INTERNATIONAL
THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY SPRING 2016

INDELIBLE EXPERIENCES
IU STUDY ABROAD STUDENT PHOTO CONTEST

POWER OF THE MIDDLE
Germany’s Global Economy

PERMANENTLY TEMPORARY
The Plight of the Displaced
Strengthening Ties and Creating Opportunities 2
Permanently Temporary: The Plight of the Displaced 8
Gateways to Opportunity 16
The Power of the Middle 20
Bloomington Worldwide Friendship 24
Sunapsis: Innovating for Students and Scholars 26
Celebrating Korea 28
Indelible Experiences 34
Parting Shot 40

IU International is published by the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs, Indiana University.

Copyright © 2016 Trustees of Indiana University

To request a copy or subscription, or to submit information for publication, please contact the editor.

Vice President for International Affairs
David Zaret

Editor
Lynn Schoch

Designer
Jeff Green

Produced by IU Communications

Office of the Vice President for International Affairs
Indiana University
201 N. Indiana Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47405

Telephone: 812-856-5861
Email: Lschoch@iu.edu
Website: worldwide.iu.edu

Photo Credits
Cover: Noah Leigh; Page 2-5: Ryan Piurek; Page 6: Christopher Atwood; Page 7 (top): David Zaret; Page 7 (bottom): Matthew Slabier, Mathers Museum of World Cultures; Page 8-10: Hannah Mintek; Page 12-13: Hannah Mintek; Page 16-17: Steven Yin; Page 18 (top): Shalini Choubey; Page 18 (bottom): Andrea Adam Moore; Page 19: Shalini Choubey; Page 20: Jessica Lee Cory; Page 21: Chuck Carney, School of Global and International Studies; Page 22: Jessica Lee Cory; Page 24-25: Cindy York; Page 26: Bryan Peralta; Page 28-33: Tae-Gyun Kim, East Asian Studies Center; Page 34: Kwee (Evelyn) Ba; Page 35: Morgan Moran; Page 36: Karen McInniss; Page 37 (top): Rebecca Sanders; Page 37 (bottom): Lavanya Narayanan; Page 38 (top): Ashley Martinez; Page 38 (bottom): Amanda Derr; Page 39: Mary Anne Smart; Page 40: Hannah Mintek.

“Reichstag Lines,” Berlin, Germany. Noah Leigh, IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. “Above the parliamentary meeting room, there is a glass dome with a bidirectional ramp that spirals up to the top and offers a magnificent view of the surrounding city of Berlin.”
Old ties and new initiatives were on the agenda for the presidential delegation to Berlin last fall.

The old ties date back to 1948 when Herman B Wells listened. Berlin had been divided. The venerable Humboldt University was in the Communist sector. Wells, on a six-month hiatus from IU, was in Berlin to advise the Allied occupational forces on educational and cultural matters. Allied officials knew about the university problem, but could not decide among several proposed solutions. In the fifth month of Wells’s tour, a group of students approached him with the radical and unlikely idea for a new university, one that was not tied to tradition or ideology, a reform institution with a different legal and administrative structure from any that had existed in Germany before.

President McRobbie and Free University Berlin’s Vice President for International Affairs Klaus Mühlhahn extended the longstanding partnership between the universities.

A workshop on the privacy and security of data transfer between countries provoked a lively discussion by experts on both sides of the Atlantic.

President McRobbie (second from right) and Vice President Zaret (right) toured the lobby of the performance hall at Berlin University of the Arts, which specializes in fine arts, architecture, media and design, and music and the performing arts.

The presidential delegation met with officials of Humboldt University to discuss their mutual commitments to increasing study abroad and joint international research.
In Bloomington, Wells had proved his ability to recognize a good idea and to act quickly. In Berlin, he did just the same, carrying the radical proposal forward with Allied officials and advocating for this most unlikely of solutions. In the fall of 1948, just a few months after Wells had spoken with the students, Freie Universität Berlin opened its doors. By the early 1950s, IU had established informal exchanges of scholars. The two institutions signed a formal agreement in 1962. During the fall 2015 visit, IU President Michael A. McRobbie and Klaus Mühlhahn, vice president for international affairs of the Free University, renewed the partnership through 2020.

Among the new initiatives for the delegation was the opening of the Europe Gateway Office. Located in a cultural center of Berlin, the Europe Gateway provides a home base for all of IU’s activities in Europe, from recruiting students to keeping in touch with alumni, from study abroad and student and faculty exchanges to conferences and joint research meetings.

The opening brought together a hundred IU alumni and friends to hear from the president and others on IU’s continuing efforts to assure that all IU students graduate with a global perspective. Vice President Zaret awarded IU’s Distinguished International Service Award to Mark Renner, native of Berlin, 1994 IU graduate in journalism, and president of the IU Alumni Chapter in Germany. A concert by Nadine Weissmann, mezzo-soprano (Master of Music 2000) and Andrew Crooks, piano (Master of Music 2007) concluded the ceremony.

The gateway opening coincided with the annual conference and the opening of the Global Institute of the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), which hosts IU’s gateway facilities. IU has sent 2,500 students abroad on CIEE programs over a 40-year period. President McRobbie at the opening session emphasized the “shared long-term commitment to international exchange, to the promotion of international understanding, and to opening wider the gates of opportunity to students from all backgrounds.”

The activities of the gateway began even before the formal opening with a panel discussion that included experts from both sides of the ocean. The issue was the “Data Dilemma,” the conflict between individual privacy and governmental activities on the behalf of national security, and the steps the U.S. government is taking to establish standards that respect both private and public interests.

While in Berlin, the presidential delegation met with John Emerson, U.S. ambassador to Germany, with officials at Humboldt University and the Berlin University of the Arts, and with the German Research Foundation.

“We have never had greater need for individuals with global cultural understanding and experience and the ability to work productively with people from different cultures and traditions.” —President Michael A. McRobbie, the Huffington Post
MONGOLIA

During World War II, the U.S. government turned to IU to develop language courses in Central Asian languages. In the decades that followed, those language efforts led to the campus being an important U.S. center for the study of Mongolia. The Mongolia Society headquarters is on the Bloomington campus. IU offers all levels of instruction in the Mongolian language, rare in the Western Hemisphere, and a Ph.D. in Mongolian Studies.

As part of its long commitment to this part of the world, IU has established ties with two Mongolian universities. A university-wide agreement with the National University of Mongolia has meant close collaboration in anthropology and archaeology as well as faculty and student exchanges through the School of Global and International Studies. Both the IU Kelley School of Business and the School of Education have established links with the American University of Mongolia.

Vice President for International Affairs David Zaret visited Ulaanbaatar in November to explore ways to expand these academic linkages. With the National University, Zaret discussed IU’s efforts to enhance its Mongolian Studies program through closer cooperation with the National University’s Institute of Mongolian Studies and its new initiatives in diplomacy and public affairs. A joint effort is under consideration for a workshop that addresses Mongolia’s relations with South Korea, Japan, and other countries outside China.

Economic recession has slowed but not halted the efforts of the American University of Mongolia to link with the Kelley School for an executive M.B.A. program and with SPEA on water and air pollution studies. Zaret assured university officials of IU’s continuing commitment to the project.

The vice president also met with business leaders. He talked to IU alumni about adopting a local high school as part of IU’s recruiting efforts and shared a moment with an Asian eagle.
Running two and a half miles under the Caucasus Mountains, the Roki tunnel is the only year-round land route in the area for licit and illicit goods moving between Russia and the Middle East. Russia controls the northern entrance. At the southern end, access is through the Georgian province of South Ossetia. In the summer of 2008, South Ossetians, with the help of the Russian army and air force, broke away from Georgia. Ethnic Georgians living in rings of villages around the tunnel and around the regional capital, Tskhinvali, were forced to leave. South Ossetians looted and burned Georgian houses. In some villages, Russians bulldozed the remains to construct airstrips. That made sure that the villages would never rise again.

In the months after the conflict, the Georgian government built camps along the South Ossetian border. In early January 2009, the first of 36,000 refugees were moved in. Elizabeth Dunn, IU associate professor of geography and international studies, arrived that day as well. Seven years later, refugees are still there, living within sight of the lands, now under the control of Russian “peacekeeping” forces, to which they cannot return.

Dunn and her young son, Aaron, spent eleven months living in the camps and learning firsthand the impact of being forcibly driven from home. Back in Bloomington after a total of 16 months of research, she is completing a book on the experience of those driven out of their country. She says, “We strand the displaced in camps where all we do is keep them alive. We don’t let them live.”

—Elizabeth Dunn, IU associate professor of geography and international studies

Opposite page: Although relief agencies readily build safe areas for children, most of the camp population consists of older adults. All photography by Hannah Mintek.

Even the dead cannot return home for burial. Residents attach much importance to honoring them as best as they can. Photography by Hannah Mintek.
(the refugees) and those driven away from their homes to other parts of their country (internally displaced persons, or IDPs). The numbers of displaced persons—refugees and IDPs—has magnified around the world beyond all predictions, and perhaps beyond our comprehension and capacity to resolve.

In her public lectures and classes, including a course in “Humanitarianism and Displacement” for the Department of International Studies in the School of Global and International Studies, Dunn uses her experience of the Georgian camp to provoke discussion of preconceptions we have regarding displaced people around the world.

PRECONCEPTION #1. BEING DISPLACED IS TEMPORARY. “The average stay in these camps is 12 years or more and increasing every day,” Dunn said. “It’s important to consider the range. Large numbers of Palestinians have been displaced for almost 70 years.”

PRECONCEPTION #2. MOST REFUGEES GO HOME. “I don’t really know what the figures are. The UNHCR [the U.N. agency responsible for refugees] now sees returning home as unlikely for most groups. They are starting to talk about a range of durable solutions. One is returning home, but a lot of people, particularly in Africa, are being forced to return when they don’t want to, a violation of international law. A second possibility is resettlement and integration in the place where they are now. The third is resettlement in a third country. With 60 million displaced persons worldwide, this last option is the least likely outcome. If you ask the displaced what they want, they want to go home, but they imagine going to the home they had before. That’s something that doesn’t exist anymore. They want something they cannot have.”

PRECONCEPTION #3. HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES TAKE CARE OF BASIC NEEDS. “There is a crisis in humanitarian funding because numbers have gotten so high. The U.N. World Food Program has had to reduce its support of urban Syrian refugees in Jordan to $13.15, with support for populations in some other places totally suspended.” Dunn deals extensively in her forthcoming book with the problematic nature of humanitarian aid. For example, agencies assisting the Georgian camps meet residents’ daily calorie requirement by delivering massive amounts of macaroni. On balance sheets, minimum dietary requirements are met.

“We are all one storm, one law, one day away from losing everything we have ever known.”
—Elizabeth Dunn, IU associate professor of geography and international studies

**DISPLACED PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total Residents Displaced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>11,925,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>8,871,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>4,485,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>3,935,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>3,078,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>2,540,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem. Rep. of the Congo</td>
<td>2,455,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>2,303,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>2,025,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1,721,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>1,680,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>1,279,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cent. African Republic</td>
<td>1,004,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>268,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All others</td>
<td>12,248,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>57,959,702</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


---

**Above:** “Residents have a never-ending wait for what comes next, and nothing comes next,” said Dunn.

During the last decade, the number of displaced persons worldwide has increased every year. In the past few years, numbers have been increasing faster and faster. Estimates for 2015 approach 60 million people forced to live in limbo away from their homes. Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) data as of May 2015. www.internaldisplacement.org
PRECONCEPTION #4. REFUGEES ARE A DRAIN ON A COUNTRY’S RESOURCES. “Yes and no,” said Dunn. “It turns out most refugees in the first three to five years need a lot of support. They arrive with nothing, and they have to get settled, get into school, get jobs. But in the long term, they bring financial advantages. We think of refugees as farmers or pastoralists, but in fact many are skilled urban professionals, teachers, doctors, lawyers, engineers. When they get back to work, they become a really important market for a country’s manufactured goods. Because they come with nothing, they have to buy everything again. As they get back to work, they start consuming like a young labor force, important in populations that are getting older.”

PRECONCEPTION #5. REFUGEES ARE NOT US. “One of the things I learned when the Russians invaded Georgia is that we are all potentially refugees. You can look at people who lived happily in New Orleans until Katrina hit. You can look at people who were farming in South Ossetia and the skies opened up and there were planes overhead. We are all one storm, one law, one day away from losing everything we have ever known. It can happen to anyone. Our lives are so fragile that I think that we reach out to refugees in recognition that it could happen to any of us at any time.

We reach out to refugees in acknowledgement of the precariousness of everyone’s existence.”

From her experience of the Georgian camps, Dunn can recite a long list of issues common all over the world to those in camps for the displaced, even when the reasons for displacement are as varied as ethnic cleansing and the weather. But the commonality that haunts her is that refugee camps make it impossible to build a future.

“Displaced persons are stuck in a condition of being permanently temporary. It’s not temporary enough so that it ends and they go on with their lives. It’s not permanent enough to become their new way of life. They have a never-ending wait for what comes next, and nothing comes next. These settlements were built with the acknowledgement that people were not going to return home soon. They were also built so that they weren’t real villages in case the government had to mobilize them. If the government can retake territory militarily, it wants to shift displaced persons back onto it fast. They want to keep them mobilizable.

“For people stuck in the camp system, it’s the eternal present. You think of the past and you try to look to the future, but really you’re stuck having the same day over and over. There’s no momentum, no trajectory through your life. We need to push our attention away from the humanitarian focus on temporary emergencies where you are just trying to keep people’s bodies alive, to the longer term and eventually more difficult problem of facilitating people in rebuilding real, full lives. That’s much harder than keeping them alive from week to week. We strand the displaced in camps where all we do is keep them alive. We don’t let them live.”

Georgia and disputed territories in purple. Source: Wikimedia, amended from U.N. Cartographic Section map.

Top: Typical house in the Tsminda samebi settlement on the outskirts of the town of Gori. Dunn and her son stayed with a friend here for much of her time in the camps.

Bottom: Camp residents were able to hold on to very little of their old lives.

Teachers, doctors, and urban professionals in a former life, residents stuff wool to make their own mattresses as an alternative to the thick, hard mattresses given out by the aid agencies.
When I was a very discontented sixteen, I decided I had to get away. I had money I had saved up from working in a bakery. I had learned to speak some French in high school, I dropped out of high school and moved to France. I was an au pair there in a little village. It was a marvelous experience. The place was so small there were no other Americans. I had no contact with Americans for almost a year. It was my first experience of not just visiting another place like a tourist, but of living somebody else’s way of life. I did not know the word anthropology then. When I accidentally took an anthropology course during my freshman year of college, my immediate sense was, “This is who I am; this is what they call people like me.”

I didn’t plan to get interested in refugees. When I came to IU in 2008, I had a Fulbright grant to go to Georgia. Most of my work was in food systems and agriculture. I was going to take the summer language course at IU and then on August 8 I had plane tickets to go to Georgia with my five-year-old son. I had rented out my house, sold my car. The night I was supposed to be leaving for the airport, I got a call from the State Department. “Where are you?” they asked. “I’m ready to drive to O’Hare to get on the plane.” “Don’t get on the plane. The Russians have invaded.”

I sat through the war in a hotel room on the Lake Michigan shore. In the end, I returned to Colorado with my five-year-old son. I rented an apartment and got my camping gear out of my garage. While the displaced persons were camping themselves in schools and libraries, my son and I were sleeping on the floor in a rented apartment—one plate, one spoon, one chair between us for four months.

We arrived in Georgia in early January. In the interim, they had built settlements. They wanted to get people out of the capital before winter set in so that they wouldn’t find jobs there. Once people were employed there, they would never leave Tbilisi. We got to the camps on the first day that the displaced persons arrived.”
CHINA GATEWAY: Law beyond the State

Indiana’s international presence depends not just on making connections around the world, but on making those connections work, keeping relationships alive, and regularly looking into new ways of interacting and sharing resources and information.

Austen Parrish, on his first trip to China as dean of the Maurer School of Law, visited five universities in Beijing to assess the progress of existing programs and to talk to faculty and officials about next steps. Those visits included meetings with students. Parrish introduced IU and, to demonstrate what students would find in IU classrooms, presented a session on legal issues that go beyond one country’s jurisdiction—viewed from the perspective of North America. Students wanted to know more. What degrees could they pursue? What is the IU campus like? How safe is Indiana?

The campus meetings drew campus students. Parrish took the same presentation to the China Gateway Office, making it available far more widely. He spoke to a full house; one student traveled seven hours by train to attend. And again, students were inquisitive and couldn’t get enough information. “We needed more maps, more photos, more information about Bloomington,” Parrish commented.

The China Gateway also supported an alumni reception. Attendees discussed careers and network building. “They talked about an effort to create a stronger network of recent graduates to support one another in their professional development. As young alumni, they are well positioned to help counsel and support recent graduates in a different way than those who graduated several decades ago.” Parrish added, “The gateway was tremendously helpful for my visit. It will be a significant resource for connecting alumni, and we hope will be useful to foreign affiliated faculty as we grow our programs. We’ve already used the gateway for a student recruiting event, and we expect that to continue and expand in the future.”

INDIA GATEWAY: Across Disciplines and across Borders

Around 1930, the political philosopher Antonio Gramsci appropriated a military term for a junior officer as a way to define disenfranchised social groups. He used the term subaltern to describe those members of a society that the ruling powers excluded from governance and so denied services and basic human rights. Gramsci was responding to the Fascist world that Benito Mussolini was creating, but the term has become an essential, though disputed, concept of postcolonial theory and has been applied to cultures around the world.

A workshop at the IU India Gateway last December, Comparative Subalternities: Socio-Spatial Marginalization in the Global South, brought scholars from four continents together to discuss Gramsci’s concept as it applies to the Global South. Twelve experts with varied academic backgrounds from universities in the United States, South Africa, Mexico, the United States, and India discussed Gramsci’s concept as it applies to the Global South. Twelve experts with varied academic backgrounds from universities in the United States, South Africa, Mexico, the United States, and India discussed Gramsci’s concept as it applies to the Global South. Twelve experts with varied academic backgrounds from universities in the United States, South Africa, Mexico, the United
David Audretsch (left) and Erik Lehmann (right) discussed the seven secrets of Germany’s recent economic success at the IU Europe Gateway Office.

Kingdom, and India met for four days at the gateway in Gurgaon. They explored ways to talk across disciplines about the political and social structures of the emerging nations of Latin America, Africa, and South Asia. They found that the concepts of Gramsci and those he influenced are “enormously productive” for providing a common ground for interdisciplinary and comparative research into the societies of the Global South, said IU Assistant Professor of Geography Ishan Ashutosh, one of the workshop organizers.

Those discussions have produced a variety of new initiatives, including an annual workshop in collaboration with other Midwestern universities and plans for a special issue of a scholarly journal. The workshop established stronger ties among universities in India, Mexico, and South Africa. It also drew the attention of other universities in India who are now planning future meetings of U.S. and Indian scholars at the gateway.

EUROPE GATEWAY: The Strategic Management of Place

“I wanted to talk about my book with my coauthor, Erik. The gateway was the first to invite me.” In January, David Audretsch and Erik Lehmann presented their new book, The Seven Secrets of Germany, at the Europe Gateway in Berlin. It provided the first venue in Germany for the authors to discuss the factors involved in Germany’s recent economic successes (see “The Power of the Middle” in this issue). It also created new connections both at the event and later on. “When I was leaving the city,” Audretsch relates, “I ran into the dean of the Hertie School of Governance. He said he had wanted to attend the session but couldn’t make it. ‘How would you feel about doing a similar event at Hertie?’ he asked. ‘I want to bring in the president of a think tank. We can have a debate.’ Later, when I went to the University of Wuppertal, a colleague who had been at the gateway session had given copies of the book to all the members of the board.” Audretsch has since been to two more meetings in Germany—both outcomes of the gateway session—one in Augsburg and the other at Amerikahaus, an institute in Munich dedicated to transatlantic relations.

Audretsch sees “great potential” in the gateways, “but we have to be vigilant as a community if we want to take advantage of them. If the gateways can help faculty with opportunities, we will be there in a second. We will use everything possible out there to help us with our goals. So far, the gateways have made it easy to take advantage of them.” He sees the gateways as one aspect of a “massive sea change” at IU. “For years, people like me were over here doing our thing, all kinds of stuff, and kept it pretty quiet. It wasn’t anything anybody rewarded or praised. Most of us had the feeling not that it was violating university rules, but that we’re doing this work on our own time. The culture has changed. We have started to realize that this work is valued at IU.”

Above: Agreement on the language for discussing postcolonial social issues was one outcome of the workshop. Others included future workshops and networking.

Opposite page: The workshop brought together experts in a variety of disciplines, including Spanish and Portuguese, geography, romance studies, international relations, development studies, human ecology, and the history of science and medicine.
In the late 1990s, economists dubbed Germany “the sick man of Europe.” Forecasters warned of an economy headed towards disaster. Ten years later, while unemployment was rising and economic indicators were falling all over Europe, Germany was bucking the trend with rising employment and persistent success in the global marketplace. Now Germany is recognized by many as the most successful globalized economy in the world.

David Audretsch and Erik Lehmann propose the reasons for this success in their recently released Oxford Press book, *The Seven Secrets of Germany: Economic Resilience in an Era of Global Turbulence*. The secrets are varied, but they all seem to touch on a habit of mind that pays close attention to things in the middle.

In a presentation this winter at IU, Erik Lehmann pointed immediately to the configuration of German companies. “While in the 1990s, most countries put their resources into building big global companies, Germany was building the *Mittelstand*, a collection of thousands of medium-sized firms that comprise 99 percent of the companies in Germany.” These are the hidden champions, “hidden because nobody knows them, champions because they are tops in the world for the niche market products they produce.”

Another emphasis on the middle is higher education. No German universities rank among the world’s top universities, but Germany has more private universities of applied science than the United States, “and these lower-ranked institutions are really prestigious,” Lehmann explained. While not offering the doctorate, they provide the technological training for their regions and for the companies in those regions. The *Mittelstand* thus has a wealth of qualified employees available, and that results, among other things, in the lowest youth unemployment rate in Europe.

The “middle” perspective is also reflected in a political infrastructure that emphasizes the consensus society meeting in the middle. Not top-down or bottom-up, but top-middle and bottom-middle. Universities are regionally funded and many are aligned with firms in the region. “Unions are involved in company policy. Representatives of companies, the government, and unions get together to make decisions for all the relevant interest groups. Government spends money together with industry in regions to promote clusters of entrepreneurship and innovation.”

Audretsch reinforced this willingness to meet in the middle. “Germans see government more as a partner. With a decentralized governance system, states and cities have more power. There is a bigger role for independent small businesses. Ideas are developed, exchanged, and acted upon in a very immediate context. This local decision making results in efficient, low-cost, and sensible investment.”

Finally, the middle is not only where things meet, but also where the various parts are connected. Germans have become adept at recognizing connections and...
When an economy registers success while so many economies around it are troubled, the temptation is to find the formula for what worked. Although Audretsch and Lehmann identify the variables for Germany, they hesitate to plug them into a formula that would work somewhere else. Each region, each economy has to find its own way to apply the variables. “We have not found a ‘vaccination’ that guarantees success for everybody, every company, every place, but what we do see is the essential importance of innovation and entrepreneurship. We don’t have a word for it, but the Germans do. It’s Standortpolitik,” said Audretsch. “I translate that as the strategic management of a place.” Standortpolitik “doesn’t tell you what places should do, but says that smart places recognize their resources and strengths and try to devise a strategy to make the place better. The place is responsible for its own fate.”

Germans see their country as a collection of regions, and one of Germany’s resources is the desire of those who live in a place to stay there. From that comes a commitment, “a certain optimistic view that says, whether it’s about health or career, we can influence the outcome.”
In 1953, there were 207 international students on the Bloomington campus. The International Center, a house on Third Street where Forest Quad is now, provided them a place to meet for conversation and occasional meals. A group of Bloomington residents thought that the community could do more. Local families were matched with individual students. Hosts organized activities in local parks, took students around the region, invited them for meals during holidays and generally helped students negotiate the tasks of daily living in the United States. The Bloomington families gave international students a window into U.S. family life.

These efforts were soon organized into a local chapter of the National U.N. Citizens Committee. The number of host families and the number of students hosted grew every year. In 1970, the Bloomington chapter parted from the national organization and formed its own independent nonprofit, which eventually came to be called Bloomington Worldwide Friendship (BWF).

Despite name and organizational changes, the mission of the group remained the same, and the activities increased. BWF members met new students at planes and buses and helped with settling in. They developed the Hoosier Guide, a reference to community resources that other students and indeed members of the community found useful. By 1970, the activities of the organization were getting national attention; they included:

- Meeting and greeting
- Emergency housing
- The Hoosier Guide, given to all new international students
- Operation Turkey (Thanksgiving hospitality)
- Furniture, blanket and household loan program
- Tours of the Sarkes Tarzian plant and the Independent Limestone quarry
- Used car buying assistance

The prime mover for much of this effort was Cyny Robinson, who enlisted her next-door neighbor, Kate Kroll, to join the group in 1968. Kroll relates, “The first student matched to me was Joe Jagger, Mick Jagger’s dad, who was working on his master’s degree in physical education. We were the most popular house in the neighborhood. Little kids would come and look through the window.”

Forty-seven years later, Kroll continues to host students. “Students keep with you a long time. One student was matched to me when she was a freshman. She graduated four years later and now has a job as a consultant in Indianapolis. She still comes down at the weekend to stay with me.”

Cindy York currently heads the organization. She confirms that students and their host families can get very close. “One girl had been in a boarding school since the age of three; she saw her parents only on holidays. She loved her time with me and figured out what she had missed all those years. She relied on me for things that she would normally ask parents. Another student totaled a car here. She didn’t know if she was being taken in by the body shop. Her dad told her, ‘You are a long way from home. I could tell you what to do if you were here. But I don’t know what to tell you there.’ I helped her and her father was grateful.

“We helped plan one student’s wedding. Wives have had babies here, and we’ve helped with childcare. The babies, some named after their hosts, became like grandchildren.”

When the students graduate and return home, the bonds don’t break. For many host families, visiting “their students” has been an important objective when they travel abroad.

Current organized activities include a fall picnic at Lake Lemon, an evening of square dancing, tailgate parties at IU football games, and trips to IU baseball and women’s basketball games. “By and large, we want the families to concentrate on activities where they can interact. Each family does something different. They carve pumpkins, have Easter egg hunts. One of the things they are most fascinated with is Halloween. They have lots of questions. When does it happen? Do I need a costume?”

As time goes on, BWF’s constituency has changed. “Students’ English is better,” York said. “Due to technology, the younger kids are not so homesick anymore. They Skype with their parents every day. They don’t need us as much.”

“On the other hand,” Kroll said, “Graduate students are becoming more interested in the experience. They are adults, and their programs give them more time than undergraduates have these days. Recently, we teamed up with the Fulbright program, hosting the Fulbright scholars. We showed them a different side of American culture. The Fulbright commission liked it and said it was one of the best years their students have ever had.”

Despite the changes, the formulas invented in 1953 still work, and BWF continues to make and keep friends all over the world.
Innovating for Students and Scholars

There are currently close to a million international students studying in the United States. More than 200,000 of these students—one out of every four—are currently guided through the maze of federal and university procedures with a tool developed by the Office of International Services at Indiana University.

After 9/11, Homeland Security was charged with finding more reliable ways to track students coming from abroad to study in the United States. The agency’s solution was SEVIS (the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System). SEVIS was built on a huge federal database. Universities access the database online to record and maintain information about all of their international students and scholars, if SEVIS records were incomplete or inaccurate, the student or scholar might be judged out of status and forced to return home, and in some cases, not allowed to return to the United States for long periods of time.

SEVIS created the international student advisor’s worst nightmare. Advisors could see students’ university records online in the university system and they could see online what SEVIS knew about those students, but the two systems were completely separate. Advisors constantly had to cross-check one against the other. A small discrepancy or an inadvertent delay could cost a student his or her academic career.

A solution was devised a few months after SEVIS went online when Jason Baumgartner, then the only technical staff member of the IU Office of International Services, working in the evening on his own time, found a way to connect the data in the two systems. His prototype software provided the synapse between the brain cells of the university system and those of the federal database. Sunapsis was born.

Sunapsis made it possible to have all of a student’s data in one place, and that made it possible for the computer to do the heavy lifting—to cross-check and make sure both systems had the same information, to alert advisors and students when deadlines were approaching, and generally to assure that all the technical rules were met to keep international students in status in the United States.

Baumgartner led the office over the next year in implementing the software and assuring that it followed all the technical rules were met to keep international students in status in the United States.

Although the core solution—the synapse between university and federal systems—remains as relevant today as it did a decade ago, Sunapsis has grown well beyond its original conception. It now provides soup-to-nuts support from the moment a student inquires about studying at IU, to admission and orientation, assuring that students feel connected to the university long before they arrive here, to communication tools that keep students up to date on their own cases and on campus activities, to providing the technical resources to support students’ employment through practical training after they graduate.

The Sunapsis team in the Office of International Services has grown to twelve staff members. From the start, Sunapsis also provided services for scholars—academics from abroad coming to IU to teach, consult, or conduct research. The team has developed new applications for managing the spectrum of study abroad operations, associate vice president for international services, lobbied the university administration to allow this homegrown solution to manage its international student compliance—to manage hundreds of details for thousands of students. It was a huge risk; if the university failed to comply with federal rules, it could lose the right to host international students. On the 21st of January, 2005, at 6:24 in the evening, Baumgartner used Sunapsis to approve and upload four address updates to the federal database. The system worked.

International Services initially developed Sunapsis for its own use, but when other universities heard about it, they wanted in. The University of Cincinnati was the first non-IU institution to implement Sunapsis. Now 91 universities, large and small, from coast to coast, manage the work of their international student and scholar offices with Sunapsis.

The Sunapsis team in the Office of International Services has grown to twelve staff members. From the start, Sunapsis also provided services for scholars—academics from abroad coming to IU to teach, consult, or conduct research. The team has developed new applications for managing the spectrum of study abroad operations, for data management and institutional reporting and statistical analysis.

At the 2015 Sunapsis User Conference last fall, which brought representatives from 62 institutions to Bloomington, Chris Viers celebrated the 10th anniversary with an award to Jason Baumgartner for his dedicated service to the office and in recognition of his “outstanding work with Sunapsis and its transformative impact on the field of international education.”
Korean students have had a strong presence on the IU Bloomington campus for many years. In the past three decades, 6,000 IU degrees went to students from Korea. In the fall of 2015, 753 Korean students were studying at IU Bloomington, representing almost 12 percent of the international student population. For three years, Korean students, with the support of the East Asian Studies Center, have offered the Bloomington community a window into Korean culture through a night dedicated to all things Korean. This year’s event, “Inspired: Korea in Indiana,” with generous support from the Korean Consulate General of Chicago, was the most ambitious ever.

Festivities began with family-friendly activity tables in the afternoon. Evening ceremonies featured performances by professional and community groups that included dancing, singing, traditional instrumental performances, and martial arts demonstrations. Veterans of the Korean Wars were honored in a special ceremony. Sang-Il Kim, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago, provided welcoming remarks and Mark Minton, former U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia, spoke on the current state of Korean-U.S. relations. The program included a dinner of Korean food from local Bloomington restaurants.

Hye-Seung Kang, associate director of the East Asian Studies Center, coordinated the event. For her, its value was as much in the preparation as in the event itself. “This was the work of the community, not just the work of the center or of the university. Almost 30 volunteers from outside IU joined with a large number of students working with passion and energy to promote Korean culture and art to the community.”

Korean Night reached well beyond the campus and Bloomington. Those who came to learn about Korea “left with more heart for the region. They came to love Korea,” said Kang. Korean Americans from as far away as Indianapolis and Carmel were also there. “They said they were afraid they were losing a feeling for Korea. The event made them feel less lost. From our event, they felt like they are acknowledged by us and our courtesy.”
Opposite page, top: The Korean Dance Company from Chicago performed Chil-go-mu (“칠고무”) or “Seven Drum Dance.”

Above: Consul General Kim honored veterans of the Korean conflict. Their service is held in high regard in South Korea even 60 years after the conflict ended.

Opposite page, bottom: Students from the Bloomington Korean School demonstrated Taekwondo.

Left: Dr. Chan E. Park played the Janggu (hourglass drum) and sang Pansori with Eun Sun Jung playing the Gayageum (Korean zither). The storytelling song is “Kim Byung-Ho Ryu Gayageum Sanya.”
Korean Night festivities included a private ceremony to dedicate the Korean Conference Room (한국의 방), made possible with a gift from the Korean Consulate General of Chicago. A centrally located study room in the new Global and International Studies building is being appointed with exhibits and reference materials, as well as the technology for video conferencing and screening of films. The room will not only supply the resources for Korean programming, but because it is open to all, will also create a constant presence of Korean culture for anyone who wishes to study there.

Sara Friedman, acting director of the East Asian Studies Center, notes that Korean Night is one of several major events of the center this year. Others include:

**Sensing Taiwan.** "This was a month-long series of events," said Friedman. "The Miao-Li Chen Family Pei-Kuan Pa-Yin Group from Taiwan performed in Bloomington over three days, with demonstrations of local and traditional music in classes on campus. This project had funding support from the Taiwan consulate." There were also screenings of several Taiwanese films and a guest lecture on the commercial viability of Taiwan cinema.

**China Town Hall.** "The event began with a national panel discussion of the recent growth of Chinese direct investment in the U.S. It was webcast live to more than 75 locations around the world," Friedman explained. "That was followed by a local panel responding to the issues of the national speakers. Our respondents included administrators from Peking University and an Indianapolis lawyer with experience working for the State Department. Capitalizing on our relationship with external entities, we regularly seek to provide events that speak to the larger community and to the state more generally."

**China, Russia, and the World.** Each spring in a symposium that includes experts from IU and abroad, the center collaborates with IU’s Russian and East European Institute and the European Union Center "to explore our understanding of regional boundaries and to get a better sense of the connections and flows between different parts of the world," said Friedman.
Each year the study abroad offices in Bloomington and Indianapolis invite IU students returning from abroad to submit photos. With the official objective of choosing the best photos in a variety of categories, staff of the two offices each year get to see the world anew through the eyes of their students. A sampling of students’ efforts appears here. The complete set of winning photos can be viewed online at:

overseas.iu.edu/return/photo/2015.shtml
abroad.iupui.edu/why-study-abroad/photo-contest/index.html

IU Bloomington 1st place IU Students Abroad: “Sketching the Sydney Harbor Bridge,” Australia. Yuwei (Evelyn) Bai, College of Arts and Sciences (Liberal Arts and Management Program, Psychology, Economics).

IUPUI 1st place Powerful Moments: “Simplicity,” Cartago, Costa Rica. Morgan Moran, IUPUI Honors College. “While volunteering at an orphanage in Cartago, I spent a lot of time doing simple activities that the children liked to do. We played tic-tac-toe with rocks as our chalk. Although it was something so simple, it helped us form a bond... even when I lost.”
IU Bloomington. “University Exams,” Cape Town, South Africa. Rebecca Sanders, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Global and International Studies (International Studies). “Indiana University finals don’t seem so bad, when comparing them to the University of Cape Town’s. Students sit for three hours to take exams worth over 50 percent of their grade.”

IU Bloomington. “Kathakali, Himalayan Healer,” Cochin, Kerala, India. Lavanya Narayanan, Bloomington School of Public Health (Nutrition Science). “What better way to spend a weekend than on a houseboat watching Kathakali, a traditional dance form native to Kerala?”

IUPU 3rd place Cultural Adventure: “Balata the Bountiful.” Karen McIlrath, IU/PU Office of Student Involvement. Alternative Spring Break. “We hiked along the coast and the locals spotted a Balata tree! It was so awesome, one of the locals scaled up the tree with a machete and cut down a branch where we all collected the sweet fruit and ate until our bellies were content. (Yemi Harford models the fruit.)”

IU Bloomington. “Kathakali, Himalayan Healer,” Cochin, Kerala, India. Lavanya Narayanan, Bloomington School of Public Health (Nutrition Science). “What better way to spend a weekend than on a houseboat watching Kathakali, a traditional dance form native to Kerala?”

IU Bloomington. “University Exams,” Cape Town, South Africa. Rebecca Sanders, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Global and International Studies (International Studies). “Indiana University finals don’t seem so bad, when comparing them to the University of Cape Town’s. Students sit for three hours to take exams worth over 50 percent of their grade.”

IUPU 3rd place Cultural Adventure: “Balata the Bountiful.” Karen McIlrath, IU/PU Office of Student Involvement. Alternative Spring Break. “We hiked along the coast and the locals spotted a Balata tree! It was so awesome, one of the locals scaled up the tree with a machete and cut down a branch where we all collected the sweet fruit and ate until our bellies were content. (Yemi Harford models the fruit.)”
Don Quixote, Alcalá de Henares, Spain. Mary Anne Smart, College of Arts and Sciences (Mathematics, Spanish, Computer Science). “The mural depicts Don Quixote fighting the windmills.” It was painted by Rep Miguel in Cervantes’s hometown.

Leather Tanning, Fez, Morocco. Ashley Martinez, Kelley School of Business (Marketing, Entrepreneurship).

IUPUI 3rd place Powerful Moments: “Libby in the Rubble.” Amanda Derr, IU School of Social Work. “While in Croatia we explored some of the areas most affected by the Balkans War in the 90s. During one of our excursions, we stopped by a hotel that was completely destroyed. Inside we found some pretty interesting graffiti. The entire experience was a powerful one, simply because finding beauty in devastation is hard to do.”
Parting Shot: The Prezeti settlement

The Prezeti settlement, a 40-minute drive through the mountains from Tbilisi, is so far from anywhere that packs of wolves follow the children to school. Looking north, behind the camera, residents can see South Ossetia, where their homes once were and where the Russian 58th Army prevents their return. Photo by Hannah Mintek