



OCTOBER 2024

# Monthly Newsletter

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

Saint Louis University



## What Does “OIS” Stand For? The OIS Re-brand!

OIS stands for “Office of International Services.”

You might see OIS on International Ambassador t-shirts, in your advisor’s email signature, or in other communication around campus.

Moving forward, OIS will be emphasizing the use of this acronym to streamline our communication and to shorten our office’s longer name when speaking.

Examples of when you might see or hear the Office of International Services acronym, OIS:

- OIS advisor
  - This is your international services advisor. Your OIS advisor is listed as part of your success team in EAB.

- OIS portal
  - The portal can be found on the OIS website. This is where you submit requests for things like travel signatures and letters. Click the link to visit the webpage which contains the [OIS portal!](#)
- OIS appointment
  - Your OIS appointment will be located in Des Peres Hall, Room 102 on the first floor.

Try using the OIS acronym in your next conversation!

Enjoy this month’s newsletter!

*Office of International Services*

In this newsletter you can expect:

Immigration Reminders

Student Spotlight

OIS + SLU Events

Things to do in STL and Surrounding Area

Test Your Knowledge - Quiz

OIS Contact





Saint Louis University  
Petition for Leave of Absence

Form #4

**Section 1 Student**

Student Name	Student ID	Student Email
Primary Program/Major	Total Earned Hours	Student Phone #

**Section 2 Period of Leave**

Semester to Leave (fall/winter/spring/summer and year) \_\_\_\_\_  
 A leave of absence may only be requested prior to or during the add/drop period of the semester listed above.

Please check if all courses should be dropped for the semester listed above.

Semester to Return (fall/winter/spring/summer and year) \_\_\_\_\_  
 No later than one year from the beginning of the leave.

TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT

This page, when properly endorsed, may be used for re-entry of the student to : endorsement is valid for one year.

Designated School Official	TITLE	SIGNATURE
_____	_____	X
_____	_____	X
_____	_____	X
_____	_____	X

## Extended Absences During the Semester and Travel Signatures

As a SLU international student, you are expected to reside in St. Louis during the Fall and Spring semesters. Unfortunately, federal regulations do not allow you to study remotely outside of the United States while maintaining your international student status. If you are considering an extended absence during the Fall, you may need to take a leave of absence (LOA).

You should discuss your plans with your OIS Advisor before making any travel decisions.

### Travel Signatures:

If you plan to travel outside of the United States over Winter Break (or any other time), you must request a travel signature.

OIS will begin processing Winter Break travel signature requests after November 11th, 2024.

Travel signature walk-in days, to receive a travel signature in-person, will begin in mid-November and will be located in OIS. Keep an eye out for more information!



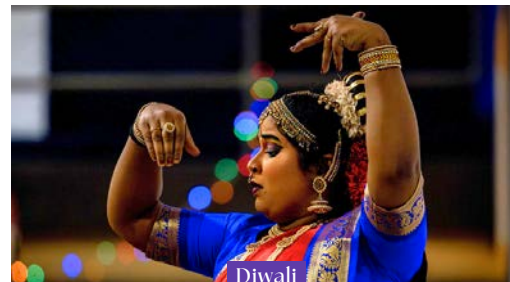
Meet: Grace

Photo by: Ashish Kande

## Student Spotlight

Name: Grace Biju Thomas  
Level: Graduate - First Year  
Major: Public Health

Grace is currently a Research Assistant in the Family Medicine Department for SSM Health. She is also the Student Head Representative of the Behavioral Science and Health Equity department. Recently, Grace was invited by Forbes to attend the Under 30 Summit. In her free-time, Grace is the Social Co-Chair of the SLU Association of Public Health (SAPH). Grace is a leader in the Public Health community - we are so proud of you!



Diwali

## OIS Upcoming Events

### OIS Essentials 2 (US Elections) + 3 (Immigration Rules)

Date: 2 - 10/22/2024 | 3 - 10/29/2024  
Time: 2 - 2:00 p.m. | 3 - 3:00 p.m.  
Location: 2 - CGC | 3 - CGC

### OIS Trick-or-Treat

Date: 10/31/2024  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Location: OIS - Des Peres Hall 102

### Diwali

Date: 11/01/2024  
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Location: CGC

**\*performers needed - contact Brooke Armstrong**





## Things to Do: SLU, STL, + Surrounding Area



### Six Flags - Fright Fest

Date: September 13th - November 3rd

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Location: Six Flags - Eureka, MO

Price: \$70 = one-day ticket and haunted maze pass

Get into the spooky spirit! Ride rides and walk through the haunted maze for a frighteningly good time! For tickets and more information, visit this [link](#).



### Saint Louis Zoo - Boo at the Zoo

Date: October 10th - 30th

Time: Nightly, 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Saint Louis Zoo - Stl, MO

Price: \$15

Festive decorations, entertainers, specialty food and drinks, and more! \*This is a great event for children! Ticket [link](#).



### The Darkness - Haunted House (Graduate Student Initiatives)

Date: October 18th

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Location: The Darkness - Stl, MO

Price: \$10 (when purchased from SLU Graduate Student Initiatives)

The Darkness has been rated on of the best haunted houses in the county! A limited number of tickets are available for this event. Although you can purchase tickets for the haunted house through their website, SLU is offering them at a discounted rate! SLU ticket [link](#). The Darkness ticket [link](#).



### Gateway Arch - Frights and Heights

Date: October 19th

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Location: Gateway Arch Visitor Center - Stl, MO

Price: Free entry + \$20 tram ride (registration required)

Wear your best Halloween costume to this family-friendly event! The arch is hosting a spooky party! Kids are encouraged to know a joke to trick-or-treat. Registration [link](#).



### Historic Saint Charles - Pumpkin Glow

Date: October 25th + 26th

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Historic Main Street - Saint Charles, MO

Price: Free

Visit Historic Main Street St. Charles for a spook-tacular event with pumpkins! Stores are open late to get some scary good deals. The street will be illuminated with hundreds of glowing pumpkins. [Link](#).





## Newsletter Quiz - Prize Opportunity

Did you read the entire newsletter? If so, this is your chance to test your knowledge to potentially win a prize!

A quiz will be posted at the end of each newsletter about the content: immigration, events, etc....

The highest correct scores will be entered for the chance to win a small prize. One prize will be awarded per newsletter.

A new quiz will be posted each month. Quiz results will be posted in the next month's newsletter.

Winners will be notified via email. If the winner does not claim their prize within a week of being emailed, a new student will be chosen.

Quiz link: [QUIZ](#)



## Student Spotlight Nominations

The next Student Spotlight could be you! Submit a nomination for yourself or a friend by scanning the QR code below, or by clicking the link.

SLU International Students can be nominated for ANY positive reason - good grades, a unique talent, helping in the community, obtaining a great internship, etc...

Students who are selected for a Student Spotlight will receive an email from OIS. The chosen student will need to report to OIS to have a professional photo taken within the dates/times listed in the email. If the student nominated does not appear for their photo, a new student will be selected in their place.

Nomination link: [FORM](#)



*Thank you for reading!*

### **OFFICE HOURS**

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

### **CONTACT US**

PHONE: +1 314-977-2318

Email: [internationalservices@slu.edu](mailto:internationalservices@slu.edu)

### **ADDRESS**

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### **FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!**

[@sluinternationalservices](#)

