# WELCOME TO TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

International Student Pre- Orientation Information – An introduction to the International Student Affairs Office!

Spring 2015

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO TRUMAN...

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVmvQguOrvo

#### MEET THE ISAO STAFF







# Bri Rhodes International Student Advisor

Bri helps to provide student support for immigration, insurance, and many other services for current Truman international students

BRhodes@truman.edu

# Kelsey Jensen International Admissions Coordinator

Kelsey coordinates recruitment and admissions services for all prospective and incoming international students

KJensen@truman.edu

## Melanee Crist Assistant Director for International Education

Melanee oversees the entire International Student Affairs Office. She works with top level Truman leadership to recruit and support international students.

## **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to recruit a diverse and highly qualified international student population and empower them to be successful at Truman and throughout their lives.

## The ISAO is...

- -Part family member
- -Part advisor
- -Part mentor
- -Part teacher
- -Part guide
- -Part enforcer
- -Part friend

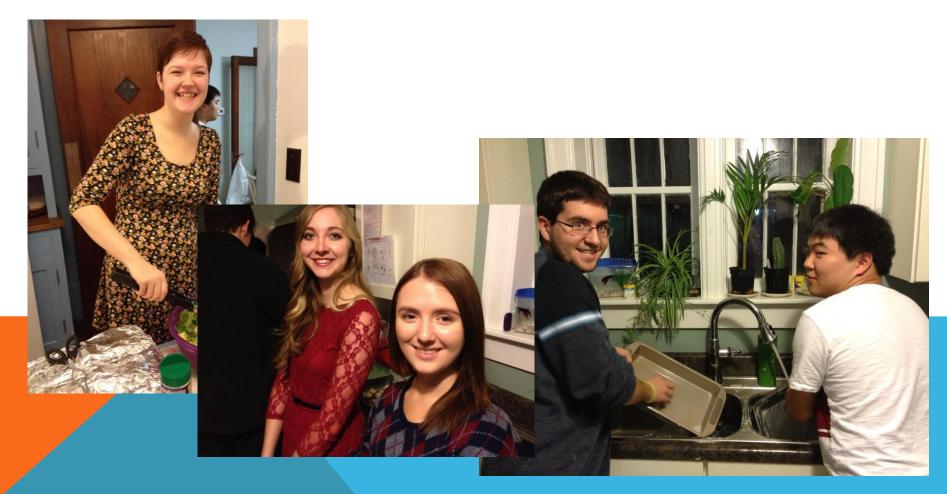
#### **ISAO SUPPORT: OUR OFFICE**



#### **CULTURAL INTEGRATION LEADERS**

Coordinator: Alicia Knobelock

Co-Coordinator: Samantha Collins



#### **CULTURAL INTEGRATION LEADERS**

Cultural Integration Leaders (or CILs, for short) serve international students in their halls and off-campus.

Each international student will have an assigned CIL. You will meet this person when you arrive at Truman.

CILs' duties include helping their students arrange transportation for running essential errands, and helping students deal with some American processes such as applying for a social security number or figuring out how to go about paying bills. CILs are on call to help you if you have a problem!

#### **INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS**



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International Ambassadors serve to help new international students better integrate to US life. Their first hand experience can help new students feel more comfortable. Don't hesitate to contact international ambassadors with questions you might not feel comfortable asking an American.

International Ambassadors also attend campus events to help American students and international students better understand one another.

### **ACADEMIC SUCCESS MENTORS**



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Academic Success Mentors (or ASMs, for short) are assigned to first year students to meet for thirty minutes a week to help students adapt to an American classroom environment and develop the necessary skills to excel. They are a great resource for learning about study skills, classroom etiquette, and general advice concerning academic matters. If you will be first year student, you will be contacted by your mentor at the beginning of the school year.

THE ISAO WILL REQUIRE YOUR **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION DURING ORIENTATION. MAKE SURE** YOU HAVE THE NAME, ADDRESS, **EMAIL, AND PHONE NUMBER OF A** PERSON WE CAN CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

## EMERGENCIES – WHEN CAN I EXPECT IMMEDIATE HELP FROM THE ISAO?

#### What is an emergency?

- a family tragedy
- car accident
- getting arrested
- being hospitalized

#### What is NOT an emergency?

- Do you have my grades?
- Did my work permit come in?
- Will you be in your office tomorrow?
- I forgot to have my I-20 signed and I'm leaving tonight!

Orientation: There are many specific issues that international students face. Orientation is designed to help students understand their responsibilities concerning their immigration status, being good students, and learning about the resources available to them. You MUST understand the rules governing your student visa in order to remain a legal student n the United States.

#### Wednesday, January 7th, 2015

•Arrival – Be in Kirksville by 5pm. Note that you may not be able to arrive in the United States on January 7<sup>th</sup> and arrive in Kirksville on the same day. Travel within the U.S. can be very slow. We recommend allowing yourself one day to travel just within the United States.

#### Thursday, January 8th, 2015

Check in and Orientation! You must be on campus at 8:00am!

#### Friday, January 9th - Sunday, January 11th, 2015

**Orientation Continues** 

#### Monday, January 12th, 2015

Classes begin!