



## **Fall 2011 International Orientation Information**



*Scenes from Fall 2010 Orientation*

### *Greetings from International Student Life at the University of Georgia!*

Congratulations on your acceptance to UGA. We hope you find the following information helpful as you prepare to enter UGA in the fall of 2011. We are excited to meet you!

#### **International Student Orientation:**

International Student Orientation this year will be from August 1 – August 5, 2011, with additional social events on August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup>. We are hosting a number of informative and important sessions during the week including Social Security, housing, and registration information. We **strongly** recommend that all new and transfer international students attend this orientation program. Please note that there is a \$15 registration fee for this program. Students may register for orientation during the International Student Life check-in process from 10 am until 4:30 pm on Monday, August 1, in 210 Memorial Hall on the UGA campus. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us as soon as possible. Our office number is: 706-542-5867 and our email is [ugaisl@uga.edu](mailto:ugaisl@uga.edu)

#### **Temporary Housing:**

The International Student Life Office is happy to announce that during fall orientation we will offer temporary housing on campus for new incoming international students from August 1 – 8, 2011. The residence hall where we will be staying is in close proximity to all of the orientation sessions and the International Student Life Office. For more information, please also feel free to visit our website at [www.uga.edu/isl](http://www.uga.edu/isl)

A prepaid, non-refundable registration fee of \$275 is required in order to reserve a space in temporary housing. The registration fee covers the total cost of staying seven nights from Monday, August 1 through early Monday morning, August 8, and includes the following services:

- 7 nights accommodation (with one other person of the same sex sharing your room)
- Suite-style or community-style bathroom (shared with other people of the same sex in your suite or on your floor)

Residence Hall fees  
Linens (sheets for the bed)  
Keys to your room  
Special pass required to enter the building  
Electricity  
Water  
Staffing

The prepaid, non-refundable registration fee of \$275 for temporary housing on-campus during the International Student Orientation can be paid via credit card or money order made payable to the University of Georgia. Students who wish to reserve a space in temporary housing should contact at the International Student Life Office via email at [ugaisl@uga.edu](mailto:ugaisl@uga.edu) or telephone 706-542-5867. Please be prepared to answer the following questions (or include the answers in your email correspondence):

Name  
Age  
Sex  
Country of Origin  
Area of Study  
Graduate or Undergraduate student?  
Email address  
Contact phone number  
Special needs  
Do you have a Fall assignment for on-campus housing? (Yes or No)  
If yes, where?  
Method of payment- Money order or credit card\*  
(\*Do NOT send your credit card information or number via email!!!)

If you are paying with a Credit Card, please call the ISL Office at 706-542-5867 to give us the following information **over the telephone**:

\*type of credit card (Master Card, Visa, etc.)  
\*expiration date (for security purposes, please call ISL with this information)  
\*card number (for security purposes, please call ISL with this information)  
\*card holder's name (as it appears on the card)

***Sending your credit card information over the internet through emails is NOT secure!***

UGA will not accept payments that include credit card numbers via email. Please be sure to call International Student Life with your credit card information during our regular business hours, Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (Eastern Standard Time). This procedure helps insure your personal security and information and we thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Once ISL has received pre-payment for the room, students will receive a confirmation letter via email confirming their reservation for the temporary housing option.

Upon arrival/check-in for temporary housing, students will be asked to pay a refundable key deposit of \$75. (This deposit is payable during check-in by check, cash or credit card and will be returned during check-out as long as the room is clean, undamaged and the student returns the room key and the linens (sheets) for the bed.)

Please note:

**\*Check-out** for all students residing in the temporary on-campus housing option will be on **Monday, August 8, 2011 in the early morning**.\*

Students who elect to leave the residence hall earlier than Monday morning (8/8/11) will not receive a refund for the nights they did not stay in the residence hall.

Students may **NOT** leave the residence hall prior to Monday, August 8, 2011 unless they have made specific arrangements with an ISL staff member for an alternate check-out time that works for ISL **and** UGA Housing personnel.

Any requests to leave early **MUST** be arranged **at least 48 hours in advance** with ISL staff, or students will risk forfeiting their key deposit.

**Students with an on-campus housing assignment for 2011-2012 will need to let ISL know when they register for the temporary housing option.**

Additionally, please note that this housing option cannot accommodate spouses, children, or family members.

If you are interested in the temporary housing option, please let ISL know by July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Students will be placed in temporary housing on a first come first serve basis. Contact ISL at [ugaisl@uga.edu](mailto:ugaisl@uga.edu) or 706-542-5867 for additional information.

### **Permanent Housing:**

Many international students who attend the University of Georgia find it difficult to secure off campus housing from overseas because they need time in Athens to look to see what is available, what is cost effective, etc. It is our hope that by asking the international students to come early August that you will have more time to explore your housing options before classes begin.

During orientation, we have built time into the schedule for students to research housing options. Additionally, we have asked a few apartment complexes to come to a "Welcome to Athens Fair" to provide all our students with more information concerning off campus housing options.

Most graduate students live off campus or if there is space available they choose to live in Family and Graduate housing. The Family and Graduate Housing website is very helpful – [www.uga.edu/housing](http://www.uga.edu/housing)

Please be aware that UGA Family and Graduate Housing may be full at this time. If it is, you will need to search for off campus housing for you and your family.

You may wish to research apartments on the internet. The following sources can be quite helpful:

<http://www.apartmentfinder.com/Georgia/Athens-Apartments> (Athens Apartments)

<http://www.onlineathens.com> (Classified section)

<http://www.flagpole.com> (Athens Community magazine, see the Classified section)

<http://www.redandblack.com> (UGA Student newspaper, see the Classified section)

Apartments off campus range from \$400 to \$700 per month. ISL has a housing bulletin board in our office where individuals can post information concerning housing options. People who have an apartment and are looking for a

roommate can post their information. Additionally, people who do not have an apartment, but are looking for a roommate post their information as well. New students typically do a lot of this kind of research once they arrive in Athens.

## Getting to Athens:

When you fly to the USA, consider taking a connecting flight directly to Athens. If you can fly to Athens, ISL can arrange for you to be picked up by volunteers at the Athens Airport. We also will pick up students at the Greyhound bus station, although bus travel out of Atlanta is more complicated. The Groome Airport Shuttle Service is the most popular method that students use to get to Athens (see below).

For students who plan to live in a hotel or have other accommodations prior to August 1st, we offer pick-ups from your hotel or other housing location to our offices on the morning of August 1st for orientation check-in.

### Shuttle Service

Many students choose to use the Groome transportation shuttle service to get from Atlanta to Athens. A one-way shuttle ride is currently \$34 (price subject to change). Groome shuttles depart for Athens at multiple times each day. Visit <http://www.groometransportation.com/athens.html> for more information.

*\*Students who plan on going directly to our orientation after their shuttle ride should ask to be dropped off at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education.\**

## Athens Pick Up Service:

International Student Life (ISL) offers a pickup service from various locations in Athens for new international students. This service is offered by ISL free of charge.

Pick up service for the Fall 2011 orientation will begin on **Friday, July 29, 2011**. All students wishing to use this service need to email ISL ([ugaisl@uga.edu](mailto:ugaisl@uga.edu)) with the following information no less than TWO WEEKS in advance of their flight departure date:

Name

Contact Information (email)

Arrival Date

Arrival Time

Arrival Location (Athens only)

(If you are flying into Athens, please also include your Airline, flight number, arrival date and arrival time, and if you are connecting from another city in the U.S.)

***ISL cannot guarantee pick up service for individuals who request a reservation with less than two weeks notice.***

Students will be sent an email confirmation for their Athens pickup.

Students who register for the pick-up service and who do **not** notify ISL staff of changes to their arrival schedules or cancellations in a timely fashion may be assessed a service charge (fee) for failure to cancel/inform ISL staff of changes to your travel plans.

## International Student Organization Information:

You may want to contact one of the international student organizations that is advised by our office. These groups can be quite helpful for new students.



## International Student Organizations Summer 2011 Contact List

### **AIESEC**

Stefanie Karwoski  
aiesecatgeorgia@gmail.com

### **Hands on Haiti**

Jean-Pierre Bourget  
hohuga@gmail.com

### **African Student Union**

Uche Ukuku  
ucheu89@gmail.com

### **Indian Student Association**

Ganesh Bonde  
ugaisa@uga.edu

### **Amnesty International**

Katie Bridges  
kgb91@uga.edu

### **Interfaith Cultural Organization**

Selcuk Acar  
ifco@uga.edu

### **Arab Cultural Association**

Dalal Hillou  
ugarabs@gmail.com

### **Japan Club**

Jonathan Evans  
yozora@uga.edu

### **Association of Chinese Professionals**

Xiaocong Wang  
wise@uga.edu

### **Korean Undergraduate Student Association**

Jenny Yi  
jennyyiis@gmail.com

### **Athens for Justice in Palestine**

Deena Husein  
dhusein@uga.edu

### **Persian Student Union**

psu.uga@gmail.com

### **Brazilian Student Association**

Erico Mattos  
ericom@uga.edu

### **Russian Student Association**

Elina Kumykova  
elinak@uga.edu

**(cont. on next page)**

**Caribbean Student Association**

Jodi-Ann Barclay  
ugacaribsa@gmail.com

**Students for Latino Empowerment**

ugasle@gmail.com

**Chinese Language Society**

chineselanguageuga@gmail.com

**Taiwanese Student Association**

Judy Wang  
ugataiwan@gmail.com

**Chinese Student Union**

Hongyu Zhang  
china@uga.edu

**Thai Student Association**

Supakana (Air) Nagachinta  
sxn4@uga.edu

**Chinese Undergraduate Student Association**

Randy Li  
cusa@uga.edu

**Turkish Student Association**

Muhammet Arican  
turkish@uga.edu

**Dawgs H2O**

Avani Patel  
dawgs.h2o@gmail.com

**UNICEF**

Victoria White  
vwhite33@uga.edu

**European Student Association**

Mirela Hubcheva  
mirela1@uga.edu

**Vietnamese Student Association**

Khoa Nguyen  
uga.vsa@gmail.com

**Filipino American Student Association**

Vera Taganas  
fasa@uga.edu

**World Ambassadors**

Avani Patel  
ugaworldambassadors@gmail.com

**Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children**

Agni Chandora  
fimrcatuga@gmail.com

**Georgia China Alliance**

Marilyn Li  
qianmli@uga.edu

## University Contact Information:

### University Housing

Housing Assignments Office  
Phone: 706-542-1421  
email: housing@uga.edu  
www.uga.edu/housing

### Office of Student Financial Aid

220 Holmes/Hunter Building  
Phone: 706-542-6147  
www.uga.edu/osfa

### Graduate Admissions

Boyd Graduate Studies Research Ctr.  
Phone: 706-542-1787  
email: gradadm@uga.edu

### Undergraduate Admissions

Terrell Hall  
Phone: 706-542-8776  
email: adm-info@uga.edu  
www.admissions.uga.edu

### International Student Life (ISL)

*(All non immigration questions should be directed to this office.)*

Phone: 706-542-5867  
email: ugaisl@uga.edu  
www.uga.edu/isl

### Office of International Education (OIE)

*(All immigration and insurance questions should be directed to this office.)*

Phone: 706-425-3154  
email: visahelp@uga.edu  
www.uga.edu/oie

### University Health Center

370 River Road  
Phone: 706-542-1162  
Fax (Medical Records): 706-542-  
www.uhs.uga.edu

We trust this information has been helpful. Please let us know if you have any more questions or concerns. We look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,  
ISL Staff



*Fall 2010 Orientation Staff*