International Students and Scholars Office

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The Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) is a university-wide resource for students and scholars from abroad, and for U.S. students and faculty who are interested in the global focus. Its mission is to provide support services for international students and scholars to ensure maximum opportunities for them to achieve their goals; be a resource to the faculty, staff and administration on issues related to international students and scholars, cross-cultural communication and diversity; support the University’s efforts to internationalize the campus; and create an environment where the Lehigh community is exposed to a multitude of cultures, traditions and viewpoints by presenting internationally-focused academic, cultural and social programming.

SERVICES

A variety of cross-cultural programs are initiated by the OISS, including undergraduate and graduate orientations, spouse conversation groups, seminars on immigration matters, international tax advising, Thanksgiving Dinner, the International Bazaar, monthly social programs, and The International Update Newsletter.

The year for international students and scholars at Lehigh begins with the International Orientation. Orientation takes place in conjunction with other programs offered by the undergraduate admissions office and/or graduate departments, starting immediately before the university-wide orientation at the beginning of each semester. Orientation is strongly recommended for all new international students and scholars. Issues discussed include filing for a social security number, opening a banking account, health insurance, and adjustment to university life at Lehigh and to the United States. International Orientation is a time to become accustomed to life in America, and to meet other foreign students.

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL SERVICES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Career Services
Advising and special workshops for careers for international students are provided.

Food Service
For undergraduate students on the meal plan, menus meet the international dietary needs of the students. There is a stir-fry bar and balanced meals for vegetarian diets.

Health Center
Fully staffed medical personnel meet both the physical and personal needs of all students. The Counseling Center has special services for international students.

Immigration/Visa Advising
Complete service is provided by OISS.

Learning Center
Free tutors are provided in writing, math and science.

National Clubs
Home country clubs from all regions of the world are established on campus. They form an important part of the cross-cultural dimension of the campus, providing social events, films, and international dialogue.

Religious Services
Services for all the major religions are on campus or nearby, including Muslim, Christian, Jewish, Hindu and Buddhist.