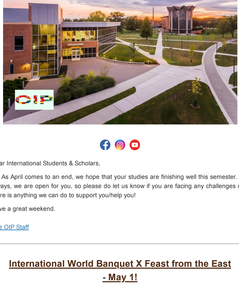
VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (OIP)
WEEKLY CHECK IN



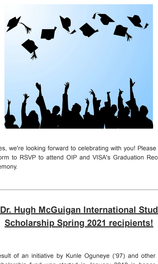
Dear International Students & Scholars,

As April comes to an end, we hope that your studies are finishing well this semester. As always, we are open for you, so please do let us know if you are facing any challenges or if there is anything we can do to support you!help you!

Have a great weekend.

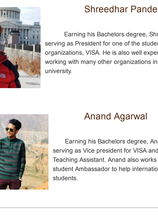
The OIP Staff

International World Banquet X Feast from the East - May 1!



To add to the spring sunshine, VISA is proud to announce its collaboration with AAPIC in bringing to you the best of "World Banquet X, Feast from the East". As great as the event is going to be, we hope you have the power and ability to make it better by your attendance! Don't miss the chance to enjoy the performances and diverse cuisine from all over the world!

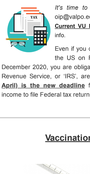
OIP and VISA Graduation Recognition & Awards!



Graduates, we're looking forward to celebrating with you! Please click here to fill out the form to RSVP to attend OIP and VISA's Graduation Recognition and Awards Ceremony.

Dr. Hugh McGuigan International Student Scholarship Spring 2021 recipients!

As a result of an initiative by Kunle Oguneye ('97) and other international alumni, a scholarship fund was started in January 2018 in honor of Dr. Hugh McGuigan, retired Director of International Studies (1983-2008). A one-time $1000 scholarship was awarded to two international students in spring 2020. For Spring 2021, the Scholarship Selection Committee unanimously selected three international students.

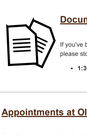


Kavya Hari

Earning her Master's Degree, Kavya is working as Teaching Assistant for different courses and also as an intern for the Office of International Programs. She became a great source for newly arrived international students.

Shreedhar Pandey

Earning his Bachelors degree, Shree is serving as President for one of the student organizations, VISA. He is also well experienced working with many other organizations in the university.



Anand Agarwal

Earning his Bachelors degree, Anand is serving as Vice president for VISA and as Teaching Assistant. Anand also works as an OIP student Ambassador to help international students.

Spring Wellness Day- May 4th!

Here is a good opportunity to know about mental health! GLS Grant One-of-Us Initiative is partnering with the University Programming Council to host a Spring Wellness Day next Tuesday, May 4th from 11 am to 4 pm in the West Lawn. The purpose of this event is to cultivate and promote wellness on campus and share mental health resources with students. The event is sponsored by the Counseling Services Endowment Fund.

Tax Season!

It's time to file your taxes!! Please check the email form oip@valpo.edu titled "**Important 2020 Tax Instructions for Current VU International Students and Scholars**" for complete info.

Even if you did not earn any income, if you were physically in the US on F or J status anytime between 1 January – 31 December 2020, you are obligated to file a Form 8843 with the IRS (the Internal Revenue Service, or 'IRS', are the US tax authorities). **17 May 2021 (not 15 April) is the new deadline** for residents and nonresidents who earned US income to file Federal tax returns for the 2020 tax year.

Vaccination Benefits & Reminder!

Starting or finishing your vaccination will give you a much better chance of a great summer, especially if you are traveling! After the first dose, you could have 50% immunity and the second dose, you could have 92% immunity to COVID-19. Whether or not you have received the vaccine, it is expected that you will continue to wear your face coverings, practice physical distancing, wash your hands, log your symptoms on Campus Clear, and follow all campus safety protocols.

Click here to know more information on COVID-19 Vaccinations.

Click here to find & sign up to get vaccinated at a local site.

Document Pick-Up

If you've been notified that you have a document to pick up, please stop by the OIP during our document pick-up hours:

- **1:30-5:00pm, Monday/Wednesday/Friday**

Appointments at OIP

Appointments must be scheduled in advance. In order to reduce traffic in the GKC, the OIP staff will not be receiving walk-in appointments. But we are very happy to set up a time to meet!

Email Janice.Lin@valpo.edu or Andrew.Knox@valpo.edu to make an appointment.

See you around campus!

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