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CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!!!

The International Students & Scholars Office would like to congratulate all the students graduating this weekend! This university has been forever changed by your presence. We wish you the very best in your future, whether you are off to pursue your career, returning to your home country, or staying in the US for another degree. Keep in touch – we would love to hear how you’re doing!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!
Commencement Ceremonies

Commencement Ceremonies will be held Gallagher-Iba on Friday, May 12 (Graduate) and Saturday, May 13 (Undergraduate).

Graduate Commencement

Friday, May 12 at Gallagher-Iba
Students & Faculty assemble at 6:15pm
Candidate processional begins at 6:35pm
Ceremony begins at 7:00pm

Undergraduate Commencement

Saturday, May 13 at Gallagher-Iba
First ceremony begins at 9:00am (College of Human Sciences & College of Engineering, Architecture & Technology)
Second ceremony begins at 12:00pm (Colleges of Arts & Sciences)
Third ceremony begins at 3:00pm (Spears School of Business)
Fourth ceremony begins at 6:00 pm (College of Education & College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources)

Receptions for each of the Colleges will be held before the Ceremonies. Check [here](#) to see the time and locations of the Receptions.
USCIS SCAM

USCIS has received information of a scam being committed via telephone by someone claiming to be a USCIS employee.

Here is a transcript of the message:

This is Officer Alan Parrish and I'm calling you from USCIS, that is United States Citizenship and Immigration Service Department. The main reason to give you a call back is to let you know we have received an affidavit. A legal case on your name. Your name and your identity is under the federal investigation and there are three allegations pressed against your name and your identity so call me back and notify yourself. My call back number is 202-491-XXXX. I repeat, it's 202-491-XXXX. Call me back and notify yourself. This is Allan Parrish from USCIS. Thank you and have a great day.

If you have been a victim of this telephone scam, please report it to the Federal Trade Commission at 1.usa.gov/1suOHSS. If you receive a suspicious email or voice message and are not sure if it is a scam, forward it to the USCIS webmaster at uscis.webmaster@uscis.dhs.gov. We will review the messages received and share with law enforcement agencies as appropriate. Visit the Avoid Scams Initiative at uscis.gov/avoidscams for more information on common scams and other important tips.

You can see archived post at blog.uscis.gov/2013/08/scam-alert-caller-id-spoofing.html. Additionally, the FTC also has information on scammers pushing people to pay with itunes gift cards, consumer.ftc.gov/blog/scammers-push-people-pay-itunes-gift-cards.

We will never ask for any form of payment over the phone or in an email. If we need payment, we will mail a letter on official stationery requesting payment. Do not give payment over the phone to anyone who claims to be a USCIS official. In general, we encourage you to protect your personal information and not to provide details about your immigration application in any public area.
**Work Permit Renewals**

Students – if you are currently working on campus and need to renew your work permit, please be sure to enroll full-time for Fall semester before coming to the ISS Office (or Summer if it is your last semester).

Minimum hours for full-time enrollment are:

- Undergraduates: 12 hours
- Graduates (no assistantship or .25 assistantship): 9 hours
- Graduates (.50 assistantship): 6 hours

*Final Semester: You may enroll in fewer hours if it is your final semester and you require less than full-time enrollment to complete your program

In addition, please bring your I-20/DS-2019 & your passport. You cannot renew your work permit without being enrolled full-time and bringing all the necessary documents. Please contact ISS with any questions – 405-744-5459 or su-iss@okstate.edu.

**Travel Signature**

Traveling outside of the USA during the Summer Break and you don’t have a travel signature or the signature will be more than 6-months old before you return? If so, you will need to have your I-20 (F-1 students)/DS-2019 (J students & scholars) signed. Please come to the ISS Office (250 Student Union) with the following:

1. I-20/DS-2019
2. Passport
3. Make sure that you’re enrolled for Fall 2017 semester
4. Make sure that your Bursar account is $100 or less

**Post-Graduation Travel After Grace Period**

Students – As you know, you have a 60-day (F-1) or 30-day (J-1) grace period after graduation, if you are not beginning another program (J-1 exchange students – your grace period begins the day after the expiration date of your DS-2019). You are free to stay in the US during the grace period, and you can even travel within the US. But as soon as you leave the borders of the US (including cruises) your grace period ends and no longer have your F-1 or J-1 student status. You will not be able to re-enter the US after leaving during your grace period.

BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN TRAVELING DURING YOUR GRACE PERIOD! Be sure that when you leave the US are ready to return to your home country. If you have questions about this, contact the ISS Office at 405-744-5459 or su-iss@okstate.edu.
CPT and OPT Sessions for Summer 2017

If you are planning to participate in an internship for FALL 2017, you may wish to attend one of the CPT Sessions offered below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT SESSION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 23</td>
<td>5:30 to 6:15PM, 112 Classroom Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, July 14</td>
<td>5:30 to 6:15PM, 112 Classroom Building</td>
</tr>
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If you are expecting to graduate SUMMER, you may wish to attend one of the OPT Sessions below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPT SESSION</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 23</td>
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Scam Alert

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a fraud alert on April 19, 2017, to warn the public about a scam using the DHS OIG hotline telephone number. Scammers have identified themselves as "U.S. Immigration" employees and have altered their caller ID to seem like the call is coming from the DHS OIG hotline (1-800-323-8603). They then demand that the individual provide or verify personally identifiable information, often by telling individuals that they are victims of identity theft.

Read the [DHS OIG fraud alert](#) for more details.

If a Scammer Calls You

If you receive a call demanding personal information or payment, **hang up immediately**. If you want to verify whether a call is from USCIS, you may:

* Call our National Customer Service Center at 800-375-5283 to ask if you need to do anything about your case or immigration status,

* Make an InfoPass appointment at [http://infopass.uscis.gov](http://infopass.uscis.gov), or

* Use [myUSCIS](https://my.uscis.gov) to find up-to-date information about your application.

Remember, USCIS officials **will never threaten you or ask for payment over the phone or in an email**. If we need payment, we will mail a letter on official stationery requesting payment. Do not give payment over the
phone to anyone who claims to be a USCIS official. In general, we encourage you to protect your personal information and not to provide details about your immigration application in any public area.

**How to Report a Call from a Scammer**

If you receive a scam email or phone call, report it to the Federal Trade Commission at [1.usa.gov/1suOHSS](1.usa.gov/1suOHSS). If you are not sure if it is a scam, forward the suspicious email to the USCIS webmaster at uscis.webmaster@uscis.dhs.gov. USCIS will review the emails received and share with law enforcement agencies as appropriate. Visit the Avoid Scams Initiative at [www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams](www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams) for more information on common scams and other important tips.

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**The Art of Asian Languages**

**What**: Art Exhibition: The Art of Asian Languages

**When**: April 4th to June 10th

**Where**: OSU Museum of Art: 720 South Husband Street

**Time**: Tuesday – Saturday, 11 am to 4 pm

**Cost**: Free Admission

This exhibition explores intersections of art and language in East Asian culture through contemporary Asian art. Through a variety of styles and media, the artworks demonstrate the fluid boundaries between written language and art, while also addressing recent political and social changes in Asia.

For more information, please visit their [website](http://www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams).

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