan to return to the U.S., please stop by the ISSS Office before departing the U.S. for the summer to receive an updated travel signature!

International Student & Scholar Services
One Trinity Place, #100
San Antonio, Texas 78212
+1-210-999-7313 phone
+1-210-999-7305 fax

Skype: iss0101
email: isss@trinity.edu

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