Dear international students and scholars,

If you are planning to travel abroad this holiday season, now is the time to make sure you have your immigration documents in order before winter break. Please note that OISS will close for winter break on December 22 and re-open on January 2, 2018.

Before you travel abroad this holiday season, be sure to complete the following:

1. **Check your visa expiration date:** In order to re-enter the U.S., you must have a valid visa in your passport. If your visa has expired you will need to apply for a new visa at a **U.S. consulate or embassy** abroad.

2. **Check whether you have a valid travel signature on your I-20 or DS-2019:** Travel Signatures cannot be more than one-year-old on the date of re-entry to the U.S. If your travel signature expires before the date of re-entry to the US, please come see OISS for one of our **Travel Signature Days** to have your I-20 or DS-2019 signed before leaving the U.S.

3. **Remember to bring your most current and original I-20 or DS-2019:** When entering the U.S. you will need to show your original immigration documents, including an I-20 or DS-2019 with original signatures.

4. **Check your passport expiration date:** Please ensure that your passport will not expire sooner than six months from your re-entry date. If your passport expires in less than six months, you may be denied re-entry to the U.S.

*Citizens of Iran, Somalia, Chad, Yemen, Venezuela, Syria, North Korea and Libya please be aware of the restrictions on certain types of travel due to the travel ban. For more information, please see the [OISS Executive Order on Immigration webpage](#).*

**What to expect at the US Consulates and Re-entry into the U.S.:**

- **Plan for possible visa issuance delays at U.S. consulates:** During the holiday travel season, U.S. consulates overseas are busier than ever and may have reduced hours.

- **Plan for possible delays during the visa application process:** If you will apply for a new visa before returning to the United States, be prepared for lengthier wait times and the possibility that your application will be flagged for enhanced security checks.

- **At the U.S. port of entry, be prepared for enhanced security screening procedures:** You may be subject to increased questioning about your immigration status, travel history, the purpose of your visit, background, employment and other issues.

- **Obtain your Form I-94 arrival record:** After your arrival in the US, please review and print your I-94 online for accuracy. You may access your I-94 online [here](#).

Remember, OISS is here to help! If you have any questions, regarding travel and re-entry to the U.S., please do not hesitate to contact our office.

We wish you a wonderful holiday break!