

## International Students Needs Assessment

### Key Findings:

We found the following key findings to be especially important :

- International students would like more assistance with tax preparation.
- Most international students fund their own education with personal funds and are seeking assistance with scholarships.
- Most graduate students believed the CPT fee was unnecessary and felt it could be eliminated.
- The International Center needs to improve how it welcomes new international students to our campus.
- Many students asked for more career-related workshops and professional development seminars.
- When asked about the International Center's website, most students said the website is difficult to navigate.

### Actions Taken:

The data from the annual survey is useful in examining our policies and programs. This year we have made progress toward the following improvements:

- A workshop for students and scholars on visas will be held each semester to support students with understanding the process of filing taxes in the U.S. The International Center is investigating a software package used by other universities to assist students with filing their taxes.
- Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, The International Center is pleased to announce the establishment of a scholarship fund for international students who face unexpected costs related to tuition and books. Awards will generally be in the amount of \$500. Initially, it is anticipated 10-15 scholarships will be available, with the goal of expanding the numbers as we seek additional fund for the program.
- The International Center has agreed to cover the \$25 fee charged to graduate students to renew their CPT authorization letter.
- The International Center hired two new staff members to strengthen our immigration advising and customer service.
- Continue to provide career related workshops for international students at both the undergraduate and graduate level.
- We are revamping our website in an effort to further improve our outreach to the campus and international community we serve.