Table of Contents

Introduction to the ISSU and MSAN .................. 1
Meet the Officers: ISSU ................................. 2
Meet the Officers: MSAN ............................... 3
Officers' Pictures ........................................ 4
Email Lists ............................................... 5
Musalla ..................................................... 5
Prayer Times ............................................. 6
Qibla ....................................................... 6
Spiritual Programming ................................... 6
Jumu’ah .................................................... 8
Halal Food ............................................... 8
Ramadan .................................................. 9
Islamic Awareness Series (IAS) ...................... 9
ISSU Social Events ..................................... 10
Thank God It’s Jumu’ah (TGIJ) ...................... 10
ISSU Community Service Events ................... 11
Other Related Organizations ....................... 11
Fun Off-Campus ....................................... 12
Transportation Off-Campus ......................... 12
Local Mosques ......................................... 13
Introduction to the ISSU and MSAN

Assalamu Alaikum and welcome to Stanford! Stanford University prides itself on its diversity and the same can be said about our Muslim community! Stanford’s two Islamic organizations, the Islamic Society of Stanford University (ISSU) and the Muslim Student Awareness Network (MSAN), embrace Muslims from all over the country and all over the world.

Islamic Society of Stanford University (ISSU)

The primary goal of ISSU is to build a strong, close-knit Muslim community. ISSU offers religious and spiritual programming to students on campus as well as social and community events. ISSU is an organization that caters specifically to Stanford’s Muslim community and is responsible for the organization of Jumu’ah prayer, communal Iftars, Majors Night, the Big Sib – Little Sib program, and special events like Golden Gate Fajr and TGIJ (Thank God It’s Jumu’ah).

Muslim Student Awareness Network (MSAN)

MSAN is the branch of the Muslim community that reaches out to the Stanford campus as a whole, focusing on the cultural, political and social justice issues that affect the Muslim world. MSAN works in close conjunction with ISSU, especially to put on yearly programs like the Islamic Awareness Series (IAS). MSAN also works with cultural and political groups all over campus and is renowned for bringing notable speakers like Dr. Sherman Jackson, comedians Dean Obeidallah and Ahmed Ahmed, and Professor John Esposito to campus.
Meet the Officers: ISSU

ISSU PRESIDENT
The ISSU president is responsible for overseeing and coordinating the religious and spiritual, social, and community development programming for Muslims on campus.
Osama El-Gabalawy Class of 2015
osamae@stanford.edu
Osama is a junior tentatively majoring in Biomedical Computation. He likes to play basketball and hanging out with Muslims all day err day. Osama will be an RA in Branner next year and will also be co-president of Night Outreach (a volunteer organization). Hit me up when you get to campus @ 626-200-9504, and let’s grab a drink at Coopa and hang!

ISSU VICE PRESIDENT
The job of the ISSU VP is to assist the President in coordinating events.
Nausheen Mahmood Class of 2014
nmahmood@stanford.edu
Salaam everyone! I am so excited to welcome you all to our lovely Muslim community, and to meet each of you this year! This group has really welcomed me with open arms and I hope we can do the same for you all! I am a rising senior (fourteen!) majoring in Human Biology. My favorite ISSU events are Golden Gate Fajrs, Top Chef, banquets, and study breaks! I basically live on the 3rd floor of Old Union - please come hang out with me so I can get to know you better! :)

ISSU TREASURER
ISSU often plans community and social events that don’t come cheap. The job of the Treasurer is to help maintain ISSU’s budget and distribute reimbursements.
Rebia Khan Class of 2016
rebzkhan@stanford.edu
I am a rising sophomore hoping to major in biology. I am passionate about community service and social justice in our local and global community. Outside of academics, I love horseback riding, hiking, and volunteering.

ISSU COMMUNITY OUTREACH
ISSU has a lot going on and it’s the job of the Calendar Officer to help coordinate dates for events and activities as well as to help publicize these events.
Afroz Zain Algiers Grad Student in Civil & Env Engineering
afroz@stanford.edu
As the ISSU Community Outreach Officer, Afroz is thrilled that you will be joining us this Fall. She recommends that you brace yourselves to be overwhelmed by the amount of love and support you will receive from us at the Muslim community, as you become part of the family. She’s a graduate student specializing in sustainable design & construction, and is from Kerala, India. She likes to dance, write and act in plays, and pretend to be an ace photographer.
Meet the Officers: MSAN

**MSAN PRESIDENT**
The MSAN President, like the ISSU president, oversees all of the events and activities that MSAN puts together.

_Hana Al-Henaid_ Class of 2014
alhenaid@stanford.edu
Hana is a rising senior from Rancho Palos Verdes, California majoring in Comparative Studies of Race & Ethnicity. This year Hana is excited to serve as MSAN’s President. She’d love to hear any ideas or input you might have for the year, so feel free to send an email her way!

**MSAN VICE PRESIDENT**
The MSAN Vice President helps the MSAN president with coordinating events, contacting speakers, and recruiting directors.

_Sayeh Fattahi_ Class of 2014
sfattahi@stanford.edu
Sayeh is a senior from Los Angeles, CA. She’s majoring in Biology and French, and she’s super excited to be MSAN Vice-President this year. She loves meeting people and making friends, so definitely feel free to contact her!

**MSAN TREASURER**
Inviting speakers from all over the country and cosponsoring and planning events certainly isn’t cheap. MSAN’s treasurer is responsible for not only balancing MSAN’s budget, but also for filing receipts and reimbursements.

_Sarah Salameh_ Class of 2016
ssalameh@stanford.edu
Hey guys! My name is Sarah Salameh and I’m from the best city in the world, Chicago. Around campus, you’ll probably find me at a cafe or with my soul mate Eilaf Osman. Like most Arabs in power, I make it rain as financial officer! Looking forward to serving you this year!

**MSAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIR**
MSAN has a lot going on, from its own events to the events it cosponsors with other groups on campus. The Community Outreach Chair keeps an update on what’s happening when and also helps coordinate publicity.

_Afia Khan_ Class of 2016
afiakhan@stanford.edu
I am Afia, a sophomore potentially being premed while studying Economics/minoring in Biology. I am so excited to be the Community Outreach Chair for Stanford’s Muslim Awareness Network (MSAN), and can’t wait to get to know all of you! By all means, please contact me if you have any questions, suggestions, concerns, complaints, or just want to talk.
Officers’ Pictures

**ISSU**
- President: Osama
- Vice President: Nausheen
- Treasurer: Rebia
- Community Outreach: Afroz

**MSAN**
- President: Hana
- Vice President: Sayeh
- Treasurer: Sarah
- Community Outreach: Afia
Email Lists

There are separate discussion and announce lists for both the MSAN and ISSU. The purpose of both types of lists are explained below.

ISSU & MSAN ANNOUNCE
(Separate lists for each Organization):
The primary purpose of these lists is for the ISSU and MSAN officers to send out important information about upcoming events and programming. They are relatively low traffic because only the officers and directors are able to post, ensuring that only important information is sent out.

ISSU Discussion
The ISSU-Discussion list serves several purposes. Primarily, it acts as a medium through which current Muslim students, staff, alumni, and local Palo Alto residents can express their opinions on different issues concerning Islam and the greater Muslim World. Since the list is not moderated, it is prone to heavy traffic and people can post whatever they like, at their own discretion. For example, people use the list for many purposes from advertising an event on campus, to using it as a market place, or even a forum to request advice of any type.

MSAN-Admin
This list also serves several purposes as well. Firstly, students often use it to advertise cultural, political, and social events, which often pertain to the Muslim world. Also, similar to the ISSU-Discussion, it serves as a discussion medium. However, discussions on this list are usually restricted to political and cultural topics. Another main use of this list is to brainstorm ideas for different MSAN events.

Musalla

The Stanford Community has a Musalla (a place where prayer can be performed) on the third floor of Old Union which can be accessed throughout the day. The code is 139938 and it is the door marked ISSU on the third floor. When exiting the elevator, it is located opposite the elevator, to the right of the ladies restroom and the Bahai prayer room. There is a wudu area for both genders, which is accessible at any time; it is found next to the Jumaat room. There is no pre-set time for any particular prayer in the musalla, and due to scheduling conflicts, it is nearly impossible to pray as a jamma'at (in a group) every time you visit the room. However, it is always helpful to have a place to go pray in between classes that is accessible at any time, and many community members will attest to that.

Interestingly enough, it is this accessibility that makes the third floor of Old Union a routine hangout for numerous community members, and it is almost inevitable to run across someone frantically studying for something, whether a midterm, a final, Boards, or some type of entrance exam. On the other hand, this floor can become a dangerous place to be because it has become synonymous with recent birthday "hits"; make sure to join in the fun when you see the inevitable coming!

The musalla also has numerous religious books (fiqh, tafseer, hadeeth) as well as Qu'ran's for the community to use. Please feel free to borrow any of these books if you would like; just make sure to return them when you are finished. Also keep in mind that there will be others who may want to use the books as well, so short term loans are better than long term ones.
Prayer Times

As most of you know, prayer times vary from city to city, and thus prayers might be a bit confusing at first. If you want up-to-date prayer times, you can download a mobile prayer times application by inputting Palo Alto, CA as your city at:

You can also use the Athan Times computer application from Islamic Finder: http://www.islamicfinder.org/athanDownload.php.

For the MAC users out there, there is also a "salaat" widget that gives the prayer times. To download the widget, just go to the website:
Then make sure the city is set as Palo Alto, CA, and you’ll have accurate prayer times everyday!

Qibla

As for the Qibla (direction of prayer), the direction in the musalla is toward the wall to the left of the door when facing the window, and is approximately towards NE everywhere else on campus. In every dorm room, there is a map which shows the direction of North for your dorm building- so use this information to help find the correct Qibla.

For those who are planning trips to the wilderness, simply try to adhere to the NE direction as much as possible by seeing where the sun came up (east) and positioning yourself accordingly. Another way to approximate this, is just to pray towards Palm Drive, which is a street you will become accustomed with, and conveniently points directly towards the Qibla. Now for those of you wishing to go on space expeditions, I simply have no answer for you…

Spiritual Programming

One of the primary objectives of the ISSU is to promote the spiritual development of the community. We strive to provide various means and avenues by which community members can develop a closer relationship with Allah (swt) through ritual worship, personal and group reflection, and educational activities. On a weekly basis, we hold Jumu’ah prayers and study circles, both of which promote learning and reflection.

Quranic Study Circle (Halaqa)

The Quranic Study Circle is a halaqa held every Saturday afternoon throughout the school year, focusing primarily on reading and reflecting upon the Qur’an. This is an open, small discussion forum where all community members at all levels of religious development and commitment can come, read a few verses of the Qur’an together, and reflect upon their meaning and application to our daily lives. At times, the study circle may also include discussion of other aspects of spiritual/religious life, such as the life of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), morals and manners in Islam, etc.

Periodically, we also hold events (both on and off campus) that promote socializing, community bonding, and most importantly, personal spiritual development.
Night-Prayer (*Qiyam*)

Most notably, *qiyam* is held roughly twice a quarter in Old Union in order to remind ourselves of our relationship with Allah and try to make that relationship closer and more intimate. This typically involves gathering either in the late night (around midnight) or early morning (before Fajr prayer, around 3-4 am) and performing group prayer, reading and reflecting upon verses of the Qur’an together, and/or individual prayer and *dhikr* (remembrance of God). This is an essential part of growing spiritually on both a personal and community level, and is often greatly lacking in our lives as students. At qiyam, we usually have snacks and refreshments (donuts, juice, etc) to make for a more pleasant and enjoyable environment.

Community Fasting

We also hold days of community fasting outside of Ramadan, in which we provide community iftars (dinner to break the fast) or suhoor (pre-dawn breakfast) in order to encourage the community to fast and dine together. This practice follows in the footsteps of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) who would fast regularly outside of the month of Ramadan in order to grow closer to God as well as teach self-discipline and empathy for the needy. This is also a great way to bring the community together and socialize in a way that promotes friendship and self-development.

Golden Gate Fajr Trip

Our community also holds outings off campus in which we promote community fun as well as personal reflection. One such trip is the annual *Golden Gate Fajr trip*, in which we pray the Fajr prayer on a hill above the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, overlooking the city and the Bay. With such a breathtaking and beautiful view, this is an excellent way to enjoy oneself as well as ponder upon the wonders of the creation of Allah.

Graveyard Trips

In the past, we have also planned graveyard trips to remember death and the temporary nature of this life. This an unique way to reflect on our spiritual progress in life and to remind ourselves to align our day-to-day priorities correctly.
Jumu’ah

Jumu’ah (ritual Friday prayer preceded by Friday sermon) is the most basic and consistent activity that brings the entire community together for the remembrance of God. It takes place on the third floor of Old Union every Friday at 12:15 in the sanctuary, which is located in the middle of the third floor. There are separate wudu areas for men and women right outside the sanctuary. For those with class conflicts, there is an alternate khutbah at 1:15 in the same location.

The khutbah (sermon) is written and delivered either by a student or local community member who expresses interest in writing it; the khutbah is typically a brief reminder and reflection about some element of our personal development. We encourage both men and women to consider writing khutbahs so that we are able to benefit from everyone’s input and spiritual insight.

After the khutbah and prayers are over, announcements of upcoming ISSU and MSAN events are given. Once this is completed, there is usually a group of students who informally

Halal Food

Fortunately for the Muslim community here at Stanford, halal food is not too hard to find. Every dining hall offers halal food, although some (Stern, Manzanita, Ricker, Wilbur) are better than others (Lagunita) in terms of frequency. If you want to eat anywhere else on campus that isn't a dining hall, the Axe and Palm Café often has some halal options as well. The way halal food works in the Stanford Dining halls is that you'll have to go up to the burger grill and ask the cook if they have halal meat that day, and if they do and you like what's available, then you can ask them to prepare it for you (which takes about 5-10 minutes). Although the options for halal meat are usually grilled chicken breasts or hamburger patties, many dining halls have taken steps to ensure a greater diversity of halal options for Muslim students.

In addition to what’s on campus, there are many halal restaurants off campus including Shalimar and Cafe Sophia. The ISSU will occasionally organize trips to off campus Halal restaurants, making for a great way to get to know your fellow community members and enjoy some good food!
Every year, MSAN and ISSU work together to bring the Stanford campus a month-long series dedicated to raising awareness about Islam and Muslims. The Islam Awareness Series (IAS) is an opportunity for both Muslim and non-Muslim students, faculty, and community members to come together and learn about Islam from renowned Muslim speakers and figures. The IAS is composed of about 4-6 major events throughout the winter quarter. We work with a coalition of relevant student groups and University departments to publicize these events and get more people involved.

This past year, the Islam Awareness Series was themed “Mythbusters: Stanford Muslim Edition.” Students, community members, and faculty came together to clear up misconceptions and educate by sharing some of the basic tenants of Islam through unique speaker lectures, presentations, and delicious catered dinners.

As the only student groups at Stanford University providing any programming on Islam and the Muslim world, MSAN and ISSU’s prominent role on campus has been so pivotal that the student body and the school administration named MSAN VSO of the year in 2008, and ISSU the best organization in 2006. Both organizations are well known on campus for the quality and diversity of our events, and past speakers have included figures like Pervez Musharraf.

Any students who are around the area during the summer should check in with officers for more information about Ramadan programming.

**Ramadan**

Ramadan has always been special at Stanford. Although Ramadan will be during the summer for the next few years, many students stay for summer research or internships around the area and have the opportunity to be a part of Ramadan at Stanford. ISSU hosts many iftar dinners during the month through the generosity of donors and sponsors. The Ramadan ISSU iftar is something that everyone looks forward to every year. Taraweeh services are offered every night of Ramadan and led by our very own community members. What makes Ramadan so special at Stanford is that it is a community-wide effort where everyone helps out and enjoys spending time together. Insha’ Allah, we look forward to you joining us during the summer for these iftars!
**ISSU Social Events**

With all the stress from academic and organizational commitments that comes with being a Stanford student, it is nice to take a break from time to time and just go out with friends and have fun. Fortunately, the ISSU social coordinator plans various fun and interesting social events every other week of the quarter. These events can be as simple as a dinner outing off campus to get a break from campus food, to an ice skating excursion to an exhilarating trip to Six-Flags or other close-by amusement parks.

**ISSU Big Sib/ Lil Sib Program**

One of the ways with which the ISSU attempts to help freshman ease into college life at Stanford is through our Big Sib/Lil’ Sib program. By pairing freshmen with upperclassmen, freshmen will have someone to turn to if they have questions about life at Stanford. Big Sibs are a great source for advice, networking, and help in other areas as well. For example, several Big Sibs have cars and are usually willing to help you get from place to place, since freshmen aren’t allowed to have cars on campus. Also, in order to help build the bond between Big Sibs and Lil’ Sibs, as well as providing an opportunity to meet other Muslim undergrads, we have events twice a quarter just for undergrads where we go bowling, laser-tagging, or even just out to dinner together.

**TGIJ**

TGIJ, Thank God It's Jumu'ah, is a bi-monthly event held on a Friday which helps foster community development and bonding. With the format ranging from guest speakers to panel discussions to hands-on workshops, TGIJs are a great way to spend a Friday evening.

In the past, topics have ranged from a calligraphy workshop led by an expert calligrapher, to a discussion on Muslims in China and the issues they face from the Chinese government, to a panel on interracial marriage. Other past events have included a speaker on Al-Andalus followed by a Q&A session, a cooking extravaganza where the participants learned to make some Pakistani dishes, and a discussion on American versus Immigrant Muslims. These events are a great way to meet new people, learn something new, and enjoy a delicious dinner.

If there are controversial topics or current events of interest, TGIJs can provide a forum for discussion. The topics can be intellectually challenging and push people to question their existing preconceptions. Sometimes, events are co-sponsored by other campus groups as well. These events are fun and open to the whole Muslim community, from undergrads to grad students, with even occasional non-Muslim attendance. Community members are welcome to suggest topics that they feel are relevant and interesting to the Stanford Muslim community.
Community Service Events

Service to others is an integral part of what it means to be a Muslim. In the ISSU, we try to do our part by providing a variety of service opportunities for the Muslim community. Of course, service can take many forms, and for that reason we participate in different kinds of service activities.

The ISSU’s most consistent service project called “Feed the Homeless” happens at least once a quarter. We wake up in the wee hours of the morning to cook a warm breakfast for those at a local homeless shelter. Whether you come just to crack eggs for a bit or you help serve the food at the homeless shelter, it can be a very rewarding and fun experience.

The ISSU also holds a yearly blood drive in conjunction with the Stanford Blood Center. Participants get cookies, a t-shirt, and the opportunity to help save a life. We have also had other events this past year including a visit to a nursing home, a Charity Brunch, and helping beautify an elementary school in East Palo Alto with students from other groups on campus.

Other Related Organizations

Avicenna

Avicenna - The Stanford Journal on Muslim Affairs (SJMA) is an emerging publication that explores critical issues pertaining to the Muslim World. Given the current socio-political climate, it is crucial to enable ourselves and others to discuss these issues in an open space. With your help, we hope to examine Muslim societies from the inside and bring to the fore a more nuanced comprehension of Islam in the modern world. To get involved or offer a submission, please contact avicenna.stanford@gmail.com. You may visit our website: http://stanford.edu/group/avicenna. A few examples of our recent articles:

The Future of India’s Muslims
By: Professor Rafiq Dossani, Executive Director: South Asia Initiative at Stanford University

Envisioning a Progressive Muslim American Voice
By: Salam Al-Marayati, Executive Director of Muslim Public Affairs Council

Other MSAN Events

In addition to helping ISSU put on the Islamic Awareness Series, MSAN puts on a lot of programming throughout the remainder of the year, focusing on the political, social, and cultural aspects of the Muslim world. Previous events have included comedy shows, academic lectures, art displays, rallies, and cultural fairs, among other events. Make sure to check the website for upcoming events!
Stanford Muslim Alumni Association (SMAA)
The SMAA was recently established with the aim of building a vibrant community of the Muslim Alumni and Students of Stanford University. The SMAA is an official chartered organization of the Stanford Alumni Association (SAA) and is open to all Alumni and Students of Stanford University. SMAA seeks to connect Alumni with other alums, current Students, and leading Scholars at Stanford. Stanford Muslim Alumni span a wide array of professional careers situated throughout the world and the SMAA strives to bridge the global Stanford Muslim community in a way that would allow Alums to maintain a meaningful and active connection with our Alma mater. Planned events include, but are not limited to: an annual SMAA banquet where all Muslim Alumni would be encouraged to attend, a reception at the official Stanford Homecoming weekend, Alumni social events, commencement sendoff for new alums, and professional networking receptions.

Membership: http://alumni.stanford.edu/goto/smaa
Website: http://www.stanfordmuslimalumni.org/
Contact: Subhan Ali at SMAA@stanfordalumni.org

Students Confronting Apartheid by Israel
Students Confronting Apartheid by Israel (SCAI) focuses on securing Stanford University's divestment from Israel, as a means of ending apartheid in its occupied territories. Through educational flyers, lectures by human rights activists, and other forms of direct engagement with the Stanford campus SCAI seeks to promote acknowledgement and understanding of the apartheid state in Israel and to take direct steps to prevent Stanford investments from funding companies that contribute to human rights violations.

Contact Info:
Firas Abuzaid— fabuzaid@stanford.edu
Omar Shakir— oshakir@stanford.edu
http://www.stanford.edu/group/scai/
Fun Off-Campus

There are several things to do for fun off campus. The city of San Francisco is about an hour away and has loads of things to do. You could either go shopping, catch a musical such as Wicked, see a concert, or even watch some comedic stand up by Russell Peters. A favorite among the community is driving up around midnight to grab some Indian food at a 24/7 Indian place called "Nan and Curry". If you don't feel like venturing all the way out to SF, there are movie theaters, great restaurants, and even amusement parks that are relatively close to the Stanford campus. The entire bay area is more-or-less in your grasp. This website will let you know everything that is available to you: http://www.bayareaexperiences.com

Places Near Palo Alto
Stanford Mall
Red Mango
Kan Zeman
Cheesecake Factory
Palo Alto Bowl
Shalimar
Great America
Jump Sky High

Other Fun Places
Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
Westfield Mall San Francisco
Metreon
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco Giants
Golden State Warriors
Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk
Monterey Bay Aquarium

Transportation Off-Campus

Although freshmen aren't allowed to have a car on campus, there are several ways for you to get off campus. First of all, there is the Stanford Marguerite. It is a free bus shuttle service that goes all around campus, to Palo Alto, and to some places off campus as well. Next there is the Caltrain, which is a train service that runs all the way from San Francisco to San Jose and has many stops in between, one of them conveniently located in Palo Alto. Another method of transportation that has been growing in popularity is the ZIPCAR ride share system. These are cars that are located all over campus that you can use and pay for on an hourly basis. As a Stanford student, you do not have to pay the monthly fee for usage, and you only have to pay when you use the car. Here is the website if you are interested: http://transportation.stanford.edu/alt_transportation/zipcar.shtml. Finally, as you get to know more people in the community, you will feel comfortable asking the upperclassmen with cars to take you places, and some of them may even let you borrow their cars.

Zipcar
wheels when you want them
Local Mosques

Musullas

Stanford University C.I.R.C.L.E. (Third Floor of Old Union)
University of California, Berkeley
San Jose State University
De Anza College

South Bay

Muslim Community Association (MCA) Islamic Center
3003 Scott Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95054
www.mcabayarea.org

South Bay Islamic Association (SBIA)
325 N. 3rd Street
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 947-9389
www.sbia.info

Shia Association of Bay Area Bay Area (SABA)
4415 Fortran Ct.
San Jose, CA 95154
(408) 946-5700
www.saba-igc.org

Shura Council of San Francisco Bay Area
12333 S. Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road, Suite K
Saratoga, CA 95070
(408) 973-9399

East Bay

Islamic Society of East Bay
33330 Peace Terrace
Fremont, CA 94533
(510) 429-4732
www.iseb.org

Zaytuna Institute
2070 Allston Way Suite 300
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 548-1979
www.zaytuna.org

San Ramon Valley Islamic Center
2232 Camino Ramon
San Ramon, CA 94583-1351
(925) 866-7088
www.srvic.org

Islamic Center of Livermore
379 C South Livermore Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 443-1826
www.iclonline-ca.org

Islamic Center-Pleasanton
1279 Quarry Ln # B
Pleasanton, CA 94566-8499
(510) 673-2369
www.icpd-ca.org