

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES NEWSLETTER

MAY 2014

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday, May 9: 2014 LI Cabaret**—Please join us for the annual Cabaret where more than 100 Lawrence students will be participation in a celebration of diversity. Time: 7:00-9:00pm @ Memorial Chapel. Tickets at WCC Info desk.

**Thursday, May 15th: "5000 Miles From Home"**- "5000 Miles From Home" is a student produced documentary about international students at Lawrence . It about Maggi, Alex, and Katerina who left their hometown in Peru, China, and Greece respectively and traveled an average of 5000 miles to go to college at Lawrence. This documentary follows their first year in America as international students attending an American university and captures their excitement, challenges, and personal growth. Time: 9pm @ Warch Cinema

**Friday, May 16th: Spring Term SSA/DMV Trip**—Reserve your spot by contacting leah.d.mcsorley@lawrence.edu. Time: 1-4pm

**Sunday, June 8th – Exchange Student and End of Year Farewell**—Say farewell to the one-year exchange students and your fellow international students before finals. Pick up your Cabaret DVD from LI! Time: 2pm @ Esch/Hurvis

**Sunday, June 15th: Graduation Reception at International House**—Following the post-commencement refreshments at the Mudd Library Terrace, graduates' families, friendship families, and friends are invited to International House. Seniors will receive their t-shirts at this time. Time: 12:30pm

Are you looking for scholarships? Check out this link: [http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC\\_Scholarships.pdf](http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC_Scholarships.pdf)

## REGISTRATION REMINDERS FOR RETURNING STUDENTS:

- **1st Round of Advance Registration:** April 27—May 6, 2014
- **Advance Registration continues:** May 14—June 6, 2014
- **Registration Periods during Fall Term (2014):** Sept 15-26, 2014
- **Advance Registration for Winter & Spring Terms (2015):** Oct 13—Nov 20, 2014
- **Registration Periods during Winter Term 2015:** Jan 5-16, 2015
- **Advance Registration for Spring Term (2015):** Feb 3-March 13th, 2015



## Upcoming Event Spotlight:

Interested in being a leader in conservation or having your voice heard on conservation issues by Wisconsin and National policymakers? The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation's Conservation Leadership Training Program might be for you!

Visit [www.wiwf.org](http://www.wiwf.org) or speak with Diana Szteinberg '15 for more information.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

There is a job opportunity through the city of Appleton for translators in Mandarin Chinese, Swahili, or American Sign Language.

Contact

[internationalhouse@lawrence.edu](mailto:internationalhouse@lawrence.edu)  
for more information.



## IMMIGRATION REMINDERS: SUMMER BREAK

**Request a “travel endorsement” signature on your I-20/DS-2019:** All F-1 and J-1 students should get their I-20’s/DS-2019’s signed every six months whether they plan to remain in the U.S. or travel outside of the U.S. over summer break. Usually students get these travel endorsements from ISS twice a year: before winter break and before summer break.

**Renew your travel documents if necessary:** Your **passport** should be valid for at least six months beyond your intended period of stay in the U.S. Your **visa** (used to request entry into the U.S.) is valid until midnight on the day it expires.

**Retain copies:** You should keep copies of all of your current and historical immigration documentation (all

passports, old I-20’s, I-94 print outs, etc.) It is your responsibility to keep a copy of each of these documents. ISS recommends scanning your documents and keeping them in an external hard drive or cloud-based storage for easy access.

**Print your I-94 upon your return:** You can access an updated I-94 each time you re-enter the U.S. and should print (or save) the updated record each time. You can access your most recent I-94 at this website: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>. You can also view your travel history. Contact ISS with any questions.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: DIANA SZTEINBERG



**Year:** 2015

**Major:** Environmental Studies with Physics Minor

**Home Country and/or Citizenship:** Argentina and Bolivia

**Career Aspiration:** I would like to be in the environmental policy and law field. Anything to do with sustainability!

**Why did you choose Lawrence?** My sister attended LU and it was a great place for her. I got into LU and decided that it was a good decision for my career aspirations and a good place for

international students.

**How has your adjustment to a new country and university been?** I always learn something new! You never stop learning at LU and in another country in general. I also love that I get to teach others about my culture and how they appreciate it.

**Are you involved with anything at Lawrence?** I am president of LI, so we are busy getting ready for Cabaret! I am also a part of “Hillel”, the Jewish group on campus, and a new club called “LU Women in Science”.

**Do you have any plans yet for life after Lawrence?** I am planning to work in the US or in Europe. After, I am hoping to get

my Master’s in Environmental Policy or go back to my home country and promote sustainability there!

**Do you have any advice for students struggling with adjusting?** Don’t be afraid to go out and meet new people as this is what makes the abroad experience so unique. Soon enough, your troubles adjusting will seem natural and you’ll start to learn new things every day.



To nominate someone for future newsletters, visit: <http://lawrence.edu/mm/1388>

## ASK THE ADVISOR

Dear Leah,

### What do I do if my visa expires this summer?

If you plan to remain inside of the United States and you have a valid I-20 (meaning your I-20 has not expired) , you do not need to request a new visa. Since a visa is used to request entry into the United States, you do not need an unexpired visa if you are already inside the country. On the contrary, if you leave the United States and your visa is expired , you will need to request a new one at the United States embassy prior to returning to the United States. This is because you will need an unexpired visa upon your return when you request entrance into the United States at the airport.



## LIFE AFTER LAWRENCE SPOTLIGHT

ISS wants to share your interesting summer and post-graduation opportunities on the Career Services Life After Lawrence Spotlight. E-mail [leah.d.mcsorley@lawrence.edu](mailto:leah.d.mcsorley@lawrence.edu) with your name, class year, major, and position.

## LAWRENCE RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: STUDY ABROAD

Off-campus is a great way to do some traveling while also learning in a completely new environment. ISS spoke with Laura Zuege, Director of Off-Campus Programs here at Lawrence., in order to find out what studying abroad is all about.

### What is off-campus study?

Off-Campus study is the opportunity to take classes off campus, in this case, away from Lawrence. It is a chance to experience place-based learning—to apply theories and facts you have learned to the unique resources of the location of your program. Most off-campus study takes place outside of the United States but there are a number of domestic programs in the US as well.

### How popular is studying off-campus for the Lawrence population?

Approximately 35-40% of Lawrence graduates study off-campus. This is an impressive number considering that this statistic across US institutions is about 4%.

### What are my options for studying off-campus?

Lawrence currently offers 58 programs in 28 countries. We have programs on six continents. Students from all majors can study off-campus. Some programs offer study specifically within a student's discipline or independent study options for students to extend their experience in their area while other programs are somewhat more general in scope.

### How long can I study abroad for?

The programs that we have are for a term, a semester, or academic year in length so students are usually off-

campus for 10 weeks to 10 months, depending on the program.

### As an international student on a F-1/J-1 visa, am I allowed to study abroad? If so, how easy or complicated is the documentation process?

Each year, there are F-1 students who study abroad. The visa process for each country varies so students work closely with their program in navigating this process. It's also important for international students to work closely with Leah in order to make sure that their US visa is in order.

### Do I need to get a visa to get into my study abroad destination country?

This is very particular to each situa-

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tion since each country has specific visa regulations. Many countries do require a short stay student visa but this will depend on the country, the program, and the nationality of the student. International students are usually well prepared for applying for a visa to study abroad since they are usually used to a more rigorous visa process to get their US student visa.

**How much studying abroad typically cost? Are the costs the same as studying at Lawrence, roughly?**

This varies quite a bit depending on the program, the cost of living in the specific country and the student's own individual financial situation. When a student knows which program is the best academic fit for their goals and preparations, we encourage students to meet with someone from the Financial Aid office. When a student meets with the Financial Aid office, they get a cost estimate sheet that is specific to their program's costs and their specific financial aid package. There are also differences in what is "included" in what a

program bills and what is considered an out-of-pocket expense—some programs include a meal plan or meals in a homestay while students in other programs cook independently—students purchase their flights for most programs but some programs include group airfare.

**Would we, as international students, qualify for financial aid for studying abroad?**

Again, meeting with the Financial Aid office is the best way to determine what financial aid options are available. There are some scholarships and grants for study abroad given through my office or through Lawrence that do not require applicants to be US citizens.

**To suggest a campus resource for future newsletters, visit:**  
<http://lawrence.edu/mm/1388>