Memorandum

To:  
- New GW F-1 students admitted for Summer 2015 or Fall Semester 2015  
- New GW J-1 exchange visitors admitted for Summer 2015 or Fall Semester 2015  
- Continuing GW F-1 students  
- Continuing GW J-1 exchange visitors  
- GW graduates engaged in F-1 post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT)  
- GW graduates engaged in J-1 post-completion Academic Training (AT)

From:  The GW International Services Office (ISO)

Date:  June 23, 2015

Subject:  SEVIS Outage Later this Month

The SEVIS Outage. The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) will be off-line for a number of days as the federal government installs a significant new release or version of SEVIS software on its servers. The outage is scheduled to occur during the weekend of June 26-28 but could extend into Monday, June 29. Since some federal and state government systems are dependent upon SEVIS for information, the effects of the outage will include other systems and could extend into or beyond Monday, June 29, as SEVIS comes back on-line and other systems are synchronized with it. There could therefore be interruptions or delays in the following business processes:

- SEVIS fee payment
- Visas – applications and issuance
- Immigration Inspection – at international airports and other U.S. “ports of entry”  
  (For additional information, please go to the end of this message.)
- U.S. Driver’s License – application, issuance and renewal
- Social Security Card – application
- E-Verify – employment eligibility verification look-ups
- GW ISO – all business processes related to SEVIS and SEVIS records

Recommendation. We recommend that all admitted and current GW international students and exchange visitors make plans not to engage in the business processes listed above from 8:00 PM EST on Friday, June 26, to 8:00 AM EST on Tuesday, June 30.

(continued on next page)
Additional information on the effects of the SEVIS outage may be found at:

If you have any questions, please contact your ISO International Student Advisor:
http://internationalservices.gwu.edu/advising-assignments

Additional Information
on
Immigration Inspection at International Airports and Other U.S. “Ports of Entry”

- **Note:** This information applies only to new and continuing F-1 students and J-1 exchange visitors who arrive in the U.S. on June 26, 27, 28, or 29 of this year.

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) Officers working immigration inspection will have access to information on students and exchange visitors, but that information will not be up-to-date.

- You may be sent to “secondary inspection” for processing.

- USCBP officers in secondary inspection will not have access to SEVIS.

- If a USCBP officer in secondary inspection informs you that you may not be allowed to enter the U.S., ask the officer to contact the GW Police Department and ask that they have someone from the International Services Office (ISO) telephone the USCBP officer to provide additional information the officer might find helpful in making a decision.