***NEW OPT STEM EXTENSION REGULATIONS***

The new Federal regulations regarding OPT STEM Extension were published today, March 11, 2016. During this transitional time, we are waiting to see how SEVIS will respond to the new changes. There is a technical issue involving the extension of dates from 17 months to 24 months, so please be patient with the ISS staff during the implementation period. We are all learning together!

For more detailed information about the update visit the Federal Register [website](#). You can also read the announcement on ICE’s website [here](#). In addition, SEVP (Student and Exchange Visitor Program) has launched the [STEM OPT Hub](#) to assist with questions and resources on this rule. It presents the information in a manner that is easy to understand. **We strongly encourage you to visit these websites and read this information!**

**PLEASE NOTE: The ISS staff has temporarily halted issuance of the OPT STEM I-20s for a brief period, while we obtain additional guidance from SEVIS/USCIS.** Our primary concern is to protect your immigration/employment status. We want to prevent students from paying multiple application fees and also ensure that you are granted the full 24 months of OPT STEM extension. Processing the OPT STEM requests too soon may disqualify you from having the updated benefits.

The ISS office will periodically update the [OPT webpage](#) as we obtain additional guidance. To request an OPT STEM Extension I-20, please complete the form on the ISS [website](#). Contact our office with any questions – [su-iss@okstate.edu](mailto:su-iss@okstate.edu) or 405-744-5459.

**TAX WORKSHOPS FOR INTERNATIONALS**

**Tax Return Information – Avoid Rumors and Get the Facts!**

There has been a lot of talk lately about getting a refund of tuition on your tax return. That is simply NOT possible. There are some tuition deductions and credits, but these are ONLY available to resident taxpayers. Remember that international students in F or J status are considered nonresidents for tax purposes for the first 5 calendar years in the U.S. If you are a nonresident for tax purposes, you must file a 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ. Tuition deductions and credits are not available on those forms. **DO NOT**
jeopardize your immigration status by filing an illegal resident tax return. If you use an online program that transmits electronically, you are automatically filing a resident tax return.

**TAX WORKSHOPS**

Don’t miss these helpful workshops that show you how to use special software for international students, and how to complete Oklahoma tax forms! Bring any tax forms you have received, such as W-2, 1042-S, or 1099 (NOTE: Not everyone has all these forms. Some people only have a W-2). You must know your passport number. If you have a copy of last year’s tax return, bring it with you.

Taxes are due on **April 18, 2016**, since April 15 is a federal holiday. Taxes forms must be in the mail (post marked) by **April 18, 2016**.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar. 19</td>
<td>Math Science Computer Lab</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 31</td>
<td>Math Science Computer Lab</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Apr. 08</td>
<td>Math Science Computer Lab</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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Download the printable schedule [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact the ISS Office at 405-744-5459 or su-iss@okstate.edu.

**OPT WORKSHOPS**

It’s time again for OPT! The ISS Office will be holding a series of OPT Workshops during the Spring semester. If you are graduating this May and are planning to apply for OPT, you are strongly encourage to attend these helpful workshops.

There is only one workshop left! Don’t miss it!

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<th>When</th>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 1</td>
<td>212 Classroom Building</td>
<td>5:30pm – 6:30pm (presentation will include a summary of the OPT Stem Updates that are to be published on March 11, 2016)</td>
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**NEW!! Special session for OPT STEM Extension Update**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 18</td>
<td>313 Classroom Building</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
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</table>

The OPT STEM update was published March 11 and the ISS will be presenting a detailed description of the new OPT STEM regulations. Come and bring your questions. The presentation will be helpful to all students who are planning to graduate in the next year.

When you’re ready to apply, visit the ISS Office to meet with an advisor. As always, you can contact us any time with questions – su-iss@okstate.edu or 405-744-5459.
SEVERE WEATHER INFORMATION

March is the beginning of severe weather season in Oklahoma. Strong storms (with lightening, strong winds and hail) are common in Oklahoma during the spring, typically from March through May. Some storms can be very severe and can even produce tornadoes.

To learn more about how to be safe in severe weather situations, visit the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association’s (NOAA) weather safety website. You can find a list of on-campus severe weather refuge locations on the Campus Safety website, as well as tips for staying safe and a link to sign up for Cowboy Alert (automated alert system). When storms move into the area, keep up by following the meteorologists on local T.V. stations from Oklahoma City and Tulsa. You can also stay informed with a weather radio, which only broadcasts weather reports.

SUMMER 2016 AND FALL 2016 ENROLLMENT

OSU is in the process of moving to a new records system, which goes into effect in August for the Fall semester. Because of this, online enrollment for classes in Summer will be registered in the old system (SIS) and online enrollment for classes in Fall semester will be registered in the new system (Banner). Early enrollment for Fall and Summer opens next Monday, March 21! You must be sure to enroll using the correct system, so your classes will be registered to your record properly.

- If you are enrolling in classes for Summer 2016 classes, click here.
- If you are enrolling in classes for Fall 2016 classes, click here.

Contact the Office of the Registrar in room 322 Student Union with any questions – registrar@okstate.edu or 405-744-6876.

DIPLOMA APPLICATION DEADLINE

Important notice to students! If you are graduating this semester, the deadline to submit your diploma application is Friday, April 1 for your name to appear in the spring commencement program. Contact the Office of the Registrar in room 322 Student Union with any questions regarding your diploma application – registrar@okstate.edu or 405-744-6876.

If you would like to invite your family to visit you for graduation and would like to request an invitation letter from the ISS Office, you must file your diploma application first! After submitting your diploma application, fill out the invitation letter request on the ISS website.
XTREME XPERIENCE RACING

*When:* Friday, March 18 – Sunday, March 20 from 8:00am – 5:00pm
*Where:* Hallett Motor Racing Circuit
*Address:* 59901 E 500 Rd., Jennings, OK 74038 ([map](#))
*Admission:* $15 to enter

Come on out and have an experience of a lifetime with **Xtreme Xperience!** **Xtreme Xperience** gives you the chance to drive real supercar (like Lamborghini, Ferrari, Porsche, Nissan GTR, or McLaren) with a professional instructor on a real racetrack. Admission to the race way is $15 and prices start as low at $219 for 3 laps on a real racetrack.

For more information visit [thextremexperience.com](http://thextremexperience.com) call 866-273-7727.

COWBOY BASEBALL

*When:* Friday, March 18 at 4:00pm; Saturday, March 19 at 2:00pm; Sunday, March 20 at 1:00pm
*Where:* Reynolds Stadium (on Duck St. between Hall of Fame and McElroy)
*Admission:* $5

Come support the **Cowboys** this weekend as the take on the **University of Michigan Wolverines**! If you can’t make it in person, the game will be broadcast on Cowboy Sports Network radio (93.7 FM). Visit [okstate.com](http://okstate.com) to buy tickets, to get more info, or to see schedules for other **OSU** sporting events.

STAND-UP PADDLE BOARD WITH OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

*When:* Every Saturday, March 19 – April 30 from 12:00pm – 2:00pm
*Where:* Camp Redlands
*Admission:* $70 for all sessions; $25 for individual sessions
Join Outdoor Adventure in a weekly afternoon of stress free Stand-Up Paddle Boarding (SUP)! Learn the ins and outs of this unique sport held at our very own Camp Redlands. Sign up for all sessions or pay as you go. No experience is necessary! This program is open to students, employees and community. Transportation is not provided. Maps to Camp Redlands may be found at the Outdoor Adventure office and will be provided at registration.

To register, stop by the Outdoor Adventure office in the Colvin Center (at the base of the Colvin climbing wall). Registration Deadlines: For all sessions – Friday, March 11 at 12:00pm. For individual sessions – Thursday at 12:00pm on the week of the event.

For more information contact Outdoor Adventure at 405-744-5581 or wellness@okstate.edu.

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**SUAB KARAOKE**

*When*: Tuesday, March 22 from 11:00am – 1:00pm  
*Where*: Cowboy Underground (Student Union Basement)

Come to the Cowboy Underground for karaoke! SUAB is happy to bring Tuesday Tunes to the Student Union. Students will be able to karaoke to their favorite songs as they eat lunch and have fun with their friends every Tuesday until the end of the semester!

Contact SUAB with any questions – suab@okstate.edu or 405-744-8977.

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**TASTE OF STILLWATER 2016**

*When*: Tuesday, March 22 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm  
*Where*: Payne County Expo Center  
*Address*: 4518 Expo Circle East
**Admission:** $6 – $15

Highlighting food showcased and donated by Stillwater area restaurants for its 19th year, **Taste of Stillwater** gives ticket holders a chance to sample and discover the best of Stillwater cuisine. The family-oriented event features an all-you-can-eat buffet that is sure to please everyone. More than 30 restaurants traditionally participate in the event and over 1,000 people usually attend! Proceeds help fund Stillwater Public Education Foundation (SPEF) programs.

Visit the SPEF website [here](#) for more information, to buy tickets, and to see a list of this year’s participants.

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**DUO AMAL**

*When:* Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00pm  
*Where:* Tulsa Performing Arts Center  
*Address:* 110 E 2nd St., Tulsa 74103  
*Admission:* $46

The Tulsa Performing Arts Center (PAC) is proud to present piano virtuosos Yaron Kohlberg and Bishara Haroni – **Duo Amal**! Kohlberg and Haroni are the pre-eminent pianists of their generation in their respective homelands: Israel and Palestine. For the past four years, they have performed together as. Their finesse and energy have taken them to some of the world’s most prestigious auditoriums, from the Beijing Concert Hall and New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art to the legendary Beethovenhalle in Bonn, and now you can see them in Tulsa, OK!

Visit the PAC’s [website](#) for more information or to buy tickets, or call 918-596-7111.

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**ROBERT SHIBLEY LECTURE IN PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**

*When:* Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00pm  
*Where:* 035 Murray Hall
**Admission:** FREE

The **Arts & Humanities Series** and **OSU Philosophy Department** present Robert L. Shibley, Executive Director of the **Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE)**, who will give a lecture entitled, "The Coddling of the American Mind: Vindictive Protectiveness on Campus.". Robert Shibley is a graduate of Duke University and Duke University School of Law. Mr. Shibley’s undergraduate experience serving as the managing editor of the Duke Review newspaper, which frequently decried administrative censorship and bias, led him to a career defending the rights of college and university students and faculty members. The lecture is **FREE** and open to the public!

For more information contact the Philosophy Department at philo@okstate.edu or 405-744-6090.

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**CULTURAL NIGHT 2016**

**When:** Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26 at 7:00pm  
**Where:** Seretean Center  
**Admission:** Friday Night (March 25): $5 (students & non-students)  
Saturday Night (March 26): $6 (students) & $8 (non-students)  
$2 extra at the door

iSo’s **Cultural Night** is the biggest international event at OSU! Area clubs from different countries come together as ensembles and compete to show their beautiful culture, which is reflected in their songs, dance and drama. This event is also accompanied by musical and dance performances by other student bodies of OSU. **Cultural Night** truly manifests the spirit of international community at OSU!

**Tickets:** Tickets will be on sale from March 21 – 25. Tickets will be sold at the **Chi O Clock** (between Student Union and Classroom Building) from **11:00am – 2:00pm**. (Sales will move inside the Student Union in case of bad weather).

You can also reserve your tickets [here](#).

Questions? Contact the **International Student Organization** at iso@okstate.edu.
Cultural Night 2016
March 25-26
Jere Tan Center
7PM

Cultural Performances From Different Countries
Friday Night: $5 (students & non-students)
Saturday Night: $6 (students) & $8 (non-students)
$2 extra at the door
BIG 12 EQUESTRIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

*When:* Friday, March 25 from at 8:00am  
*Where:* Totusek Arena  
*Address:* 2720 W McElroy Rd.

Come support the **Cowgirls** in the **Big 12 Equestrian Championships**! The **Cowgirls** finished with a winning season and have won 4 of the last 7 Championships – can they take top again this year?? Don’t miss it! You can learn more about the event at [big12sports.com](http://big12sports.com). Visit [okstate.com](http://okstate.com) to get more info or to see schedules for other OSU sporting events.

![Big 12 Equestrian Championships](image)

HRAD INTERNATIONAL DINNER

*When:* Thursday, March 31 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm  
*Where:* Taylor’s Dining Room (2nd floor in Human Sciences West)  
*Admission:* $18

The graduate students in the **School of Hotel and Restaurant Administration (HRAD)** invite you to their biennial fundraising event – an **International Dinner**! A three-course meal will be served including appetizer, entrée and dessert, and will highlight cuisine from around the world. A vegetarian and gluten-free menu will also be available. Tickets cost $18 per person and may be purchased at Taylor’s Dining. **Only 120 tickets are available**, so stop by Taylor’s Dining soon if you’re interested!

Contact Mike Kneip at [michael.kneip@okstate.edu](mailto:michael.kneip@okstate.edu) with any questions.
2016 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AWARENESS DAY

When: Monday, April 4 from 9:00am – 12:30pm
Where: Oklahoma State Capitol
Address: 2300 N Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City 73105

The International Student Awareness Day Committee and the Oklahoma Governor’s International Team would like to invite currently enrolled international students to attend the International Student Awareness Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol! The event will feature free booths, entertainment, and the Official Oklahoma State meal. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with other international students and network with state officials, Honorary Consuls, and university and business representatives. Students must bring a photo ID and wear a nametag that includes the name of their University.

You must register by Friday, April 1 in order to attend this event! Registration forms must be submitted by email to intlstudentday@okhouse.gov. For a registration form, please contact Tiffany Elcyzyn at 405-557-7402 or tiffany.elcyzyn@okhouse.gov.
OUR CITY, OUR COLLECTION: BUILDING THE MUSEUM’S LASTING LEGACY

*When*: March 12, 2016 – August 28, 2016 from 10:00am – 5:00pm  
*Where*: Oklahoma City Museum of Art  
*Address*: 415 Couch Dr., Oklahoma City 73102  
*Admission*: $12 ($10 for students with ID card)

In celebration of the many extraordinary acquisitions that have made the Oklahoma City Museum of Art the premiere collecting institution in central Oklahoma, the exhibition *Our City, Our Collection: Building the Museum’s Lasting Legacy* tells the story of the Museum’s history as a series of transformative gifts, bequests and acquisitions.

Beginning with the Works Projects Administration’s donation of twenty-eight works of art to Oklahoma City in 1942, Our City, Our Collection explores the Museum’s rich permanent collection as one of our community’s most important cultural assets. Included in the exhibition are some of the world’s most significant artists: Georgia O’Keeffe, Rembrandt van Rijn, Gustave Courbet, Marcel Duchamp, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Alexander Calder, John Singleton Copley, Andrew Wyeth, Roy Lichtenstein, Dale Chihuly, and many, many more.

Visit [okcmoa.com](http://okcmoa.com) for more information and to see a complete list of admission prices.

To unsubscribe from the listserv, visit our website [here](http://okcmoa.com), enter your name and email, select “Remove”, and click submit. Missed a listserv mail? Check the archives [here](http://okcmoa.com)!