1. **Travelling Outside The U.S for Spring Break?**

*This is a reminder!!*

Please make sure to turn in your travel request form with your I-20/DS-2019 for processing at least 5 business days prior to your travel date. The travel request form is on the web page:

http://www.wright.edu/ucie/student/travel.html

2. **Coffee Hour: Jeopardy Game**

Have you ever heard of or played the game of Jeopardy? We are inviting you all to join us during this last Coffee Hour of the Winter quarter for an interactive and exciting time as we play this exciting game. During this session, we will also have refreshments and promise that you will have a good time. *Remember to bring a friend too!*

**Where:** E190 S.U (UCIE Conference Room)

**When:** Friday, March 9, 2012

**Time:** 3 - 4 PM

**Host:** UCIE
3) OPT Deadline (Winter 2012)

This message is for those students graduating this Winter Quarter!

If you are graduating this quarter (Winter), note that your OPT application has to be submitted to the UCIE office no later than March 16th, 2012. You are advised to submit you application by Tuesday March 13th at 4:00 PM. Any applications received after the March 16th date will affect your OPT work date and also incur a processing fee of $25.

Contact Kimberly Fritz at Kimberly.fritz@wright.edu
OPT UCIE Link: http://www.wright.edu/ucie/student/opt.html

4) Participate in IFA 2012

Do YOU want to participate in International Friendship Affair (IFA) 2012 on Saturday, April 21st? This year’s theme is “Arts around the World”. If interested in participating please view the message below.

Performance – if you want to put on an artistic performance you may dance, play instruments, sing a song etc. Please contact Nam at ucie11@wright.edu and she will provide you with the information that you need. The performance slots are expected to be no longer than 15 minutes.

Table Display – you can help to create the most colorful and interesting features of the IFA the Table Displays. This is your opportunity to present your culture and traditions of your home country by using interactive media, posters, books or any artifacts that you may have brought from your country. You are more than welcome to talk Belinda (Belinda.grody@wright.edu) and we will provide you with the information that you need. Email Belinda and get your tables reserved now so you don’t miss the opportunity!

The University Center for International Education organizes the Annual International Friendship Affair (IFA) to give the WSU and surrounding communities an opportunity to learn about the cultural heritage of WSU students. The event includes an entertainment program featuring performances from a wide variety of international groups, flag parade, table displays featuring various artifacts and a variety of door prizes donated by local ethnic restaurants.

For more information contact Nam or Joe or Dammy at nam_ucie@yahoo.com or joe_ucie@yahoo.com or dammy_ucie@yahoo.com
5) TAX FACTS

Are You Nonresident or Resident for Tax Status?

The determination as to whether you should file a tax return as a resident or nonresident can be very complex.

F VISA and J STUDENT
For purposes of filing a 2011 US tax return, you are a nonresident alien if you had an F visa or J Student visa during 2011 and have been present in the US under that visa during five or less calendar years before and including 2011. This means that if you first arrived in the US under the visa after January 1, 2007, then you are a nonresident alien for tax purposes for 2011.

J VISA - OTHER THAN J STUDENT
For purposes of filing a 2011 US tax return, you are a nonresident alien if you have a J visa (other than J Student) during 2011 and have been present in the US under that visa during two or less calendar years before and including 2011. This means that if you first arrived in the US under that visa after January 1, 2010, then you are a nonresident alien for tax purposes. If you are a nonresident, you must file 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ for federal tax return otherwise you would be subject to penalties. To avoid penalties, you should NOT file 1040 or 1040EZ unless you are a resident for tax purpose.

We will have more information about IRS Tax Penalty on next week’s newsletter.

Tax Workshop Schedules

Below, you will find Tax Workshop dates and locations. Please choose a workshop time and date to attend. You will need to purchase an FNTR password prior to signing up for the workshop. If you have used FNTR before, you may choose to purchase the FNTR password and do your taxes on your own without attending a tax workshop. Please email Jiao Li at ucie9@wright.edu if you have any questions.

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6) **Have You Heard of Middle East Culture Club?**

This new organization is called Middle East Culture Club and it is designed to promote cultural awareness about the Middle East among the Wright State community, enhance students’ ability to learn the Arabic language, serve as a forum for Middle East related socio-political and economic issues, and to promote cultural diversity on campus. Attached is a link with the copy of the club’s constitution if you would like to look it over.

Best wishes,

*Rana Odeh*

Graduate student and Teaching Assistant
International and Comparative Politics Program
Wright state University
Debate Forum Columnist, Dayton City Paper
http://www.ranaodeh.com/

Visit this link to download the Club’s constitution: [http://wtrns.fr/CcVaa1an2ebxt7c](http://wtrns.fr/CcVaa1an2ebxt7c)