Dear students,

The OISS would like to wish you all the best of luck as you complete your final projects, tests and papers for the spring 2010 semester. The office would also like to congratulate all the December 2009, May 2010, August 2010 and December 2010 students who will be walking in the May Commencement ceremony.

As you get ready for your summer travels or summer classes, please do not hesitate to contact the office with any questions you might have.

Also as we move forward, we will be highlighting one or two international alumni in each newsletter. We hope you find their stories interesting and engaging.

Sincerely,

Vivian,
Assistant Director,
International Student Services

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International IU Alumni Stories

“prize winner of international piano competitions around the world...”
Marianna Prjevalskaya

Jorge H. Marin,
Vice President Sales,
CIT Aerospace
IU Alumni

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International Food Festival

Run for Boys and Girls!!
The Office of International Student Services invites you to participate in the IU South Bend International Friendship Program. The program matches incoming international students with IU South Bend faculty, staff, and alumni. The program is designed to help international students adjust to their lives in the U.S. and to give hosts the opportunity to learn about other cultures and perspectives.

The International Friendship Program provides a great opportunity for cross-cultural learning. American hosts are individuals or families who appreciate cultural diversity and have expressed an interest in sharing their time with an international student. They want to welcome you to the South Bend community and help you adjust to your new life at IU South Bend.

Your host may invite you to visit their home for an occasional meal, meet for tea/coffee, attend cultural events, attend sporting events, go shopping, etc. Any events that you attend that require a purchase of a ticket will be your responsibility unless your host offers to pay. Your host will try to meet with you two or three times a semester.

If you are interested in participating in the IU South Bend International Friendship program, please complete the form and email it to oiss@iusb.edu or you can mail it or come to our office and submit the application. Don’t miss the opportunity. It’s a great way to network, seize great opportunities, develop your language skills, to make new friends and build your career.

http://www.iusb.edu/~oiss/current_students/friend_prg.shtml

Thank You
Julie!!!!

Welcome
Connie!!

Thank You
Julie!!!!

Welcome
Connie!!

Dear Advisor,

I am curious about working in the summer. I am getting different information from different people. Some people tell me I can only work 20 hours in the summer. Other people are saying that I can work as much as I want. How many hours can I legally work on campus?

Sincerely,

Want to work more hours.

Dear Advisor,

I have found an internship off-campus and I want to get paid for it. Is there anything I can do to be paid?

Sincerely,

Hoping to intern this summer

Dear Want to work more hours,

Yes during official holidays – summer vacation and winter break, students on F-1 visas may work more than 20 hours a week on campus. If your current supervisor has questions about this, they may contact the international office.

Sincerely,

OISS

Dear Hoping to intern this summer,

You can intern any time of year. The most important thing is that you need to be enrolled in a class or independent study that is connected to your major. This includes the summer. To be authorized, you will need to show proof of employment, letter from your advisor or teacher of the class connected to the internship. You will need to make an appointment with the international office. For more information please visit http://www.iusb.edu/~oiss/current_students/opt.shtml

Sincerely,

OISS
WORLD CULTURE

ARE YOU READY FOR THE WORLD CUP? JUNE 11TH SOUTH AFRICA!!!

The world cup of nations takes place every four years and for the first time ever, it will be hosted in Africa. Not only will this World Cup be entertaining but we are blessed to be witnessing to the making of history in the football world. So come June 11th all eyes will be turned on the southern part of Africa, here countries will come together in great battle and rivalry.

Each continent will be represented and hence there will be a variety of culture present. In total 32 countries will take part in the FIFA World CUP. The event kicks off on the 11th of June and all will be geared up supporting their national teams, for those who were lucky enough to qualify. But if your country did not qualify, this is a chance to bond with your neighboring countries by cheering and supporting their team. Football or what is known here as soccer is a very celebrated sport around the world...and I’m happy that it’s now catching on here in the U.S. too.

By Chabula Mulumbu

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

The International Student Organization (ISO) has hosted the International Food Festival (IFF) for the last 10 years. This year the IFF will differ from previous festivals. The ISO decided to change some things in the festival, so its 11th anniversary will open a new chapter in the Festival’s life. The attendees will notice the first changes in the food part. There are three categories of served meals such as Appetizer, Main Entrée and Dessert. The various meals will be served by 17 groups that represent 15 countries.

The second part of the festival, which is entertainment, was also modified. For the first time, among the international performers will be the interactive drum and dance troupe called Drumananda. Those attendees who are willing to play music will get an instrument from Drumananda and join the group. If it happens that a person does not want to play music, s/he can dance to a variety of rhythms that Drumananda will play. The entire event will be around 3 hours long. The tickets are not refundable. We will serve food until it is gone. Guests may also buy shirts with the ISO’s logo.

The International Student Organization will host the 11th Annual International Food Festival (IFF) on April 17, 2010. The IFF will be held in the Grille at the Administration Building at IUSB from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

The tickets are $10 for Adults and $8 for Children.

Voy Marczynski
ISO President

ASIAN CULTURE FESTIVAL

Friday, April 23, 2010.
5:30-8:00 p.m.
The Grill.

Great way to know the Asian Culture!
Food, Fun, and Entertainment for Everyone!!!
International Students Community Volunteering (ISCV)

**Remember, with every lap you run/walk for sponsor, a child’s life is being changed.**

**Place:** Student Activity Center (On the Track)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 15, 2010.

**Participants:** Only IU Students/Faculty/Staff. You can invite guests, but they would have to pay an entrance fee $5.00.

**Time:** 6:00pm—9:00pm. You can download Sponsor’s Sign Up Sheet from here.

Our group includes international students from Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Zimbabwe, Ivory Coast, Malaysia, Ethiopia, Lebanon to name a few. ISCV—Our mission is to put smiles on people’s faces. Previously, we targeted homeless individuals, the elderly, juveniles, and hospital patients, but recently we opened it to the community at large.

The ISCV has been up and running since the spring of 2008. So far we have more than 30 members but less than 20 are active. Our club has reached out to the community and since its inception we have been to homeless shelters and a juvenile center. We have also created Christmas posters for juveniles and have asked for community donations that we handed to the people in the homeless shelters. Each time we visited the homeless shelters, we always took initiative to help with daily chaos such as breakfast and cleaning the premises. At the juvenile center, we were mentors and helped tutor the juveniles with their homework.

We selected the Boys and Girls Club because it is part of our mission to consider organizations like those, and we take pride in knowing that by visiting the boys and girls we do help tomorrow’s future. Upon our last visit to this center, we decided to start this project because we wanted to be able to help the staff at the Boys and Girls Club continues motivating the kids. We all thought the staff did a wonderful job and how better to say thank you to them but to show appreciation by putting smiles on the kid’s faces. Hence, we came up with the idea of this fundraising event.

If you too want to be part of it, feel free to contact the club representatives. You don’t have to be non-American. This club is all about diversity and making friends—together we can make a difference.

For this event, we are aiming at a minimum of 50 people to run. The number of participants all depends on how we advertise this event. We are expecting people to come at different times ranging from during the break for a class, before a class, and after a class. We believe the allocated time will work well for everyone. However, before you come to run, you need to bring your sponsor sheets. Your sponsor can donate from $1.00 per lap to whatever. It all depends on how you negotiate. It’s going to be fun—invite your friends.
Prjevalskaya, a 2005 Associate Diploma from Rasin School of the Arts, laureate of international piano competitions. Only within one year she won five prizes at five international piano competitions third prize at “Paderewski” International Piano Competition in November of 2007 (Poland), first prize at Young Artists Piano Competition in Hartford in CT in 2008 (USA), sixth prize in Seoul International Piano Competition (Korea) in 2008, third prize at “Jose Iturbi” International Piano Competition in Valencia in 2008 (Spain) where she also got a special “Kawai” prize for the best Spanish contestant and third prize at Ferrol International Piano Competition also in 2008 where she also got a special prize “Gregorio Baudot” (Spain). In November of 2009 Marianna was awarded the First Prize by a unanimous decision of the jury the at Jose Roca International Piano Competition in Valencia, Spain and in March of 2010 she became prize winner of Takamatsu International Piano Competition in Japan.

Other prizes she has won in previous years include Second Prize at Young Concert Artists International Auditions in New York in 2004, Third Prize at the Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition in New York 2004, the First Prize at the Beethoven Piano Competition at the RCM in 2002 in London, Second Prize at the Beethoven Intercollegiate Piano Competition of the Beethoven Society of Europe in London in 2002, First and unanimous Prize at Dudley International Piano Competition in 2003 in United Kingdom, the First Prize and the Gold Chappell Medal at the Gold Chappell Medal Piano Competition in London in 2003 and First Prize and a Special Prize for Musicality at Marisa Montiel Piano Competition in Linares (Spain) at the age of 14.

During her career Marianna performed with Galician Symphony Orchestra, Valencian Symphony Orchestra, Korean Symphony, Paderewski Pomeranian Philharmonic Orchestra, Rzeszow Philharmonic Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra of Moldavia. Marianna appeared in different festivals and in venues such as during the Salzburg Festival at the Grosser Saal of the Mozarteum in Salzburg (Austria), Festival Russo at the Academia Santa Cecilia of Rome (Italy), Bologna Festival (Italy), Norwich and Norfolk Festival (UK), Divertimento Festival in Naleczow (Poland), Teatro Goldoni in Florence, Chopin Museum in Palma de Mallorca, Steinway Hall, Weill Recital Hall and Yamaha Artists Services Piano Salon in New York. She gave recitals in cities such as Bologna, Palermo and Warsaw, and in the UK she offered recitals in Leeds, Manchester, Glasgow, Dudley and London. Marianna was invited to participate in the European Piano Forum in Berlin as well as participated in the Summer Academies in Salzburg Mozarteum, Euro Arts Music Academy in Leipzig and Holland International Music Sessions.

Thank you for sharing your story and picture.
1. When did you graduate from IU South Bend?
   A. December 1999

2. What degree did you get? What was Your Major?
   A. Master in Business Administration

3. What do you currently do?
   A. I work for CIT Group, commercial bank and finance company headquartered in New York, but I work for the Business Aircraft financing department located in Dallas, TX.

4. How does your IU South Bend degree help you with this position?
   A. It helped me differentiate myself in the work place by having a post-graduate and advanced educational degree. Having studied my MBA after having work experience and receiving my Bachelor's was more beneficial if I had just done the MBA right after college.

5. What attracted you to IU South Bend?
   A. The first reason I wanted to come to South Bend was because I wanted to study the English language for six months and return to my home country Colombia. South Bend, compared with other U.S. metropolitan areas, does not have a large Hispanic population so I figured that I'd really learn the language for my estimated period of time of stay. The cost of living was also very attractive to me.

6. What did you like during your stay here in IU South Bend?
   A. The relationships I developed throughout the ten years I stayed in the city. I built relationships around school, through participation in sports, music, work, and community service. My bonds to South Bend one way or another will always be there.

7. What did you do for enjoyment during your stay here in IU South Bend?
   A. I played soccer, joined a music band, went dancing, joined a gym, and even had a radio program in a local radio station at some point. I also joined the IUSB Student Alumni and Alumni Association. I was Treasurer and created a Scholarship called the Sueño Scholarship that provides financial assistance and scholarships to minority students.

8. How do you describe your stay in IU South Bend?
   A. Very formative and enriching. It was the best decision I could have made in my life.

9. What did you hate/least liked during your stay in IU South Bend?
   A. I wouldn't say that I hated, but getting used to the weather was a challenge, the lack of job and work opportunities for a young professional like me was also something I had preferred it would have been different, and some people was very close minded or not so much open or exposed to international diversity and that sometimes was a little frustrating.

10. What advice can you give for our current International Student?
    A. Be exposed to opportunities because they are not going to come to your door; participate in as many activities as possible, even in those that you don’t enjoy that much; share your personal and professional objectives and goals with everybody because you never know who will open a door of opportunity for you; never give up and be persistent no matter how difficult the horizon looks to you; be also flexible to change your plans and take risks as well as do something that you have never done before.

    I know that a lot of international students come to the U.S. looking for higher education and work opportunities like I did. I also know that due to current regulation on immigration, those professional goals are not easy to reach and sometimes is difficult to find a job. However there are always ways to be able to convince a person or a company to take the chance and give you an opportunity. Be creative and loyal to those that always help you. Create bonds with people that may be able to help you achieve your goals even if you don’t personally like them that much. Be focused on your long term goals even if the short term looks uncertain.

    Thank you for sharing your story and picture.

Jorge H. Marin,  
Vice President Sales, CIT Aerospace  
International IU Alumni
Calendar of Events

**April**
- April 5—May 16 Open Registration
- Thu—April 15 Run for Boys and Girls (SAC)
- Sat—April 17 International Food Festival
- Fri—April 23 Asian-Pacific Culture
- Sat—April 24 ISO Event
- April 28—Last Day of Class

**May**
- May 6—Final Exam
- May 11—Commencement
- May 17—Classes Begin—Summer Session I
- May 31—Memorial Day

**June**
- June 23—Orientation Day!
- June 30—Classes End—Summer Session I

**July**
- July 5—Closed
- July 6—Classes Begin—Summer Session II

**August**
- Aug 16—Classes End—Summer Session II
- Aug 18—Orientation Day!
- Aug 30—Classes Begin!

**Office of International Student Service NEWS**

**OISS Office:**
- Julie Williams—OISS Director (Until May 3rd)
- Vivian Yamoah—OISS Assistant Director
- Betsy Court—OISS Student Representative
- Tamika Donalton—OISS Admission Officer

**Essay Worabo—OISS Student Intern**
- Chabula Mulumbu—OISS Student Worker
- Ju-Hsuan “Vikky” Lin—OISS Student Worker

**Editor:** Vivian Yamoah  **Layout:** Essay Worabo, Chabula Mulumbu

**** items—check email for date, time and location