Message from the FIN Staff
Believe it or not, we're coming to the end of FIN's 27th anniversary! We'll celebrate our 30th anniversary in Fall 2013. We wish all of our students success with the end of the semester coursework and with your plans for the summer. If you have comments, reflections, photos, or anything else you'd like to share with us from your experiences this year, please get in touch with us. We'd especially love to feature photos of students traveling or visiting some of their favorite spots near home. We look forward to seeing some of you again next fall as returners, and having another great group of U.S. and international students for 2011-2012! We'll have a new FLLC-Q100 common reading for Fall 2011. As part of the course we'll be exploring the concept of FIN as a type of “learning commons” - a place where students have access to unique educational, cultural, and social resources as well as everyday opportunities to actively engage with key dimensions of life within a multicultural living-learning community.

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FIN Helps at Habitat for Humanity
On 2 April, FIN sent eight volunteers to participate in a Habitat Build through the Monroe County chapter. From 8AM to 4PM, students and staff painted, repaired, and cleaned, preparing these new homes for their families. Because the dedication ceremony was the same day, the volunteers were able to meet the families and watch the ribbon cutting, making for a very memorable experience.

“…It was an unforgettable experience for me to volunteer with all of our FIN friends, I really enjoyed it!”  
- Kaili Tao

“[This is] a precious memory in my life. If I have chances, I will do more volunteer activities like this.” - Yang Zhang
Spring Events:

At the end of the fall semester, the FIN Executive Board was given a two part challenge for the spring term: to hold at least one FIN event a week, and to invite visitors to stay in Foster-Shea in order to interact and present specifically to the FIN residents. As of the end of April, both of these goals have been completed! FIN hosted a wide variety of events and two special visitors, Ben Herson and Okey Ndibe. In addition to these, FIN sponsored film screenings every other Tuesday and monthly trips to the IU Cinema, exposing students to international films that were recommended by their peers.

An Event A Week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 Jan</td>
<td>Progressive Floor Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Jan</td>
<td>Ski Trip to Paoli Peaks</td>
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<td>28 Jan</td>
<td>Mahjong at the ACC</td>
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<td>6 Feb</td>
<td>Super Bowl Party</td>
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<td>9 Feb</td>
<td>Dinner with Raphael Tyson</td>
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<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>Guerrilla Gardiner Richard Reynolds</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Feb</td>
<td>Ice-Skating</td>
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<td>2-3 March</td>
<td>Okey Ndibe Visit</td>
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<td>8 March</td>
<td>Mardi Gras Event</td>
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<td>23 March</td>
<td>Board Games and Baked Goods</td>
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<td>13 April</td>
<td>Pizza with Vilius Ivanauskas</td>
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<td>22 April</td>
<td>Foster Beautification Day</td>
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<td>28 March</td>
<td>Nomadic Wax Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Habitat for Humanity Build</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 April</td>
<td>Spring Advisory Board Dinner</td>
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Thank you to all the students and staff who helped make these events happen—Congratulations on a great spring semester!
“In a world of growing popularity in social media and youth movements, it was remarkable to witness Ben’s efforts to expose main-
stream viewers to the international social in
novation through music. I can’t wait for his
video to be released and for everyone else
to have the chance to experience it!”

“Everyone has the ability to read about cur-
rent events in other countries, but reading is
not the same as hearing and feeling. Okey
was able to express his concerns about his
country (Nigeria) in a manner that appealed
to the undergraduate and graduate stu-
dents at IU. I hope he visits again!”

Statements from FIN Resident Assistant Shay Ley

FIN Guest Suite Visitor Okey Ndibe

March 2nd-4th FIN hosted Okey Ndibe, a Nigerian nov-
elist and political journalist, for a series of events. Ar-
rowing on Wednesday afternoon, Okey enjoyed a spicy
Indian meal with students, followed by a storytelling
event chronicling his misadventures as an African in
America. On Thursday afternoon Okey offered a cre-
ative writing workshop for interested students. That
evening, he cooked a delicious meal for FIN featuring
chicken, rice and beans, which was then followed by a
discussion on the political situation in Nigeria. Such a
variety of events attracted nearly 75 different people,
all of whom had rave reviews for our guest. (You can
read more about Okey at his website, www.okeyndibe-
com, or on the FIN blog: fingonenative.blogspot.com.)

FIN Guest Suite Visitor Ben Herson:

On March 28th FIN hosted the CEO and founder of No-
madic Wax, a fair trade music, film, and events produc-
tion company with a focus on socially conscious mate-
rial. After sharing a dinner with FIN students, Ben gave
a presentation that featured the music and videos of
four African hip-hop artists. He and the students dis-
cussed the content of these, and the way that the music
was used to speak out against prejudices and politics.
This event was particularly exciting as the FIN students
were the first to view two of the music videos that were
shown! (You can read more about Ben and Nomadic
Wax at www.benherson.com or www.nomadicwax.
com.)
Constitutional Changes:

For the past few semesters FIN E-Board members were working hard to update the constitution, which had not been modified since 2004. After many long meetings and intense canvassing in order to receive the required 91 signatures of approval, the new constitution finally passed at the end of February! While a multitude of changes were made, we have highlighted the most important below. The full constitution can be seen on the FIN website or in the FIN offices.

- Article VIII, Section I: Addition of the Resident Assistants and Community Mentors as full voting members on the Executive Board.
- Article VIII, Section II: Removal of Executive Board Office hours; stipulation requiring Executive Board members to check and respond to their e-mail daily; addition of strict attendance policy pertaining to Executive Board meetings and retreats (given in more detail in Article VIII, Section V).
- Article VII, Section III: Removal of the position of Election Commissioner and addition of detailed instructions regarding the Executive Board elections in the Fall Semester.
- Article IX: Removal of the Board of Educational Planners, Cultural Activities, Communications, Outdoor and Recreational Activities, Orientation, and Budget Committees; addition of single Committee responsible for direct management of all FIN activities, events, and educational opportunities.
- Article XI: Addition of responsibilities of Peer Instructors.
- Article XII: Removal of required 2/3 FIN community approval for constitutional changes; changes will now be approved by the E-Board, Director, and Office Assistant following the publication of the new constitution and changes, and the addressing of any community concerns.

Returning to FIN?

If you’re planning on returning to FIN next semester we would love for you to apply to be a Community Mentor or a Peer Instructor for the FIN Q-100 Class. The job descriptions and applications are posted on Dr. Galuska’s office door, or you can e-mail the Office Assistant Anne at abon-fgl@indiana.edu.

We also encourage you to consider running for a position on the FIN Executive Board. Elections will be held in the fall for the five positions of president, vice-president, chief of staff, treasurer, and educational trustee. If you have any questions about these positions, stop by the FIN offices and we can tell you about them!

FIN Memorabilia!

It’s not too late to pick up some FIN supplies! We still have free mugs, notebooks, and water bottles, as well as the FIN T-shirt and pullover. Make sure to pick up your FIN gear before you take off for the summer!