February 3, 2011 marked the beginning of the new year throughout many Asian nations and portions of the U.S. though preparations for the event were under way for nearly a week before the event. Families continue to celebrate the new year for fifteen days, until the Lantern Festival signals the end of festivities. Spring Festival welcomes the New Year with many different traditions in different regions of the world. Most traditions serve to entertain and ward away any sadness and evil from entering into the New Year. Many of these have become well known in U.S. culture, such as the lion dance, dragon dance and red envelopes. One that has escaped most of popular culture is that of Zao Jun, the Chinese “Kitchen God.”

Just prior to the New Year Zao Jun returns to Heaven to report on the activities of the family. The Jade Emperor, the emperor of the heavens, uses Zao Jun’s report to determine if the family should be rewarded or punished for their actions the previous year. Traditionally every family kitchen has a paper image of Zao Jun hung on the wall in the kitchen throughout the year. As the report approaches they smear the paper with sticky sweets to encourage him to tell sweet stories to the Jade Emperor. (Some families hope the stickiness will keep his mouth stuck shut so he won’t be able to give a bad report.) On the 23rd day of the twelfth lunar month, they burn the paper image in the family stove to send him off to heaven. Then as part of their New Year’s celebration they hang a new image in the kitchen to watch over the family in the coming year.

**Eating Internationally: Think Globally, Eat Locally**

There are hundreds of ways to connect with people from around the world, and sharing a meal is surely one of the best. Breaking bread together is regarded as so fundamental to human relationships that we find the invitation to eat, drink, and be merry with others embedded many times over in common words from languages around the world. In English, the word “companion” literally means a person “with bread,” and the word “lady” comes down to us from the Old English “hlaf-dige,” “maker of the bread.” OISS has recently created a brochure highlighting international dining options in South Bend and Mishawaka.

Food comforts us and torments us; it satisfies yet makes us ponder who we are and how we are related to others in our common human need for it. Just a three hour drive from South Bend, the Howell Nature Center partners with Heifer International to offer visitors an interactive museum-like experience, highlighting the various food needs of communities throughout the world.

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**Lunar New Year Date on Calendars Around the World**

Measurements of time vary across cultures. Here are just a few of the many ways time is represented.

- **Chinese Lunar Calendar:** 1st of Month 1 (Tiger), Huangdi 4709
- **Gregorian:** 3rd of February, 2011
- **Alexandrian:** 26th of Tobi, 2033
- **Armenian:** 14th of Mehekani, 1460
- **Baha’i:** 16th of Sultan, 167
- **Chinese Solar Calendar:** Ji-Chou (day) of Geng Yin (month), Xin Mao (year)
- **Coptic:** 26th of Tobi, 1727
- **Ethiopian:** 26th of Ter, 2003
- **Hebrew:** 29th of Shvat, 5771
- **Hindu (Islam):** 29th of Safar, 1432
- **Indian Civil:** 14th of Magh, 1932
- **Julian:** 21st of January, 2011
- **Persian:** 19th of Mehr, 1380
- **Republican:** 15th of Pluviôse, 219
- **Roman:** 21st of January, 2764
- **Syrian:** 21st of Nisan, 2322
- **Zoroastrian:** 13th of Meher, 2400
Dear friends,

The International Student Organization (ISO) will host the 12th Annual International Food Festival (IFF) on April 9, 2011.

The Food Festival is our biggest event on campus, and it will take place from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Grille at the Administration Building at IUSB.

This year, the IFF is a competition. This is a chance to represent your country through traditional foods, decorations and Entertainment/Performances/Fashion Shows.

Please pay attention to the requirements and the deadline:
• You may pair with other people, but you can only represent one country at the time.
• Only the first fifteen countries will be represented.
• The ISO will give you a budget of $75 to purchase the ingredients.
• Ingredient Purchases will be made through the school.

*Please note: All food must be prepared in the IUSB Cafeteria under the supervision of a member of dining services. Under no circumstances can any food be prepared elsewhere.

If you are interested in helping the ISO, please contact the ISO for an application. Applications are due by February 12.

If you need more information, feel free to contact us.

Thank you

Desiree Kadet
President
International Student Organization

Jhunixa Gutierrez
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jg6@iusb.edu

Dave Andedo
(574) 514-6943

Faiz Zulkifly
faizzulk@umail.iu.edu

ISO Contact Information
iso@iusb.edu

WHAT IS IT?

Can you identify the object above?
A. a wire frame model for new car
B. a better mouse trap
C. a piñata frame
D. or something else...

Bonus points if you can also identify the region of the world in which you might find this object:
A. Mongolia
B. Malawi
C. Mexico
D. or someplace else...

Check your answers on the back page.
Growing up in Chad
Born in the Republic of Chad in 1987, Adoum H. Fadoul says the questions he is asked most often are primarily questions about the location and general culture of Chad. “I like to answer them and give them the opportunity to learn something new. Everyone in Chad is different. There are 265 dialects. Each tribe has its own culture which means they have different ways of talking, marrying, dressing, cutting their hair, circumcising and marking or tattooing themselves.”

Located in central Africa, Chad has recently added Arabic to the list of official languages, which previously only included French. As you see Adoum walking around campus, you may see him chatting in Arabic with the Saudi students, despite only studying it for two hours per week for two years. You might also be shocked by his English fluency when you realize that he learned it for one hour per week for two years and learned the rest through immersion and one semester of high school classes. He can even help with your French homework. What you won’t hear is him speaking in his native Zakhawa with any of the other Chadian students, since none of them come from the same tribe and therefore have different languages.

Coming to the U.S.
Due political persecution, Adoum’s father fled to France in 1999, ultimately settling in Togo in West Africa. With the family also targeted for persecution, Adoum was able to escape to the U.S. on September 24, 2006 while leaving his mother and four younger siblings in Chad.

Adoum attended Northside High School for one semester in Fort Wayne, taking classes in ESL, physics, math and history. How many of us would describe high school the same way as Adoum: “I loved it. It was really fun.”

Since completing his high school work, Adoum has been making ends meet by working at several gas stations in and around South Bend. You might catch him next time you stop for coffee at the 7-11 in Elkhart or the BP across the street, since he completes his shift at one and walks across the street to begin his shift at the other.

Choosing a Goal
Adoum began his college experience on January 10, 2011 with a major in Biological Sciences. As a young child, Adoum was amazed to see people enter a hospital and come out healthy. “I thought they gave the patients magic water to make them better...or superpowers that the doctor could just touch the top of your head and make the headache disappear.” When his mother clarified that it could be learned, he asked if he could learn and she started him on the path by encouraging him to take biology, chemistry, physics and math classes. He was thrilled by cellular structure and how cells could one day produce black hair and the next that same hair would come out white.

His decision to focus on neurology was inspired by tragic events in the family of one of his best friends. On separate occasions his best friend and his best friend’s sister underwent significant brain surgeries. When facilities in Chad lacked the technology to complete the operations, both were sent to France. The boy sustained injuries that resulted in significant loss of memory. Previously battling with Adoum for the top place in biology and chemistry classes, the boy could no longer speak or remember words for everyday objects. The girl was forced to receive a partially artificial skull graft when the doctor made an error and caused a portion of the bone to die before it could replace after surgery. After witnessing these and other medical errors in his community, Adoum decided he wanted to be a part of improving medical care by becoming a neurologist.

He hopes one day to take his skills and the necessary technological resources back to Chad to care for his neighbors. For now though, Adoum is excited about staying in the U.S. and hopes that someday his family will be able to come join him. “I love it here. I love the color of the snow...as long as I don’t have to shovel!”

Did You Know?
OISS has recently created a new webpage dedicated to assisting English Language Learners. Check it out at www.iusb.edu/~oiss/english.shtml
**Tax Update**

All students in F-1 or J-1 status and their F-2 or J-2 dependents, who have lived in the U.S. for less than 5 years, are considered “non-resident aliens” for tax purposes and must file a Form 8843 with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), regardless of whether anyone has been employed in the U.S. or received any other income from a U.S. source.

In addition, students in the above immigration status, who have lived in the U.S. for less than 5 years and received any kind of U.S. income, should file a tax return Form 1040NR (or 1040NR-EZ) with the IRS. These tax forms and directions for completion are available online at the IRS website: http://www.irs.gov/.

Students holding asylee, refugee, or permanent resident status, or those holding F and J status in their 6th year of U.S. residency, are likely considered “resident aliens” for tax purposes. Using the following links to the IRS’ green card test and substantial presence test, a person may determine status for tax purposes: http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/international/article/o,,id=96392,00.html

Those that meet the requirements to be considered a resident alien for tax purposes may file the same tax return forms that a U.S. citizen would file to report income (the 1040---not the 1040NR).

**Assistance in Filing a Tax Form**

Although OISS staff cannot provide tax advice, we have purchased an online software application, CINTAX, which students admitted to IUSB through the OISS are eligible to use in order to prepare the 8843, and if required, the 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ. We will present an information session regarding documents required and access to CINTAX on Monday, February 21, 5-6 p.m. in Room 102 in Greenlawn Hall.

International students may also opt to access the appropriate tax forms and directions online through the IRS Web site listed above and complete the forms independently. Keep in mind that if your tax situation is a complex one involving income from investments and a variety of sources, it may be prudent to meet with a professional tax consultant.

**Optional Practical Training**

All F-1 students interested in applying for Optional Practical Training must attend an information session to review eligibility, the application process, and requirements for maintaining status under OPT.

Please keep in mind:
- Applicants may apply for post-completion OPT up to 90 days before the program end date on the I-20 and up to 60 days following the program end date.
- Applicants must choose a date within 60 days of the program end date to begin the period of OPT.
- Applications, once receipted by the USCIS, may require 90 days to process.

The OISS will offer two information sessions in February:
- Tuesday, February 15
  4-5 p.m.
  Room 220B, Administration Building
- Wednesday, February 23
  4-5 p.m.
  Room 220B, Administration Building

**Returning to On-Campus Housing**

“Intent Forms” for residents who want to return to housing in 2011-2012 will be available on February 21. Attend one of two information sessions for clarification and guidance on completing the form – February 22 and February 24 at 9:00 p.m. in the River Crossing Community Building.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>Northside 158</td>
<td>“Titan Love!” Singles Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Basketball vs. Judson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Schurz Library</td>
<td>One Book, One Campus: Dr. Jonathan Nashel: Presentation on McCarthyism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Theatre: The Wind in the Willows</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Theatre: The Wind in the Willows</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>8-5</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Women’s Club Volleyball Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>4-5 p.m.</td>
<td>Admin 220B</td>
<td>OPT Workshop for International Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Basketball vs. Roosevelt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>2-3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Schurz Library</td>
<td>The Communist Manifesto Looked at from Outside the U.S./the West</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 17, 18, 19</td>
<td>6-9 p.m.</td>
<td>Northside 158</td>
<td>Michiana Monologues</td>
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<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Basketball vs. St. Xavier</td>
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<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>Euclid Quartet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>5-6 p.m.</td>
<td>Greenlawn 102</td>
<td>Tax Workshop for International Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>Basketball vs. Olivet Nazarene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>4-5 p.m.</td>
<td>Admin 220B</td>
<td>OPT Workshop for International Students</td>
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<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>River Crossing</td>
<td>Open Mic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>“Lift Every Voice: Celebrating the African American spirit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 3</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Barbar DeGenevie photographer</td>
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<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>Toradze Piano Studio</td>
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<td>Mar. 5</td>
<td>10-5</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Flute Festival</td>
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<td>Mar. 6</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestras</td>
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<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>IUSB Jazz Ensemble</td>
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<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>River Crossing</td>
<td>Pre-Spring Break Luau Party</td>
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<td>Mar. 12, 13</td>
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<td>SAC</td>
<td>Table Tennis Tournament</td>
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<td>Mar. 12-20</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Mar. 19</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>Muscular Dystrophy Muscle Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 23</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Studies in Dance: A Lecture Demonstration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 27</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>Vocal &amp; Piano Studios</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 1</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Auditorium</td>
<td>Toradze Piano Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 3</td>
<td>4 p.m</td>
<td>Recital Hall</td>
<td>Opera Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>3.30 p.m.-6 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>12th Annual International Food Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>6 p.m.-9 p.m.</td>
<td>The Grille</td>
<td>ISO Goodbye Party</td>
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Exploring American & World Cultures through UPComing EVENTS
While Tamika Donaldson anchored daily operations in her role as OISS’s International Admissions Officer, three new staff members arrived to the Office of International Student Services in the past nine months.

Connie Peterson-Miller arrived in May to head up the OISS as Director. Descended from Viking forebears, she had pledged upon her return from collegiate exchange study in Norway a more peaceful coexistence with her global neighbors. And to that end, she had begun her work supporting international students as a high school exchange coordinator and volunteer with refugee resettlement agencies. Since 1993, while continuing to support refugee and language program students, she served the international students of the University of Notre Dame and Gannon University until returning to her alma mater, IU South Bend. Her responsibilities presently include international student recruitment, student development, support, and advocacy, immigration advising, cross-cultural programming, and community outreach.

Debbie Knabe joined the OISS in October as the new International Student Representative. She is a longtime employee of IU South Bend and has brought to bear a wide range of knowledge and skill that makes it easier for students and colleagues alike to negotiate campus life. Debbie welcomes all visitors, answering questions that range from how to submit an international student application to where a person might find overnight accommodations and other comforts reminiscent of home.

Dusty Krikau signed on as Assistant Director in the first days of January 2011. Most recently she had served as an administrator at James Madison University in Virginia, working with multicultural student services and facilitating community service-learning alternative breaks. While away from work, she most enjoys playing with her two children, and assisting the River Park Neighborhood Association and Make A Difference Michiana with their outreach efforts. While at work, she offers advice, counsel, and assistance to international students and scholars.

Fully staffed, the Office of International Student Services now looks forward to inspirational collaborations and meeting the challenges ahead.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Connie will be out of the office Feb 26 - March 16 to Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and the Philippines for the OISS annual recruitment tour.