On November 5, the Department of Near Eastern Languages & Cultures held a reception to honor Kemal Silay, who has been appointed to the new Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies Endowed Chair. Silay, who received his Ph.D. from IU's Central Eurasian Studies, was welcomed back to the Bloomington community by department chair Suzanne Stetkevych.

Eight interns from Botswana, Malawi, and Zimbabwe, sponsored by IU's South Africa Regional Internship Program, gathered for a briefing in Bloomington. The program, administered by CIEDA's assistant director, Steven Driehaus (back row, second from left), places mid-career professionals from southern Africa in the fields of public administration, international trade, judicial reform, and journalism, in two-month training internships around the U.S.

Michel Dion (center), director for International Programs at the Université d'Orléans, was hosted in October by OIP Dean Patrick O'Meara and Jacqueline Danner, director of the High School Honors Program in Foreign Languages at IUB, in connection with the new French-American Teacher Exchange Program between the two universities. This past summer an inaugural group of nine Indiana high school teachers of French traveled to France. Next summer, a group of Orléans teachers will come for two weeks of total cultural and linguistic immersion in the United States.
In November, a delegation of the Zhejiang Provincial People’s Government visited Bloomington. The province is home to Hangzhou University, one of IU’s exchange partners. Long An-Ding (right), provincial Vice-Governor, listens as IU Chinese historian Lynn Struve explains rare Chinese documents housed in the Lilly Library as East Asian librarian Thomas Lee looks on.

On October 21, OIP Dean Patrick O’Meara received the government of Catalonia’s highest award, the Cross of St. George. In a ceremony that took place in the Grand Hall of St. George in the Catalan Parliament, President Jordi Pujol spoke of O’Meara’s dedication to the goals of higher education in Spain and his years of personal involvement in the Barcelona-based “La Caixa” Foundation’s Graduate Fellowship Program, administered by IU. Each year, O’Meara has participated in the selection process which brings 40 to 50 of Spain’s brightest students the United States for graduate studies. O’Meara is one of the few foreigners to be so honored with this prestigious award.

His Excellency J. Enkhsaikhan, right, the Mongolian ambassador to the United Nations, was in Bloomington at the invitation of the Mongolia Society, headquartered at IU. He spoke to a standing-room only audience on “The Relevance of International Law: Views of the Small and Weak,” from the point of view of a land-locked country surrounded by powerful neighbors and struggling to join the global economy. Here he is seen with his host, Christopher Atwood, professor of Mongolian Studies in the department of Central Eurasian Studies.