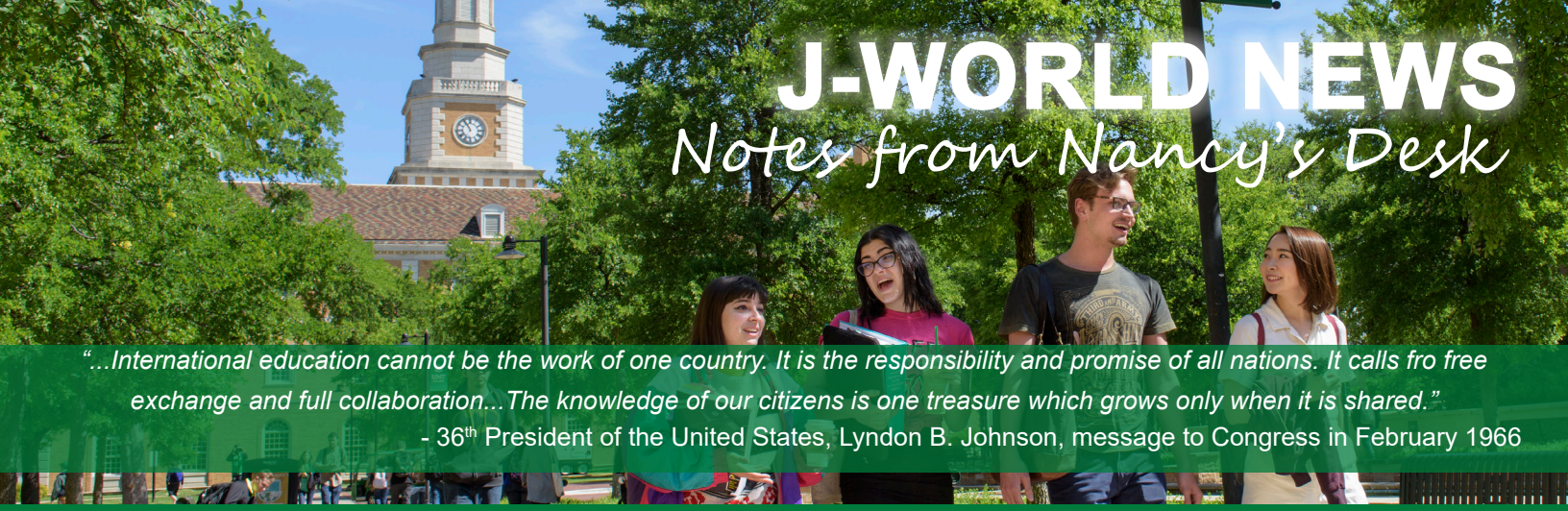

J-WORLD NEWS

Notes from Nancy's Desk

"...International education cannot be the work of one country. It is the responsibility and promise of all nations. It calls fro free exchange and full collaboration...The knowledge of our citizens is one treasure which grows only when it is shared."

- 36th President of the United States, Lyndon B. Johnson, message to Congress in February 1966

What is the purpose of the Exchange Visitor Program?

The Exchange Visitor Program fosters global understanding through educational and cultural exchanges.

Thank you for being a part of UNT's exchange program!

Welcome Spring and 2020!

Scam Alert

If you are contacted by someone claiming to be with a U.S. government agency, who asks for money to fix an immigration or tax issue, contact ISSS or the UNT police first! DO NOT send money and DO NOT give them personal information!

Helpful resources on protecting your identity and information.

- https://www.usa.gov/housing-scams#item-211837
- https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft
- https://oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/scam-awareness
- https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog
- https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/pass-it-on/imposter-scams#
- https://youtu.be/i4nCy6Xs6R8

Your Rights as a Nonimmigrant Visa Holder

Nonimmigrant Visa Holder Information

Expanded Travel Ban

On Friday, January 31, 2020 an Executive Order was issued by the U.S. President, expanding on existing travel bans already in place for Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen. This new order relates to visa issuance, screening procedures, and refugees from the following additional countries: **Myanmar (Burma), Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Sudan, and Tanzania**.

This expansion of the order does not directly impact the travel of F1 and J1 non-immigrant visa holders or any other non-immigrant visa holders.

In light of this Executive Order, we strongly urge immigrants (green card holders) from the affected countries to seek legal advice regarding any possible travel outside the U.S. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide additional details and information as it becomes available.

We also maintain a web page on immigration updates regarding travel ban developments, but this is not done in real time and we suggest that students and scholars from the affected countries please contact our office with specific inquiries or urgent travel issues.

UNT
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
International Student & Scholar Services

Marquis Hall 110

JInfo@unt.edu

international.unt.edu/immigration

P: 940-565-2195 | F: 940-565-4145

@UNTInternational

Mailing Address
1155 Union Circle #311067
Denton, TX 76203-5017 USA

Public Charge

A recent rule has been altered to expand the definition of "public charge." While all J1 Exchange Visitors have to show proof of finances before entering the United States, it is important to remember that as an exchange visitor, you are not allowed to accept public benefits in the form of cash assistance, food stamps, housing assistance, or Medicaid. Examples of these benefits are SNAP, Section 8 Housing, free healthcare. Accepting one or more of these benefits could result in future visa denials or applications for permanent residency.

REMINDER!
Please be sure to contact International Student and Scholar Services if there are ANY changes to your J program.

Ensuring Exchange Visitor's Health, Safety and Welfare is the University of North Texas and the Department of State's Highest Priority

To help safeguard the health, safety and welfare of exchange visitors, there's an Exchange Visitor Program Emergency Hotline.

1-866-283-9090

This 24/7 toll-free phone number allows exchange visitors to directly contact the Department in emergency and urgent situations.

Things to Do

@UNTInternational @GlobalUNT

- International Affairs Events
- Fine Arts Series
- Art Gallery
- Dance & Theatre
- College of Music Calendar
- UNT on the Square
- UNT Calendar
- UNT Sports
- Discover Denton
- Things to do in DFW
- Trip Advisor
- Denton County Transportation Authority
- UNT Transportation Services

Friday, February 21: **International Mother Language Day** from 2-5 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Wednesday, February 26: **NationaliTEA South Korea** at 3:30 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Wednesday, March 18: **UNT World Fair** from 3-5 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Wednesday, March 25: **World Brew: Germany** at 3:30 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Friday, March 27: **Global EncoUNTers Pakistan** at 4 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Wednesday, April 8: **World Brew: Italy** at 3:30 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Thursday, April 9: **Global EncoUNTers Brazil** at 4 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

Friday, April 24: **Global EncoUNTers Chile** at 4 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

J-1s and J-2s are invited to join us each Friday

from Noon to 1 p.m. to practice English language speaking

and fluency at English Conversation CommUNiTy!

Program is held in Marquis Hall 130.

English Conversation
CommUNiTy

J-1 Exchange Student Highlight: Louis Sevrin

Louis Sevrin,
J-1 Exchange Student

My name is Louis, I am currently a J-1 Exchange Student at the University of North Texas. I come from France – University of Tours, and I had the amazing opportunity to come here for 2 semesters. My major is Mechanical and Energy Engineering where I study very interesting courses such as composite materials, aerospace fundamentals and finite element analysis. Beside engineering, I also take courses of aviation logistics to learn useful things about passenger and cargo airlines.

Something that I really appreciate is the fact that I can choose courses I want to study, which I cannot do in my home university. Moreover, I really like the immersion in an American campus. Before to come, I did not expect the campus to be that big.

When I arrived in August 2019, an orientation day has been organized by UNT where I met a lot of exchange students from different countries in the world that are now my friends. With them, I attended several Mean Green Football games at Apogee Stadium. The atmosphere during the matches was awesome, with students supporting the players and an orchestra playing songs. I also watched a UNT basketball game and went to a NASCAR race. These were among many other things I did to discover American culture.

A place where I love to go in Denton is called the Square. There you can go for a walk, savor an ice cream during summertime, eat pizzas and burgers with your friends and even enjoy a night in a country bar with a band playing music. I was able to taste American food and Tex-Mex dishes. My experience in Texas has been wonderful so far, and I will never forget this exchange year at UNT.

Louis we're so glad you are enjoying your time here at UNT and thank you, International Affairs Study Abroad office for making these student exchanges possible!

Contact

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Nancy Dreessen, Senior Immigration Advisor (J-1 Specialist)
Nancy.Dreessen@unt.edu

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Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm

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