

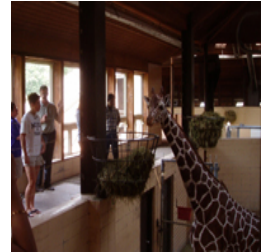
# Social Activities



For evenings and weekends during the IOSP Short Course, there are many opportunities for recreation and social activities in Omaha and the surrounding area. The course directors arrange several activities each year for the entire group, but many of the participants also pursue their own interests together with other students from the course. A welcome and get-

acquainted picnic is held the first night at one of the faculty homes, and there is a banquet on the last night of the course at one of Omaha's many fine restaurants.

Group activities the past two years have included a night of baseball with the Omaha Royals, a visit to the animal facilities and a behind-the-scenes tour of Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, an evening of shopping and socializing in the popular Old Market area, and a late night jam session at a local jazz club.



Other cultural opportunities in Omaha include the world-class [Joslyn Art Museum](#), the [Durham Museum](#), and numerous playhouses and music venues. In addition to the shopping and nightlife in the Old Market area, there are other neighborhood areas with unique shops, galleries and restaurants, as well as numerous malls and antique shops.

For outdoor activities, there are several trail systems within Omaha for jogging, biking, or roller-blading. On the outskirts of Omaha are several large lakes with hiking and biking trails, and the Wabash Trace allows biking all the way to Kansas City and beyond!

The [UNMC fitness center](#) facilities can be used by IOSP students, including basketball and weight-training equipment.

Activities within a short drive of Omaha include [Mahoney](#) and [Platte River](#) State Parks, with beautiful scenery and diverse recreational activities, and the [Strategic Air Command and Space Exploration museum](#). Lincoln and the main campus of the [University of Nebraska](#), home of the [Cornhuskers](#), are about a 45-minute drive away. There are several large casinos in Iowa, across the Missouri River just a few minutes from UNMC, providing big-name musical groups as well as gambling. Whatever your favorite leisure and recreational activities, you will find much to enjoy in Omaha.