Tiger International

October 2010

From The Advisors Desk — Carol Solko-Olliff

Happy Autumn! I hope your semester is going well and that you are enjoying your fall semester here at FHSU! Hopefully you all will check out and participate in Oktoberfest and Homecoming activities on campus as a ***FHSU TIGER!!!*** The International Student Union (ISU) will have an entry in the parade so we can show our "international spirit"!

I want to remind you that mid-term for the fall semester will be fast approaching and so will projects and tests. If you are feeling stressed, need help with time management or tutoring with your classes, please contact the Kelly Center at 628-4401 – Picken Hall – First floor. The Kelly Center services are FREE! They have counselors to talk to, and student tutors available for almost all the general education classes. In addition, the Writing Center located in the basement of Forsyth Library is also a good resource for written projects you would like reviewed. Mid term grades will be available around October 18th. ***Remember***, you will be able to check your mid semester grades online through your Tiger Tracks account. This is also a good time to talk to your academic advisor about the upcoming spring 2011 semester.

If you haven't already I encourage you to attend the weekly workshops held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 in McMindes Hall Classroom – Second Floor. Topics and dates for October are: October 5th – How to Stay Healthy in the US and October 19th – What you Need to Know to Stay Out of "Big Trouble". We often have items to give away and the workshops are for all students and FREE!!

October in Hays is a beautiful time, the weather gets cooler and the trees start to change colors. It is also a time to visit local pumpkin patches. Pumpkins are used in fall decorations and to make jack-o-lanterns.

Also, it is not too early to start thinking about how you would like to get involved in International Education Week which is held in November. This is a great way to share your culture and talents with the campus and Hays community. I know all of you have talents to share whether it be singing, dancing, modeling traditional clothing or reading a traditional poem. Please contact the International Office to get involved.

As you can see on the calendar, there are a number of events planned for the month of October, so please look through this newsletter and check them out. I encourage you to get involved in activities through ISU, CSA, Turkish Association or other organizations on campus. This is a great way to meet new friends and work on your English!

Good luck as you get ready to take mid term exams and write papers. If there is anything we can do to assist you in the International Student Services Office, please let us know. Have a fun and safe October!

Carol Solko-Olliff

****IMPORTANT NOTE****

The staff in the International Office will be out of town Monday, October 18 at a conference. If you need assistance, please come in Friday, October 15 or Tuesday, October 19 when we return.

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A calendar of events & activities happening on & off campus is provided on the last page of the

ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

Please remember as an F-1 or J-1 visa holder you are only allowed to work 20 hours total per week for all jobs when school is in session, and this work must be **ON CAMPUS**. Off campus employment is not allowed unless approved as part of OPT or CPT. Graduate assistantships are considered a job and counted toward the 20 hours per week. We will be verifying with the student employment office and Chartwells the number of hours students are working. If students are working more than 20 hours for all jobs, if they have more than one, we will contact them and the supervisor(s) they are working for. If you have questions regarding this, please stop by the International Office. We want you to be successful academically and don't want to work interfere with your coursework.

BICYCLES

We know students are interested in getting bicycles. Hays does not have a bicycle shop that rents bikes, they only sell them. New bikes can be purchased at Wal-Mart. If you are interested in purchasing a used bike we would suggest posting an ad in the resident halls or in the Memorial Union. The ISS office can post a request on the buy/sell/trade listing for used bikes. If used bikes are located for sale, Marnie can post the contact information and price in the weekly e-mail announcements.

Just a reminder: If you currently have a bike, please keep it locked up in one of the bike racks. Also, when you are riding it on the streets, please be careful!! Unlike the large cities some of you may come from, Hays drivers are not accustomed to a large number of bicycle riders. You must be especially careful during busy times of the days and on the major streets. The same driving rules that apply to cars apply to bicycles in the United States. Please be careful!!

TB TEST

All international students are required to have a TB test on file in the Student Health Office.

IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD THE TB TEST DONE, A HOLD WILL BE PLACED ON YOUR ENROLLMENT, AND YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENROLL IN CLASSES FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER!!! If you have already had a TB test done somewhere else, you will need to have the results sent to the Students Health Office for your file or you will have to have another one done. If you have any questions regarding this, please stop by the International Student Services Office and see Marnie, Karen, or Carol.

GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PROCEDURE

The International Student Services Office has a procedure students must follow if you have your own private insurance. We want to make sure that students are aware of the procedure.

First, there is an Acceptance/Denial Form and a Student Health Insurance Waiver Form that students must complete if they have their own private health insurance. These forms have important information as well as deadlines on when forms must be turned in. Forms can be picked up in the office or you may print them from the following website http://www.fhsu.edu/international/health/.

Second, students must provide proof of private insurance which includes the card or certificate, explanation of benefits, and US contact information (telephone & address) all in English. The insurance must meet the minimum requirements that are listed on the Student Health Insurance Waiver Form.

Health insurance is required for all Fort Hays State University international students. If you are not purchasing the Kansas Board of Regents insurance plan, you must turn in the Student Health Insurance Waiver Form with a copy of your policy's benefits summary page (in English), and the Acceptance/Denial Form **EVERY** SEMESTER. For the spring semester, the date is, January 19, 2011. Forms & insurance brought in after this date WILL NOT be accepted. If you have questions regarding health insurance, please visit with Marnie in the International Office.

LET'S GET EXCITED ABOUT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK!

International Education Week (IEW) will be celebrated on the FHSU campus and in the Hays community starting Monday, November 15 through Friday, November 19, 2010. This is your week to celebrate and share with the campus and the Hays community your cultures, traditions, and lifestyle. A planning committee will be formed to plan events for this week. If you would like to be on this committee, please let Marnie know. Also, if you have ideas about programs and events for this week, please share them with our office. The Office of International Student Services appreciates you getting involved and any help you can provide to us to celebrate your week!

NEW EVENT CALLED UNITE

Unite is an internationally-themed game night that is held every Saturday night from 7:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church Student Center, 507 Elm Street. It is a great opportunity to play games, meet other students and community members, develop friendships, and practice English. You may also bring your own games and teach others how to play them. Please feel free to come any Saturday evening. We are excited to meet you!

RENTING A CAR

The United States is a huge country with many cities, sites, and other tourist attractions worthwhile visiting. The question is: How can you travel to see those places? The answer might be renting a car. Car rental is definitely the best choice if you are thinking of a short or medium distance trip. It is relatively easy to do and economically convenient, especially if you are going on a trip with 3-4 people that can share the expenses.

There are three different car rental agencies in Hays: Enterprise and Hertz. In order to rent a car you need to have a valid driver's license. Hertz only accept an American driver's license, but Enterprise will accept a driver's license from whatever country you are from, as long as they can read it. Theoretically, you have to be over 25 years of age to rent a car, but Enterprise will allow you to rent a car if you 21 years old, but they will charge you a fee of $10.00 per day, during the week and weekends for the smaller or mid-size cars. You can also choose larger and more luxurious vehicles to rent, but of course the price goes higher. During the weekdays the cost of rental per day tends to be 2-3 times more than the weekends. Obviously gas is also an expense you have to take into account when you are traveling. A major credit card is needed in order to rent a vehicle. You can rent a car on the web pages of the companies or give them a call. I would recommend to rent it through the phone, in case you have any questions.

Renting a car is a pretty convenient way to travel to and around the nearby states. You have big and fun cities like Kansas City, Denver, and Wichita you can go to, and above all with a car you have the freedom to go to whichever places you want to whenever you want to. Please remember you must have a valid drivers license as well as anyone else who drive the rental car.

Websites of the rental companies are:

Enterprise - www.enterprise.com Hertz - www.hertz.com

IMMIGRATION INFORMATION: OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)

Are you graduating at the end of the Fall 2010 semester? If you are, and you plan to apply for Optional Practical Training, please plan to attend the OPT Workshop that will be held on Thursday, October 28 from 3:00-4:30pm in the Trails Room of the Memorial Union. This workshop will provide you with information on what OPT is, applying for OPT, and the necessary forms.

PERSONAL COMPUTER INFORMATION

When purchasing a computer here in the U.S. or using a laptop or PC that you have brought from your home country, *please be sure that it will "connect" with our on campus internet system correctly.* You should also be sure that you have a **"virus protection program"** installed on your computer. This virus check will ensure that you do not pick up corrupted files or e-mail messages from outside sources that can totally take your personal system down, as well as affect the university computer network.

The CTC Helpdesk (Tomanek Hall Room 113 —628-5276) can assist you with making sure the proper connections are in place, and securing a virus protection program.

You should also **avoid downloading large files, such as music, video, and other media off the internet**. These applications take up large amounts of space on your system and the university system. You may also find that **downloading these files is "illegal"** and may result in your access to the internet being interrupted. If you have any questions regarding computer applications or purchasing a computer, please check with the CTC Helpdesk. They will be able to help you, or direct you to a professional stuff member who is knowledgeable about technology.

PERSONAL INFORMATION UPDATES

With the SEVIS regulations that are in place, the International Student Services Office is required to have all students, on an F-1 or J-1visa, current information. This includes address, phone number, and e-mail address. If you have not filled out a personal information sheet, you MUST notify the Office of International Student Services within ten (10) days. This is required by SEVIS and we must have current information on-all F-1 or J-1visa holders at all time. You may still change you information on the TigerTracks through the internet. BUT YOU MUST ALSO NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES.

GETTING KANSAS DRIVER'S LICENSE

Many of you are thinking to get a driver's license in the United State. In order to get a driver's license, you need to bring some documents to Driver's License Department. The Department is located on 1222 Canterbury Dr. and the phone number is 785-625-6917.

Here are some documents that you will need to bring:

-**Two Forms of ID:** Valid Passport and TigerCard

-**I-20 or DS2019**

-**I-94 card** (It is usually attached to a passport)

-**One Form for Proof Residency:** Transcript with your current address, Valid insurance card (in English), or Bank statement with your current address.

You can get your transcript at the Registrar's Office (Sheridan Hall 108). Forms to request a transcript to obtain your drivers license must be picked up in the International Office. **You do not need to have a Social Security Number to get a driver's license.**

You will need to pass written exam first in order to practice for driving. Driving handbook is available at the Driver's License Department or you can also download it from the website,

http://www.ksrevenue.org/dmvdrlic.htm

Due to a new federal law, the international students can get only one-year diver's license; it will be expired after a year. If you wish to renew it, you can do it at the Driver's License Department.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR ADDRESS IN CAMPUS

This is how to write your address if you live in campus:

Given name Family name	**Given name Family name**	**Given name Family name**
(example: Liquan Li)	(Liquan Li)	(Liquan Li)
Wiest Hall	**McMindes Hall**	**Custer Hall**
Hays, KS 67601	**Hays, KS 67601**	**Hays, KS 67601**

NOTE: DO NOT PUT FHSU, FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY, OR 600 PARK STREET IN ANY PART OF YOUR ADDRESS. THIS IS THE SCHOOLS ADDRESS, NOT YOURS!

This is how to write your address if you live in Stadium Place and Wooster Place:

Given name Family name	**Given name Family name**
(Liquan Li)	(Liquan Li)
300 Lewis Dr. Apt. D201 Hays, KS 67601	Wooster Place Apt. A1 Hays, KS 67601

HOW TO WRITE YOUR BIRTHDAY

In the United States, we write the date in the following order:

Month/Day/Year

Example: 06/29/1983 (June 29, 1983)

Please check your passport, I-20, DS-2019, and I-94 card to verify if your birthday is correctly written.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER

The International Student Services Office has a cell phone that can be called after normal office hours or on the weekend for emergency purposes. We would ask that if you have questions that can be answered during normal office hours that you call the office number at 628-4276. If an emergency situation such as sickness, problem or an accident happens outside of office hours, please use the cell phone number 785-259-0005 and someone from the ISS will try to assist you.

HAYS MEDICAL CENTER BILLS AND HEALTH INSURANCE

First, if you purchased the group health insurance through FHSU (not a private health insurance in the US or your home country), your insurance cards are in the International Office in Sheridan Hall 208 for you to pick up. We will need to make a copy of your card for your file. Second, for those students who had to get a chest x-ray and are receiving bills from Hays Medical Center and Radiology Associates, once you receive your health insurance card bring that in and your bills and Marnie will help you with the next step in getting this paid. Please do not hesitate to come in and see Marnie if you have questions with any medical insurance needs.

CHARTER BUS TRIP

Check your email for details about an upcoming trip to Wichita, KS in October.

CONVERSATION GROUP

Do you want to improve your English skills? Do you want to meet other students? Here is a good opportunity to do both of them! The Department of Communication Disorders and Herndon Clinic have conversation groups for international students every Thursday from 7:00-8:00pm. The location is in the Chuck's Place, Wiest Hall. At the conversation group, discussions will vary in topics or games will be played with other students including local students. This is a great opportunity to meet others and speak English with them. All students are welcomed even though you do not go to every meeting. You can just come and see what is going on.

TIGER TRANSPORT

Tiger Transport is a FREE van transportation service that runs a fixed route throughout Hays.
It operates each Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 2:00-7:00pm. Tiger Transport stops at Downtown Hays, The Mall, and Wal-Mart. The van pick up location on campus is at the Wiest Hall parking lot.
Check out of Tiger Transport website for route schedules and times:

http://www.fhsu.edu/international/Tiger-Transport/

Where is Everyone From?

Here is a breakdown of the number of students on campus and what countries they are from.

Algeria -	1	China -	210	Japan -	4	South Korea -	3
Australia -	1	Germany -	5	Kenya -	2	South Vietnam -	1
Bahamas -	2	Ghana -	1	Madagascar -	1	Sweden -	1
Botswana -	1	France -	1	Nepal -	1	Switzerland -	1
Brazil -	2	Haiti -	1	Nigeria -	1	Taiwan—	19
Canada -	3	Hong Kong -	1	Pakistan -	1	Turkey –	5
Chile -	1	India -	2	Saudi Arabia -	21	Uruguay –	1

TESTING CENTER INFORMATION

If you need to take a special test for entering a program, transferring to other college, and applying to graduate school, you can take it in Hays!
For GMAT test, the Pearson Professional Testing Center provide test for you. Information about GMAT can be found at www.mba.com and you can sign up for a date to take the exam on the website. You can also call at 1-800-247-8731 to schedule a date and time. The Pearson Professional Testing Center is locates at the Hadley Center on 7th street and the office phone number is 785-650-0152.
For other tests, such as GRE and TOEFL, you can take them at Kelly Center located in Picken Hall. You can find information about testing service at Kelly Center at www.fhsu.edu/kellycenter/testing. You can also call at 628-4401 if you have any questions.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR OCTOBER

How to stay healthy in the US is the workshop for Tuesday, October 5. What You Need to Know to Stay Out of 'Big Trouble' is the workshop for Tuesday, October 19. All workshops start at 6:30pm and are held in the McMindes Hall Classroom, 2nd floor.

OCTOBER 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 FHSU Homecoming	2 ~FHSU Homecoming Parade @ 1pm downtown ~FHSU football vs Washburn 7pm ~UNITE—7pm-12am @ United Methodist Church 507 Elm
3	4	5 Int'l & Multicultural Wksp—How To Stay Healthy in the U.S. @ McMindes Hall classroom, 2nd floor @ 6:30 PM	6 Tiger Series Workshop @ 5:30pm in Cody Commons	7 Conversation Corner 7-8pm in Chuck's Place, Wiest Hall	8	9 UNITE—7pm-12am @ United Methodist Church Student Center 507 Elm
10	11	12	13	14 Conversation Corner 7-8pm in Chuck's Place, Wiest Hall	15 Community Connections-Bethesda Place & picnic	16 UNITE—7pm-12am @ United Methodist Church Student Center 507 Elm
17	18 ISSO staff out of the office 8-4:30	19 Int'l & Multicultural Wksp—Stay Out of Big Trouble @ McMindes Hall Classroom 2nd floor @ 6:30 PM	20 Tiger Series Workshop @ 5:30pm in Cody Commons	21 Conversation Corner 7-8pm in Chuck's Place, Wiest Hall	22	23 UNITE—7pm-12am @ United Methodist Church Student Center 507 Elm
24	25	26	27	28 ~OPT Workshop 3-4:30 Trails Room, Memorial Union ~Conversation Corner 7-8pm in Chuck's Place, Wiest Hall	29	30/31 ~UNITE—7pm-12am @ United Methodist Church Student Center 507 Elm ~Charter bus trip ~10/31 Halloween

International Student Union
Sheridan Hall 208
600 Park
Hays, KS 67601

Phone Number (785) 628-4276
Fax Number (785) 628-4113

We're on the Web!
www.fhsu.edu/international