Dear %name%,

My name is Diane Cahill, and I am the director of International Student and Faculty Services (ISFS) at Ohio University. Congratulations on your admission and welcome to the Ohio University community!

We hope that you and your family are staying healthy and safe during this unprecedented global crisis. Ohio University has been practicing safe social distancing during the COVID-19 outbreak and took a phased approach to re-opening for Fall semester.

Ohio University leadership is still working to determine the best educational mode for our students for Spring. The goal is to return to face to face classes. ISFS will update you as Ohio University determines the plan for Spring semester.

If you’d like to learn more about Ohio University’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic please see our website.

Since ISFS will be an important part of your Ohio University experience, I want to explain the services we provide. While you will have an program advisor to answer academic questions and help you choose classes, ISFS advisors can provide you with support specific to international students. ISFS helps with immigration matters, acts as a liaison with sponsoring agencies and foreign governments, and provides information on campus and community services.

ISFS offers walk-in appointments with an advisor, currently virtually, when you just need a quick answer. Or you can schedule a longer appointment if needed.

I know you have a lot of planning and preparation to do for your arrival on campus. One of the first things you should do is obtain your visa and ensure you have a valid passport. Visit our website for more information on the visa process.

ISFS organizes the International Student Orientation that you are required to attend January 11-14. Currently, ISFS is planning to conduct orientation virtually for Spring. You will receive a calendar of events and orientation registration instructions very soon.

You can also find updates about our orientation programs through the ISFS website, Facebook, and Twitter. Learn more about the ISFS staff by visiting our virtual office! I look forward to seeing you on campus soon!

Sincerely,

Diane Cahill

International Student and Faculty Services