Dean’s Dish

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new international students and say ‘thank you’ for choosing Purdue. I would also like to welcome back our continuing international students and our visiting scholars. I hope everyone’s fall semester is going well.

This semester marks a large increase in our international student enrollment, with the addition of more than 1,700 undergraduate students and over 700 graduate and professional students. With 2,542 new international students, Purdue now has a total of 7,934 international student on campus.

I encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities to get involved at Purdue, whether it be with programs offered by the ISS Office or one of the hundreds of student organizations available on campus. I also recommend seeking help when needed. The staff of the ISS Office is available to answer your questions by phone, email, or in-person. You can also find useful information on the ISS website, including access to online forms and information about how to get involved in ISS sponsored programs and events.

Best wishes this semester,

Michael A. Brzezinski, Ed.D.
Dean of International Programs

Message from Dr. Ayers, Associate Dean, International Programs

February 1st and 2nd, 2011, Purdue University was closed due to inclement weather. Two days off, when just beginning my career at Purdue as the new Associate Dean of International Programs seemed odd. From my vantage point, the weather appeared to be a rather typical winter day. I had recently moved from the Snow Belt a few hours’ drive to the east, Stow, Ohio where it is not uncommon to receive 70 – 80 inches of snowfall in one season.

Actually, adjusting to the weather is a minor concern when it relates to moving. I knew from past experience, that relationships are key to successfully adapting to a new environment. For the over 2,400 new international students who arrived this fall, I would encourage each one to invest in new relationships. It may be difficult and uncomfortable, at first, but make it a goal to befriend a person from the U.S. See if it is possible to build a friendship strong enough to be invited to an American’s home for the holidays. To meet Americans you may need to join a club, attend a church, volunteer with one of the many community organizations or join one of the many programs offered through the ISS Office. Avoid the trap of only relating to others from your own country. There is much to learn and it is an enjoyable adventure.

Having some time to reflect on the numerous times I lived abroad, it was the friendships forged that made my time rewarding. Museums, large cities and special historical sites are interesting and fun, but relationships make the long-term difference.

These past two months, my wife and I have befriended several international students and scholars. I have discovered that there is an advantage to being new; we have open social schedules and are available with room in our lives for new friendships. We found friendship quickly with international friends: through the church we attend, by befriending neighbors, through the host family program here on campus.

It’s fun to meet new people from a different culture; give it a try.

David Ayers, Associate Dean
International Programs
Food, fun and a run through the fountain were all things that new international students enjoyed at the Global Fair @ the Fountain on August 19, 2011. As the capstone event for ISS WOW! (Weeks of Welcome), Global Fair welcomes new international students to Purdue.

Nearly 600 international student attendees were greeted by Purdue staff members from the ISS Office and other colleges and offices on campus, as well as President Córdova herself. The evening began with a delicious Indiana barbecue-style meal. Students and staff alike enjoyed playing carnival themed games around the engineering fountain. Favorites included cornhole, ladder ball, and a football toss. By winning games, students collected tickets that were later redeemed for prizes such as Purdue hats, frisbees, and tickets to campus events.

A special treat for Global Fair attendees was the opportunity to meet President Córdova and the new Dean of International Programs, Dr. Mike Brzezinski. Both President Córdova and Brzezinski welcomed students, encouraging them to join the Boilermaker family by getting involved in campus and community life.

The Global Fair also included a special performance by the Purdue Twirlers, including Miss Boilerette, The Girl in Black, The Silver Twins, and the Golden Girl (pictured above). The twirlers each performed their amazing feats of dance and athleticism to a very appreciative crowd and then stayed and took pictures with their fans.

The winning combination of food and fun, with games and prizes aplenty, made the Global Fair @ the Fountain an exciting and enjoyable event for all who attended.

“I volunteered with the ISS on the day of the Global Fair helping with the initial set up. With an atmosphere of a big outdoor party full of games and food, finally ending with a speech by the President and performance by the Purdue Twirlers, the fair provided lots of opportunities to new students to meet and get to know others like them. The students and their parents enjoyed the fair and I am sure that they would recommend it to future students. The Fair is a great way for Purdue to tell the new students, ‘welcome.’”

Kushal Moolchandani
Graduate Student

Thank You to ISS WOW! Volunteers

The ISS Office would like to thank the students who volunteered during ISS WOW! (Weeks of Welcome). More than 150 international students assisted the ISS Office staff by welcoming new international students to Purdue.

The tasks performed by volunteers included preparing and handing out welcome bags, assisting with set-up and tear-down, scanning students’ check-in documents, answering questions in the student and parent lounges, helping with social security card applications, assisting PUSH by handing out student insurance cards, and performing various tasks at the Global Fair.

If you would like to volunteer at future sessions of ISS WOW!, please watch your Purdue email for announcements and be sure to sign-up online.

Once again, thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make ISS WOW! a success!
Perspectives: Share Yours

ISS “Perspectives” meets Friday afternoons at 4:30pm for a look at American life and culture. Students at the August 26th kick-off meeting took a motor coach tour of the city to see their new surroundings and stopped for dinner at the home of Marty and Brenda Dittmar.

If you are interested in learning more about our community and the people in it, contact Nancy Montague to be added to the email list for weekly announcements about Perspectives topics and activities.

Come Sample What the International Center has to Offer

For more than 40 years, the International Center (IC) of West Lafayette has been a great place to learn about other cultures and to practice foreign language skills. Most popular among the IC’s programs are its international cooking classes, which boast both male and female participants, and its free English language classes, which are attended by Purdue students, scholars, and spouses. Another group that is well-liked among international spouses is “Coffee and Conversation,” which meets Tuesday mornings from 10:00am to 11:30am.

New this semester, the IC is offering Hindi and Danish language classes, as well as a Chinese conversation group. Through these and other IC classes, as well as weekly programs, like the Global Café and bus trips to places such as the Maple Syrup Festival in western Indiana, participants form lifelong friendships. “Our hope is that cross-cultural friendships can grow and flourish at the IC,” said Danielle Schiewer, IC Co-Administrator.

Certainly, with its smorgasbord of offerings each semester, there is a little something for everyone at the IC.

For more information about upcoming events and classes at the IC, visit www.intlctr.org/.

Global Café: Off to a Good Start

Global Café, a program jointly sponsored by the ISS Office and the International Center (IC), is held at the IC every Friday from 5:30pm - 7:30pm and draws Purdue students, scholars, and local community members who want to experience other cultures. This semester, four Purdue student organizations are hosting Global Café with presentations on Kazakhstan, Brazil, Vietnam, and Turkey. In addition, Purdue faculty and staff are sharing their own research interests and hobbies. One presenter, Ralph Rohrer, a native Indiana resident, will show clips from Hoosier movies that made Indiana famous (October 28th).

Next semester, Global Café programs will feature music and the arts from around the world. Those interested in presenting should contact Beth Tucker. To find out what’s happening at Global Café this semester, check out the ISS calendar.

Photograph Courtesy of: Ankush Chakrabarty, Doctoral Student, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Spotlight: UR Global

UR Global is a student organization that matches new international students with returning students in the Residence Halls. While the ultimate goal may be to assist the new student with his or her transition to Purdue, the hidden gem of this program is that it provides a glimpse of the future. "These amazing students are being thrust into their first global team assignment. They have to figure out how to work together with someone they are meeting for the first time. This is what will be expected of them in the global market when they graduate," explains UG Global advisor Annette Benson.

This fall, UR Global matched 300 new international students with a returning student mentor. They are matched based on common interests, gender, and sometimes language and/or culture. "One pair may be a small town in Indiana girl majoring in Animal Science and a girl from a very urban city in China majoring in Management, but they both love shopping, shoes, and food," says Benson. "When they meet and realize how much they have in common you can see that a-ha moment happen."

UR Global is a collaboration between University Residences and the Office of International Students and Scholars. The students meet weekly for dinner during the first eight weeks of classes and then monthly for the duration of the year. The dinners provide an opportunity to explore cultural dimensions in a casual atmosphere. "We often have a short presentation, but what is really effective is for the guest to join the students for a meal," Benson elaborates.

Growing more than 1000% from the first year to the second certainly supports the needs and desire for programs of this nature at Purdue, but more important than the numbers are the lives that are positively affected. "I want the students that participate in the program to complete it and be able to say, 'I can do this; I can survive, and I can help someone else,'" concludes Benson.

For more information about UR Global, contact Annette Benson.

ISS Facebook: Take Another Look

Beginning November 1, 2011, the Purdue University International Students and Scholars (ISS) Facebook page is jumping into high gear! Taking a cue from Mr. Zuckerberg himself, the ISS Office is trying to make its fanpage both useful and fun. The page will feature a monthly contest for prizes such as tickets to sporting events or free food items. Other topics will include information about where to go on campus to get the help you need, ISS trip announcements, ISS programs and trainings, cultural notes, ISS staff introductions, and much more.

The fanpage will still be a place where any student can post a question or share information about an event, but it will also be a place where the ISS Office can give you information that you might need or want – and don't forget, you could win a prize!

Become a fan today and join in the fun!
The BCC
Purdue’s Black Cultural Center offers a variety of programs and services that celebrate the rich heritage of the African American experience. Through a host of performing arts ensembles, the Black Cultural Center celebrates the diversity of Purdue. The Center also houses a special collections library, a computer lab, and a student organization office and meeting space.

Did you Know?
The Black Cultural Center building is organized to represent a traditional African extended family village.

Black Cultural Center: Cultural Arts Series

October 7-11, 2011
Research Tour
San Juan and Loiza, Puerto Rico
Students will explore the African influence on Puerto Rican culture. They will visit the historic district of Old San Juan, the El Yunque rain forest and one of the best kept secrets of the Western World—the town of Loiza. “Born free” blacks and those who escaped enslavement founded the town. It is the birthplace of the African-inspired musical form of Bomba.

October 13, 2011
Platanos and Collard Greens
8:00pm
Fowler Hall
The play “Platanos and Collard Greens” is a comedy about two college students, and African-American and Latina, who fall in love. Cultures and hidden prejudices collide as their families are forced to confront and overcome biases while the couple defends their bond to family and friends.

October 20-21, 2011
BCC Coffeehouse
7:00pm
Black Cultural Center
Performing Arts Ensembles will present a glimpse of the material acquired during the research tour to Puerto Rico.

October 21-23, 2011
Homecoming Weekend
Celebrating the national centennial anniversaries of Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi fraternities.

October 25, 2011
Howard Dodson-In Motion: The Africa-American Migration Experience
7:00pm
Fowler Hall
Dodson will address the nation’s cultural shift during what was known as the “Great Migration,” when 2 million African-Americans moved from the southern United States to the Midwest, Northeast and West from 1910-1930. Dodson, retired director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, will discuss the migration’s impact on blacks and the nation’s political, economic, social and cultural development.

November 13, 2011
Africaribe Bomba
3:00pm
Fowler Hall
The audience will enjoy an evening of Puerto Rican music, song and dance that reflects the African influence. The Bomba is a uniquely Puerto Rican music and dance genre that will keep the audience moving.

December 2, 2011
Cultural Arts Festival
7:00pm
Loeb Playhouse
The festival is a culmination of the BCC’s semester-long exploration of Afro-Latin culture and the Diaspora featuring the BCC Performing Arts Ensembles. Admission: General public $7; Purdue students $5.

Purdue’s African American History

1894 - David Robert Lewis becomes Purdue’s first black graduate, majoring in Civil Engineering.
1904 - Richard Wirt Smith is Purdue’s first black athlete.
1947 - Purdue’s dormitories are desegregated.
1950 - Phillip V. Hammond is the first African American to earn a Ph.D. at Purdue.
1955 - Dolores Cooper (Shockley) becomes the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. from Purdue.
1968 - Helen Bass Williams becomes Purdue’s first black professor.
1970 - The Black Cultural Center opens.
1978 - Cassandra Agee is Purdue’s first African American Homecoming Queen.
1990 - Tarrus Richardson is elected as the first African American president of the student government.
1999 - The new Black Cultural Center opens, marking the first building on campus designed by an African American architect.
2009 - Purdue Black Alumni Organization commissions Black Purdue, a film about the African American experience at Purdue.
¡Todos Son Bienvenidos! "All are welcome!"

With its guiding philosophy of ¡Todos Son Bienvenidos!, Purdue’s Latino Cultural Center (LCC) serves the entire Latino community, including Purdue’s students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Established in 2003, the LCC is the place to learn about the Latino culture, as well as celebrate its rich history and accomplishments. Through its many programs, the LCC strives to build a community for Latinos/as to increase cultural awareness both within and outside of Purdue. Beyond programming, the LCC offers students and other visitors an ITaP computer lab, a Latin American Book & Media Collection, a study room, a multipurpose room, a conference room, and an outdoor area with a sand volleyball court.

**Latino Student Council**

Did you know that the Latino Cultural Center (LCC) has created a Latino Student Council (LSC) that includes Latino-based and interest organizations that further the mission of the LCC? Consisting of a member of each organization, the LSC meets every other week to collaborate on events and programs. Participating organizations are divided into four categories, as follows: Academic/Professional: the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting, The Society of Mexican American Engineers & Scientists, the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers; Cultural: the Association of Zamorano Alumni, the Colombian Student Association at Purdue, and the Latino Alliance; the Latino Graduate Student Organization, the Puerto Rican Student Association; Fraternities/Sororities: Delta Phi Mu, Delta Pi Rho, Sigma Lambda Gamma, Tau Phi Sigma, and Performance: Capoeira, La Milonguera-Argentinean Tango Club, the Latin & Ballroom Dance Team, and the Salsa Club.

**Latino Cultural Center: Upcoming Events**

**October 12, 2011**
Black in Latin America, Mexico & Peru: The Black Grandma in the Closet
6:00pm - 9:00pm
ARMS 1109 (map)
Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the almost unknown history of the significant numbers of black people—the two countries together received far more slaves than did the United States—brought to these countries as early as the 16th and 17th centuries. Guest Facilitator: Dr. Joseph C. Dorsey, Associate Professor of History and African American Studies

**October 28, 2011**
Día de los Muertos (DDLMD)
4:00pm - 7:00pm
YWCA, 605 N. 6th Street
Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a celebration with a long and rich history rooted in the indigenous cultures of Mexico. With a mixture of indigenous ritual, Catholicism, and pop-culture, the observance of Día de los Muertos is a unique celebration that is an illustration of the flexibility of culture and the importance of holding on to one’s history and roots. Each fall semester, the LCC holds a community celebration to commemorate the Día de los Muertos. Many times misconceived as a celebration of death, the Día de los Muertos serves more as a vibrant and colorful celebration of life.

**November 9, 2011**
Humanigration CALLOUT
6:00pm - 8:00pm
BRNG 1245
LALS 495 Humanigration: A Border Experience is a 3 credit hour course offered in Spring. The Latin American & Latino Studies (LALS) courses do count towards the LALS minor and may count for some other requirements. We encourage you to speak to your advisor. The Humanigration course is an experiential learning course on immigration topics relative to Mexico. In addition to weekly lectures, students will travel to Tucson, Arizona and Nogales, Mexico for a week during spring break to learn about immigration more intimately. Please Contact the Latino Cultural Center for more information.

**Spanish Conversation Tables**

Wendesdays
6:00pm - 7:00pm
Latino Cultural Center
Every Wednesday, LCC Conversation tables provide a fun and interactive opportunity to practice speaking and enhance listening skills with native Spanish speakers. Small groups provide personal attention and an intimate environment. Participants of all levels are welcome; however, some basic level of Spanish is recommended. Weekly participation is not required, simply attend as your schedule allows. New participants are always encouraged to attend.

Volunteers: If you are a native Spanish speaker, love talking about where you are from, and want to work with people who really want to learn the language, please consider volunteering. Tables are led by at least 2 volunteers. Weekly participation is not required.

For more information, please call 765-494-2530
Purdue established the Native American Educational and Cultural Center (NAECC) in the spring of 2007 in order to develop future generations of educated Native students to contribute to their tribal communities, as well as to educate non-Natives regarding Indigenous cultures, histories, and traditions. NAECC partnerships include the Sloan Foundation, Indigenous Graduate Program, and Symposium, Sharing the Land geosciences education program, a Geology Field Course, the Eastern Band Cherokee Visiting Scholars Partnership, and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art.

Native American Educational and Cultural Center

October 12, 2011
Diversity Café: Two Spirits Film Screening and Discussion
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
STEW 218 ABC
In collaboration with the Diversity Café and the award winning documentary Two Spirits, a stunning film focused on Native American lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. This event is also part of the Experience Liberal Arts programming series and Purdue’s National Coming out Day Celebration.

October 26, 2011
Lecture Presentation: Why American Indians Don’t Buy Evolutionary Biology and the Land Bridge
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Pfendler Hall 241
In collaboration with the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources in the College of Agriculture, Dr. Corey Welch (Northern Cheyenne) will present a Native American perspective on evolution. This event is also part of the EcoLunch Series in the College of Science.

Native American Heritage Month Events

November 1, 2011
Native American Heritage Month Opening Celebration
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
STEW 218 ABC
NAECC kicks-off Native American Heritage Month celebration at Purdue with a Native American community drum circle featuring Tony Showa (Navajo), Native drummer and educator. Reception will immediately follow this event.

November 2, 2011
Film Documentary and Discussion: Tecumseh’s Vision
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Pfendler Hall 241
Learn about Shawnee leader Tecumseh and his brother Tenskwatawa, known as the Prophet, and their connection to Indiana history. Tecumseh’s Vision is part of the PBS American Experience We Shall Remain: America Through Native Eyes film Series.

November 3, 2011
Wiping Away the Tears Symposium
Purdue University
This symposium marks the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Tippecanoe and will shed light on the circumstances leading up to the battle, its role in the War of 1812 and the experience of Native participants. Keynote address will feature Susan Harjo (Cheyenne and Muscogee), poet, writer and advocate for Native American sovereignty and preservation and protection of sacred sites. Sponsored by: the Department of Anthropology, Department of History, College of Liberal Arts, NAECC, Office of the Provost and Office of the Vice President for Research. For more information, click here.

November 8, 2011
Celebrating Alaskan Native Traditions with Ishmael Hope
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
STEW 214 AB
Ishmael Hope is a storyteller from Juneau, Alaska who shares stories from his Inupiaq and Tlingit heritage. A multi-talented artist, writer and actor, Ishmael is an enthusiastic learner and educator of Alaska Native art and culture. This event is presented in collaboration with the Eiteljorg Museum.

November 17, 2011
The First Thanksgiving: History and Insight from a Native American Perspective
11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Shreve Hall, Jade Room
Ever wonder about the first Thanksgiving? Learn about Massasoit, Chief of the Wampanoag Nation, and the role his tribe played with maintaining the alliance between his People and the settlers in the 1620s. This program will feature the film documentary, After the Mayflower, part of the PBS American Experience We Shall Remain: American Through Native Eyes film series. Join in the discussion at the conclusion of the film. This event is presented as part of the Lunch and Learn Diversity Series and in collaboration with the Cultural Awareness and Language Programs in Housing and Food Services.

Source: [http://www.purdue.edu/naecc/](http://www.purdue.edu/naecc/)
In late November 2010, the Boiler Out! Volunteer Program was forced to adapt to students’ rapidly growing interest in the program. The Boiler Out! Co-Coordinators, Maura Doyle and Sara Randrianasolo, realized that demand had far exceeded supply, with waiting lists of more than a hundred students for single volunteer events. Deciding to make the program cohort-based, interested students must now apply and be accepted to the program. Only those students who are accepted are given access to sign-up for that semester’s Boiler Out! events. The cohort program officially began with the spring 2011 semester.

The Spring 2011 Cohort consisted of 112 students from 19 different countries. With the students dedication, they were able to volunteer for 1,300 hours over the course of the semester. Over the summer, 45 students from 13 countries encompassed the Boiler Out! cohort. These students had the unique opportunity to volunteer at events such as the Broad Ripple Art Fair, the Indy 500 Festival, and the Taste of Tippecanoe. The Summer 2011 Cohort volunteered nearly 400 hours in just two and a half months. Currently, the Fall 2011 Cohort is just getting started with 167 students from 17 different countries. During the month of September alone, they have been able to volunteer 176 hours. The Boiler Out! Volunteer program is a way for the students to give back to the Greater Lafayette Community. In just the nine months since it has been established as a cohort-based program, Purdue’s international students have volunteered 1,873 hours of their time to help the Greater Lafayette community.

Boiler Out! is also happy to welcome Javier Aguirre, a graduate student in Krannert School of Management, as the Boiler Out! Program Assistant. If you would like to get involved in the Boiler Out! Volunteer Program, watch your email account in late October and early November to learn how to submit your application!

Meet MinChan Koo, Drum Major, Purdue Marching Band

Min Koo, an undergraduate student from South Korea, is a Drum Major and Student Leader with Purdue’s “All American” Marching Band. Min has been involved with marching bands since attending high school in Oklahoma and Pennsylvania.

Min’s favorite part of being in Purdue’s Marching Band is the opportunity to perform at different venues. Last year, Min had the opportunity to play at the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Of that experience, Min said, “It was simply great! We had a tight schedule, but got to spend some time in NYC for a couple of days and rehearsed in a hotel ballroom. The date of the parade started with a 1:00am dress rehearsal and after a short nap, we woke up again and led the parade at 9:00am! I still vividly remember the day of the parade! I will never forget it.” Min also looks forward to future travels with the band, as he will be performing in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland in March 2013.

When asked if there were other international students involved in Purdue’s Marching Band, Min said there are only a handful. He believes this is due to cultural differences. But getting involved on-campus is important, according to Min. “It helps a lot to adjust to a new environment. You will get to make more friends through activities and also you get to learn more about Purdue culture!”

Boiler Out! staff would like to recognize those students who have volunteered for 20+ hours

Tamanna Akter
Mohammad Hafizur Arman
Aurangzeb Aurangzeb
Chi Ben
Clarine Chan
Di Chen
Leela Rama Rao Cherukuri
Yingle Choo
Ning Ding
Yanita Ekayanti
Yiren Guo
Wen Han
Mark Hiew
Jessie Ho
Jing Jiang
Wenqian Jiao
Soo Yee Kuah
Yuan Li
Wing Fai Loke
Sai Mun Kenneth Loo
Yifei Lu
Kushal Moolchandani
Altu Ozcelikkale
Siew La Pang
Aiman Pata
Ariffin
Kibashini Periasamy
Yicun Qian
Ravindran Rejesvaran
Ahmad Fakhrul Sajali
Pam Sari
Priya Seshadri
Benoy Shah
Yang Shen
Shivanand Shivanand
Nitin Singh
Qiushi Song
Eugene Toh
Xi Wu
Lin Yang
Lu Ye
Bing Zhang
ISS Abroad: Recruiting Future Boilermakers

Each fall, Purdue staff members join other university representatives in recruitment efforts that take them around the world. The excerpt below is a glimpse into the schedule of Bryant Priester, Senior Undergraduate Admissions Counselor in the ISS Office. Bryant traveled on the Council of International Schools (CIS) Asia tour from September 6th to September 24th, making stops in the following countries: China, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam. Below, Bryant shares journal entries from his time in Vietnam, in which he joined representatives from 29 other colleges, marking his first time in the country.

Thursday, September 15th
6:55pm (7:55am Purdue time) - Arrive in Hanoi, Vietnam
Because it is the first time in Vietnam for the majority of us on the tour, our travel consultant arranged for all of us to be given leis when our group emerged from immigration and customs at Hanoi airport.

Friday, September 16th
3:00am (4:00pm Purdue time)
I am wide awake. Decide to answer some emails and do some reading.

11:00am (Midnight Purdue time)
Arrive at the United Nations International School Hanoi for college fair.

1:00pm - 5:00pm (2:00am - 6:00am Purdue time)
Visited Ngoc Son Temple and had lunch at a local restaurant.

6:00pm - 8:00pm (8:00am - 10:00am Purdue time)
Attended Hanoi Public Fair at the hotel.
I was feeling the jet lag, so you see the coffee cup on my table. The college fair was on the 19th floor...here’s the street scene down below and the Hanoi sunset from the 19th floor deck.

8:00pm Onwards (10:00am Purdue time)
I decided what to eat for dinner, counted the remaining college fair materials, and relaxed for the third week of the tour.

ISS Office Bids Farewell to Karen Lembcke

It was with mixed feelings that the staff of the ISS Office said ‘good-bye’ to Karen Lembcke upon her September 30th retirement. Karen began her position in the ISS Office on August 11, 1997 as the Administrative Assistant to Dr. Michael A. Brzezinski. She was the person ISS staff members went to for various business needs.

Karen was known in the ISS Office for her cheerful demeanor and infectious laugh. An avid walker, hiker and someone who likes to be on the go, Karen’s retirement plans include traveling, spending time with her family, doing some volunteer work, and just enjoying life! Karen has two sons, one daughter, and six grandchildren with a new grandson scheduled to arrive in late January or early February.

Fortunately, saying good-bye to Karen does not mean she will be absent from Purdue as she loves to attend plays, Convocation events, and many of Purdue’s sporting events. So keep your eyes out for Karen at these events on campus and in the community. You might even find her as a guide on the Delphi Wabash Canal boat or enjoying the chocolate covered raisins (which she loves) from Albanese Confectionery in Crown Point!

Though sad to see her go, the ISS Office staff is also excited for Karen and knows that she will not be bored in retirement.
The Office of International Students and Scholars (ISS) is committed to the internationalization of Purdue University by providing appropriate services and support to international clientele and various University departments and offices. ISS seeks to enhance the academic, cultural, and social pursuits of students and scholars from abroad through knowledge and expertise in recruitment, admissions, immigration, advising, and cross-cultural programming.

This Issue’s Idiom: Straw that Broke the Camel’s Back

Meaning: One final problem or misfortune that, when added to previous problems, becomes more than a person can bear.

History: In the mid-1600s, the expression, “the last feather that breaks the horse’s back,” was used to suggest that a horse could only carry so much weight before collapsing. Charles Dickens later changed the phrase to, “the straw that broke the camel’s back” in his novel *Dombey and Son*. In this context, the idiom meant that people can only handle so much before they reach their limits and become overwhelmed. Common shortened versions of the idiom include “last straw” and “final straw.”

Example:
Student: I have two exams scheduled for next week, but when my professor said our research papers are due, too, that was the straw that broke the camel’s back. Now I can’t concentrate at all!

Global Policy Research Institute

Purdue’s recently inaugurated *Global Policy Research Institute* (GPRI) focuses on increasing the visibility of Purdue’s research findings and enhancing the impact of the University’s discoveries for the common good. The launch of the GPRI marks the achievement of a goal specified in Purdue’s *“New Synergies” strategic plan*. The institute is directed by Arden L. Bement Jr., a former nuclear engineering professor and department head at Purdue, as well as a former director of the National Science Foundation.

With faculty, staff, and students from more than 126 countries, Purdue is well-positioned to address problems on a global scale. With its three foundational pillars of research, outreach, and education, the GPRI concentrates on the following seven critical global concerns:

1. Agriculture - crop development, food security, safety
2. Environment - climate change, sustainability, water, air, and arable land
3. Energy Systems - alternative sources, delivery, efficiencies
4. Economy - global commerce, development
5. Health - health care engineering, disease, drug research
6. Security - defense, space, cybertechnology
7. Society and Leadership - family, governance, community resilience

The GPRI also intends on offering faculty and student fellowships, nationally visible workshops, forums, and publications, a certificate in public policy for students, an interdisciplinary internship program in public policy, and a master of science degree in public policy and public administration (subject to approval). For students interested in learning more about the issues addressed by the GPRI, a cross-listed course titled *Seminar in Global Policy Issues* is offered in the fall and spring semesters.

Located at *1341 Northwestern Avenue*, the home of the GPRI was a gift from Purdue alumni R. Thomas and Anne Schowe, who now reside in Santa Barbara, California.

To learn more about Purdue’s GPRI, you can contact the institute or join their mailing list to receive updates and news.