



Hello International Students and Friends,

The passing of Varun Raj Pucha has pierced our community, and this will leave a hole in Valpo forever. Words cannot express the devastation of this tragedy. Everyone may be experiencing a wide range of emotions, from fear to anger and everything in between. The OIP and Counseling Center are great resources to go to, so please utilize them if needed. We want to let you know that we are here for anyone who wants to talk, ask questions, and anything in between. In times such as this, it is of utmost importance to stay connected to the community. Please read through this newsletter and consider what ways you can stay connected with others. Some opportunities to do this are: **Friendship Families Game Night, MEAL @ Valpo, and International Education Week.**

[The OIP](#)

Memorial Service for Varun Raj Pucha

A memorial service for Varun is planned for Thursday, November 16 from 10:00am-11:00am in the Chapel. Please see President Padilla's email regarding this for more information. We hope you are able to attend.

Overview of U.S. Criminal Judicial/Prosecution Process

We understand that you may have questions regarding the legal/trial process. If so, we highly recommend that you attend the "Overview of U.S. Criminal Judicial/Prosecution Process" session presented by attorneys Dana Rifai and Michael Jasaitis on Tuesday, November 14 at 3:00pm in the Harre Union Alumni Room. Please note that the attorneys there will not address questions specific to any legal case.

Student Safety Tips Meeting

Next Wednesday (November 15) at 1:00pm, the OIP will host a safety meeting for all international students in Harre Union Alumni Room. This is great opportunity to get some tips from VUPD's police chief Chuck Garber, and you will be able to have your questions answered regarding ways to stay safe.

Friday: Friendship Families Game Night

Next Friday, Friendship Families is hosting a game night featuring pickleball and basketball. There will be other board games and snacks provided, so please come join us in connecting with other students and locals.

FRIENDSHIP FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Join us for basketball, pickleball,
and board games!

Snacks & drinks provided!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 6:30 PM

LOCATION: FAITH BIBLE CHURCH
305 E 400 N. VALPARAISO, IN

PLEASE EMAIL
ADAM.REINSMA@VALPO.EDU IF
YOU NEED A RIDE



MEAL @ Valpo - Thanksgiving Break

Are you staying around the area during Thanksgiving Break? If so, we have an excellent opportunity for you to have a meal with a Valpo professor/staff member at their home - **MEAL @ Valpo**.

Valpo professors/staff will be signing up to host international students between November 19-25, and we hope this is a time to connect, share cultures, and foster a better Valpo community. The **deadline to register is TOMORROW, November 11**. Please

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up.

If you are unsure and would like to learn more please read the following: [STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

Thanksgiving MEAL @ Valpo



Meet Eat and Learn
Join Thanksgiving MEAL
@ Valpo

**Sign up today to participate in our Thanksgiving MEAL
at VU faculty/staff homes!**
**Experience this American holiday and enjoy time with
“family and friends” over the holiday break!**

Thanksgiving MEAL @ Valpo will be hosted from 19th to 25th of November.

For more information, contact adam.reinsma@valpo.edu

International Education Week

Please celebrate International Education Week (IEW) with us starting on Monday, November 13. See pics below for all the activities, and be on the lookout for an email sign-up for the OIP Thanksgiving dinner.

International Education Week Events!

Mon
13

Study Abroad Tabling

Harre Union | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

OIP Open House - Kick Off Event!

Room 250 in the Harre Union | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Stop by for international snacks and drinks and get to know the Office of International Programs!

Study Abroad Tabling

Harre Union | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Study Abroad 101/Drop-in

Zoom - Students & Parents Welcome | 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Drop in to ask questions about studying abroad or to learn the basics.

German Culture Night

Suite 200 Multi-Purpose Room Harre Union | 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Learn about German culture from some of our German international students!

Tues
14

Wed
15

Culture & Identity Workshop

Ballroom C | 9:00 - 10:30 AM & 3:00 - 4:30 PM

This workshop is for students studying abroad spring 2024 and spring break 2024.

OIP International Students & Scholars Thanksgiving

Helge Center Multipurpose Room | 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Thanksgiving dinner for international students and scholars.

Thurs
16

Fri
17

OIP International Students & Scholars Coffee Hour

International Student Lounge | 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Join us for coffee and conversations about Chinese cuisine and table etiquette.

Winter Break Housing

If you are living on campus, please read this special note regarding Winter Break housing: The residence halls close for Winter Break on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at noon and will reopen on Sunday, January 7, at noon. If you need housing during this window, please complete a Winter Break Housing application by Monday, November 27, 2023. You can find this application on your Housing Self-Service via DataVU. You can also see the [WEBPAGE](#) for more information.

OIP Hours

The OIP is located at **Harre Union Suite 250**. Stop by to pick up documents, make an appointment, or just chat between **9 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday**.



VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

See you around campus!

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219.464.5333 - HARRE UNION SUITE 250, 1509 CHAPEL DRIVE, VALPARAISO, IN 46383-6493 USA - valpo.edu/international

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