

# **WELCOME TO TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**International Student Pre-Arrival  
Orientation – An introduction to the  
Center for International Students!**

# MEET THE CIS STAFF



## Melanee Crist

### Director of the Center for International Students

Melanee oversees the entire Center for International Students. She works with top level Truman leadership to recruit and support international students.

## Brittney Robinson

### International Admissions Coordinator

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

## Michael Cummings

### Assistant Director

Michael aids the Director in managing the overall operation of the Center for International Students, including international student recruitment, admission, student services, and mandatory federal reporting and compliance

## Nicole Stelter

### International Student Advisor

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

# INTERNS



Elizabeth Berendzen  
Student Support Intern & Graduate  
Teaching Assistant



Zoe Fish  
Admissions &  
Recruitment Intern

# 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 CIS is...

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

# CIS SUPPORT: OUR OFFICE



# CULTURAL INTEGRATION LEADERS

Co-Coordinator: Rachel Flynn Haley  
Sirokman



## 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

Co-Coordinator: Philipp Wirth &  
Grace Chen



# INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS

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

Co-Coordinator: Ilennah Fanega &  
Arianna Hetland



# ACADEMIC SUCCESS MENTORS

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 CIS 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 CIS?

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 in the United States.

**Friday, January 12, 2018**

•**Arrival** – Be in Kirksville by 5pm. Note that you may not be able to arrive in the United States on January 12<sup>th</sup> and arrive in Kirksville on the same day. Travel within the U.S. can take longer than you expect. We recommend allowing yourself one day to travel within the United States.



**Saturday, January 13, 2018 – Sunday, January 14, 2018**

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

**Monday, January 15, 2018**

• the Truman Transformation Experience

**Tuesday, January 16, 2018**

•Classes Begin!