Hello Global Vandals!

The semester is progressing in full swing.

I am sure by now some of you have started settling into the beautiful Palouse backdrop and the gorgeous sunsets. Live in the moment and while you work hard, don’t forget to be kind to yourself. As the seasons change and the trees start to change color, join us for the various seasonal activities. Don't hesitate to ask questions, seek guidance and reach out to your fellow Vandals. We're a family, connected by our shared goals and aspirations. Together, we'll navigate the intricacies of this new semester, celebrate each other's successes and lend a helping hand during the tougher times.
We would like to take a moment to highlight the work and contributions of our very own Global Vandals! We are thrilled to shine a spotlight on the remarkable achievements and invaluable contributions of our cherished Global Vandals! These individuals have consistently gone above and beyond, leaving an indelible mark on our community.

RIDÁ BATOOL
Rida's achievements extended beyond academia. She proudly spoke of her role as a Student Brand Ambassador for the National Finance Literacy Program for Youth, concurrently representing the values of Conservation Optimism. Collaborating with peers from Indonesia and India, Rida undertook community projects that fervently advocated for the preservation of biodiversity and underscored the significance of natural ecosystems. As she looked forward to completing this transformative academic journey, Rida envisioned her return to Pakistan, armed with a wealth of expertise, extensive professional networks, enduring friendships and finely honed leadership acumen. Her concurrent role as a cultural ambassador was notable, fueling her deep-seated intrigue for American culture and augmenting her already rich tapestry of positive experiences with the people she encountered.

Rida shares: “I'm Rida Batool from Larkana, Pakistan. Driven by a passion for plants, I excelled at Quaid-i-Azam University before earning prestigious awards and engaging in biodiversity conservation in Indonesia and India. Securing fully-funded scholarships for the Global UGRAD and Sister 2 Sister Exchange Programs, I chose University of Idaho to study agriculture and plant science. As a cultural ambassador, I'm embracing American culture while building connections and leadership skills, poised to bring knowledge and change back to Pakistan.”
SUGURU FUJIWARA

Suguru Fujiwara revealed his upcoming role as the International Scholars Advisor at IPO, on September 5. Suguru's notable journey includes a distinguished 12-year tenure at University of Idaho Registrar’s Office, where he held the pivotal position of International Credential Transfer and Articulation Specialist. Venturing into new terrain, Suguru acknowledges the distinctiveness of his role within the IPO, embracing it with enthusiasm despite the learning curve it presents. His vibrant energy and dedication are unmistakable as he eagerly anticipates becoming an integral part of the IPO team. Beyond his professional achievements, Suguru's interests encompass motorcycle riding, playing darts and culinary exploration,
portraying a well-rounded individual poised for success in his new capacity.

Suguru shares: “Starting September 5, I will assume the role of International Scholars Advisor at IPO. With 12 years of experience as an International Credential Transfer and Articulation Specialist at University of Idaho Registrar’s Office, this new position marks an exciting shift for me. While I’m eager to learn and adapt to this new field, I’m thrilled to become a part of the IPO team.”
We would also like to give a warm welcome to Nicolas Eissautier who will be joining us as the new International Programs Assistant! Nicolas is a transfer student from the UK who is currently double majoring in Psychology and Economics.

He shares: “I’m excited to be starting a position in the IPO as the International Programs Assistant. One interesting fact about me is that I’m half French, half Colombian, I have lived in the UK for more than half of my life and was born in Belgium. Oh, and I love to play badminton so I would be down to play anytime! I hope we get along!”

We are very excited to welcome both Suguru and Nicolas to the IPO team!

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

¡Vandal — Update Your Information!

Important ¡Vandal Notice: Immigration Check-In Reminder

For both new and current students, it is crucial to ensure that you have completed all THREE mandatory immigration Check-In e-forms:

1. Immigration Check-In (F-1/J-1)
2. U.S. Residential Address and Contact Information
3. Emergency Contact Information

It is a requirement for us to have your local address and phone number on file. We will be auditing all local addresses and phone numbers. Please make sure to update your local address and phone numbers on
¡Vandal and VandalWeb within 10 days to maintain legal status! Your timely attention to this matter is highly appreciated.

Meet with an International Services Advisor

You may meet with an International Services advisor every afternoon, from 2-4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the International Programs Office, no appointment need. If you have many questions that will take longer than 15 minutes to discuss or wish to meet virtually via Zoom, please schedule an appointment in advance using Vandal Star.

Optional Practical Training Workshop

Post-Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) is a type of optional work authorization that permits F-1 students to gain work experience in their field of study in the U.S. after graduation. The OPT application period is open 90 days before graduation, from September 18 to February 13, 2023, for F-1 students completing their program of study on December 15, 2023. For those interested in applying, applications must be submitted before leaving the U.S. To learn more about OPT, you may access the Optional Practical Training (OPT) Workshop Videos on IPO’s website.

International Post-Doc Support Group

Attention to all post-doctoral fellows and research scholars: an invitation awaits you to become a part of the esteemed International Postdoctoral Group. Created with the intention of fostering connections, enhancing familiarity with campus resources and providing mutual support, this group
invites you to join its **biweekly coffee hour at 5 p.m. at the One World Café**. For comprehensive details, kindly reach out via email to **postdoc@uidaho.edu**. Your presence and engagement will be greatly valued.

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**Invite Family to Graduation Commencement and Letter of Invitation Instructions**

We hope your family and friends will be able to join you in celebrating at a future commencement ceremony. To learn more about the commencement ceremonies please visit this link:  
[https://www.uidaho.edu/events/commencement](https://www.uidaho.edu/events/commencement).

Family members who are not the children or spouse of the F-1 /J-1 student may need to apply for a B-1/B-2 visitor visa to visit the U.S.

Please find the B visitor visa instructions and letter of invitation template on our [website](https://www.uidaho.edu/events/commencement). Family members from certain countries may be eligible to visit the U.S. for up to 90 days without obtaining a B-1/B-2 visa through the **U.S. Department of State Visa Waiver Program**.

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**Stress and Culture Shock as an International**

Leaving family back home to embark on a new journey takes a lot of courage. We understand that adjusting to a new culture can oftentimes take a lot of effort and be very challenging. We want to remind you that you are not alone in this and there is support available. One excellent professional resource is the **Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC)** which provides a range of mental health services to support University of Idaho students at no cost. This is a service we would strongly encourage you all to check out!
Fall 2023 Orientation

It has been our joy to welcome and meet so many new faces this semester! We hope you are all adjusting to life in Moscow.

UPCOMING EVENTS


The 2023 Borah Symposium scheduled for September 25-27 will discuss the “The Future of International Cooperation.” The symposium is free and open to the public. In her keynote Fireside chat, Fiona Hill, a Brookings Institution distinguished senior fellow and a former deputy assistant on Russian affairs to President Donald Trump, will address the challenges to democracy on the world stage.
The Renfrew Colloquium, “Updating Senator Borah: A Nuclear Kellogg-Briand Pact,” will be presented by David Koplow, professor at Georgetown University Law Center. The original pact, signed in 1928, outlawed war as an instrument of national policy. Koplaw will present a proposal to outlaw the threat of nuclear weapons as an instrument of national policy. Former Gov. Kempthorne will give the closing address.

The Full Schedule of the Symposium:

7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, International Ballroom, Bruce M. Pitman Center
Fireside Chat moderated by Professor Kenton Bird of the School of Journalism and Mass Media
Discussant: Fiona Hill, distinguished senior fellow in the Center on the United States and Europe at Brookings and former deputy assistant to the president of the United States and senior director for European and Russian affairs, National Security Council

12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26, Vandal Ballroom, Bruce M. Pitman Center
Renfrew Colloquium: “Updating Senator Borah: A Nuclear Kellogg-Briand Pact”
Presented by David Koplow, Scott K. Ginsberg Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center

7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26, Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre, 508 S. Main St.
Documentary screening: “Putin’s Attack on Ukraine: Documenting War Crimes”
The event is free and open to the public.

7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, International Ballroom, Bruce M. Pitman Center
Plenary Address Presented by Dirk Kempthorne, former governor of Idaho and former U.S. interior secretary.
Vandal Success BOOST

The Vandal Success BOOST event will be held, next week, on **from 2:30-5 p.m. September 27 on the 4th floor of the ISUB**. This event will include sessions intended to help **boost** students’ academic success this semester. Sessions will cover topics such as goal setting, time management, study skills, major and career exploration and resources available to you on campus. Registration is encouraged.

Students can register by following this link:
https://uidaho.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebwabUL7eEoDnzE.

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Bangladesh Night

Bangladesh Night is back!
**When:** 5-7 p.m. Saturday, September 30  
**Where:** International Ballroom, Bruce M. Pitman Center

The Bangladesh Association for Students and Scholars (BASS) is organizing Bangladeshi Night again at University of Idaho. This event is a collective initiative to celebrate, promote, introduce and showcase the rich cultural heritage and tradition of Bangladesh to the community.

There will be cultural performances along with authentic mouthwatering Bangladeshi food at this event. You can book your ticket here:  
https://yoyopopo.ticketleap.com/bangladesh-night/
African Night

When: 5-7 p.m. Saturday, October 21
Where: International Ballroom, Bruce M. Pitman Center

African Night event focuses on celebrating African culture and heritage and gives us the opportunity to share some of the features, beliefs and food from our region with the world. It also provides an environment for students to know their community and educate other nationalities in attendance.

Please complete this form to reserve a ticket.
Stay Tuned for Upcoming Events

- **U.S. Healthcare and Insurance Explained** from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, September 29 at the IPO Event Center.
- **International Cooking Club: White Sauce Pasta** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, September 30 at the Carmelita Spencer Food Laboratory (Niccolls Building, Room 103).
- **Homecoming Parade** from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, October 14 at the Downtown Moscow (meet at Rants and Raves).
Please visit our **Events Calendar** for more information on upcoming events.

We hope you have a wonderful September!

**VIEW EVENTS CALENDAR**

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