

INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION AND REGISTRATION PROGRAM

Welcome to UNI! *On behalf of the International Team in the International Admissions and International Services Offices, I would like to congratulate you on your decision to study at the University of Northern Iowa and welcome you to our campus. I hope that the Orientation Program and the ongoing support of the International Services office will enable you to feel comfortable and to be successful at UNI.*

We have designed sessions to help you learn how the University works, how to find and use resources that will help you be a successful student, and how to adjust to life in the U.S. You will have the opportunity to register for classes, open a bank account and learn about the rights and responsibilities of your student visa. We'll do some shopping and we will have plenty of time to get to know each other and have some fun! We have worked hard to prepare this program for you and we would appreciate your attendance, which will be required.

I encourage you to look closely at the following items and to ask questions about the schedule and its contents.

Sincerely,

Ross Schupbach, International Student Advisor

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IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Make travel plans to arrive on campus between January 3 and January 6. **Please do not arrive earlier!** **UNI will be closed for the winter break. Services will not be available and most residence halls will not be open before January 3.** It will be better to arrive later if you cannot arrive on or after January 3.
- Please send your arrival information as soon as you know your travel plans. We will arrange for airport pickups for those students arriving at the nearby **Waterloo** (Airport code: ALO) airport or the **Eastern Iowa** (Airport code: CID) airport, located further away in the city of Cedar Rapids. **We strongly recommend use of the Waterloo (ALO) airport if at all possible.** Please use the arrival form available at our web site, <http://www.uni.edu/intladm/iso/arrivalform.shtml>, to inform us of your arrival and to request transportation.
- If you do not need a ride from the airport and you will arrive on campus some other way, we still need to know when you will arrive and where you plan to live. Please write this in the “Questions, Request or Comments” field in the form mentioned above. In the Arrival Airport and Airline and flight number fields, enter “None”.
- To report delays, flight changes and other information during your trip you may call the International Services emergency cell phone number at 319-269-7278. This number will be active only from January 2 through January 19.
- As soon as possible after you arrive on campus, please bring your travel and immigration documents to the International Services Office in the Maucker Union. (Office Hours 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday)
- A mandatory matriculation fee of **\$125** will be charged to your account. This fee is required for **ALL** new international students, even if you do not arrive in time for the orientation program.
- Please note that you will need to bring your own linens (bed sheets, pillow, pillowcase, blanket, towel and washcloth) or you may purchase a full set upon arrival for \$45. If you choose to purchase one, please mention this in the remarks field of the arrival form mentioned above so that we can reserve a set for you.

- During Orientation, we will provide six complimentary meals. You will be responsible for all other meals before the start of classes. Maucker Union and establishments on College Hill will be open for meals and snacks.
- Graduate students are not assigned a specific registration time. These students should contact their respective departments and arrange for a time to meet with a faculty advisor for assistance in this process.

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Spring Semester 2009

Tuesday, January 6

- 4:00 p.m. **Campus Tour:** *Meet at the International Services Office, Maucker Union*
Enjoy a look around UNI's beautiful campus and learn where to go for your classes, activities and other parts of your campus life. The tour will stop at the Department of Residence Office, where you can get your official UNI Student ID Card.
- 6:30 p.m. **Welcome Dinner:** *Meet at the International Services Office, Maucker Union*
Dine with UNI International Staff members, your peer advisors, and members of the International Student Association in a festive event to welcome you to UNI and prepare you for the exciting International Student Orientation!

Wednesday, January 7

- 8:00 a.m. **Evaluation of English Proficiency:** *Meet at International Services*
This is a mandatory session for all provisionally or conditionally admitted students. Students participating in English testing will register on Thursday morning.
- 8:00 a.m. **Registration for Exchange Students:** *Check-in at the International Services Office, 113 Maucker Union.*
It is very important that you are ON TIME for registration!
- 10:30 a.m. **Navigating the U.S System of Education:** *Maucker Union State College Room*
To "navigate" means to find your way. The U.S. system of education can be quite different than the system in your home country. Learn what grades mean, what is a program of study, and many other useful tips.
- 12:00 noon **Lunch:** International Services will provide lunch for orientation participants. Meet at the International Services Office
- 1:30 p.m. **Find a job:** *Maucker Union State College Room*
Would you like to take advantage of your eligibility to be employed on campus and earn some extra money? If so, this session will inform you of where to look and what to do. A representative from the Financial Aid office will help you get started and

answer your questions. You will also learn about what a “Social Security Number” is and how to get one if you become employed at UNI.

- 2:15 p.m. **Paying your “E-Bill”:** *Maucker Union State College Room*
Find out how you will pay your tuition and fees and how to view your account online in this session with an expert from the UNI Office of Business Operations. We will also discuss some tips about how to manage your money while in the U.S.
- 2:45 p.m. **Money and Banking:** *Maucker Union State College Room*
Representatives from local financial institutions will be present to tell you about their services for students. Following a general banking presentation, you will have the opportunity to choose a bank and open an account and even deposit money. Be sure to bring your money to deposit, your I-20 form or DS-2019 form, and your passport with I-94 card.
- 5:00 p.m. **Dinner as a group:** *Piazza Dining Center*
Please join us for a complimentary dinner at one of UNI’s most exciting dining locations. Meet at the International Services office if you would like to walk to the Piazza with a group.
- 7:00 p.m. **Country and Culture Celebration:** *Meet at International Services*
Come and share your talents and tell us a bit about your country and culture. We’ll have a blast learning more about each other and celebrating the unique people who are part of our orientation group!

Thursday, January 8

- 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Registration for Undergraduate Freshman, Transfer Students and Conditionally Admitted Undergraduate Students:** *Check-in at the International Services Office, 113 Maucker Union.*
It is very important that you are ON TIME for registration!
- 12:00 noon **Lunch on your own**
- 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Advising and Registration available for students who need further assistance**
Academic Advising Office, 102 Gilchrist Hall
- 1:30 p.m. **Safety, Security and Student Services:** *Maucker Union Elm Room*
The UNI and Cedar Falls community is considered to be a safe place and this session will teach you some safety tips to help you keep yourself safe and out of trouble. Meet an officer from the UNI Public Safety Team and find out how you can work with them. You’ll also get to meet someone from the Dean of Students’ office who will let you know about more services available to help you have a safe and successful experience at UNI!
- 2:30 p.m. **How to Get Involved:** *Maucker Union Elm Room*
There is much more to the UNI experience than attending classes. Find out just how much fun you can have and how much there is to do to enrich your life as a student.

The Northern Iowa Student Government President will stop by to let you know all about our student government system and how you can become involved.

3:30 p.m. **The Student Health Clinic & Health Insurance:** *Maucker Union Elm Room*
Why does UNI require health insurance for international students? How does the U.S. health care system work? What can the UNI Health Center do for you? Find out answers to these questions in this session!

5:00 p.m. **Night on the town:** *Meet at the International Services Office*
Please join us for a complimentary dinner at a local restaurant, followed by a fun social activity to be announced!

Friday, January 9

9:00 a.m. **Rod Library Tour:** Sign up in the International Services office to participate in a tour of Rod Library. Get a head start and find out where things are, who to ask with library questions, and where the best places to study are located. *Space is limited, so sign up early to reserve your place!*

10:30 a.m. **SEVIS, status, and reporting – Oh my!** *Maucker Union State College Room*
This very important session will highlight the basics of your immigration status and what you need to do to stay in good standing with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. New developments in the handling of student information will be discussed, and the importance of following the rules of your visa status will be emphasized. Bring your questions. Presented by Ross Schupbach, International Student Advisor.

12:00 noon **Lunch with People from UNI!** Please join us for lunch in *Club '91, lower level of Maucker Union*. Dine with members of the UNI community who keep the University going.

1:30 p.m. **Culture Shock and Shocking Culture:** *Maucker Union State College Room*
Life in the U.S. may not be quite like it is at home. Learn how to get comfortable in your new surroundings from those International Students who have survived the “shock” of arriving in a new culture. Gain useful information from campus experts and have some fun learning about American communication and campus social issues.

3:30 p.m. **Catch Up Session:** *International Services Office*
Did you arrive too late for the beginning of our orientation week? Did you miss a session? This will be a chance for you to pick up materials from earlier sessions this week and ask any questions that you might have.

6:00 p.m. **Pizza party at the Wellness Recreation Center:** Join returning international students for pizza, soda and other goodies!

6:30 p.m. **Friday Fun Night at the WRC:** *Wellness Recreation Center*
Bring your exercise clothes, court shoes and swimwear for an evening of recreation, relaxation, sport and social time. The entire WRC will be open just for us!

Saturday, January 10

- 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. **Household Item & Furniture Giveaway:** *International Services Office*
If you need any household items such as dishes, cups, towels, pots, lamps or furniture, come check out the wide variety of donated items! Everything is Free!
- 10:00 a.m. **Cedar Falls Driving Tour and area Shopping Trip:** *Meet at the International Services Office*
Following a guided driving tour of Cedar Falls aboard a comfortable motorcoach, we will be ready to take you shopping for supplies, clothing, gifts, snacks and more. We will visit local shopping areas, which include a mall, large discount store, and a secondhand store. We will return to campus in the afternoon. Please reserve your seat by signing up in the International Services Office in advance.

Monday, January 12

- 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. **TB Testing:** *Student Health Clinic*
Health Clinic personnel will be on-hand to perform tuberculosis screening. This is mandatory for all students except for those exempt by the American Colleges Health Association. Please see the UNI Health Requirements letter sent to you or ask the International Services Staff to find out your status. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR HEALTH FORMS WITH YOU TO THIS SESSION.** You may visit the Health Clinic at any time between these hours today.

Enjoy your first day of classes!

Wednesday, January 14

- 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. **TB Test Follow-Up:** *Student Health Clinic*
Those who were tested on Monday must return to the Student Health Clinic between 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to have the results of the test determined. You may visit the Health Clinic at any time between these hours today. **IF YOU DO NOT RETURN TODAY TO HAVE THE TEST READ, YOU WILL NEED TO BE COMPLETELY RE-TESTED.**

Friday, January 16

- 3:30 p.m. **International Coffee Hour:** *International Services Office, Maucker Union*
Celebrate the end of your first week of classes and compare experiences with your new friends. Refreshments will be provided!