Message From the FIN Staff

Welcome 2014-15 residents of Foster International LLC! We are the 2nd oldest LLC on campus and this fall will mark the community’s 31st Anniversary. Over the last three decades Foster International has served as a home away from home for thousands of students. This school year we will be making a special effort to connect current students with former residents and IU alumni who benefited from their experiences living in Foster International. We will also be challenging residents to creatively explore, and actively engage with, their personal, professional, and academic goals. In the process I look forward to sharing some of my own diverse interests and passions with you. In addition, to being an adjunct faculty member in SPEA, I am an urban farmer and a local food activist. I also do research in Jamaica on sustainable agriculture, ecotourism, and cultural ecology. The photo I selected for the newsletter was taken in Jamaica this summer from an historically important site in the Blue Mountains. I take IU students to Jamaica as part of an overseas study program and would be happy to share more information with anyone who may be interested. Best wishes for the start of a life-changing semester! Dr. John Galuska, Director

Dear all residents! I am the new Office Assistant at Foster International LLC. I come from Vietnam and have resided in Bloomington, Indiana for over 4 years. I just graduated from Indiana University Bloomington in Political Science. Since much of my experience has been connected with international studies, I am looking forward to interacting with all of our residents from diverse backgrounds to understand more about different perspectives and beliefs. Triet Pham, Office Assistant.

Upcoming Fall Events:

- **24 August: FIN Lake Monroe Trip!!!**
  Make sure to grab your friends and TRIO members and catch our chartered bus for an afternoon trip from 12-5 at Lake Monroe where you can meet other residents, take in the sights at the lake, and enjoy a lunch cookout.

- **25 August: First Day of Classes at IU!!**
  Good Luck! Make sure to print off your schedules and have necessary school materials prepared. It’s also a good idea to map out where your classes are and physically visit the buildings beforehand.

- **31 August: FIN Open House**
  Come down to the Ground Floor Lounge with your item from home! We’ll showcase the diversity of FIN in the display case, discuss TRIOS, Q100, and other fun events we have planned for the year over dinner!

- **1 September: Labor day NO IU Classes!!**
  This would be a great day for a Trio outing in the Bloomington community!

- **2 September: Q100 Classes start!**
  Make sure you have registered for the Q100 course (# 8431) through OneStart and chosen your section times via email.

- **7 September: 2014 FIN E-Board Election & Progressive Floor Dinner**
  We will hold elections for our E-board positions tonight, make sure to cast your votes in the Ground Floor Lounge and stay for dinner!

- **12 September: FIN Cook Off Competition**
  FIN will be celebrating its 31th anniversary this fall! We will kick things off with some unique cooking challenges! What’s the best cuisine you’ve got coming out of the microwave oven?!

- **19-20 September: Lotus World Music and Arts Festival!!**
  FIN residents will be given an opportunity to purchase heavily discounted tickets to the 2014 20th Anniversary Lotus World Music and Arts Festival here in Bloomington. This year’s festival will feature musicians representing over 20 different cultures and traditions. For more: [http://lotusfest.org/festival-main/festival-events](http://lotusfest.org/festival-main/festival-events)
GET TO KNOW YOUR FIN TRIOS!

Each FIN student will be a part of a FIN Trio; groups of three from different floors, multi-gender, and include at least one international student. The groups are first and foremost meant to be a way for you make new friends in the community. Trios have the opportunity to explore not only FIN but the larger IUB community, support other students, and contribute to FIN’s overall development. Planning a community event and/or Trio group event is another aspect of Trio group participation this year. We hope you will share your interests and experiences among your Trios, leading to an exploration of your identities in your new communities!

If you hear of an event that you want to repeat, or if you or your Trio has an event in mind, don’t hesitate to bring it up!

Get ‘Em to the Guest Suite

Do you know where the FIN Guest Suite is? Did you even know we had a Guest Suite? Located on the Ground Floor in Room 032, this suite allows for us to host interesting international or internationally focused visitors. We are happy to say that this year we will have special visitors from South Africa, Bangladesh, Cuba, Mongolia, Russia, and Ireland in FIN’s Guest Suite!

While we frequently are contacted with requests for visitors, FIN can invite whomever we think would be an exciting guest! We’ve had a number of great visitors over the years. Last year, we had Mbala, a Jamaican artist, Dr. Michael Curtin, a Global Studies scholar, and Dr. Patricia McKee, an Art and Religion scholar and playwright.

Do you have someone you want to invite to FIN? Talk to Dr. Galuska, Triet, or the E-board about planning a visit!
FIN Trip Opportunities

Last academic year, our Executive Board conceived and planned an overnight trip for FIN residents. We took a large group of students to Washington, D.C. for a three-day weekend last January and were able to see much of what the city had to offer. This included visiting the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, Arlington Cemetery, The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, National Museum of Air and Space, The Spy Museum, National Museum of African Art, and many other historic and unique landmarks.

These trips were made possible through a combination of E-Board funds and planning with outside funding. If you have ideas for potential excursions, whether within or outside Bloomington, feel free to let us know! We are excited for the upcoming year and hope to be able to take more trips like these.

Meet Your RAs!

Shraddha Maharjan  
Second Floor  
**Majors:** Neuroscience, Anthropology, Pre-med  
**Hometown:** Greenwood, IN

Evangeline Sun  
First Floor  
**Majors:** Marketing, Event Management  
**Hometown:** Jinan, China

Yann Van de Velde  
Ground Floor  
**Homecity:** Michigan
The above charts depict some of the demographic information of our FIN community! This information will change as the make up of our community changes throughout the year. Be sure to look out for more information on our diverse community!