

Johns Hopkins University:
Medical Institutions
The Office of International
Student, Faculty & Staff
Services
Reed Hall, 1st Floor
1620 McElderry Street
Baltimore, MD 21205
410-955-3370

Inside...

Welcome from JHIS	1
Postdoctoral Fellows Info	2
Ask the Advisor	3
Welcome Reception	4
OIS Info	5



The Global Connection

The Newsletter of The Johns Hopkins International Society

June / July 2009

Welcome New Students and Scholars!

The Johns Hopkins International Society (JHIS) is the cultural outreach arm of the Office of International Services (OIS). Founded in 1959, the Society promotes international goodwill, helps international visitors establish social acquaintances, and provides programs for cultural, social, and educational exchange by sponsoring a variety of activities throughout the year.

Some of the activities from last year included a tour of Baltimore, a pre-Thanksgiving Dessert Social (lots of pie!), Duckpin Bowling (a Baltimore tradition), our annual Easter Egg Hunt (it rained but the kids are dye-hard egg hunters so they showed up anyway!), and a trip to Washington DC to see the annual Cherry Blossom Festival.

All JHMI students and scholars and their families are invited to participate in our events. There is no formal membership process but we do have a listserv that you can join to find out about our upcoming activities. If you are interested in joining, just send an email to internationalsociety@jhmi.edu with the text "subscribe to listserv" in the subject line.



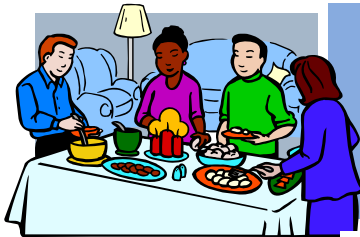
POSTDOC AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

In an effort to better serve the international postdoc community at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, the International Society & the JHPDA are joining forces to initiate the Postdoc Ambassadors Program. Each international newcomer will have the option to be assigned to a Hopkins "Ambassador" in an effort to facilitate a smooth transition to Baltimore and Johns Hopkins. An Ambassador should be a current Hopkins affiliate and needs to do little more than contact the newcomer and answer their questions and concerns. We do hope, however, that this program will lead to the establishment of long-term friendships and excellent networking opportunities for all involved. Participating in the Ambassadors Program is a fun way to get involved in the Hopkins community and get to know new people.

How it works:

Send an email to internationalsociety@jhmi.edu with "Ambassador sign up" in the subject line and provide the following in the body of the email: name, work phone, email address, languages that you speak, hosting preferences (i.e. home country, department, etc.), if applicable

When we have a match for you, we will contact you to see if you can be an Ambassador at that time. If so, we will provide you with the new postdoc's contact info and you take it from there!

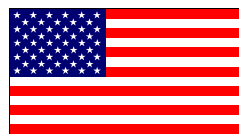


International Coffee Break for Postdocs

Would you like to meet other postdocs at JHMI?
If so, please join us for our new monthly Coffee Break!

**Friday,
July 10
3-4 p.m**

**Reed Hall
Library**



This month we will feature drinks and snacks from
the U.S.A.

Coffee, tea and lite snacks provided.

Questions??
Contact Dacia Gauer at
internationalsociety@jhmi.edu
or
410-955-3370

Ask the Advisor

Dear Advisor,

I am a postdoctoral fellow in the School of Medicine and have been on a J-1 visa since 2007. How can I change status to H1B?

Sincerely,

Pondering Postdoc

Dear Pondering Postdoc,

Thank you for asking! Many postdocs have the same question.

Your J-1 visa can be extended for up to 5 years and it is a Hopkins policy that you use all 5 years before changing status to H1B. There are very few exceptions to this policy so you should plan to remain in J-1 status until 2012.

If your department is willing to sponsor you for H1B status at that time, you should begin the paperwork for the change of status about 6 months prior to your DS2019 end date. Our H1B request packet can be found on our website: <http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/intlsvcs/h1b1requestpacketNOV2008.pdf>

Do you have a question for an advisor regarding visa status or related issues?

Please send us your "Ask the advisor" questions at internationalistsociety@jhmi.edu and we will publish them (and our responses) in future issues.



CHILDREN OF THE WORLD CO-OP, INC.

www.cotwcoop.org, 410-377-5900



WHAT: Ideal playgroup program for American and international families with their children ages 1-4

Cooperative organization where members help with the work and share in the fun
Affordable program with indoor/outdoor play, circle time singing, snack time and social events!

English as a Second Language classes available for parents/caregivers
Great place to **make new friends!!**

WHERE: Meets at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, 4 E. University Parkway at Saint Paul St., near the Johns Hopkins University Homewood Campus

WHEN: Operates year-round, Monday through Friday, 9:30 - 11:30 am. Join for one (or more!) days each week in our spring, summer and fall sessions.

A 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization



*The Johns Hopkins
International Society*

Welcome Reception
2009

Tuesday, June 30th

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Reed Hall, 1st Floor

Come and enjoy food, drinks, and good company! Meet your fellow students and the folks at the OIS and Housing office.

All members of the JHMI community are invited!

For more information, please contact the International Society at 410-955-3370 or email: internationalsociety@jhmi.edu

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(OIS)*

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Walk-in Advising

Monday and
Wednesday
1:00 p.m.—4:30
p.m.

Tuesday and
Thursday
8:30 a.m.—12 p.m.

About our office...



The mission of the Office of International Student, Faculty, & Staff Services (OIS) is to:

Provide competent and professional service to international students, scholars, faculty, and staff at The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions concerning U.S. immigration laws governing and/or regulating their stay in the United States.

Ensure that The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions maintains compliance with all applicable laws and regulations set forth by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service (CIS), the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Labor, and other government agencies pertaining to our international population.

Assist The Johns Hopkins International Society in promoting international good will, assisting international visitors in adjusting to life in Baltimore and the U.S., and providing for cultural, social, and educational exchange.

Support and engage in advocacy efforts at the institutional, local, national, and international level to promote the importance of international educational exchange.

We have a lot of helpful info on our website.

Check it out!

www.hopkinsmedicine.org/intlsvcs/

Office of International Student, Faculty, & Staff Services

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