**INTERNATIONAL TASTES**

The International Student Organization (ISO) will be hosting its 12th Annual Food Festival on April 9, from 3-6 pm in The Grille. This year's event will highlight cuisine from Argentina, China, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Israel, the Ivory Coast, Japan and the United States. Cultural performances will also showcase dancing styles from Ireland, China, Africa and El Salvador, and a fashion show will include designs from around the world, as well.

Students will spend several hours preparing their food on Friday and Saturday. Tables will be decorated and, in many cases, traditional attire will be donned to complete the scene. The menu for the afternoon was decided and prepared by the representatives from each country, with competition in mind. Sampling from every table is encouraged, since attendees will be expected to vote for their favorite cook, performance and fashion design. According to the President of the ISO, Desiree Kadet, “We are expecting 300 people, so the food will be served until it is gone.” Donations for disaster relief in Japan will also be accepted at the event.

If you have any questions, please contact the ISO at iso@iusb.edu or call the OISS at 574-520-4419.

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**A Thank You**

The OISS would like to extend a special thank you to the five native Japanese students who responded so quickly and proactively to make a difference to those who were in jeopardy in their homeland.

The staff of the Ernestine Raclin Center for the Arts were integral in making the charity concert a reality in such a short period of time.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the efforts to raise funds to support the ongoing relief efforts in Japan.

Donations raised during the week of March 21 totaled $2,390 and will go to assisting Japan as it recovers from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

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**Crossing the Hall To Cross the Border**

Beginning in the fall of 2011, IU South Bend students will have the chance to be a part of the International Theme Housing at River Crossing.

Based on a model aimed at developing intercultural consciousness developed by Atu U. Karim in 2003, participants in theme housing will certainly have fun while also developing, among other things, their capacities to empathize with other cultures, analyze power dynamics and integrate new paradigms into their understanding of culture while strengthening their own sense of identity.

Students living in the designated hall will be given opportunities to learn new dances, languages and cooking techniques and even take experiential learning trips focused on various international communities and cultures. Many of the events for the first year will be coordinated by staff members, but students will be encouraged to share their own expertise and generate activities and events that they believe to be interesting and integral to internationalization.

Stop by River Crossing Community Building to find out how you can be a part of this exciting new housing option on campus.
On the 8th of March, 2011, more than 100 countries took part in celebrating the 100th anniversary of International Women’s Day with more than 1500 events. Traditionally, Women’s Day celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. Over time it has become more of a mixture between Mother’s Day and Valentine’s Day, where men take time out to appreciate the women in their life, showering them with little gifts and flowers.

An international conference held by socialist organizations from around the world met in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1910. The International Conference of Working Women proposed a day in which to celebrate women which was designed to be international in character. The decision at the conference led to the first International Women’s Day celebration on March 19, 1911 (the March 8 date was put into effect in 1914).

Now an official holiday in 17 countries, International Women’s Day brings light to the inequities and subjugation of women around the world and celebrates the victories that have been made to break down barriers. Using the celebratory aspects of the day as a foundation, it calls us to action to achieve equal pay, education and representation, and reduce violence against women worldwide. Find these facts and more information about what you can do at www.internationalwomensday.com.
Editor’s Note:
Students from Cote D’Ivoire (the Ivory Coast) have been facing increasing concerns about the situation in their home country, particularly as it begins to impact the safety of their families and their ability to continue with their schooling at IU South Bend. Below is an article written by Lewis Kouassi, an IU South Bend student, explaining the cause of the concerns and effects currently playing out on a daily basis.

The Cause
Cote D’Ivoire is facing a serious crisis resulting from the presidential election of November 2010. Indeed, Laurent Gbagbo and Alassane Ouattara (opponents for the presidential seat) both claim to have won the election. Alassane Ouattara is recognized by the majority of the international community as the new president while Laurent Gbagbo has been recognized as the president by the Ivorian Constitutional Council. Therefore, the presence of two presidents for the same country led to a growing tension between parties, bloody violence and a fear of civil war. According to the United Nations, more than 460 people have been killed since early December. In fact, the conglomeration of these events caused the downfall of the economic system to its lowest level. Supply problems, inflation, unemployment, and cash deficits are among the population’s daily struggles.

The Effect
Once known as a West African superpower and leader of the West African Economic and Monetary Union, known as UEMOA (which represents 40% of GDP), Cote d’Ivoire is now going through the worst economic and social crisis of its history. Several sanctions have been imposed by the European Union since the beginning of the year 2011 namely:

The EU embargo on ports and the suspension of cocoa exports (of which Cote d’Ivoire is the world’s leading producer): In fact, the port in Abidjan before the crisis brought about 90% of customs revenue into the country, but it is now affected by a drop in traffic estimated between 50 and 60%.

The EU embargo on drugs and medical supplies:
While violence continues, there is a shortage of supplies intended to treat patients. This absence is due to the embargo on drugs and supplies. As a matter of fact, doctors are left with no choice but to let patients and pregnant women die from injuries and other diseases.

The break between foreign banks and local banks:
The lack of liquidity caused by the closing of all financial institutions in the country drives people into unimaginably precarious conditions. For international students that depend on sponsors in Cote d’Ivoire, it is now impossible for them to receive any kind of funding to cover living and tuition expenses which can add up to nearly $10,000 a semester.

Meanwhile, pending a better future for Cote D’Ivoire, let’s hope that Laurent Gbagbo and Alassane Ouattara find a common ground to the issue so as to avoid another civil war in Africa.

“IT has been about two months that all the financial institutions are closed in Cote D’Ivoire and while I worry about my family security and their well being, I am also concerned about being able to cover my expenses and tuition for the next couple days.”
Lewis Kouassi
Junior
Commerce Major
Traveling Outside the U.S.
Please review your I-20 and determine whether it is correct with regard to name, major, source of funding, etc. Also, on page 3 (the last page), check to see whether a DSO has signed the page. If the DSO signed the I-20 less than a year before your anticipated return date, the signature remains valid for travel and re-entry. If the signature will be older than a year at the time you seek to return to the U.S., please bring your I-20 to the OISS for a new signature. If there are errors or discrepancies, please bring this to the attention of a DSO.

In addition, review all of your other immigration documents. Your passport must be valid six months past the date of reentry and your I-94 card should be tucked away inside the passport. At the minimum, your U.S. visa must remain valid through the date of your return. It is a good idea to keep your documents together in one place together with financial documents and your semester registration.

Are You Applying for OPT this Semester?
All students planning to apply for OPT must attend an OPT information session. The OISS has already offered all OPT information sessions for this semester, but we will make special arrangements with individuals who have contacted the OISS for a make-up session. Please keep these appointments as directed.

Not Ready to Graduate but Your I-20 will Expire?
If your I-20 is set to expire, but you need more time to complete your degree or diploma program, please see the OISS immediately to arrange for an extension. In addition to submitting a completed extension form, which you will prepare together with your academic advisor, you must furnish evidence of financial support for the duration of the extension. Extensions may be granted up to one year at a time.

Are You Thinking of Dropping a Course?
Please note that although it is possible to e-drop a course as late as March 19, 2011, you may not be eligible to do so without a Reduced Course Load Authorization. Dropping below the minimum required course load without prior authorization will jeopardize your immigration status. Please consult with the OISS before dropping a course.

Have your Changed your Address?
You must always provide a current physical address in order to keep your SEVIS registration current and maintain your lawful status. You have 10 days to inform the OISS of any changes or you are violating your status. Please update your OneStart Account in the LOCAL ADDRESS section anytime you change your address (even if it is just a move across the hall to another apartment!).

A new iPhone/iPad app by Robot Media SL explains the origins of English language idioms and helps to make idiosyncratic phrases make a little more sense. Get access to the etymology of 23 idioms using the free version and access all 160 for a small charge. www.learnenglishidioms.com

From the app:
“In the Bible “He has kept him as the apple for his eye” (Deut. 32:10). The apple of the eye is the pupil and it was believe to be round and solid. In Old English ‘apel’ was the word for pupil and apple. The apple of one’s eye is the most dearly loved person; someone who is as precious as sight itself.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>12-2 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>MAC on the Move</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 5</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Wheelchair Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 5</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>DW 1001</td>
<td>Bedrooms of the Fallen: Photography exhibit by Ashley Gilbertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 8</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Flute and Guitar Ensembles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 8</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Euclid Quartet String Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 8</td>
<td>9-3</td>
<td>DW</td>
<td>Undergraduate Research Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 9</td>
<td>3-6 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>International Food Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 9</td>
<td>2-4 p.m.</td>
<td>DW 1001</td>
<td>South Bend Democratic Mayoral Candidate Debate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 10</td>
<td>2-4 p.m.</td>
<td>DW 1001</td>
<td>South Bend Common Council at Large Candidate Debate</td>
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<td>Apr. 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Safety Suit Concert</td>
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<td>Apr. 12</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>River Crossing</td>
<td>Crucial Conversations Series: A Talk with Connie Peterson-Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Theatre: <em>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</em></td>
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<td>Apr. 16</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Theatre: <em>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</em></td>
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<td>Apr. 18 &amp; 19</td>
<td>3-5 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>MAC on the Move</td>
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<td>Apr. 19</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Chorale and Chamber Choir</td>
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<td>Apr. 21</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Philharmonic and New Music Ensemble</td>
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<td>Apr. 21</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>Dental Ethics Lecture</td>
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<td>Apr. 25</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Speech Night Finals</td>
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<td>Apr. 26</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Wind Ensemble and Brass Choir</td>
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<td>Apr. 26</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>Graduate Research Conference</td>
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<td>Apr. 28</td>
<td>6-8 p.m.</td>
<td>DW 1001</td>
<td>South Bend Third District Common Council Candidate Debate</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>6p.m.-9p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>ISO Goodbye Party</td>
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<td>Apr. 29</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>Euclid Quartet with Warren Jones</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>South Bend Symphonic Choir</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Campus Mall</td>
<td>Multiple Sclerosis Walk 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestra</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Joyce Center @ ND</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
<td></td>
<td>SAC Parking Lot</td>
<td>IUSB E-waste Recycling Fest</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Summer Session I begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Mishawaka Ave.</td>
<td>River Park Days Parade</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

April 2011  Office of International Student Services
WHAT IT IS

You’ve seen it many times on the head of dignitaries and commoners alike throughout the Middle East.

This object, called an “igal” or “agal,” is traditionally used to hold an Arab headdress in place. The headdress is known by different names...

- keffiyeh
- ghutrah
- hattah
- mashadah
- shemagh
- chafiye
- pusi
- kaffiyah

... to name a few and worn for different reasons...

- protect from exposure to elements
- solidarity
- military
- religious expression

Images of individuals, young and old, can be found with a simple search for “agal” on Flickr.

INTERNATIONAL CROSSROADS

The South Bend Farmer’s Market

Olives from Italy, Tea from China, Textiles from India, Satay from Thailand, Pastries from Hungary. The South Bend Farmer’s Market offers far more than just locally grown produce.

Stop by for a massive $4 sandwich for lunch at Mamma Mia’s Italian Deli and then get a lesson in brewing Chinese blooming tea flowers from Katrina at Great Horse Teas. Stroll around to Bombay Boutique to get a new bracelet from India and chat with the folks at Hungarian Pastries to find out what sets their food apart. Grab some items from Sawyer’s German Meats to stock up the freezer and then take home some dinner from the Thai Lao Cuisine booth. No matter what you’re looking for, it’s just a short drive down Mishawaka Ave to internationalize your lunch or dinner.

The South Bend Farmer’s Market is open 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Tuesdays & Thursdays and 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

Year’s End

The end of the year is nearly upon us. A big congratulations to all of the graduating seniors and best of luck with whatever adventures lie ahead.

We will be welcoming many new students in the summer and fall and would love to see the faces of returning students at orientation. If you would like to offer your services as a volunteer, please remember to sign-up at www.iusb.edu/~oiss/forms/volunteer.shtml