Messages from the FIN Staff

I hope everyone had a peaceful and enjoyable winter break. I look forward to teaching a new SPEA course this semester on urban agriculture and food security. If anyone is interested in visiting my urban farm for a tour just let me know. I also look forward to having special international visitors in the Guest Suite this semester and planning a FIN outdoor adventure trip for later in the spring when it gets warm again. Best wishes for all of your spring 2011 course work!

Dr. John Galuska, Director
855-6215  jgaluska@indiana.edu

Welcome back FIN residents, old and new! I hope everyone is excited for the spring semester! I have lots of fun events in the works, as I'd like to try to see that FIN has an international related activity at least once a week, so make sure to keep a look out for what’s going on! In addition to these weekly events, I’m hoping to organize bi-weekly film screenings in Shea, as well as monthly trips to the new IU Cinema. If there are any events you want FIN to do, tell me about it and I’ll try to make it happen!

Anne Bonfiglio, Office Assistant
855-0284  abonfigl@indiana.edu

Fun Events from the Fall Semester

- Emiline Michel Dinner and Performance--students met with this Haitian vocalist and her musicians and listened to her perform and speak about her experiences as an artist
- Hot Pot Dinner--students enjoyed different Chinese dishes found in the lounge on each floor and got to know their fellow residents in FIN
- International Dance Party--held in the Global Village, this bonding event featured music from around the world in each of the GV’s lounges
- Q-100 Poster Session--at the end of the first eight weeks period, students from FIN gathered to view their peers’ E-portfolio posters from the Q-100 sections

Upcoming Spring Events

- “Midnight Madness” Paoli Peaks Ski Trip, 21 January
- Ghanaian Guest Suite Visitor, Raphael Tyson, 20 January-28 February
- Open Mic Night, TBA
- Raku Ceramics Event, 26th of March and 9th of April
- FIN/GV Cookout, 1 May

....And Many More....
Gone Native

The first weekend in November, a small group of Foster International Students, accompanied by two Indiana University staff members, made a trip down to Nashville, Tennessee. We were able to have an “authentic” Nashville experience.

Upon arriving in the city Saturday morning, our group visited the Hard Rock Café, did a little shopping in downtown Nashville, enjoyed excellent food and live jazz music at B-B-King’s, participated in an Art Gallery Crawl (a favorite was an artist who constructed silhouettes and guitars purely out of Crayola Crayons), and even got to experience a show at the Grand Ole Opry (we were very impressed by Little Jimmy Dickens—he’s 88 years old, and Montgomery Gentry—although we failed to get Eddie Montgomery’s autograph after the show).

Sunday was a little more relaxed. We were able to spend an hour or so enjoying the Parthenon—a replica of its Ancient Greek namesake, catch a look at an authentic Chattanooga Choo Choo, feed some geese, and learn A LOT about Tennessee’s state history at the state museum (our tour guide was an IU alum!). Needless to say, we were all exhausted when we arrived back at Foster Sunday night, but it was a great experience, and all who participated really enjoyed themselves. Thanks again to our chaperones John and Dani!

--Melissa DCamp
2nd Year FIN resident and IU class of 2013

FIN Fall Trips

This Fall Semester, FIN was able to sponsor two student trips, giving residents the opportunity to explore new places and gain memorable experiences.

The first trip took place from October 29th-31st, and sent a group of five students to Washington D.C. to attend Jon Stewart’s “Rally To Restore Sanity.” Students were required to submit an application and were chosen to attend based on their desire to grow from the event and gain a better understanding of their role in contributing to a productive, non-extremist American democracy.

The second trip took place on November 6th and 7th, and sent eight students, the FIN director, and a Foster Graduate Assistant to Nashville, Tennessee. The itinerary for the trip allowed for a variety of planned events, as well as free time for the students downtown. This trip provided a wonderful opportunity for students to experience the cultural offerings of this great, historical city.

FIN Does Nashville Tennessee!

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--Melissa DCamp
2nd Year FIN resident and IU class of 2013
This October, six Foster International students were lucky enough to be able to take a road trip to Washington D.C. for a historic event. John Stewart and Stephen Colbert, two politically-minded comedians featured on Comedy Central, hosted a hugely successful rally on the National Mall to call into account the apparent insanity in today’s political system through common sense, parody, and other comedic antics. Stewart and Colbert’s wittiness helped to revitalize the subject matter covered in the rally and make it a truly fun and memorable event.

John Stewart hosts the Daily Show every weeknight starting at 11:00pm followed by Stephen Colbert’s Colbert Report at 11:30. They both function as a “news” shows essentially presenting current events and analyzing them with a realistic and sane eye. Public support for them has been rising steadily recently (they become especially popular around election times) and demand for a rally of some sorts was becoming apparent. Stewart wowed his audience first by announcing that he would hold a rally on the 30th of October to “restore sanity”. Colbert quickly announced his intention to hold a “competing” rally the same day in order to maintain fear. After several shows of witty banter and feigned arguments, the decision was made to hold the rally as a joint effort…a rally to restore sanity **and/or fear**.

After weeks of anticipation and preparation, the big day had come: the 30th of October. Six girls from Foster Shea went on the trip: Lindee, Sarah, Esme, Liz, Julia, and I. Esme graciously offered to put us up at her house (which is just about ½ hour from the city by the metro) and we woke up early the day of the rally…it started at noon so we planned to be in the city by nine. We knew that it would be a big deal, but I don’t think that any of us were prepared for the masses of people making their way towards the mall. The final number of attendees was estimated to be around 200,000…enough to go nearly all the way to the Washington Memorial and extend along the barricaded streets surrounding the mall.

Though we had to wait three hours to keep our spots, we were never bored. Several different artists performed including the Mythbusters, Roots, and John Legend…and that was before the rally ever started. The rally itself boasted such names as Sheryl Crow, Yusuf Islam, Ozzy Osbourne, and Kid Rock, as well as many more. Though the rally was certainly a fun affair, there were definite political undertones that were well understood by everyone in attendance. As the name suggests, the Rally to Restore Sanity (and/or Fear) focused on pointing out seemingly insane practices in today’s politics with the hope of revamping American politics. The fear theme fit into the scheme because Colbert, in character, parodied the unnecessary and unfounded fear shown by some members of this society. This motif was evident throughout the rally and, added to the captivating guests and surprisingly unbiased approach, helped to make this rally one of the most memorable experiences of the year.

--Hannah Osborne, 2nd year FIN resident and IU class of 2013
**Gone Native**

**It’s easy to plan a FIN event, and in fact, we WANT you to, especially since this semester we want to try to hold one event a week at FIN.**

Either come pick up a yellow event form on the bulletin board next to Dr. Galuska’s office or come see the Office Assistant Anne.

Even if all you have is an idea, we can help you figure out specifics.

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**Q-100 Scavenger Hunt**

*During their first weeks at IU first year students must participate in a scavenger hunt for their Q-100 class, searching out important IU locations and landmarks, making sure to document their finds along the way...*

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**FIN is on Facebook!**

Check out the FIN Group on Facebook:  
*IU Foster International LLC*

See what neat events are coming up, or look at pictures from past ones!

We’d love for every resident to like this group, so if you haven’t already, make sure to do it soon!

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**Don’t Forget your Passport!**

Bring your FIN passport to sponsored events and get it stamped—you could win a prize at the end of the semester!