

UNG GLOBAL

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES (ISSS)
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY
SUMMER

What's in this issue?

Travel Signatures & Tips

Airport Shuttle Dates (Dahlonaga)

Program End Dates: What happens next?

Student Spotlight



[ungglobal](https://www.instagram.com/ungglobal)



[UNGInternationalStudents](https://www.facebook.com/UNGInternationalStudents)



go.ung.edu/iss

TRAVEL TIPS & SIGNATURES

If you are planning to travel internationally for summer break, you must have a valid travel signature on your I-20 or DS-2019.

A travel signature is valid for one year. Without a signature, you may not be able to enter the U.S. upon your return. If you forget to have your I-20 signed before you leave the U.S., you will be responsible for covering the costs of your new document to be sent to you.

If you know you need a travel signature, contact the CGE now to make sure someone will be available to sign your document for travel.

Don't forget your travel signature!

AIRPORT SHUTTLE DATES FOR FALL

The CGE will offer start-of-the-semester airport transportation for Fall 2019 on August 9, 2019. The shuttle will leave the Atlanta airport at 11:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (1700 hours). If you cannot arrange a flight to arrive prior to 5:00 p.m. (1700 hours) on that Friday, you should arrive on Thursday and make arrangements to stay in a hotel or at the airport until the first shuttle pick-up on Friday morning.

More information regarding fall shuttles and early move-in, including the link to sign up, will be provided in July.

Important note: The CGE reserves the right to reschedule your selected drop-off time to another shuttle that works with your flight time in order to maximize use of transportation.

PROGRAM END DATES

All international students, scholars, and exchange visitors have a program end date listed on their I-20 or DS-2019. You might be wondering what you should do once this date starts coming near. There are several things you should know and [several options for updating your documents to avoid being out of status when this date arrives](#).

- Extend your program
- Change your education level
- Apply for Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Transfer to a new institution to start a new program or finish your current one
- Complete your degree at UNG and depart the U.S. to return home.

Once your program end date occurs, you have a [grace period](#) to remain in the U.S. After this grace period ends, if you have not taken steps to begin a new program, participate in OPT, or departed the country, you will begin to accrue unlawful presence.

Grace Periods

F Visa holders: 60 days

J Visa holders: 30 days

It is also important to notify your international advisor if you complete your program before your program end date so that your record and documents can be properly updated.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

- **First day of class, Fall 2019:** August 19
- [Final exam schedule](#)
- [Tuition & Fee Payment Deadline](#) for summer and fall

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



NAME: Maria

CAMPUS: Ocone

MAJOR: Communications

WHERE I'M FROM: I am from Lagos State, Nigeria. Although Lagos State is not the capital of Nigeria, it is the commercial hub of Nigeria. The capital of Nigeria is Abuja.

WHAT I MISS MOST ABOUT HOME: I miss my mum, my dad, my siblings, and my friends back home. I also miss working with young children back home in Nigeria where I used to be a teacher in a middle school.

WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT UNG: I love the community feel that UNG has. Each person that I have met at UNG, from faculty to staff to students, are so kind, welcoming, and ever ready to help. When I was leaving my country to come to the U.S., I was not very sure of how I was going to settle into studying in an entirely new country, but the community atmosphere here at UNG has helped me in settling into college very easily, and now I consider UNG my family away from home!

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

I am one of the student ambassadors/representatives who give tours to prospective students on the Ocone campus. I am also a member of SGA. I am a member of the Habitat for Humanity club on the Ocone campus, and I joined them in building a house in Mobile, Alabama, during Spring Break 2018. Participating in this project with Habitat for Humanity was a very fulfilling experience, because it helped in providing homes to people and to prevent homelessness.

FUTURE CAREER PLANS: My dream is to become a beacon of hope to less-privileged children and youth in my country in Nigeria in the area of providing educational services to them. I want to use my communication degree to start up a communication school in Nigeria to empower young people to become literate in learning and communicating in the English language in an effective way. Many of the children who come from less-privileged homes in Nigeria are usually unable to afford a good education. This, therefore, increases the illiteracy levels. This is why I want to go back to my country to provide educational services in the area of communication.

Would you like to be featured in a future edition of our newsletter? [Email Ronda](#) to let her know!