



BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY!

Welcome back International students & welcome to all of our new International students.

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Welcome to our first newsletter of the semester! We hope all of you had a wonderful summer and are as excited about the Fall 2009 semester as we are here in the office.

In this newsletter, we'll be discussing all you need to know to maintain your immigration status as well as all of the fun and exciting events both on the campus and in the community that are available for you to attend!

IMMIGRATION STATUS NEWS

- You must be enrolled in fulltime hours at all times. For undergraduate students, that is **12** hours. For graduate students, that is **9** hours.
- Please also remember that you are only authorized to be employed **ON-CAMPUS** and up to **20** hours per week. If you have any questions about employment, please contact the International Program Center prior to working.

We're here to help!

Keeping your Address Current

- Please notify us of any change of address within ten days of moving. You could either stop by our office, or send us an e-mail alert.

International Services News!

Included in our newsletters are reminders to international students regarding maintaining status, applying for OPT and CPT, and other news items we may get from the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. The International Program Center will also send e-mails to all enrolled international students to announce updates or changes to policies that will affect international students, to request information necessary for maintaining your international status, or for time specific news items. These e-mails will be few, so please take a moment to read them.

OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays—Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Welcome!

LaMae Ritchie

On behalf of the International Program Center staff, I extend cheerful greetings to our international students. To those of you returning to campus this fall, welcome back! We would enjoy hearing of your summer adventures!

We are again privileged to welcome wonderful new international students to campus this fall. Please know that we will do our best to help you have a great experience at Bemidji State. Whether you are here for one semester, for 4 years, or are starting your Master's program, we want your Bemidji State University experience to be enjoyable, enriching, and one you will remember fondly for years to come.

Wow, somehow our summers seem to pass by more rapidly each year. We were busy in the International Program Center. Some of you may have met Cheryl Christlieb last spring, who was in our office part time March through June, as our administrative assistant. You may have also seen her assisting in the Cashier's Office this fall. We enjoyed having Cheryl as part of our staff. Thanks Cheryl!

Replacing Cheryl, is our new administrative assistant Mary Carlson, who would enjoy meeting you. Please stop by our office in Deputy 103 and introduce yourself.

I would like to extend a thank you to Lindsey Streiber, our former student employee who stayed on in our office through June, to help us out. I would also like to thank Ashma McDougall and Patty Haggen, who worked throughout the summer keeping busy with orientation planning, communicating with new students, and helping Mary become familiar with our office and procedures. Although Aly Gunstrom officially worked in the President's Office this summer, we were able to borrow her to help with study abroad. Thanks, Aly! Manisha Adhikari is back after taking a break from Bemidji this summer. We missed her and are glad she is back working in our office. We would also like to welcome our new student staffers Mary Conery, Kayla Meskan, and Phoebe Mathius.

We're looking forward to a great semester and hope you are also. Stop in once in awhile to say 'hi'! Have a great semester!

LaMae Ritchie

Office Manager ☀️ Mary Carlson

I'm very happy to be working in the IPC office! My main focus outside the office is my family, which includes my husband, Scott Roen, and three children, Matthew (20), Inga (16), Nicholas (11), Fred (Westie puppy) and two

enormous house-cats. We live in the countryside where I enjoy walking and x-country skiing outside of Bemidji, on our trails, cooking, dreaming of travel to exotic places, and ironing! Like most English majors, I fancy myself a writer and (now that I am working just half-time) have time to dabble on some

International Student Organization

The International Students Organization aims to organize social events (movie nights, social gatherings, trips to the cities etc.); push for improvements in the experience for international students at BSU , and to form links with students from across the world.

The group is open to all international students, if you are interested in being included in the loop please contact Stephanie Chuah at

Stephanie.chuah@st.bemidjistate.edu The group also has its own Facebook page.



International Student Organization

Presents

ISO Fun Nights

Why: to welcome all students to

Where: The Recreation Center

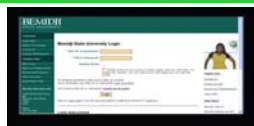
When: Fridays @ 9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.



We are looking forward to seeing you!



Registration



From the "Courses & Registration" Tab

NOTE: If you would like to select different term that is listed, click on the term selected under "Selected Year/Term". Select the appropriate term by clicking on the arrow, select it from the drop-down list, and click "Select".

If a registration access code is required to register, select "**Registration Access Code**" from the menu on the left. Enter the code and click "**Submit**".

There are three (3) ways to register for course:

- * Choose "Quick Add (Register)" from the menu on the left side of the screen. Enter the Course ID number for the courses you wish to add.
- * Once you have entered all course numbers, click "Register now" OR Choose "Course

Cart" if you've already identified the courses you'll like to add. Select the courses in your course cart and click "Register for checked courses" OR

- * Choose "Find a Course" to browse courses to find courses you'd like to register for. Upon finding a course either write down the 6-digit course ID number and follow the "Quick Add" instructions above or add the course to your "Course Cart" and follow the "Course Cart" registration instructions above.

On the next screen, verify the courses you wish to register for, re-enter your PIN number in the

appropriate box, and the click "**Register**". Next you should see a schedule of the classes you just registered for. If a class has NOT been added to your schedule it will state the Course ID number and the failure reason. (*IMPORTANT NOTE: courses with a failed registered due to time conflict may have been added to your schedule. Be sure to review your schedule and drop one of the conflicting courses.*) When you are done registering you may need to print your schedule. Click on the information you would like printed.

Students are reminded to visit with their academic advisors prior to October 26th 2009 when the registration windows open.

Career Services

The primary purpose of Career Services is to aid students and alumni in assessing, exploring, focusing and implementing their career goals.

BSUCareers is Bemidji State University's online resume system: a way for students and alumni to connect with employers for internships and full-time jobs.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location:

102 Sanford Hall
1500 Birchmont Drive NE, #18
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699

Phone: (218) 755-2038

Fax: (218) 755-4115

career@bemidjistate.edu

Optional Practical Training

Optional Practical Training (OPT) is a period during which undergraduate and graduate students with F-1 status who have completed or have been pursuing their degrees for more than nine months are permitted by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to work for at most one year on a student visa without needing to acquire a work H-1B visa towards getting a practical training to complement their field of studies.

F-1 students are permitted a total of 12 months towards practical training. Extensions are available upon application by those in select fields in Science, technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

On Campus Employment

Students in F-1 status who have current I-20 forms issued by Bemidji State University, may work **on campus** up to 20 hours per week during the academic year. Students may work full time during vacation periods if they were in status during the prior semester.

Please be aware that engaging in any unauthorized employment renders you "out-of-status" and subject to deportation..

Students who have been in F-1 status for **one full academic year** and are experiencing economic hardship may be eligible for off-campus work authorization. Students requesting this type of employment must apply to USCIS through the **I P C**.

In order to get a social security card, you must first have an offer of employment from Bemidji State University. If you do not have an offer of employment from BSU, then you are not allowed to apply for a social security card.



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The International Program Center sends out birthday wishes to the all students who will celebrate their birthdays in the months of October and November.



Bonne Anniversaire!!!

Selamat Hari Jadi!!

С днем рождения!

Onnellinen Syntymäpäivä!

Halloween

Bemidji State is used to having its campus overrun by fans every football Saturday, but only once a year is campus swarmed by Ninja Turtles, fairy princesses and pirates.

Bemidji State University will sponsor a variety of events surrounding Halloween, with the residence halls hosting their annual trick or treating on Friday, Oct.30. The front desk of each residence hall will have a listing of rooms participating in the trick or treating event; participating rooms will have a door tag to indicate that they are giving out candy. Residence hall students are also encouraged to decorate their floors in Halloween themes.

Everyone loves Halloween. Many of us have grown too old to trick and treat, so we need something else to do for fun. Throwing a party is a good way to get all of your friends together for an unforgettable night.



Important Dates & Upcoming Activities

October

- Sept 30** Night Games
- Oct 2** NO CLASSES
- Oct 3** Homecoming Game
- Oct 7** Art of Interviewing (*Sanford 215*)
- Oct 12** Mock Interviews (*sign up @ BSUCareers*)
- Oct 14** Job Search for Int'l Students (*Sanford 215*)
- Oct 19** Class Schedule for Spring semester classes
- Oct 26** Begin Registration for Spring
MN Gov't Job & Internship Fair (*Mpls*)
- Oct 30** IPC Potluck
Halloween Party @ Dr. Beech's home

November

- Nov 5** Major & Career Expo
- Nov 6** Last day to Withdraw from classes with a 'W' grade
- Nov 11** NO CLASSES *Veteran's Day*
- Nov 12** Job Seeking Skills *Veteran's Day*
- Nov 17** Resumes and Cover Letters *SN215*
- Nov 20** IPC Potluck
- Nov 25** NO CLASSES *Faculty on duty*
- Nov 26** **THANKSGIVING**
NO CLASSES *Fall Break*
- Nov 27** NO CLASSES *Fall Break*