The Global Perspective

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Optional Practical Training (OPT)
OPT is an employment opportunity available to F-1 students, which is mostly used after graduation. Do you know how to apply?

Pitt’s Global Plan
A large part of the university’s strategic plan is to enhance Pitt’s global reach and reputation.

University Art Gallery Exhibit

Winter in Pittsburgh
Not everyone is accustom to cold temperatures in the winter. Here are some suggestions for how to safe warm in the Pittsburgh winter months.

Pittsburgh Restaurant Week
Twice a year Pittsburgh restaurants participate in Restaurant Week with special menus and prices.

Spring Internship and Job Fair

Gender and Women’s Studies Events

PITT Arts—Artful Wednesdays
Every Wednesday during the Fall and Spring terms, PITT Arts organizes Artful Wednesdays to bring local musical performers to campus.

Featured Events
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR F-1 STUDENTS

What is Optional Practical Training?
Optional Practical Training (OPT) is defined as temporary employment directly related to a F-1 student’s field of study. All F-1 students who have been maintaining their status and who have completed at least one academic year are eligible to apply for OPT. The standard OPT period is 12 months, and it may be granted during or after students complete their academic program.

You do not need a job offer to apply for OPT and the application, submitted to the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), can take 2—3 months to be approved. In other words, apply early!

Mandatory Information Sessions
OIS provides mandatory Information Sessions to discuss students’ status while they are on OPT, as well as some tips and pointers about preparing the application. See the flyer below for more information about the dates for the OPT Information Sessions scheduled for the Spring 2015 semester. It is critical that you attend and apply early so that you have the most flexibility in choosing your desired employment start date!

You can read more about OPT in My OIS and you can register for an OPT session here on our website.

Priority OPT Information Sessions
Students who are graduating in Spring 2016 are welcome to attend Priority OPT Sessions. Attendees of a Priority OPT Sessions will have their OPT Requests processed by OIS in 3 business days, if request is completed with 30 days of attendance. Priority OPT Sessions will be:

- January 15—4pm, O’Hara Student Center
- January 26—1:30pm, O’Hara Student Center
- February 10—4pm, O’Hara Student Center
- February 23—1:30pm, O’Hara Student Center
- March 8—1:30pm, O’Hara Student Center

Remember to register in advance in order to reserve your spot in these sessions.
Get Engaged!
There are a variety of ways that you can provide UCIS your thoughts on the Global plan at Pitt. UCIS will be hosting additional feedback session in the Spring term which you can read more about on their website. On the website, you can also submit a message with your ideas and experiences. In addition, you can provide substantive comments and/or feedback via email at global-input@pitt.edu.

“To build upon the University’s reputation as a leader in international education, while developing concrete strategies and actions for university-wide internationalization that move the Strategic Plan forward.”
STUDIO ARTS SUMMER 2015
CREATIVE RESEARCH EXHIBITION:
WYOMING FIELD STUDY AND
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

UHC
SA
WY
OUR

Dates:
January 15 – February 5, 2016
Opening Reception:
January 14th, 4 – 6 pm
Conversations with Artists:
January 28th at Noon
Participating artists:
Megan Beck • Alyssa DiFolco
Sofia Sandoval • Stephanie Taylor
Victoria Woshner

Gallery Hours:
Monday – Friday, 10 am – 4 pm
Closed January 18th
University Art Gallery
University of Pittsburgh
Frick Fine Arts Building

For more information:
www.studioarts.pitt.edu
412-648-2430
Winter Weather Terminology

Types of Weather
- Snow Flurries—Very small amount of snow
- Sleet—Precipitation that starts as rain, then freezes in the air
- Fleeting Rain—Rainfall that freezes upon impact with a cold surface
- Black Ice—Very thin layer of ice on roadways that occurs after ice/snow melts and refreezes

Weather Measurements
- Accumulation—Amount of snow on the ground
- Wind Chill—How wind can impact the body’s perception of the temperature

Weather Warnings
- Winter Storm Warning—a winter storm is occurring or about to occur with at least 4 to 7 inches of snow or a large amount of ice is forecast
- Ice Storm Warning—when freezing rain produces a significant and damaging amount of ice
- Winter Weather Advisory—combination of winter weather (snow, freezing rain, sleet) that presents a hazard, but does not meet “Warning” criteria.

Here is an example of a Winter Storm Warning.

Inclement Weather Policy
Only the Chancellor can close Pitt. However, all University employees and students are urged to use their own discretion in deciding whether they can safely commute to class or to work. If personal health or safety is at issue in that decision, responsible judgment should be used.

Pitt Notification System
Any time the university is closed, the Pitt Emergency Notification system will be used to notify the community. You can easily sign-up for this service in My Pitt (select My Resources, then Emergency Notification) or by texting “pitt sub yourusername ens” to 41411. This system is not only used for university closing, but also in case of flooding, building concerns (such as the electricity being out), and more.

K-12 School Weather Policy
Each school district and school determine if school will be in session in the event of a storm. There will be an announcement on TV and the school district’s website. There could be two different types of announcements:
- Delays—school will be delayed to allow extra time for roads to clear and travel time.
- Closings—school has been closed for the day because the weather will not improve.
Winter Weather Clothing and Activities

Dressing for Winter Weather
The primary concern with getting dressed in the winter is staying warm and dry. Here are a few tips for dressing in cold weather:

Layer your clothing. When you wear multiple shirts, you can always take a layer off if you get too warm.

- Base Layer—The goal is to stay dry. Wear fabrics that wick moisture from your skin (wool, silk, etc.).
- Middle Layer—The goal is to insulate. Wear clothes that trap heat to your body (down jackets, fleece sweaters, etc).
- Shell Layer—The goal is protection from the elements. Wear a jacket that will protect you from wind, snow, or rain.
- Footwear—You want to wear shoes or boots that provide warmth and traction in the snow and ice.

Winter Activities
There are many wonderful activities for the whole family that you can participate in during the cold winter months. Here are activities you can find within a short distance of Pittsburgh:

Skiing and Snowboarding—there are several ski resorts within 1—2 hours of Pittsburgh. You can rent all the equipment you need and even take lessons.

Ice Skating—Schenley Park has an ice skating rink and so does PPG Place downtown. You can find both indoors and outdoors options around the city.

Build a Snowman—All you need is snow to build snowmen, snowwomen, snowkids, & snowdogs!

Sled-riding—You can buy a sled (Target, Walmart, etc) and once you find a hill, you are off! Schenley Park has a number of hillsides waiting for sled-riders to enjoy!

Snowshoeing—Almost anywhere you can hike in nice weather, you can snowshoe in the winter. This is another way to enjoy your favorite nature walks.

Stay Indoors—This is a great time of year to be within walking distance of museums!
Pittsburgh Restaurant Week in January

By Kati Von Lehman

**Pittsburgh Restaurant Week** is January 11th—17th!

Pittsburgh was recently named by [Zagat as the #1 city in the United States](https://www.zagat.com/) for great food. Many of the restaurants that lead the area’s culinary scene in participate in Pittsburgh’s Restaurant Week. Twice a year, in the middle of January and August, [these restaurants](https://www.zagat.com/) will offer selective menus at special prices.

**Kickoff Party**

Before the Pittsburgh Restaurant Week begins, there is a [Kickoff Party](https://www.zagat.com/) on January 7th, 6—8pm, where vendors from the participating venues will offering tastes of their special menus. This cocktail party will not only offer delicious samples of the food offered during Pittsburgh Restaurant Week, but there will also be a number of charity raffles and a DJ to help you dance those decadent calories away.

**Experience Pittsburgh Restaurant Week**

Many people participate in Pittsburgh Restaurant Week in different ways. You can enjoy great prices at your favorite restaurants or use this week as an excuse to try new restaurants that you have always wanted to experience. In my family, we try to enjoy one or two new restaurants during each Pittsburgh Restaurant Week. We have tried restaurants on Mount Washington, in East Liberty, the North Side, Lawrenceville, the Strip District, and Downtown. Some of these restaurants were wonderful, special occasion treats while others we have returned to many times since.

**Zagat is a guide that uses customer feedback to collect ratings and reviews for restaurants, hotels, shopping, theaters, and more. The guide is based on the average consumer, not only established critics.**

**Share Your Best Meals**

Once you try one of these restaurants, please share your experiences. You can let people know where you had a great meal on the [OIS Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com) or by tagging OIS on [Twitter](https://twitter.com) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com).
Spring Internship & Job Fair

Hosted by:
Sports, Arts, & Entertainment Management, School of Communication, & the Career Development Center

Tuesday, February 9, 2016
Point Park University, Student Center
Check In & Welcome: 11:00 – 11:45 a.m.
Fair: 12:00—3:30 PM

Please RSVP at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TsvjF1Y_t1ucHwtMD4qRkSli5MMZlI4jczWoxzZFlYY/viewform?usp=send_form

Campus Map:
http://www.pointpark.edu/About/AdminDepts/PhysicalPlantFacilities/CampusMap

All majors are welcome!
Make sure to dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes!
**S P R I N G  2 0 1 6  E V E N T S**

**Thursday, January 21, 4–5:30 p.m.**
**402 Cathedral of Learning**
Faculty and graduate student reading discussion on author Alison Kafer’s book *Feminist, Queer, Crip* (2013). Moderated by Julie Beaulieu, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies program.  
Text is available by e-mailing gsws@pitt.edu.

**Thursday, January 28, 4–5:15 p.m.**
**602 Cathedral of Learning**
Undergraduate lecture by GSWS visiting scholar Patricia Ulbrich on “Hard Hatted Women and Wild Sisters: Lesbian Organizations in Pittsburgh Women’s Movement Community.”

**Friday, February 5, 3–4:30 p.m.**
**William Pitt Union, Lower Lounge**
General lecture by visiting professor Susan Wells, Temple University, on “In Search of the Clitoris.”

**Thursday, February 18, 4–5:30 p.m.**
**401 Cathedral of Learning**
General lecture by Gabriella Lukacs, Department of Anthropology and GSWS Faculty Fellow, on “Career Porn: Blogging and the Good Life.”

**Thursday, February 25, 4–5:30 p.m.**
**1228 Cathedral of Learning**
General lecture by Sara Goodkind, University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, on “Are My Pants Lowering Your Test Scores?: Blaming Girls for Challenges Facing Boys.”

**Monday, February 29, 6–7:30 p.m.**
**602 Cathedral of Learning**
General lecture by visiting professor Kale Fajardo, University of Minnesota, on “Queer/Asian Filipinos in Oregon: A Trans*Colonial Approach.”

**Tuesday, March 1, 6–7:15 p.m.**
**602 Cathedral of Learning**
Faculty and graduate student discussion-based colloquium with visiting professor Kale Fajardo, University of Minnesota, on his book *Filipino Crosscurrents: Oceanographies of Seafaring, Masculinities, and Globalization* (2011). Contact Todd Reeser at reesser@pitt.edu to register.

**Monday, March 21, 4–5:30 p.m.**
**1228 Cathedral of Learning**
Undergraduate lecture by visiting professor Deborah A. Harris, Texas State University, on “Taking the Heat: Women Chefs and Gender Inequality in the Professional Kitchen.”

**Thursday, March 31, 4 p.m. – Saturday, April 2, 7 p.m.**

**Thursday, March 31, 5–7 p.m.**
**University Club Ballroom**
Faculty and graduate student lecture by visiting professor Ann Cvetkovich, University of Texas, on “The Sovereignty of the Senses.” This is the opening keynote lecture for the “Doing the Body in the 21st Century” conference and is open to the University of Pittsburgh community.

**Saturday, April 2, 9 a.m.–7 p.m.**
**Undergraduate Conference on Gender and the Body.** Visit www.gsws.pitt.edu for details.

**Saturday, April 2, 5:30–7 p.m.**
**120 David Lawrence Hall Auditorium**
Gender and the Body Undergraduate Conference Keynote Speaker Kate Bornstein, American author, playwright, performance artist, and celebrated transgender trailblazer.

**Saturday, April 2, 5:30–7 p.m.**
**324 Cathedral of Learning**
General lecture by visiting professor Michelle Murphy, University of Toronto, on “Alterlife in the Aftermath.” This lecture is part of the “Doing the Body in the 21st Century” conference and is open to the University of Pittsburgh community.

All events are free and open to the public. See gsws.pitt.edu for further information.
Why the Arts?
The arts get us thinking deeply, make us laugh, cause us to question the world as it is, help us build a diverse community, celebrate international awareness, beautify our world, and nurture our spirits. These are a few ways that the arts make our lives that much richer. PITT ARTS is here to support the Pitt community as they develop their excellence and their intellectual and leadership skills. We believe that everyone becomes more well-rounded persons and invested global citizens through their exposure to the fine arts.

Artful Wednesdays

January 20
LILY ABREU AND BRAZIL BELEZA TRIO
Classically trained singer Lily Abreu fronts this band featuring Brazilian Jazz with Samba and Bossa-Nova styles.

February 3
BRONWYN WYATT AND GUARDIANS OF SOUND
Guardians of Sound is a project featuring all acoustic instruments. Bronwyn Wyatt’s silky voice is accompanied by acoustic guitar, acoustic bass, and percussion.

February 10
TRIO NOVA MUNDI
This all female top trained classical trio features piano, violin and cello, in which each highly talented artist shines.

February 24
MARK STRICKLAND AND SUSANNE ORTNER DUO
Mark Strickland is a legend on jazz guitar. Susanne Ortner plays all types of jazz clarinet and is considered a virtuoso on the instrument. This duo is not to be missed!

March 16
CHRISTIANE D BAND
Electronic and poetry-based vocals take Christiane D and her band to the next level.

March 23
SHELF LIFE STRING BAND
This non-traditional bluegrass five-piece has original tunes and covers one would never hear in bluegrass style!

March 30
HIP HOP UNPLUGGED
Hip Hop Artists Jasiri X, Idaa Tariq, and Jacques Mae perform with the Guardians of Sound Acoustic Ensemble.
10 **Family and Friends Day: Pitt Women’s Basketball Game**  
*2pm, Petersen Events Center*  
Food, games and activities for the whole family during the game vs. North Carolina State.

11 **Pittsburgh Restaurant Week**  
*January 11th—17th, Various Restaurants*  
Enjoy many special menus and prices at some of the best restaurants in the city.

15 **Priority OPT Session**  
*4pm, O’Hara Student Center, Dining Room*  
Optional Practical Training (OPT) is a 12-month period of employment eligibility available to all international students upon completion of their degree. At this workshop you will learn about immigration status issues specific to OPT and also how to apply for OPT.

16 **Saturday Silver Screen Film Club: Selma**  
*2:30pm, Carnegie Library Downtown*

18 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
*University is Closed*

24 **Carnegie Mellon University Philharmonic**  
*7:30pm, Carnegie Music Hall*

26 **Priority OPT Session**  
*4pm, O’Hara Student Center, Dining Room*  
Optional Practical Training (OPT) is a 12-month period of employment eligibility available to all international students upon completion of their degree. At this workshop you will learn about immigration status issues specific to OPT and also how to apply for OPT.

29 **Rachmaninoff Third Concerto**  
*January 29—31, Various Times, Heinz Hall*  
This performance of Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 3 will also include Rossini’s Overture to William Tell.

30 **Dada Masilo’s Swan Lake**  
*8pm, Byham Theater*  
Masilo has integrated South African influences into this classic ballet to create a unique and critically acclaimed vision. One performance only.