Pitt Campus in August, Change is Coming!

August is a very busy time for the University of Pittsburgh. All of the students (and some faculty and staff) return from summer break and the population around campus swells to its peak. While classes don't begin until August 26th, New Student Orientation has already begun! OIS is very busy checking in new students, presenting to the incoming graduate and undergraduate students, and coordinating different events across campus. The campus takes on a new personality once the fall term starts, and we are very excited to see everyone return!

Sharpen your pencils, school is back in session!

OIS Availability in August

Because of the increased demands on the OIS staff during August, we may respond to requests slower than usual. Please submit your requests early so this does not affect you. In addition, there are certain days where OIS will not be able at all during August.

- **OIS will close at 1pm on August 15th.**
- **OIS will not have student walk-in hours the week of August 12th—16th.**

We apologize for any inconvenience and we thank you in advance for your patience!
Get Involved Pittsburgh—RESTAURANT WEEKS

A great way to feel connected to the city is to visit the local restaurants and get a flavor for different places in Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh has a growing reputation for its culinary scene. August is a great month to take advantage of meal deals and sample different establishments during restaurant weeks! A ‘restaurant week’ is basically one week where multiple restaurants will offer meal deals, varying from a prix fixed menu with multiple courses or a set, discounted price for certain menu items. If you are new to Pittsburgh, this is a great chance to discover restaurants in the area for a reasonable cost!

First, Oakland will have its restaurant week from August 5 – August 9. This restaurant week will feature only restaurants in Oakland close by to campus. The deal for participating locations will offer $5 lunches during those 5 days. Check out the restaurant list here!

Next, the city of Pittsburgh will have its Summer restaurant week from August 12 – August 18. Restaurants featured will be all throughout different neighborhoods in the Pittsburgh area. Deals range from 3, 4, and 5 course fixed price meals and $20.13 specialty dishes. Check out participating locations here!

Lastly, though not an actual ‘restaurant week’, but for sure a week of delicious food sampling, the neighborhood of Bloomfield has their annual ‘Little Italy Days’ from August 22 – August 25. Local restaurants will set up food stands all along Liberty Ave. This is a great way to sample several dishes while strolling through Pittsburgh’s Little Italy. Mangia! Mangia!
As my loyal readers my notice, I have already written about Conflict Kitchen once this summer, but I have chosen to write about the establishment again because they have changed the type of cuisine being served. Previously Conflict Kitchen had served Iranian food, now they are featuring Cuban food! I was very excited to try their Cuban fare because I am not familiar with this type of cuisine. And as always, I love to sit in Schenley Plaza to enjoy the outside while I eat my lunch.

To start, I tried the twice fried plantains with a dipping sauce. They reminded me of little latkes or fried pancakes and were fabulous! The plantains had a nice crisp exterior and soft interior that was not too sweet. For my main course, I had the slow roasted pork. The pork was served in chunks and had a nice, mild flavor. It was served on a bed of rice and beans which accompanied the pork nicely. Also on the side was a vegetable salad with fresh cucumbers, tomatoes, carrots, and cabbage. The meal felt complete and well balanced. My lunch companion, OIS’ previous intern Amber, chose the shredded beef, which I had slight food envy for. I think for next time I will try the shredded beef over the pork dish. I would definitely recommend the Cuban Conflict Kitchen and I am excited to see what region’s cuisine they choose to cook next!
“GARAGE GIVEAWAY”
SATURDAY AUGUST 17, 2013
AT BELLEFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.
(Entrance will be by random lottery—Numbers distributed at 8:30am)

Location: Bellefield Presbyterian Church is located at 4001 Fifth Avenue
On the corner of Fifth Avenue & Thackeray Street

We invite you to come to our annual “Garage Giveaway”.
We offer to newly arrived international students—free of charge—used items including: small furniture, dishes, cooking utensils, towels, bedding and blankets, etc. as long as our supply lasts. There are also new items available.

We also provide transportation back to your apartment with your items.
Looking for something to do this month? OIS has created a calendar with a variety of events and things to do in the Pittsburgh area. Many of these events are free and family friendly. Some of the events are marked as only being for new students during Orientation, but the vast majority are available to everyone. Take a few minutes and see if you find something that you would be interested in or didn't know about in Pittsburgh!

**August Activities Calendar**

Check out the new University Store on Fifth!

The Pitt Bookstore got a facelift and has relocated to 4000 Fifth Avenue! Stop by the bookstore to relax and have a cup of coffee, to purchase your text books for Fall 2013, to acquire some Pitt Clothing or gear, or just to take a look at the beautifully decorated, and naturally lit space!

**Hours:**
Monday–Friday
9:00 am—5:00 pm.
Closed Saturday & Sunday

[www.pittuniversitystore.com](http://www.pittuniversitystore.com)
Many of you have watched Nordenberg Hall be built from the ground up. It has been exciting to watch the building be built with the cranes this past year. This fall, Nordenberg Hall will be open and ready for Pitt students!

Nordenberg Hall as a Residence

Nordenberg Hall is located at 111 University Place and you will notice a new traffic light on Fifth Ave. in front of it! As Pitt’s newest residence hall, there will be 559 double and triple rooms for incoming Pitt freshmen. Each floor will have lounge and study areas, communal bathrooms, and a laundry room for the residents. The hall will also feature a fitness center, two music practice rooms, a print station, and host wireless internet.

Nordenberg Hall as a Wellness Center and future Shopping

Student Health Services, the Counseling Center, and the University Pharmacy have all moved to Nordenberg Hall. You can find SHS and Counseling in ‘The Wellness Center’ on the second floor and the pharmacy on the first floor. There is retail space that will be eventually used on the first floor as well. We are excited to have more space for our undergraduate students this year with the addition of Nordenberg Hall!
**August**

12th – 16th – No student team walk-in hours

12th – Graduate Student Welcome Session

14th – Residence Halls open for international undergraduates

15th – OIS closes at 1pm

15th – OIS Graduate Student Gateway Clipper Event

16th – Undergraduate Student Welcome Session & Student Services Fair

19th – Charles Nieman’s Birthday!

26th – Fall classes start!

**September**

2nd – Labor Day (University Closed)

2nd – First Pitt Football game!

5th – Experience America Event – ‘Getting Settled in Pittsburgh’

6th – Add/drop period ends

17th – Constitution Day

20th – Mid Autumn Festival (China)

**ONGOING**

Every Friday OIS hosts a session on Optional Practical Training (OPT) from 2PM—3PM. You can register for the OPT Info Session here.

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8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

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Newsletter is edited and published by the Office of International Services. If you have any comments regarding the newsletter, please [contact OIS](mailto:OIS@pitt.edu).