Greetings from the Office of First Year Experience Programs

Welcome back to campus! We want to wish a special welcome to our new Hoosiers starting this semester! January is a great time to start fresh with a few new resolutions for the semester ahead. Plan to be ambitious in your goals this term. Be challenged by new tasks, open to new relationships, and excited by new opportunities. Check out the information below for ways to embrace success in 2016:

- Make the Resolution to be Inclusive
- Apply for the OTeam
- FYEssentials
- WinterFest
- Student Involvement Fair
- Winter Part-Time Jobs Fair
- Student Central
Make the Resolution to be Inclusive

It can be simple. Consider the Indiana Promise's tenet: I will respect the dignity of others, treating them with civility and understanding.

So much of what we learn in college is outside of the lecture hall. You see more faces, faiths, colors, and backgrounds than ever. Learn from those faces; don't shy away. When you encounter music you've never heard, food you've never eaten, and opinions you've never considered, embrace these opportunities to share yourself and learn from others. Don't be mad. Don't be scared. Don't be defensive—talk. Yes, the world comes to IU to learn. Take advantage of it.

These upcoming events can help you connect with others:

**Trading Laces**
Are you curious about the experiences of people from different backgrounds? Take the Trading Laces challenge and get ready to walk in someone else’s shoes! Click [here](#) to learn more about the Trading Laces programs and events.

**An Emergent Theatre Project Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**
This is the 4th Annual Emergent Theatre Project Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On [January 17](#) at 2pm in the IMU Whittenberger Auditorium, students will showcase their emergence by performing a combination of theatre plays, spoken word, poetry, and dance and movement performances. Join the Emergent Theatre Project as they travel along the journey between social justice and self.

**Unity Summit**
Participate in the annual MLK Day small group discussions about diversity, discrimination, and advocacy at the Unity Summit on [Monday, January 18](#) at 12:30pm in the IMU Alumni Hall! Entrance and lunch are guaranteed for the first 300 participants.

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**Apply for the OTeam**
Working with New Student Orientation is a fantastic way to get involved on campus, develop leadership skills, and serve new students and their families in a unique and important way. Recruitment for the 2016 OTeam is underway, and we invite you to attend any of our recruitment events to learn more about the program and the available paid positions. Members of our Student Leadership Team will be at these events to talk about their experiences and answer any questions you might have. Read more about the positions and see when and where recruitment events are taking place by visiting the FYE website.
FYEssentials
We have worked with offices and departments across campus to compile a list of programs and events for first year students (First Year Essentials). By attending and exploring these events, you will discover a variety of resources and venues for a complete First Year Experience. We do not want you to leave campus with “I wish I would have…” as part of your vocabulary. We encourage you to explore, belong, and succeed by taking advantage of these identified programs. FYEssentials spring events have been posted online [here](#).

Freeze the Debt Monster at IU WinterFest
IU MoneySmarts and the Office of First Year Experience Programs invite you to attend the IU WinterFest on **January 25** from 6-8pm in the IMU's Alumni Hall. Join us for three things the debt monster hates: free food, free games, and free entertainment. All are welcome. If you plan to attend, please RSVP [here](#) for a chance to win big prizes.

Get Involved
Check out these great events to help you reconnect with IU and Bloomington:

**Student Involvement Fair:** Now that you’re settled in as a Hoosier, it’s time for you to find your niche at IU! Explore [belNVolved](#) online to view the many possibilities waiting for you. The Winter Involvement Fair will take place on January 14 from 6pm to 8:30pm in the IMU’s Alumni Hall. It’s a great way to check out some of the many student organizations on campus.

**Winter Part-Time Jobs Fair:** Looking for a part-time job? On-campus and local Bloomington employers will be looking for employees at the Winter Part-Time Jobs Fair on Wednesday, January 20th from 1-4pm in the IMU's Alumni Hall. This fair is open to all IUB students, including students with federal work study authorization and any student looking to make some extra money! Bring your student ID for a speedy check-in.

Student Central – Get Answers. Fast.
For questions about financial aid, your student account, or your class schedule, Student Central is excited to announce the following:

- Extended telephone hours. Call (812) 855-6500. Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-6:45pm; Friday: 9am-6:45pm (EST).
- A new self-service feature, available 24/7. At [studentcentral.indiana.edu](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu), look for the “Question? Ask Student Central” textbox, and type in your question for a “best answer,” links that are relevant to your question, and other topics that relate to your question. Also look for the 10 most frequently-asked questions and their answers on the right-hand side of the screen.

Student Central is dedicated to making sure you are well-informed and can get answers to your questions at any time of day.
Quick Notes:

**Important dates:** Here are a few important dates to remember. For a list of important academic dates, visit [studentcentral.indiana.edu](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu).

- **MLK Day (Campus Closed)** - January 18
- **FAFSA Due** - March 10

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**The IU Bucket List: Your "Must Do at IU"**

What have you accomplished on the official IU Bucket List so far? You can see the official list, suggested by students like you, [at this link](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu). Look for items such as these:

- Attend an African American Art Institute event
- Get a glimpse of life in Bloomington by volunteering in the community
- Order freshly-baked cookies during a late night conversation with friends

This month's featured Bucket List item: **Catch a flick at the Pride Film Festival**. Hosted each year at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater, the Pride Film Festival explores a wide variety of LGBTQ issues. This year's theme, “Your Story, Our History” focuses on LGBTQ history, the present, and the future. Check out this year's festival on January 28-30.

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**Additional Resources**

Visit the [FYE events calendar](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu) for upcoming programs on campus and around Bloomington.

Still have questions? Check out the [Online IU Resource Guide](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu), a tool that provides links to services and information related to academic life, campus involvement, housing, health and wellness, transportation, and more.

And, as always, connect with us on [Facebook](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu), [Instagram](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu), and [Twitter](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu) for announcements, ideas for getting involved, and insights from students who have been in your shoes.