








## STUDENT SEPTEMBER CHECKLIST

### Have you already....

-  Submitted copies of your **VISA, Passport, I-20 and I-94** to Jessica if you're in the states on Student VISA?
-  Set up a Teams meeting with Jessica for September , Emailing her your date/time options?
-  Attended Events around campus?
-  Verified with Jessica if you are an International Undergraduate currently taking 9+ hours in person and if an International Graduate student taking 6+ hours in person?
-  Emailed [Michael.Stewart@mga.edu](mailto:Michael.Stewart@mga.edu) Giving your permission for him to enroll you in UHC insurance coverage? It's NOT enough just to pay the fee-all international students must email him with each semester their permission to let him Enroll you in order to receive benefits!



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## Student Check-In Success in Cochran and Macon



International Student Coordinator Jessica Arnold and some of our Mighty Macon International Students International Student Check-Ins went extremely well in August to welcome all on-campus international students and give opportunity to turn in needed copies of key documents such as VISAs, I-20s, I-94s, and Passports for University records. Students learned from key partners at the University what services are available to enhance their experience such as Library services, Student Affair services, Important news on Insurance or

“Ship”, Campus Security and more! We look forward to seeing everyone back for Spring 2024 semester Check-Ins to update students on new exciting things here at Middle Georgia State University. Thank you to all who attended and presented.

Do you know a fellow international student who should be our October Star Student of the Month who exhibits all four of our university values?

Engagement  
Adaptability  
Learning  
and  
Stewardship?

We want to hear from you!



Faculty/Staff and Students: Please Email nominations by Sept 22, with your recommended international student's name, if they are involved in any clubs, sports or other fun organization here at MGA, and how they reflect all four of our values to:

[Jessica.Arnold1@mga.edu](mailto:Jessica.Arnold1@mga.edu)

Or

[ISS@mga.edu](mailto:ISS@mga.edu)



Rafal Wlodarczyk is a sophomore here on our Cochran campus.

He plays on our Knights soccer team and is passionate about the sport, along with his classes focusing on his bachelor's degree in film. His 3.44 GPA is an impressive demonstration of our value "**Learning.**" He also juggles a busy schedule with practice, classes and games for our Men's Knights Soccer team. He responds quickly to all communication with coaches, International Support Service Members, as well as Professors. This sense of urgency to complete necessary tasks and goals is a true reflection

of "**Adaptability.**" Rafal was timely in providing necessary documentation for MGA records as requested. Despite him being sick at the time he still made it happen; much to ISS appreciation.

**"What I love about Middle Georgia State University's Cochran campus is the small-town atmosphere."**

**~R. Wlodarczyk**

His infectious positive attitude with all happenings within ISS and on the field reflect a high level of his "**Engagement.**"

## ISS STAR STUDENT OF THE MONTH: Rafal Wlodarczyk

*We select an international student each month who has clearly demonstrated our four MGA values of Engagement, Adaptability, Learning and Stewardship.*

In conclusion Rafal Wlodarczyk is committed to participate in our upcoming International Student Expo later this fall to demonstrate his love for his home country of Poland. It is this type of attitude that lets us know he's likely to be first in line to participate in upcoming "**Stewardship**" events such as our University Day of Service to give back to the local "small town" of Cochran, GA.

**Congratulations**

**Rafal Wlodarczyk,**

representing our four core values at MGA and being selected as our "International Star Student of the Month of September 2023".

# MGA Knights Spirit Night @ FALL LINE BREWING CO.



Tuesday, Sept. 26  
5:30-8PM

Join us at Fall Line for Knights Spirit Night and show your support for athletics. It's going to be a great time with good company and a fun atmosphere!  
**Don't miss out!**

\*A percentage of your tab will be donated back to MGA Knights Athletics.



## Did You Know?

### FUN INTERNATIONAL FACTS:

\*In the United States 12% of university student bodies consist of International Students- and numbers are increasing year over year.

\*96% of students who have "Studied Abroad" report having increased self-confidence

\*27% of international students are enrolled in STEM programs. Those majoring in STEM programs have the option to work post-graduation (OPT) and can potentially remain in the United States up to 3 additional years!

Email

[Jessica.Arnold1@mga.edu](mailto:Jessica.Arnold1@mga.edu)

Or [Kendra.Russell@mga.edu](mailto:Kendra.Russell@mga.edu)

to attend our:

### **Fall CPT/OPT Seminars**

Learn how to best approach employment both during and after completing your program:

**Oct 6<sup>th</sup> (M) 9a-11a Career Center – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of SLC**

**and**

**Oct 13<sup>th</sup> (C) 9a-11a Sanford**

**Hall** up with Jessica Arnold your ISC;

Sign up today: Space is limited!

## This Month's Q&A Technology Tips

**Q:** What's an easy way to send updated documents the start of each semester to our International Student Coordinator and/or my International Recruiter?

**A:** Download **FREE** the Adobe Scan app - the fastest, easiest way to hover your phone over a document and automatically snap the photo when it has the entire document in view. The app then gives you the option to email files to be uploaded easily to our system.

**Q:** What's the best translation app that works without internet connection?

**A:** Travel Phrasebook  
With 19 popular Languages, this app is Ideal when you're "off-grid". It covers Fundamental words and phrases travelers need to access in a hurry.



# Fall 2023 Ice Breaker Social

Hosted by ISSA

📅 SEPTEMBER 12

🕒 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

📍 COMMUTER LOUNGE, SLC

## Upcoming Events

### Sept 15-Oct 15<sup>th</sup> is Spanish Heritage Month!

To find out more about how our University is celebrating, please email Ashley Thompson

at: [Ashley.Thompson5@mga.edu](mailto:Ashley.Thompson5@mga.edu)

- **Mon Sept 11<sup>th</sup>-Oct 6<sup>th</sup>: Contact your Advisor NOW to PLAN YOUR SPRING CLASSES!** This is best opportunity for international students to laser in on your in-person required classes, prior to them filling to capacity when regular registration goes live OCT 9th! VERY IMPORTANT-Let's Go!!!
- **Tues Sept 12<sup>th</sup> 3:30p:** Fall 23 Ice Breaker Social connecting International Students with supporters on campus-sponsored by the Around the World Club (M) Commuter lounge 2nd floor- *All Students interested in supporting an International presence on campus please try to attend-we want a group photo!*
- **Wed Sept 13<sup>th</sup> 12:30p:** Are You In? (M) Meeting to share your thoughts on what you feel would make MGA a more welcoming community. SLC.
- **Thurs Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 12:30p:** Are you In? (C) Georgia Hall, Presidential Dining Room Meeting to share your thoughts on what you feel would make MGA a more welcoming community.
- **Tues Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 5p:** MGA Scavenger Hunt, (C) Regent's Hall -prize for fastest team, snacks!
- **Tues Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 12p:** Plate Smashing Event – (M) Write your semester worries on a plate and smash to the ground! Outside SLC
- **Wed Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 7p:** Pool Tournament (C) Harris Hall 7-8pm Prizes for top 3 players.
- **Th Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 5:30p:** MGA SOCCER GAME (C) Nesmith field *WEAR PURPLE TO SUPPORT OUR KNIGHTS!* Email Jessica Arnold if you plan to attend so we can track attendance.
- **Sat Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 1p:** MGA SOCCER GAME (C) Nesmith field *WEAR PURPLE TO SUPPORT OUR KNIGHTS!* Email Jessica Arnold if you plan to attend.

## Meet our Registrar:

### Staff Spotlight on Angie O'Neal

Angie O'Neal is a huge supporter of ISS and its students. With 10 years of experience as a University Registrar she is highly familiar with what it takes for students to succeed is new to us at Middle Georgia State University (June 2023). Angie has made time for multiple planning sessions to elevate ISS (International Student Services) reporting, website, and events with International Student Coordinator, Jessica Arnold. One of Angie's favorite things about working with our international students is,

"...being able to intentionally raise awareness on the value, respect, and diversity of global and intercultural fluency that our students bring to the campus community."

