



The Weekly Update is the primary means of communicating general announcements and events to students by the SCI Student Services group. The Weekly Update will be sent to all students each week from the beginning of the Fall semester until commencement in May.

> Announcements

Hacking 4 Humanity: The Problem of Online Hate

Online hate is on the rise, leading to real-world devastating effects on individuals and communities around the world. Join the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and Duquesne University students at a multidisciplinary hackathon from March 18 - March 24 to develop new tech and policy solutions that mitigate online hate and create safer communities. If interested, please [access this page](#) to learn more and register.

Writing Center Assistance Just for SCI Grad Students

Zack Fish in the Writing Center has five hours available each week reserved specifically for you! He is available to meet online and coach you through effective writing techniques. He can work with you from the planning stage all the way to publication.

Keep in mind that although part of his role will be to help with grammar and word choice issues, he is not an editor! Instead, he will talk with you about writing and help you strategize the use of the best communication techniques.

If interested, please visit [the Writing Center site](#) and use their online scheduler to set up an appointment with Zack.

Free Opera Tickets!

An IS faculty member, Mike Lewis, and his wife Katia (a CMU faculty member), have graciously offered to pay for tickets for SCI grad students to see the opera [Il Trovatore](#)! Performances available for free tickets are either March 28 at 7:00 p.m. OR March 31 at 7:30 p.m. While this opera can have a variety of sets and interpretations, [here is a sample](#) (from the Met) of a famous chorus from this opera.

If you are interested, please join the Pittsburgh Opera and SCI and CMU School of Computer Science colleagues by [reserving your free ticket here](#)!

Need some extra space to study?

There are study spaces available to students across Pitt's campus. Please check [here](#) for various options.

Events

March 15 | Equal Pay Day/Salary Negotiation Workshop for Tech Students

This virtual workshop, offered from 1:00 - 1:50 p.m., offers students the chance to learn the finer points of salary negotiation, how to evaluate and translate your value to an employer, and how to manage multiple job offers. If interested, [please register here](#).

March 16 | Preparing for Optional Practical Training (OPT) Application- F-1 Students in SCI

If you plan to work in the United States after graduation, you'll need to apply for OPT (Optional Practical Training) to gain work authorization in the U.S. This meeting, offered from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., will focus on the application process from the timeline to apply to the documents you need to submit the government. Join this presentation if you will be applying for OPT this semester or if you plan to apply in the future. If interested please [register here](#).

March 28 | CPT/ OPT Work Authorizations for SCI International Students

In this virtual presentation, offered from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., we will review the eligibility requirements, the process to apply and timelines for F-1 Curricular Practical Training (CPT), the authorization for internships before graduation and F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT), the authorization to work in the U.S. after graduation. If interested, please [register here](#).

March 28 | Dean's Spotlight Series: "Harnessing human-AI synergy to make the smart classroom more human and effective" - 5 – 7 p.m.

Join alumnus Vincent Alevan (Professor, Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University) and the Intelligent Systems Program for the fourth installment in this series. Refreshments will be served. All students are welcome! [RSVP here](#) to attend virtually or in person.

March 30 | SheLeads Women's Forum - 3 - 6 p.m

All students are invited to attend! Join Dr. Catherine Marsh (Director, IARPA) for the keynote address, "Empowerment Through Opportunity", followed by a reception with refreshments and a panel discussion featuring women leaders in technology, moderated by Provost Ann E. Cudd. [RSVP Here](#)

March 31 | AWS Pittsburgh Cloud Computing Student Gathering

Amazon Web Services (AWS) [Academic Advocacy](#) will be in town in the William Pitt Union Lower Lounge and eager to meet with students in the Greater Pittsburgh Area! Students will learn about cloud computing through a hands-on activity and discuss career pathways with a panel of AWS employees.

Space is limited, so please [register through Amazon](#) as soon as possible if interested!

April 1 | SCI 5th Year Anniversary Celebration of Students!

We invite all SCI students, faculty, and staff to celebrate the excellence of our students with us on Saturday, April 1, from 11:00 am. - 2:00 p.m. at the [Phipps Conservatory](#). Lunch will be included, as well as 5th Anniversary giveaway items, and you can tour the Phipps' 5 Senses of Splendor flower show while you are there! **If interested, PLEASE [RSVP HERE BY MARCH 24](#).**

April 29 | SCI Graduate Recognition Ceremony

The Spring 2023 SCI Graduate Recognition Ceremony will be held on-campus from 2 - 4:30 p.m. on the first floor of Lawrence Hall. This will include a formal School-wide ceremony as well as a reception/social hour with light refreshments. All graduates who are graduating this Spring 2023 term and [have applied to graduate](#) will be emailed an RSVP invitation and more details THIS WEEK!

Additionally, Student Services will be reaching out to those who may graduate this summer with an invitation for them to attend the Spring Ceremony as well.

For a full list of upcoming SCI events, visit the [SCI calendar](#).

> Deadlines

Don't forget to apply to graduate!

If you are graduating this term, you MUST apply to graduate, [which you can do here](#). Please note that [applying has deadlines](#) - if you apply late you will be charged a late fee. If you apply too late, you will need to wait to apply to a future term and will not receive your diploma until after the end of that term!

For those graduating in Spring 2023, the absolute latest deadline is April 1. If you do not apply by then, you will not be able to apply and get your diploma until the end of the summer!!!!

For students planning to graduate in Summer 2023, the absolute latest deadline is August 1. If you do not apply by then, you will not be able to apply and get your diploma until the end of December!!!!

For a full list of upcoming deadlines, visit the [University's Academic Calendar](#).

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