

# IUP GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT GAZETTE

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



**Ms. Neeru Lohiya, New Delhi Alumna (R)**



**Mr. Bhupinder Singh, Shimla Alumna (R)**



**Dr. Shivaji Deshmukh, Pune Alumna (2nd R)**

Welcome (back) to IUP! After some discussion in the Office of International Education, we decided to reintroduce a newsletter, *Global Engagement Gazette*, for the campus and community which we plan to publish once a semester.

The OIE is a comprehensive international education office handling a range of internationalization efforts and we appreciate working with faculty and staff across campus to develop and enhance IUP's international atmosphere.

We are pleased to provide the community with support, guidance and assistance:

- For a fulfilling, academically and personally, stay in the U.S. as an IUP international student or scholar.
- For research and preparation for IUP degree-seeking students to participate on an education abroad experience.
- For faculty and staff interested in enhancing their international engagement by:
  - Creating a faculty-led program,
  - Hosting an international research scholar or visiting professor,
  - Assisting with partnership development,
  - Developing a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) module with an IUP international partner,
  - Collaborating on an international grant,
  - Teaming up with an IUP international partner on mutually beneficial research,
  - Applying for a Fulbright or other international fellowships/awards

Good news for students, faculty and staff engaged in IUP-related international travel, check out the PASSHE-approved international travel insurance policy. Info can be found at: [www.iup.edu/international/students-scholars/faculty-resources/travel-guidelines/index.html](http://www.iup.edu/international/students-scholars/faculty-resources/travel-guidelines/index.html)

With support from several key IUP partners (most notably, IT Services and the Provost's Office) and several months of hard work, we are now utilizing TerraDotta ISSS, a new batching system which allows the OIE to more efficiently and accurately report information to Department of Homeland Security (F visa) and Department of State (J visa).

During 2023-2024, the IUP hosted delegations from established and prospective partner institutions: Technische Hochschule Nürnberg (Germany), University of Miyazaki (Japan), and SIIES in the State of Yucatan (Mexico).





**OIE Staff (L - R): Dr. Michele L. Petrucci, Ileana Townsend, Emma Archer and Dan Petroff**

The following international agreements were finalized this past year:

**Bangladesh**  
North South University

**Botswana**  
University of Botswana (renewal)

**China**  
Beijing Foreign Studies University

**India**  
MIT: VPU  
MIT: Avantika University  
MIT: ADT University  
DIAS (Delhi Institute Advanced Studies)  
Christ Academy Institute for Advanced Studies  
ACCMI (Association of Catholic Christian Minority Institutions)

**Malaysia**  
INTI International University (renewal)

**Poland**  
Adam Mickiewicz University (renewal)

**Taiwan**  
University of Taipei (renewal)

**United Kingdom**  
University of Essex (renewal)

**Congratulations to IUP members:**

- Institute of International Education Emergency Student Fund
  - During 2023-2024, four IUP international students were awarded special IIE funding.

- IUP Scholars Forum
  - Nafisah Sulaiman (doctoral student in Communications Media from Nigeria) was selected, for the second year in a row, to receive the Dean's Award for Excellence.
- Discover China led by Dr. Shijuan Liu at IUP international partner, Beijing University of Foreign Studies (China)
  - 15 IUP students participated in a 2-week, funded program to learn more about Chinese culture and language.
- University of Miyazaki (Japan) – UoM-IUP MEXT grant collaboration
  - AnnaPearl Diamond (Communications) – participated in a virtual Japanese culture and language course, followed by a 10-day, sponsored immersion program at UoM.
- Freeman Award for Study in Asia (Freeman-ASIA – Institute of International Education)
  - Dilan Dybus (Asian Studies) attending Kansai Gaidai University (Japan) for an academic year.
- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship (U.S. Department of State)
  - Shanya Coshey (Honors College – Asian Studies) attending Kansai Gaidai University (Japan) for an academic year.
- Plenary Speaker (China)
  - Dr. Diane Shinberg (Sociology) – Summer 2024
- Plenary Speaker (Botswana)
  - Dr. Lorraine Guth (Counseling) – Summer 2024
- CODESRIA Visiting Fellowship (South Africa)
  - Dr. Calvin Masilela (Geography and Regional Planning) – Summer 2024
- Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award (U.S. Department of State)
  - Dr. Benjamin Ford (Anthropology) – Spring 2025 to Porto, Portugal to conduct a research project, “The Human-Landscape ‘Conversation’ in the Lagoa da Pederneira Region.

The OIE is here for you!

**Emma Archer**  
Director: International Student and Scholar Services  
Director: American Language Institute

**Ileana Townsend**  
Director: Education Abroad

**Dan Petroff**  
Administrative Assistant and Immigration Clerk

We are also supported by a squad of trained and dedicated ALI instructors. Graduate Assistants, student workers, and volunteers.

You can find us in B25 Delaney Hall at 920 Grant Street and we are open:

- Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (closed for lunch from 12-1 p.m.)

It's a busy and exciting time and we look forward to your support and participation in OIE events. Check out this newsletter for more details and good luck with the semester!

**MICHELE L. PETRUCCI, PH.D.**

*Associate Vice President for International Education and Global Engagement*





# LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Vol 1 Issue 1

NAFISAH A. SULAIMAN AND MAHRUKH HAMID



**Nafisah Ahmad Sulaiman, a graduate student worker at the OIE is from Nigeria and a Doctoral Candidate in Communications Media.**

It was an honor to work on the first edition of the *Global Engagement Gazette*, a newsletter for the OIE. This edition was especially significant, as it showcased a vibrant array of pictures and stories of events that were held between Fall 2023 and Summer 2024.

Each section was meticulously crafted to highlight the diverse range of activities, cultural exchanges, and educational abroad adventures to different parts of the globe. The newsletter also included a spotlight on educational programs offered at the American Language Institute (ALI) along with Education Abroad programs, offering firsthand accounts from students who are currently taking classes at ALI and those who had ventured on study abroad programs. We are grateful for the support of current IUP international graduates and undergraduate students and Fulbright and other scholars from various exchange programs who shared their stories filled with adventure, personal growth, and newfound perspectives. We are also grateful to the staff and student-workers at the OIE for their immense contribution to this edition of the newsletter.



**Mahrugh Hamid, a Graduate Assistant at the OIE is from Pakistan and a second-year M.A. student in Composition and Literature**

The *Global Engagement Gazette* is more than just a publication; it is a testament to the power of global connections and the endless possibilities that arise when people from diverse backgrounds come together to learn and grow.

## UPDATES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

### EMMA ARCHER

**Director: International Student and Scholar Services**

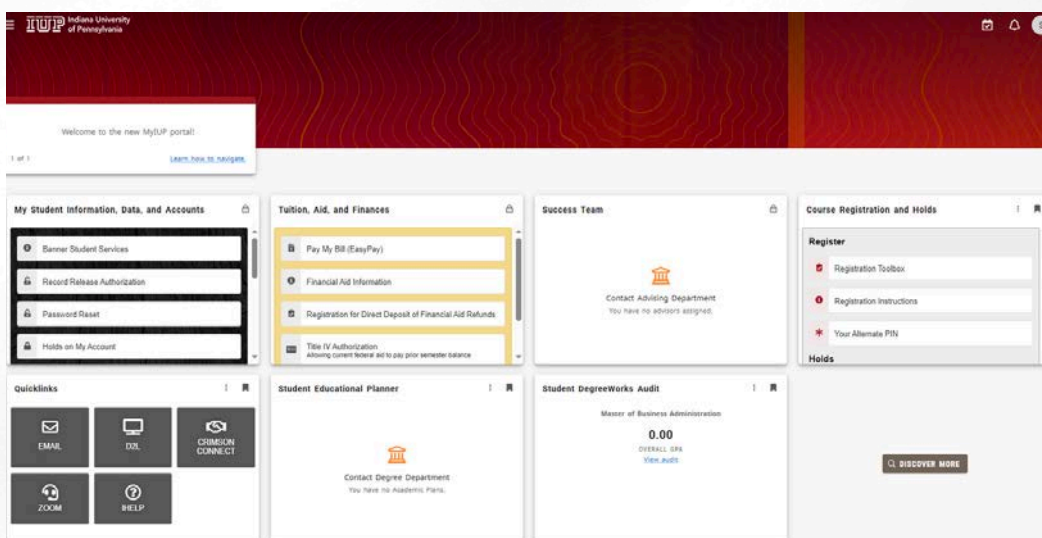
Welcome new and returning international students and scholars!

We are excited to begin the 2024-2025 academic year with you. We appreciate everyone's contributions to the OIE Newsletter, *Global Engagement Gazette*, and the great work of our editors.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and will join us for OIE events and programming this coming year.

Starting this August, IUP has a new international student portal. Please check it out at [international.iup.edu] or through the international student portal link in MyIUP. You can find information about maintaining your immigration status, requesting travel signatures, applying for work permissions, and much more in the international student portal. As always, you are welcome to reach out to OIE staff with questions and for support, and visit the website [www.iup.edu/international](http://www.iup.edu/international) for information. We hope the portal will be another useful tool in finding the information you need and making requests.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the OIE and around campus. Hope you all have a great fall semester!





# REGULAR DAY AT THE OIE

## THE STUDENT WORKERS



Working at the OIE is a wonderful experience. I enjoy helping my fellow students who come with the same questions, I once had. Getting acclimated to a new place can be challenging at first, but talking to a student who had been in my shoes before, helped me and gave me relief over whatever it was that I stressed about.

**Lejla Nakicevic | M.A. Clinical Mental Health Counseling | Bosnia**



I am immensely grateful and honored to be part of an incredible team at the OIE. My journey as a student worker has been nothing short of transformative, shaped by the unwavering guidance and support of remarkable individuals like Emma Archer, the Director of International Student Scholar Services, and other team members.

**Shadia Ntamu | M.A. Clinical Mental Health Counseling | Uganda**

At OIE, I have the pleasure of overseeing the Conversation Partners program and organizing the Culture Cafés with my fellow student workers. In addition, I am an American Culture and English (ACE) tutor. One of my favorite memories of working here is when we all planned and carried out the International Unity Day event last Fall! It was so rewarding watching everyone from such diverse backgrounds come together.

**Shagufta Haque | B.A. in Economics and B.S. in Finance | Bangladesh**

Working at the OIE has been an amazing journey where I have learned the value of cross-cultural communication and understanding. From guiding international students to organizing events that celebrate diversity, my time at the OIE has taught me the importance of kindness and understanding in our global community. I'm grateful to be a part of such an inclusive team and I look forward to continue growing with them.

**Israt Momo | Double Major in International Business & English Writing Studies | Bangladesh**

The OIE is my home away from home. I have experienced nothing but kindness from everyone here, even when I make mistakes! I love how much I am learning about Education Abroad and about other cultures as an ACE tutor.

**Angie Tejada | M.A. in Composition & Literature | Peru**

Working in the office is an excellent opportunity for me to learn how to interact with people from different countries and what kind of problems they are dealing with. In addition, I have noticed many cultural differences from everyone around the world that I never thought of or expected, which I think is a beautiful experience for my learning.

**Tsai-Yu Wang | B.A. in Early Childhood/Special Education | Taiwan**





## OIE TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES, SUMMER 2024

The Office of International Education held a team-building picnic in June and a retreat in August for staff and student-workers.



The team-building activities not only provided fun and memorable days but also laid the foundation for stronger, and more collaborative relationships within the OIE.



# OIE EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The OIE programs offer activities like Small Talks, Culture Café, and Cultural Excursions, as well as academic initiatives such as Education Abroad, American Language Institute (ALI), and SkillZone tutoring. Students benefit by developing cross-cultural skills and a global perspective, preparing them for an inter-connected world. The programs help students broaden their horizons, immerse in diverse cultures, and build connections with peers worldwide.

## SMALL TALKS

Small Talks are social sessions held during lunch hour at North Dining hall, providing privacy and intimate group space. Each talk has a carefully selected theme and is free to sign up.



Small talk events has been an invaluable part of my journey as an international student. These gatherings provide a platform for enriching conversations on diverse topics, allowing me to broaden my perspectives and learn from the experiences of others. Each session covers different themes, allowing me to delve into subjects ranging from cultural nuances to global issues. Engaging in casual discussions during these events not only fosters connections with fellow attendees but also enhances my understanding of various cultural contexts.

**Chin-Yi Huang**

I enjoy small talk. I usually gain more information about the topic, and these topics are quite relevant to my daily life. It's also good to meet with others and catch up on each other's lives besides our busy semester. Thank you for planning these activities!

**Chien-Hui Yu**



### QR CODES FOR FALL 2024 SMALL TALKS



#### SMALL TALK 1



Driving, Working & Living  
in the U.S.

Free lunch is provided!

WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2024  
11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.



SIGN UP TO ATTEND

LOCATION: NORTH DINING

#### SMALL TALK 2

Fall 2024

#### U.S. Healthcare

Wednesday October 2, 2024

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
in North Dining Hall

FREE lunch will be provided!

Sign up to attend



Get ready to delve into the world of healthcare with us! We offer a range of resources, both on-campus and off-campus, to assist students and their dependents.



Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
Office of International Education  
[www.iup.edu/international](http://www.iup.edu/international)



#### SMALL TALK 3

Resources for the Winter Break

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS BEFORE THE BREAK?

Join us on **Wednesday**  
**November 6, 2024**  
from **11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
at **North Dining.**

We will be discussing resources that are available to IUP students during winter break. We want you to feel comfortable and supported.

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED!

Sign up to attend -





# CULTURE CAFÉ AND CONVERSATION PARTNERS

The OIE organizes events like Culture Café and Conversation Partners for IUP students. Culture Café offers games in Fall and Spring, while Conversation Partners pair students with peers from diverse cultures for a semester. Through weekly interactions, campus activities, and trips, students can learn about different cultures, practice languages, and forge lasting friendships, enhancing their college experience.

**QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR FALL 2024 CONVERSATION PARTNERS**



I had a blast at Culture Café! Everyone was so nice and inviting and the games were very well thought out. We played bingo and uno and it was a lot of fun to get to hang out with people I don't regularly see. I also invited some of my friends from my dorm floor. Overall, it was a great experience and I will definitely be doing it again!

**Sydney Bonakdar**

Conversation Partners has been an awesome experience for me this semester, and I learned a lot through it. My partner is in the same department as me, so we were able to bond through that. We learned about each other's cultures with anything from sports, entertainment, and our hometowns. I especially enjoyed bowling, where we got to hang out and interact with other students within the program.

**Seth Weaver**







# AMERICAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE (ALI)

## ABOUT ALI

The American Language Institute offers immersive English programs geared towards achieving academic, professional, and personal goals. ALI offers different programs such as semester-long in-person classes, short-term in-person and online classes.

## SEMESTER-LONG ALI STUDENTS



By the end of each semester, it is rewarding to watch students, both online and face-to-face improve their language skills and emerge as more confident learners.

**Atia Rasul**



The ALI courses are useful. After two semesters, not only my English learning, but also other skills (like speaking and time management) have improved.

**Yi Ning**



Thanks Emma, for helping me with the school education, transportation, and life in IUP. Also, the ACE tutoring class helps me a lot, such as training my English communication skills, and providing lots of suggestion for school assignment and essay. I am very grateful to all the teachers and tutors.

**Chen Che**



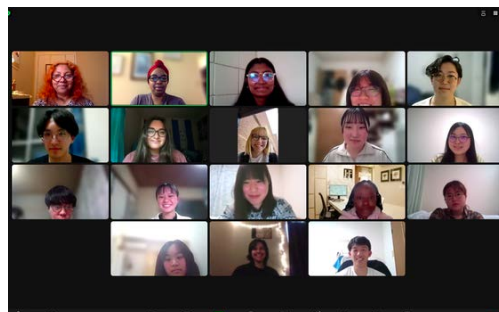
I really love the ACE tutoring because it gives me extra time to complete the assignments with someone helping me, and it also provide a lot of opportunities for talking and chatting in English which makes me improve my speaking skills a little bit.

**Ming Wei**

## IUP - MIYAZAKI PARTNERSHIP

A new agreement between the University of Miyazaki and IUP offers students expanded opportunities, including Japanese language instruction and in-person cultural experiences in Japan. The University of Miyazaki received \$1 million from the MEXT to fund this five-year collaboration, which builds on the existing virtual English instruction for UoM students at IUP.

## VIRTUAL CLASSES WITH UOM STUDENTS



## IUP - YUCATAN PARTNERSHIP

IUP was selected along with one other U.S. university to host undergraduate students from universities in Yucatan, Mexico for the Secretariat of Research, Innovation, and Higher Education State of Yucatan scholarship program. The program includes English language and American culture courses, and cultural excursions.



Studying at IUP for three weeks was a highly enriching experience. I found the classes to be engaging, thanks to the excellent teachers and their insightful approach to teaching. The campus itself was beautiful, adding to the overall positive experience of my academic journey there. I had an extraordinary experience on the trips organized by the OIE as part of our course.

**Fabiola Interian -Yucatan**



SkillZone is a free support center for IUP international students, offering academic coaching, English conversation practice, cultural discussions, and campus resources. It provides tutoring, cultural guidance, and success strategies in presentation skills, classroom expectations, study strategies, academic integrity concerns, and test preparation. SkillZone is open Monday to Thursday from 11:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and on Fridays from 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. during fall and spring semesters.



I am excited to inform you that the SkillZone tutoring work you are doing is doing wonders! You are helping a lot. I was confused each time I came for the tutoring but after the lessons, I did the work step by step successfully. My professor was happy with my work.

**Ednah C. Biwot, PhD, Communications Media**



## PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND

### OPTIONS AFTER F1 VISA

Work Visa Options and  
Green Card Choices after OPT  
with Serratelli Mijal PLLC

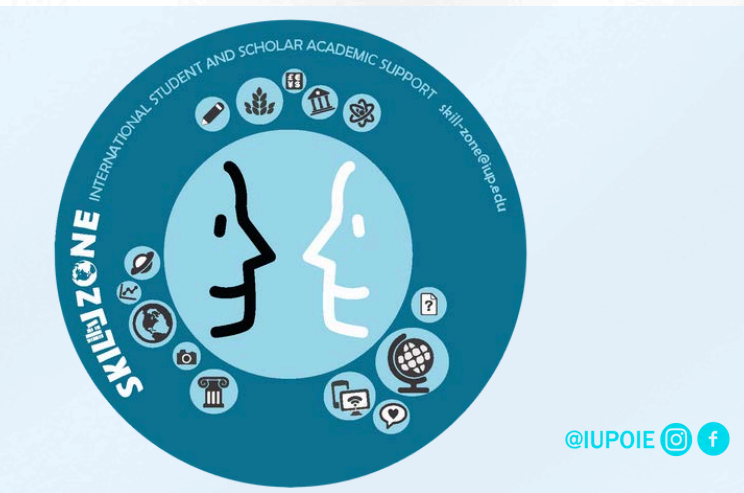
**OCTOBER 4, 2024  
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

Attend using this Zoom link -  
[iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524](https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524)

Join us to learn about the different options  
you have available to you after OPT as  
international students.

**IUP** Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
Office of International Education

**@IUPOIE**



**@IUPOIE**



# Education Abroad Fall 2024

## IMPORTANT DATES



### WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

4:15 - 5:00 p.m.  
B25 Delaney Hall

September 18  
September 25  
October 2  
October 30  
November 6  
December 4

### ORIENTATIONS

11:00 a.m.  
North Dining Hall

Wednesday, September 11  
Re-entry  
For Spring and Fall 2024 programs

Thursday, November 21  
Pre-departure  
For Spring 2025 programs

### STUDY ABROAD FAIR

Wednesday, October 9  
Leonard Hall, 11:00 a.m.

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

Winter and Spring  
Programs

Tuesday, October 15





# EDUCATION ABROAD

## ABOUT EDUCATION ABROAD

Education Abroad supports IUP students, faculty, and staff with educational and professional opportunities overseas. We assist with program development, planning, application, placement, pre-departure orientation, on-site emergencies, and re-entry support.

Go Crimson Hawks!



## ELIGIBILITY

- Current IUP or PASSHE full-time students (domestic & international)
- Open to all majors
- Undergraduates and graduates
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 (some programs require 3.0)
- No incomplete (I) grades, current or pending judicial probation, or outstanding financial obligations to IUP



Do you do research or want to attend a meeting/conference abroad? Register with our office to access comprehensive support too!

## EXPLORE THE OPTIONS

**Traditional:** Crimson Exchanges, Third-Party Providers, and Independently arranged- Study abroad for one or two semesters or a summer.

**Faculty-led:** Designed and taught by an IUP professor in a region and topic of their expertise.

**Travel Seminars** involve students traveling to various locations to receive instruction on cultural topics or shipboard education programs.

**Field Study** involves experiential learning outside the classroom, such as Service-Learning, Internship Abroad, Research, and Volunteer opportunities.



SCAN TO FIND PROGRAMS

## WHAT OUR HAWKS ABROAD SAY

I studied for a week at the Trumpet Fest in Orvieto, Italy. This was my first time out of the country, and it changed my perspective about the world! I loved being able to experience both the small, charming town of Orvieto, and the large city of Rome. Both areas were completely different and I'm glad I got to see them. I had an incredible time culturally and musically!

**Sarah Cisney**



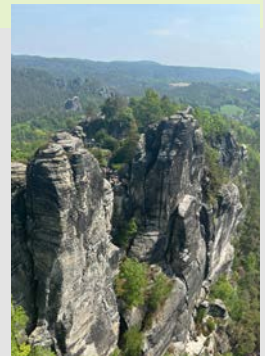
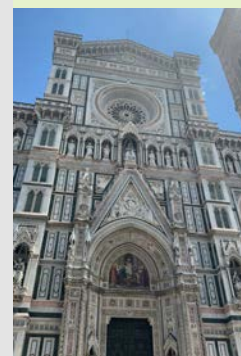
I studied abroad twice! One semester in Valladolid, Spain learning Spanish, and went to India in a short-term Allied Health program. I learned about health care management in Mumbai, we experienced clinical trials over several days. This was my first time doing clinicals! I also learned about the emotional care management and food heritage of India. It was great to relax, meditate, and do yoga while learning about organic farming. India is such a beautiful country, and I hope to go back one day!

**Isabelle Clayton**



I spent the 2023 Spring semester in Marburg, Germany, studying German and Political Science at Philipps-Universität Marburg. My favorite part of studying abroad was the confidence I built as I became more comfortable with conversational German. While abroad, I had the opportunity to travel to most of my destinations alone, jumping to different hostels. I met people from all over the world and had some great adventures with new friends

**Emmy Scheg**





# 2024 STUDY ABR



## Utila, Honduras

- Biochemistry
- Biology / Pre-veterinary
- Ecology, Conservation, and Evolutionary Biology



### Type of Program

Number of  
students

### Crimson Hawk



15

### Number of Attendees (86)

Winter - 12  
Spring - 18  
Summer - 50  
Fall - 7

### Countries (15)

China	Czech Republic
Honduras	India
Spain	Taiwan



# ROAD PROGRAMS



## Faculty-led



59

## Affiliate Programs



11

France  
Ireland  
United Kingdom

Germany  
Italy

Ghana  
Japan

Greece  
South Korea



## FACULTY-LED & FACULTY-DIRECTED RECURRENT PROGRAMS

60th Annual Pennsylvania-Valladolid Study Spanish Language and Culture for one whole semester in Spain.  
Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff

Tropical Biodiversity and Sustainability focuses on Conservation in the Tropics.  
Dr. Josiah Townsend

Cours d'Eté in Nancy, France offers French language study and cultural excursions.  
Dr. Charles McCreary

Discover India program provides opportunities to learn about Indian business practices and culture.  
Dr. Prashanth Bharadwaj

Forensic Archeology Field School excavates crash sites to locate missing personnel from past conflicts of the US.  
Dr. Andrea Palmiotto  
Dr. William Chadwick







# OIE CULTURAL EXCURSIONS

The OIE offers trips for international students to explore various destinations like Washington D.C., Pittsburgh, Greensburg, Niagara Falls, and Somerset. Future plans include visits to historical sites, cities, and natural wonders to immerse students in diverse cultures and create lasting memories.



My experience on the trips was truly extraordinary. Each excursion was filled with valuable knowledge and fascinating insights into the unique history of every place we visited. It was an enriching journey that provided me with a deeper understanding and appreciation for different historical contexts.

**Fabiola Interian**



# SIGN UP FOR FALL 2024 CULTURAL EXCURSIONS



## PITTSBURGH TRIP

Open to new international students and their families!

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 23**  
**8:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.**

**COST: \$25 CASH**  
(non-refundable, non-transferable)

Pay cash during Orientation or at OIE Front Desk.  
Cost includes transportation, a boat tour, Cultural District visit and museum, and shopping!

**Bus will depart from KCAC at 8:00 a.m.**

@IUPOIE



JOIN US FOR A TRIP!

## Niagara Falls

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**  
**5:00 A.M. - 10:30 P.M.**

Sign up at the OIE with \$50 cash  
(non-refundable, non-transferable)

**BUS DEPARTS FROM KCAC AT 5:00 A.M.**

**IUP** Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
Office of International Education

@IUPOIE



@IUPOIE

JOIN THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FOR A SELF-GUIDED TOUR IN ...

## WASHINGTON D.C.

**Date: October 19, 2024 (Saturday)**  
**Time: 5:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.**  
**Cost: \$50 cash, sign up at OIE**

Transportation will be provided.  
Bus departs from KCAC at 5:30 a.m.

Trip is non-refundable and non-transferable.



**IUP** OFFICE OF International Education

@IUPOIE

## GROVE CITY OUTLET SHOPPING

**Saturday, November 2, 2024**  
**9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Sign up with \$20 cash at OIE  
(non-refundable, non-transferable)

I love shopping!  
And they were on SALE!  
Can't wait to try them on again!



# Fall 2024 Event Schedule



## AUGUST

- 25 Indiana County Fair 12:30 p.m. (free, sign up at OIE)

## SEPTEMBER

- 4 Small Talk 1: Driving, Working, & Living in the U.S. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,  
North Dining
- 13 CPT/OPT Workshop 1:00 p.m. [iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524](https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524)  
or Delaney B25
- 17 CPDC Panel: Job Search Strategies for International Students, 5:15-6:15 p.m.  
B34 Stabley Library or <https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97886908540>
- 28 Niagara Falls Trip 5:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m. (\$50, sign up at OIE)

## OCTOBER

- 2 Small Talk 2: U.S. Healthcare 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., North Dining
- 4 Work Visa Options & Green Card Choices after OPT with Serratelli Mijal  
PLLC 1:30-3:00 p.m. [iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524](https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524)
- 8 International Lunch Hour 12:00-1:15 p.m., Sutton Hall Blue Room
- 7-11 International Education Week [www.iup.edu/international/iew](http://www.iup.edu/international/iew)
- 11 CPT/OPT Workshop 11:00 a.m. [iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524](https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524)  
or Delaney B25
- 19 Washington D.C. Trip 5:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m. (\$50, sign up at OIE)
- 25 International Unity Day 6:00-9:00 p.m. HUB

## NOVEMBER

- 2 Grove City Outlet Shopping 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (\$20, sign up at OIE)
- 6 Small Talk 3: Winter Break 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., North Dining
- 8 CPT/OPT Workshop 3:00 p.m. [iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524](https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/97315889524)
- 20 International Lunch Hour 12:00-1:15 p.m., Sutton Hall Blue Room



## OTHER OIE AND CAMPUS EVENTS

The OIE hosts events like International Education Week, International Unity Day, and International Lunch Hour to promote cultural immersion and global understanding. These events feature workshops, cultural performances, photo contests, and culinary experiences to celebrate diversity and foster a sense of community.

### INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

International Education Week (IEW) is a joint initiative by the U.S. Departments of State and Education promoting cross-cultural awareness, global readiness, and attracting future leaders. The week celebrates diversity, fosters understanding, and offers free events to the community, such as the International Lunch Hour, Poetry Night, and Education Abroad Fair.



**SIGN - UP  
FOR 2024  
POETRY  
NIGHT**

### SIGN-UP FOR 2024 IUP INTERNATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST



## INTERNATIONAL UNITY DAY

International Unity Day is a cultural celebration where students from diverse backgrounds come together to celebrate and learn about different cultures through food, music, and dance. The event promotes unity, understanding, and cultural exchange among participants.

**2024 INTERNATIONAL UNITY DAY:  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024.**



The 2023 International Unity Day event was an eye-opening day for me. I discovered international students in IUP come from over 30 different countries. I got to experience their culture and cuisine. It gave me the opportunity to bond with other students from my country and to also share our culture with others.

**Benita Abuo | Nigeria**

The preparation for International Unity Day last fall was particularly memorable. OIE's support and collaboration with my students from Korean classes, we successfully operated the Korean booth; enjoying the experience of exploring other countries' booths as well. Meeting people from various cultures and broadening my understanding has been immensely enlightening.

**Sunyoung Kim | Korea**

## INTERNATIONAL LUNCH HOUR

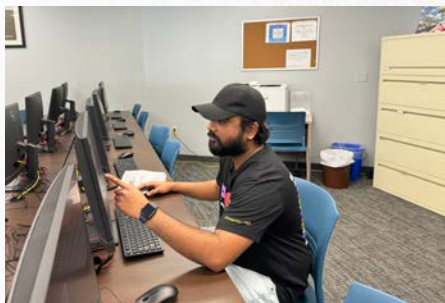
International Lunch Hour at IUP builds community connections through shared meals, conversations, and networking opportunities. This tradition, held each semester, is free for all participants. Here are some past snippets from the previous International Lunch Hours.





## IUP EXPERIENCES

### Sivanagu Addinki India



The strategies I adopted to connect with other students was by attending campus events, orientation programs, volunteering, participating in group activities, being open to meeting people, and utilizing social media. These offered unique opportunities to meet new people and form meaningful relationships, through shared interests, group activities, or simply by being open to new experiences. Building connections with peers can enhance the college experience and contribute to a supportive and vibrant campus community.

### Joy Inyele Kenya



My experience as a graduate student at IUP has been a great learning opportunity. The highlight of my time has been the faculty that I got to interact with. With every interaction, it was clear they were invested in seeing me succeed in my academic interests and professional development. I feel empowered to go out and make a difference in the world. IUP has so many resources to help one flourish and grow as a person. From supportive faculty and a diverse student body to countless opportunities to learn things and stretch beyond your limits. All you need to do is go for it!

### Anisha Grover Canada

When I came to IUP, I was stricken by mixed of feelings of nervousness and excitement. Despite my anticipation about starting my doctorate, I could not shake off the several “what ifs” that were running through my head. Talking with my roommates helped ease the tension. While classes appeared difficult and time-consuming, my cohort and I leaned on each other for academic and emotional support. Slowly, coming to IUP went from being a place of apprehension to a place where I was content.

### Naoyuki Yamashiro Japan

To adjust to life at IUP, I participated in some OIE events and made friends. There were many international students who were so friendly, and eager to make new friends too. So, it was easier for me to make friends with them. On the academic aspect, my supervisor cared about my progress, therefore, I asked questions about everything I was not sure of. I worked as a Graduate Assistant (GA) in the Sport Management department.

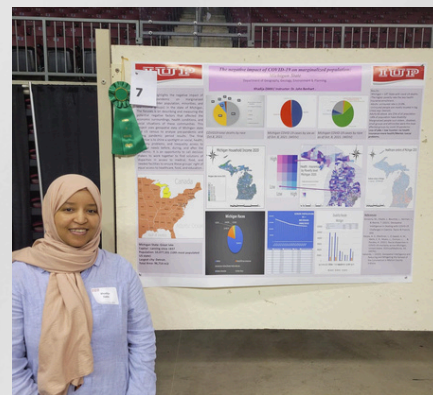
### Benita Abuo Nigeria



I felt so lost and lonely. I was in a new country and for the first time, all my family members were thousands of miles away. It was scary at first but because I was determined to adjust to my new realities, I was able to adapt. I adjusted by seeking out other people that were also feeling lost. We bonded together and thereafter sought for help by talking to other people from my country that were here before me. I made sure to always attend OIE events because I always feel at home whenever I interact with international students.

## INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION GRANT RECIPIENT

### Khadija Zakki Morocco



Receiving the grant was such a relief. My husband and I were struggling financially because he couldn't work off-campus, and we had a huge bill to pay for his PhD. Plus, with our new baby and the effects of the pandemic, things became tough. So, when I got the grant, a huge weight was lifted off our shoulders. It gave us hope and made us feel more secure. It was a real blessing during such difficult time.

In the past, I also received a scholarship from the School of Graduate Studies and Research. Without the grant and scholarship, I honestly don't think I would have been able to finish my program. They were the lifeline that kept me going.

IUP is more than just a university to me; it is like a second home. Throughout my journey there, I experienced an incredible sense of support and belonging. No matter how tough things got, whether it was struggling with coursework or dealing with personal challenges, I always felt like I had a community rallying behind me. The professors, staff, and my peers were all there for me offering guidance, encouragement and a listening ear when I needed it most.

To anyone considering IUP, you should know that you are not just choosing a university; you're choosing a supportive community that will be there for you.



# FULBRIGHT PROGRAM



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

IUP received the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program for International Teachers (FDAI) for the ninth year in fall 2024, to host 21 teachers from 14 countries. The program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by IREX involves auditing courses, field experiences, and research projects.



I started working with the FDAI in 2021 as the Program Assistant. This program gives me the opportunities to work in a resourceful environment where teachers from around the world bring in and share their diverse backgrounds to learn from each other and grow together. This program has helped me realize how education systems in different societies are working towards a shared vision of improving the world by empowering the young generations.

**Farzaneh Jahangiri, Doctoral Candidate: Department of Professional Studies in Education**



The FDAI experience has taught me that although our cultures shape our backgrounds, our dreams and aspirations unite us. This program has provided me with a global family that not only celebrates diversity and culture but also fosters lifelong friendships that I will always cherish.

**Koga Chilume, FDAI 2019 Participant) / Doctor of Education Program**

## PARTICIPANT EXPERIENCES

**Sunyoung Kim**  
*Korea*

Living in the U.S. for the first time was a mix of unfamiliarity and excitement, but thanks to OIE's unwavering support, I've successfully



completed my academic year. I've also cherished participating in trips and Halloween event. These experiences not only helped me adjust to school life but also allowed me to meet students from diverse backgrounds and forge lasting friendships.

**Stefmi D. Wanda**  
*Indonesia*

As a FDAI I enjoyed the student life at IUP. This program provides many benefits for me as an English teacher, both professionally and pedagogically



One of the benefits was improving my skills in Global Citizenship Education because I met 16 teachers from 10 countries. I also had the opportunity to introduce Indonesian culture during the International Unity Day which was held by IUP OIE. I also got to know about other cultures.

**Lourdes S. Cuadros**  
*Mexico*



Studying at IUP as a FDAI trained me in different areas such as the development of academic projects, the acquisition of skills to teach, and the knowledge about some aspects of the American

education system. I enjoyed the delicious and nutritious meals served at the North Dining hall. I also find the library to be very comfortable. Also, I appreciate the opportunity I was offered to experience American culture first hand by being assigned to a family whom I lived memorable moments with. I found the people at the OIE as the most caring people I have known. I definitely felt at home!

**Peng Seng Yeo**  
*Singapore*

My time at IUP as a FDAI was transformative and I explored new educational practices and collaborated with educators from around the world. The seminars,



workshops and classroom observations gave me fresh insights into student engagement and teaching methodologies. The emphasis on student-centered learning and the welcoming classroom environments challenged my traditional views on education. Adapting to a new cultural and educational environment while away from my family was challenging. I overcame this by building a strong support network with fellow Singaporean colleagues and participated actively in the university community events.



## Rukia A. Abdulla Tanzania

I find IUP to be a very friendly, cooperative and the 'feeling of at home environment'. The network I built with educators from other continents changed my



confidence and personality to work with a bigger group of people from different cultural backgrounds when I returned home. The biggest challenge I faced was the accent! In some cases, I couldn't understand the conversations because it took time to digest every word. I would admit though that having an international opportunity was fun, and also working hard and being supportive is of great importance.

## Danny Jaworki Israel



The teaching experience I had led me through my time at IUP looking for better ways to teach math for youth at risk (part of my work was published in Ohio journal of school mathematics). I stayed at IUP for four months. The program was very interesting, and the OIE did everything to help us and introduce the American culture. This was a big difference to our home universities where the wellbeing of the students is hardly considered. The college is rooted within its environment and all the people in Indiana were very hospitable and kind.

## Djanabou Moussa Cameroon



My time at IUP has provided me with invaluable experience in research and teaching. The faculty and staff have been incredibly supportive, and the campus provides an excellent learning environment. The multicultural atmosphere allowed me to interact with students from diverse backgrounds, broadening my perspectives. Though I encountered several challenges, like the need to adapt to a new culture, university system, environment (climate) and unexpected health concerns, I was able to overcome it.

## Rupa Basu India



I find the learning environment at IUP to be very homely. I have learnt to use innumerable technological tools at IUP that have

transformed my teaching skills in my classroom. During the Covid-19 pandemic situation I applied all that knowledge to overcome the challenges of traditional chalk and talk methodology of teaching. Apart from studying, IUP also offered a lot of opportunities on the campus for students to stay engaged and connected. Being away from my family in a new country was initially overwhelming but the warmth and friendly acceptance IUP provided me with, gave me the comfort to focus and remain engaged. IUP is always a home away from home.

## Andrea P. Andrade Brazil



The four months I spent in Indiana, PA were amazing! It was my first international experience so I enjoyed every part of my participation in the program with gratitude and joy. Even the challenges I had to face like dealing with the cold weather, different food and culture were great opportunities for knowledge and growth. Back home, I have shared my experience with my school community. I have also introduced my students to innovative technologies and activities in the classroom which is part of my research project.

## Joy Kitt New Zealand



I loved the opportunity to study at IUP. Having the chance to also do a research project was a real gift for my professional growth. I was able to share the product and planning framework with colleagues. I am delighted to discover that nearly two years since we all met our group is still in touch, sharing personal and professional news. I felt that I have made a bunch of life long friends. I am looking forward to visiting some of them in the years to come.



# FAMILY RESOURCES

## LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Indiana is a charming blend of small-town warmth and natural beauty. Nestled in the heart of western Pennsylvania, this picturesque town is known for its rich history and vibrant community spirit. The landscape is dotted with rolling hills and lush forests, providing a stunning backdrop for outdoor enthusiasts. Hiking trails, parks, and rivers offer ample opportunities for adventure and relaxation. Throughout the year, Indiana hosts numerous festivals and events that celebrate its unique heritage and community ties. From farmers' markets to holiday parades. The town exudes a sense of belonging and pride, making it a wonderful place to live, and explore.



### Parks in Indiana

**YMCA OF INDIANA COUNTY**  
60 North Ben Franklin Road

**MACK MEMORIAL PARK**  
750 South 6th Street

**FOURTH WARD PARK**  
Whites Woods Trail

**McGREGOR PARK**  
267-281 Nixon Avenue

**BLUE SPRUCE PARK**  
1128 Blue Spruce Road

**INDIANA COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL PARK**  
835 Philadelphia Street

**INDIANA MEMORIAL PARK**  
630 Washington Street

**GETTY HEIGHTS PARK**  
2125 Oakland Avenue

**YELLOW CREEK STATE PARK**  
170 PA-259 Penn Run

**WATERWORKS CONSERVATION AREA**  
768 Waterworks Road

**IUP COOP PARK**  
IUP College Lodge, Diamond Road

### Health Centers

**IUP CENTER FOR HEALTH & WELL-BEING**

Suites on Maple East  
901 Maple Street  
(724) 357-9355

**INDIANA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (IRMC)**  
835 Hospital Road  
(724) 357-7000

**IRMC WALK-IN CLINIC**  
875 Hospital Road  
(724) 357-7493

**MEDEXPRESS URGENT CARE**  
2128 Oakland Avenue  
(724) 349-4362

### Transportation

#### Within Indiana

- IUP Park-n-Ride (Around Campus - ride free with I-Card)
- Indigo Bus (Around Town - ride free with I-Card)
- Indigo Shared Ride
- Uber
- Lyft

#### Out of Indiana

- Fullington and Greyhound Buses - (Book on the website)
- Pittsburgh International Airport
- Johnstown Airport
- Latrobe Airport
- Pittsburgh Train Station
- Johnstown Train Station

### Community Resources

**ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)**

Indiana County CareerLink  
300 Indian Springs Road  
(724) 463-5300 ext. 2305  
Email: lfiechuk@iu28.org

**INDIANA FREE LIBRARY**  
845 Philadelphia Street  
(724) 465-8841

**INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY CENTER**  
547 Water Street  
(956) 472-0641  
Email: lhcenter31@gmail.com

**JIMMY STEWART MUSEUM**  
835 Philadelphia Street  
724-349-6112

**INDIANA MALL CINEMA**  
2334 Oakland Avenue #4  
(724) 471-2370



## Nafisah A. Sulaiman Nigeria

### Experience With Kids School



I arrived at IUP in Fall 2021 with my daughter who was 11-years old at the time. Wondering about her schooling, I sought details on enrollment,

tuition, and other things. Back in Nigeria, private schools though expensive, were the preferred choice for quality education. However, in addition to tuition, it is also the responsibility of the parents to purchase school supplies, uniform and also pay for busing their children to and from school if they can't personally drive them. Parents must also pay other expenses like the Parent-Teacher Association fees and other levies needed to maintain the schools. Public schools, while free, incurred minimal expenses for supplies and fees, but the quality of education is not topnotch.

In the U.S., I discovered the majority of the people attend public schools. The schools are also known for excellent quality and free education, mostly funded by the government. Private schools, managed mostly by religious groups, have fewer attendees, and some typically require parents to pay tuition.

In Nigeria, the education system includes Nursery, Primary (classes 1-6), Junior Secondary (classes 1-3), and Senior Secondary (classes 1-3). In most cases, schools especially the private ones often house all grades in the same compound or nearby, simplifying transportation issues for parents.

In Indiana and most U.S. schools however, schooling comprises Preschool and Elementary (grades PK-5), Middle (grades 6-8), and High School (grades 9-12). Public elementary students attend nearby schools, therefore, if you have children in different age groups, they will most likely go to different schools. However, private school enrollment isn't limited by location.



**INDIANA AREA  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

#### **BEN FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** (PK - 3 Grades)

95 Ben Franklin Road  
Phone: (724) 465-5637  
Website: <https://bf.iasd.cc/>

#### **EAST PIKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** (PK - 3 Grades)

501 East Pike  
Phone: (724) 463-8567  
Website: <https://ep.iasd.cc/>

#### **EISENHOWER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** (4 - 5 Grades)

245 North 5th Street  
Phone: (724) 463-8568  
Website: <https://ike.iasd.cc/>

#### **HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** (4 - 5 Grades)

205 South 5th Street  
Phone: (724) 463-8560  
Website: <https://hm.iasd.cc/>

#### **INDIANA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL** (6 - 8 Grades)

245 North 5th Street  
Phone: (724) 463-8568  
Website: <https://jh.iasd.cc/>

#### **INDIANA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL** (9 - 12 Grades)

450 North 5th Street  
Phone: (724) 463-8562  
Website: <https://sh.iasd.cc/>

### School Bus



### + Preschools

**INDI KIDS (IUP Campus)**  
570 South 11th Street  
(724) 349-1821

**JEN'S GROUP DAY CARE**  
1850 Saltsburg Avenue  
(724) 464-9500

**BEACON DAY CARE**  
1525 Wayne Avenue  
(724) 349-0234

**KEYS MONTESSORI SCHOOL**  
695 School Street  
(724) 349-5680

**ARIN IU 28**  
2895 West Pike Road  
(724) 463-5300

**STAY N PLAY DAY CARE**  
25 North 16th Street  
(724) 463-5683

**CHRISTIAN PLAY DAY**  
712 Church Street  
(724) 463-8535

**ST. BERNARD LEARNING  
CENTER**  
300 Clairvaux Drive  
(724) 465-5476

**COTTAGE HOUSE DAY CARE  
LLC**  
1660 Getty Avenue  
(724) 349-1377

**ZION-LUTHERAN  
PRESCHOOL**  
100 South 6th Street  
(724) 465-5770

**GRAND BEGINNINGS  
CHILDREN'S**  
**WEST:** 98 Ben Franklin Road  
(724) 463-1984  
**AND**  
**EAST:** 339 Grandview Avenue  
(724) 463-1819

**INDIANA COUNTY HEAD  
START**  
528 Gompers Avenue #1  
(724) 349-6200  
**AND**  
155 North Clymer Avenue  
(724) 471-2252





## **CONTACT US**

B25 Delaney Hall  
920 Grant Street, Indiana, PA 15705

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Office Phone:**

+1 724 357 2295

**Office Email:**

intl-education@iup.edu

