President challenges grads to leave mark
IU Northwest confers 892 degrees to Class of 2007 at 41st Commencement

Indiana University Northwest marked the end of another successful academic year with its 41st Commencement on May 10 at the Gary Genesis Center. The university conferred 892 degrees to students from Northwest Indiana and beyond. IU President Adam Herbert and IU Northwest Chancellor Bruce Bergland congratulated each of the participating graduates who walked across the stage to receive a diploma. In his remarks to the Class of 2007, Herbert encouraged the graduates to follow the example of so many other IU alumni and make a positive mark in the world.

Herbert told the grads that the university’s expectations of them as graduates would be no lower or less exacting than the expectations they faced as students.

“There are three words that will dictate the rest of your lives: dreams, education and duty,” Herbert said. “They will dictate what you can be and who you will become.”

There were no serious injuries attributed to the storm, although the IU Northwest Police Department did report that three people — two of them IU Northwest staff members — suffered minor injuries due to wind or falling trees or branches. One staff member was blown into a fence by the wind, while another one was struck by a falling tree as he exited a building. The third injury involved a student who was hit by wind-blown branches.

Six vehicles reportedly sustained some damage during the storm, including one that was struck by a falling 20-foot light pole. Falling trees and branches accounted for the other damaged vehicles.

Other property damage was scattered across campus. Two rooftop air-conditioning units at the Library Conference Center and one at Raintree Hall were hit with wind damage. The library’s rubber roof was torn by wind.

See GRADUATION page 4

Fierce storm batters campus trees, buildings

The Indiana University Northwest campus sustained relatively minor property damage and no serious injuries during a May 15 storm that ripped through the area with high winds and heavy rain. But the scenic university grounds will seem a bit less shady this summer, after the fierce winds damaged or completely uprooted 38 trees across campus.

The storm, one of a series of violent weather events that swept across Northwest Indiana that afternoon, drenched the IU Northwest campus with rain and left sidewalks and roadways littered with branches and toppled trees. A picnic table located between Lindenwood and Sycamore Halls was relocated about 35 feet from its concrete berth and deposited next to 35th Avenue. Power in those two buildings, and in the IU Northwest Child Care Center, also located on 35th Avenue, was lost during the storm and remained down for the next 20 hours.

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See STORM SURGE page 6
Online journal calls for papers

The South Shore Journal has issued a Call for Papers for its November 2007 online edition. The focus for the second annual edition will be on urban renewal through the arts.

The South Shore Journal is an open-access, peer-reviewed, general journal, exclusively electronic, that is co-sponsored by the Quality of Life Council and Indiana University Northwest Center for Regional Excellence. The journal provides a venue for area scholars to focus their attention and academic resources on the region and allows the editors to showcase the outstanding scholarly work of faculty, students, and alumni in Northwest Indiana.

The submission deadline is Aug. 1. Two double-blind peer reviews will be solicited and decisions made as to publication. Each author whose paper is accepted for publication will be required to address the reviewers’ comments. Revised papers will be due by Sept. 15, 2007. Final editing will take place in October 2007 for placement in the online journal in November. The journal’s editors are Associate Professor of Spanish Eva Mendieta, Ph.D., and Associate Professor of English Robin Hass Birky, Ph.D.

COAS presenters needed

A Call for Papers has been issued for the fourth annual IU Northwest College of Arts and Sciences Student and Faculty Research Conference, which is scheduled for Nov. 15 – 16, 2007. Students and faculty are invited to submit an abstract of 250 words or less on a topic of their choice for papers, posters or artistic presentations. Pre-organized panels also will be consid-
ered.

Faculty may nominate students to present outstanding scholarship or creative work only after reaching agreement with the student. Student papers must be overseen by a faculty liaison to provide appropriate mentoring and ensure that papers meet disciplinary standards of excellence. Presentations may not exceed 20 minutes. Abstracts will be externally reviewed.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is Sept. 7, 2007 at 5 p.m. Abstracts should be submitted to Mary Hackett in the IU Northwest Department of Chemistry in Marram Hall 243 or e-mailed to mae-hacke@iun.edu.
IU Board of Trustees approves tuition increases

The Indiana University Board of Trustees on May 21 approved a schedule of tuition and fees for the next two academic years that IU President Adam Herbert said would provide the needed funding to achieve key goals set by the trustees for academic excellence.

Herbert said the new tuition rates will support a budget that generates necessary funds to maintain a high level of instructional quality at all campuses while keeping IU programs affordable to Indiana students.

Although the approved increase will affect the nearly 5,000 part- and full-time students who attend Indiana University Northwest during the next two academic years, the university will also increase its financial aid budget in order to help students meet that additional financial challenge.

Joe Pellicciotti, associate vice chancellor for enrollment management at IU Northwest, said increases in the institution's financial aid budget should match the approximately 5 percent tuition hike approved by the board for all in-state undergraduate students at IU Northwest and other regional campuses for the 2007-08 and 2008-09 academic years.

“Every time that tuition goes up, our financial aid budget is increased by a like percentage,” Pellicciotti said. “We are concerned about helping students keep college affordable. So we will have more money for financial aid.”

Tuition for out-of-state undergraduate students will increase by approximately 6.8 percent. IU Northwest has relatively few out-of-state students.

In actual numbers, instructional fees for in-state undergraduate students taking a full complement of classes should increase by $252 next year and another $265.50 the following year for those who enrolled in 2003 or later. Students who enrolled earlier than 2003 will pay an extra $222 next year and another $234 the following year. Those totals are approximate and will depend on the specific number of credit hours taken.

Also, the Board of Trustees approved a slight increase in student activity fees of $4.56 for pre-2003 students and $4.80 for the rest. Technology fees were not increased as part of this action.

The cost of graduate programs at IU Northwest will increase by approximately 7 percent under the new tuition structure.

This translates into an extra $365 in instructional fees for in-state Social Work students next year and another $385.20 the following year. In-state business graduate students will pay an extra $348 in 2007-08 and another $372 the following year. All other graduate students will pay an additional $303.60 in instructional fees in the coming year and another $324 the year after that.

Non-resident fees for graduate students also will increase 7 percent under the new tuition structure.

One need the tuition hike is meant to address, according to Herbert, is competitive faculty salaries. Herbert explained during the May 21 public hearing that IU Bloomington ranks ninth among Big 10 schools in faculty salaries. This makes IU faculty members inviting targets for other schools, he said.

“These faculty are attractive to other institutions because they continue to win coveted teaching awards and they continue to set records for research productivity,” the president said. “Bloomington’s low faculty salaries really place the university in a very vulnerable position from a faculty-retention perspective.”

Nor is IU Bloomington the only IU campus where faculty salaries are an issue. Two years ago, IU Northwest conducted a study that showed faculty on the Gary campus were paid approximately 10 percent less, on average, than faculty at IU Northwest's peer institutions.

Full professors were paid about 15 percent less than their counterparts in the peer institutions, according to the report, while associate professors earned about 7 percent less in salary and assistant professors earned 10 percent less. Lecturers at IU Northwest earned 1 percent less than their counterparts among the peer group. The IU Northwest Faculty Salary Committee is now working to update those salary comparisons.

At some IU campuses, the extra tuition fees will also help fund operational expenses with regard to new facility construction. At IU Northwest, completion last year of the new Dunes Medical/Professional Building created increased operating costs that so far have been absorbed into the existing budget. Funds from the tuition increase will help to offset those increased expenses.
“In the days and years to come, each of us will cherish our own memories of this remarkable community of scholars,” Herbert concluded.

In his remarks, IU Northwest Chancellor Bruce Bergland commended not only the graduates but also their family members and other supporters. He noted the importance of a strong support system for those who are seeking an education.

“Their support and encouragement have been invaluable and beyond measure,” Bergland said. “All of us rely in countless ways on those who are near and dear to us. We depend upon their helping hands and their faith that we will succeed.”

Bergland mentioned several of this year’s graduates by name in order to highlight the hard work, dedication and achievements that have distinguished the Class of 2007.

He spoke of Munster resident Charlotte Noble, who returned to IU Northwest after more than 10 years away from college and now has graduated with a bachelor’s degree in sociology. Noble has already done research on HIV/AIDS treatment in Haiti, and she will pursue her graduate studies at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Bergland also mentioned Michigan City resident Cindy Faryniak, who left high school in ninth grade and didn't obtain her GED until the age of 31. Upon completing her general education requirements, Faryniak immediately enrolled at IU Northwest to

(Top left) Graduate Charlie Brooks (left), who is instructional coordinator for labor studies at IU Northwest, accepts congratulations from IU President Adam Herbert. (Top right) IU Northwest grads cheer their classmates. (Above) Chancellor Bruce Bergland addresses the crowd. (Right) Continuing Studies Chair Cuthbert Scott takes part in commencement.
study math. Now that she has graduated from IU Northwest with high distinction, Faryniak plans to attend DePaul University in the fall to study computer science.

The accomplishments of these and other graduates, named and unnamed, attest to the kind of ability and perseverance that typify IU Northwest students and graduates, Bergland said. The Chancellor noted that 20 percent of all Class of 2007 graduates finished with a grade-point average of 3.6 or higher. Fifteen percent of the 892 graduates this year earned master’s degrees, while 54 percent earned bachelor’s degrees and 31 percent earned associate degrees.

Bergland also mentioned that 71 percent of this year’s graduates are women, a fact that drew loud applause from the ladies on the floor and in the audience.

The May 10 ceremony was the 41st Commencement at IU Northwest, which became IU’s first degree-conferring regional campus back in 1963. This year’s graduation exercise was part of the 178th IU Commencement.

The ceremony clocked in at approximately two hours, 15 minutes from the time the graduates and faculty members were seated until the last diploma had been handed out.

“Today’s ceremony is brief compared to the years of diligent effort that each candidate has invested in his or her education,” Herbert told the audience.
Storm surge

Fierce winds transform IU Northwest campus in mere minutes

Continued from page 1

Also, an entryway ceiling in Raintree sustained damage, as did one office's ceiling in Sycamore Hall. One hand of a large metal clock mounted on the upper reaches of Hawthorn Hall was bent almost completely backward. Despite the forceful gale, however, only two windows in buildings across campus were broken or blown out.

So far, no firm dollar value has been established for the property damage. But just the removal of uprooted trees cost $15,000.

Toppled trees were by far the most visible signs of storm damage on campus. Most of them were located in the heart of the university grounds. The victims included several large evergreens — including a 30-year-old blue spruce — situated north of the Library Conference Center and a number of trees located in the vicinity of Raintree Hall. Several trees located near the Dunes Medical/Professional Building, including some that had been planted only recently, also were damaged.
Many of the affected trees, some 20 feet or higher, literally were uprooted from the ground. Impacted species included white pine, green ash, ornamental pear, and Washington hawthorn, along with a 20-inch-diameter oak tree that was yanked almost completely from the ground by wind.

Despite the storm, summer classes at IU Northwest continued unabated on May 15 and 16. Lindenwood and Sycamore are both administrative buildings, and so classes were not inconvenienced. Power was restored to those affected buildings around 11 a.m. on May 16.

(Left) Professor James Lane surveys the damage done to an oak tree west of Raintree Hall. (Below) A metal clock atop Hawthorn Hall displays wind damage. (Bottom) One of several fallen evergreen trees brings irony to Raintree Hall. OPPOSITE PAGE: (Top) Splintered wood testifies to the powerful winds that swept across campus May 15. (Bottom) Toppled trees litter the IU Northwest landscape. (Photos by Christopher Sheid)
Chicago artist Bill Boyce turns other people’s trash into treasure

Ask Chicago artist Bill Boyce for the meaning behind “All Hail the Pink Carboni” – the title of his current exhibit at Indiana University Northwest’s Savannah Gallery for Contemporary Art – and the affable metalworker may stumble for an explanation.

“It started as kind of a college thing, just a thing you might say with your college buddies when things are going really well ... ‘all hail the pink carboni!’” Boyce said during the May 18 reception for his IU Northwest exhibit. “It doesn’t really mean anything. It’s just something you say when things are going well. And things for me have been going really well.”

If the exhibit’s title requires a little extra contemplation, that makes it an ideal match for Boyce’s elaborate creations, which he assembles Frankenstein-style from a catch-as-catch-can assortment of discarded odds and ends found in the Dumpsters, alleyways and abandoned corners of the Windy City. With equal parts imagination and ingenuity, Boyce transforms remnants of unwanted or forgotten items into startling symbols of a recycled society.

“I basically use what others cast off,” Boyce explained. “I love going into Chicago’s alleys and finding stuff. The last few years it’s been tougher to find materials to work with, because so many people have started scrapping metal just to make a living.”

Many of Boyce’s creations are sizable, complex juxtapositions of recognizable refuse: old tires, automobile fenders, smokestacks, antennae, discarded electronic equipment, and assorted other elements of once-functional products or structures. Other artworks are simpler. One piece featured in the “Carboni” exhibit consists of a length of copper gutter that has been painted garden-hose green and folded upon itself almost like an accordion. Boyce said he bought the piece from someone who was carrying a considerable length of the gutter in his pickup truck. The artist attached a hanging cleat to the back of it for display purposes and hung the gutter as he found it.

“It was like that when I bought it,” Boyce said. “I didn’t have to touch it.”

While the title of Boyce’s exhibit is just as one-of-a-kind as his art, the artist said he doesn’t usually name his works. The sculptures themselves are open to interpretation, Boyce explained, so he doesn’t want to preempt viewers’ impressions of the works by giving them titles.

“If I put titles on them, that’s kind of limiting for the viewer,” he said. “Everyone has their own history with these materials. They take their own meaning from it.”

Boyce is a native of Connecticut who journeyed west to California and New Mexico in the 1970s, where he learned the welding and metalworking trades. He moved to Chicago in 1987 and has been practicing his art there ever since. Boyce still has family in Connecticut, and he said the charm and meaning of his chosen profession remain somewhat lost on them.

“They keep wondering when I’ll get a respectable job,” he said. “It used to bother me.”

Boyce first began tinkering with metal and other cast-off materials as a young boy. When he took art and shop classes in high school, his teachers there helped him to recognize the intrinsic value of his interests.

“There was some validation placed on it,” Boyce said. “Between the art and shop classes, I had it made.”
Many of Boyce's smaller pieces on display in "All Hail the Pink Carboni" are models of larger works. When Boyce enters bids on sculpture projects, such as one in Chicago's Lincoln Park that he won recently, he must provide small-scale representations of his proposed works.

While some artists might create the models first, Boyce said he frequently makes miniature versions of his existing large-scale sculptures. Because his unconventional works are so dependent upon specific and often unusual materials, Boyce said, it's easier to scale his creations down than it is to scale them up.

Boyce said it's not uncommon for him to return to his artworks and make changes or additions long after he thought he had finished them.

"As long as I own it, it doesn't have to stay this way," he said. "There are no rules for this kind of thing."

Every artist has his or her preferred medium, and Boyce said he much prefers working from scrap instead of scratch. The manipulation of raw materials into new forms has never interested him as much as the transformation of existing objects or fragments into compelling three-dimensional representations of a discarded past.

"If you gave me a four-by-eight sheet of some material, I probably wouldn't know what to do with it," Boyce admitted.

Boyce has exhibited in a number of group shows, but the Savannah exhibit is his first solo show. "All Hail the Pink Carboni" runs at Savannah Center through June 8.
Student director brings Theatre Northwest season to a Fashionable Finish

Theatre Northwest will conclude its 2006-07 season with a 19th-century social comedy about the follies of following fashion.

"Fashion; or, Life in New York," details the comic misadventures of Mrs. Tiffany, a New York socialite who goes to extraordinary lengths to maintain what she believes is a "fashionable" lifestyle. Chief among her convictions in this regard is the belief that refinement can be achieved by embracing all things French.

"She values the superficial world around her," explained student director and IU Northwest senior Bryan Conger. "Everything has to be French. She uses French words, and pronounces them very badly."

Conger said that Anna Cora Mowatt, the playwright who penned "Fashion" more than 150 years ago, deliberately aimed her story's satirical wit at her own audience. Mowatt was a native of France who did, in fact, live in New York at the time she wrote the play.

"She was basically making fun of the people she was writing for," Conger explained. "The people who went to the theater back then tended to be the upper class."

Because "Fashion" is part of the public domain, Conger was able to pare down Mowatt's original five-act work to two acts. Even three-fifths shorn, the production runs more than two hours, with a 15-minute intermission. Conger said his version distills the essential plot and themes of "Fashion" while jettisoning much extraneous material.

"Five acts was just way too long, and the main point almost seemed to get lost in all the other stuff," he said. "I just tried to streamline it."

In keeping with the timeframe in which the play is set, Conger will utilize floor lights and even a false proscenium to mimic the 19th-century style of theater.

Although "Fashion" is not a musical per se, the production does include an original score written by IU Northwest student Matthew Chelich. Conger said the live music would overlay the action on stage in the manner of a silent movie accompaniment.

"People are used to IU Northwest having a musical in the summer," Conger said. "But this area seems to be so saturated with musicals. We wanted to give audiences something different, something that maybe they hadn't seen before. But we still wanted to have a musical element in it."

The production will also feature a big waltz number, Conger said. "Fashion" is Conger's first play as director. He's previously taken the helm of six musicals, and most of his 35 productions as actor have been musicals, as well. Northwest Indiana audiences most recently saw Conger this past spring in the Memorial Opera House's musical drama "Titanic," in which he portrayed the wry steward Henry Etches.

IU Northwest senior and Theatre Northwest director Bryan Conger (wearing a red shirt) talks to his cast during a May 21 rehearsal at Tamarack Hall. Conger is staging a revival of the 19th-century social comedy "Fashion; or, Life in New York." Although not a musical, the play does feature an original musical score written by IU Northwest student Matthew Chelich.

"Titanic" earned considerable acclaim and played an extended run; Conger, who joined the production late as a replacement for another actor, said he was thrilled to play an actual historical figure. In doing research for his role, Conger learned that Etches really did remain on the ship until it sank, only to be rescued by a passing lifeboat.
Assistant Professors of Special Education Janice Grskovic, Ph.D., Sheila Marie Trzcinka, Ph.D. and Rasheed Saleem, Ph.D., along with Prof. Sunesta Kercood, Ph.D. from Butler University, gave a poster presentation at the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) conference in Louisville, which took place April 18 - 21. This presentation was the result of research studies that were presented with recommendations for classroom practice. These practices included providing students with stimulating activities such as fine motor tactile manipulation and auditory stimulation while they solved math problems. Students with attention disorders showed gains in accuracy and reduced off-task behavior, as the interventions increased their attention during the problem-solving activities and reduced their attention to distraction.

IUSM-NW Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology Ernest F. Talarico, Jr., Ph.D., received the Award for Scientific Merit from the Fight for Sight Foundation at the annual international convention of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. on May 8. Talarico’s research study, Alternative Splice Variants of Plasma Membrane Calcium-ATPases in Human Corneal Epithelium, examined the different types of calcium ion pumps (i.e. PMCA) in the cornea at the molecular level. Talarico characterized these proteins in the cornea and discovered two novel PMCA pumps. Vision research in the Talarico Lab focuses on a model that Talarico has developed to explain the role of these PMCAs in the healing of the cornea following surgery or injury and in disease. These data have been submitted to Experimental Eye Research for publication and are part of the human genetic database at the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

Talarico was also the invited speaker at the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences at Nova Southeastern University and Nova Southeastern University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale on May 10. Talarico’s presentation, Introduction to the Human Cadaver Experience, discussed the current state of the use of human cadavers for medicine and research in the United States and highlighted the Human Cadaver Prosection Program at IUSM-NW, which is the only one of its kind in the country. The program recruits individuals who are interested in medical school and/or clinical/basic science and trains them to work with human cadavers and professional dissection. The program has been nationally recognized and has received more than 300 inquiries and 150 applicants. This year’s eighth annual prosection will take place on August 1 - 2 in the gross anatomy lab at IUSM-NW.

Dean Anna Rominger, J.D. of the School of Business and Economics co-authored the article “Package downsizing: is it ethical?” that appeared recently in the refereed journal AI and SOCIETY. Other authors were Omprakash Gupta, Sudhir Tandon and Sukumar Denath.

Associate Professor of Education and Indiana State Rep. Vernon Smith, Ph.D., was elected chairman of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus (IBLC) in November 2006. Through the hard work of its members, the IBLC, which was established in 1979, has become an influential group whose primary goal is the uplifting of the African-American community through legislation that positively affects educational opportunities, better employment prospects, comprehensive health care, and social justice issues, and which helps bring an end to violence in neighborhoods. The IBLC has set high standards and is respected throughout the country for its leadership.

IU Northwest student Diane Taylor and Assistant Professor of Geosciences Zoran Kilibarda, Ph.D., presented the poster “Migration of the Mt. Baldy dune at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, USA - A 69 year GIS Historical Overview,” at the Indiana Dunes Research Forum, which was held at Purdue University Calumet on April 25, 2007.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy Anja Matwijkiw, Ph.D., recently conducted ethics training for senior executive government employees and town council members from Crown Point, Munster and Highland. The training session, “Our Way: Ethics and Democracy,” lasted about two hours and included approximately 100 people. The session was the latest step in an ongoing effort to promote ethics in Lake County government.

ZUNICH from page 3

The team was led by Merrillville plastic surgeon Dr. Nicholas Retson, M.D., who donates his skills by providing cleft palate surgery to children who might otherwise never have the procedure.

While facilities and supplies were in short supply, Zunich said, the expectations were not.

“Nick said, ‘I expect you to be excellent. That’s the standard. Now go beyond that if you can,’” she recalled.

Aside from needed medical treatment, Zunich said she hopes the team’s visit to Honduras gave the residents there an increased fondness for America.

“Any good memories that we can give them of interacting with people from the United States, I think that makes an enormous difference,” said Zunich, who traveled with the group to Nicaragua last summer.

Zunich said Healing the Children accepts donations of funding, clothes, soap, shampoo, or other modest essentials for the benefit of patients and families the group assists during its excursions. Even empty pill bottles are useful, she said.

“People who would like to donate items or funds to Healing the Children may contact Zunich at (219) 980-6560 or e-mail her at jzunich@iu.edu.

FASHION from page 11

“Theatre Northwest summer production a show to remember, as well, albeit in a much lighter vein. The "Fashion" cast includes IU Northwest students and alumni, as well as performers from the community.

"Fashion" begins its run at Tamarack Hall Theatre on Thursday, June 14 at 8 p.m. with a special "IU Northwest Night." This performance will be open only to IU Northwest employees, students, and their family and friends. On this night only, the $10 price of admission includes a picnic-style dinner.

The show’s regular run will include 8 p.m. shows on Friday, June 15, Saturday, June 16 and Saturday, June 23, and Sunday matinee performances at 2:30 p.m. on June 17 and June 24.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call the IU Northwest Department of Performing Arts at (219) 980-6808.
June Calendar of Events

It wasn’t toppled by wind like the surrounding trees, but this light pole located to the east of Raintree Hall nonetheless became a casualty of the May 15 storm that hammered IU Northwest. The pole was accidently knocked down by heavy equipment during a cleanup of fallen trees shortly after the storm.

Tuesday, June 5

IU Northwest Retirement Reception – 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Library Conference Center Room 105. Friends and colleagues will honor four IU Northwest retirees -- Judith Knapp, James Lane, Kieran Penning, and Mary Russell -- at this celebratory luncheon.

Wednesday, June 6

IU Northwest Town Hall Meeting – 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Savannah Center Auditorium. Chancellor Bruce Bergland will conduct a town hall meeting to discuss the IU Smoke Free Initiative that is scheduled to take effect on the IU Northwest campus later this year.

Thursday, June 14

New Student Orientation – 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Savannah Center. New students will come to campus to meet their peers, obtain advice from current students, learn about faculty expectations, and gather other helpful information prior to the start of classes.

Friday, June 22

Gallery Reception – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Savannah Gallery for Contemporary Art. IU Northwest will celebrate its latest exhibit, “It’s Our Turn: High School Art Teachers,” and present awards to the participating artists.

Tuesday, June 26

Diversity Awareness Video Series – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Savannah Center Room 205. This monthly series of discussion events, sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Equity, uses videos, guest speakers and conversation to explore different cultures.