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One World, One Purdue: Implementing Successful Intercultural Collaboration at Purdue University

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ONE WORLD, ONE PURDUE:

Implementing Successful Intercultural Collaboration at Purdue University

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Ivan Anthony Henares received his PhD in Hospitality and Tourism Management and graduate certificate in Environmental Policy from Purdue University this year. He worked as a graduate assistant at the Center for Instructional Excellence. A tourism educator, cultural policy researcher, and advocate for heritage conservation in the Philippines, he received the 2017–2018 Fulbright-CHED Scholarship and was president of the Purdue Fulbright Association and One World, One Purdue. He is an assistant professor at the Asian Institute of Tourism of the University of the Philippines.

Rahul Kartick is a recent Computer Engineering graduate from Purdue University and currently works full time for Microsoft Corporation in Seattle. At Purdue, Rahul was part of the International Student Peer Coaching (ISPC) program, a program under the College of Engineering Undergraduate Education aimed at facilitating the transition of international students into Purdue University through workshops and peer mentorship. He functioned as the president of ISPC during 2018–2019. Rahul was part of the initial OWOP efforts in 2017 and 2018, and was one of the members of the core team for OWOP 2019.

INTRODUCTION

Purdue University is among the most ethnically diverse campuses in the United States. It ranked fourth among U.S. public institutions for international student enrollment in fall 2019. There were 9,085 international students from 134 countries.¹ This was 20.4% of the student population. At the undergraduate level, 4,651 international students comprised 13.8% of undergraduates, while 4,434 international students were 40.7% of the graduate and professional level students (Office of International Students and Scholars, 2019).

Among domestic students, there were 8,855 minority domestic students² that comprised 25% of the domestic student population. Of those students, 4,383 were underrepresented minority domestic students³ (Division of Diversity and Inclusion, 2019). Combined,

international and minority domestic students totaled 17,940, comprising 40.3% of the 44,551 enrolled students for fall 2019 (Davis, 2019).

Because of its large international and domestic minority population, Purdue University offers a unique opportunity to increase intercultural competence. Intercultural competence is the ability to function across cultures (Leung et al., 2014; Whaley & Davis, 2007), “the ability to think and act in interculturally appropriate ways” (Hammer et al., 2003), or “an individual’s effectiveness in drawing upon a set of knowledge, skills, and personal attributes in order to work successfully with people from different national cultural backgrounds at home or abroad” (Johnson et al., 2006).

While Purdue’s cultural organizations provided numerous events and opportunities for firsthand cultural

exchange, most of the attendees were international students themselves. Domestic white students did not take advantage of these experiential options. The observation was that if there was any hands-on intercultural learning on campus, it involved a negligible part of the domestic student population. There was a need to encourage domestic students, both white and minority, to take advantage of these practical intercultural learning opportunities with international students, possibly through stronger promotions and more collaborations among organizations, and even with professors who can ask their students to attend these culturally enriching programs.

CONCEPTUALIZING ONE WORLD, ONE PURDUE

Collaboration is vital to promote international understanding, raise cultural awareness and competence, and cultivate an environment of vibrant inclusion. A successful example of this intercultural collaboration is One World, One Purdue (OWOP). OWOP is a series of events organized every November to support International Education Week (IEW). IEW is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education that celebrates the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. OWOP events promote international understanding and engagement, raise cultural awareness and competency, and cultivate an environment of vibrant inclusion at Purdue University.

OWOP was conceptualized by the International Student Peer Coaching (ISPC) Program and the Global Engineering Programs and Partnerships (GEPP) of the College of Engineering in 2017. ISPC and GEPP were undergraduate programs that were geared toward assisting international students with their transition to Purdue and providing cultural exposure to both international and domestic students. OWOP was thus created as an annual series of events designed to provide a platform for domestic and international students to come together to celebrate the cultural diversity on campus. The first OWOP was held in spring 2018 and included three events—International Film Night, International Coffee Night, and Global Communications Workshop—primarily led by ISPC and GEPP.

In late 2018, Rahul Kartick led ISPC as its program manager. Recognizing the potential of OWOP to provide an opportunity for students to engage with culture, Rahul focused on improving the second OWOP. It was moved earlier to November 2018 to align with IEW and featured the International Coffee Night and the Global

Communications Workshop. OWOP 2018 included two new events, the International Talk Series and Celebration of Cultures Night.

The International Talk Series was an open mic event where professors and students shared their cultural experiences during their study abroad, research, or travels. The Celebration of Cultures Night aimed to provide undergrads with exposure to the different cultures on campus. The event featured food from three different cultures—Indian, Chinese, and Mediterranean—and included performances by several student cultural dance organizations. After two successful OWOPs, ISPC and GEPP saw the potential for further collaboration and expansion.

In 2019, OWOP approached Cultural Catalysts, a new organization that was created in 2018 to celebrate the cultural diversity of Purdue University. The organization was formed by members of a program of the Center for Intercultural Learning, Mentorship, Assessment and Research (CILMAR) of the same name, but now under the guidance of ISS. For the first few months, Ivan Henares, the president of Cultural Catalysts, continuously compiled an extensive calendar of cultural events organized by different organizations on campus and provided free promotion to these organizations through social media posts. While this exercise allowed him to form a rich network with organizations who appreciated the extra publicity, it also led to the discovery of a potential gap in the way cultural events were held at Purdue. Organizations typically held events independently with minimal to zero collaboration or coordination, leading to multiple overlaps, especially with scheduling. Recognizing this, Cultural Catalysts was very receptive to the opportunity to collaborate on OWOP. Additionally, since ISPC and GEPP were organizations catering mainly to undergraduates, the first two OWOPs were geared toward that audience. With the involvement of Ivan, who was also president of the Purdue Fulbright Association and a PhD student, another opportunity that was identified for OWOP was to broaden the audience for OWOP to be university wide and include both graduate and undergraduate students. Through the Fulbright network at Purdue, the vital participation of the Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA) and the Environmental & Ecological Engineering Graduate Student Organization (EEE GSO) in the core group was made possible.

ORGANIZING OWOP 2019

Planning for OWOP 2019 began with the realization that many organizations, especially cultural organizations,

Figure 1. Attendees at the April 2019 OWOP Information Session.

work independently in silos creating, at times, repetitive or conflicting events. OWOP's first role was to bring all these organizations into one common classroom and enable them to believe in a common goal of cultural celebration.

While OWOP was a vision shared by organizations whose missions are to celebrate culture, OWOP 2019 was a year-long effort to achieve that vision. OWOP 2019 started out with limited funding (\$2,500) put up by ISPC. Many initiatives were made possible through the team's personal networks, resources, and collaboration.

The April 2019 Information Session (Figure 1) was the first callout to organizations about OWOP. The main goal of the session was to inspire student leaders from cultural organizations across Purdue to work together to create an environment of vibrant inclusion on campus. Through aggressive and personal campaigning, there were over 50 student leaders in attendance (Table 1). Once we conveyed OWOP's mission and vision, we proposed ideas and incentives to organizations to

encourage their participation in the 2019 effort. All leaders showed tremendous enthusiasm and many leaders stayed back to continue conversations with us. Their ardor for OWOP 2019 was bolstered by the rapid joining of our Slack channel, a messaging platform we used to communicate about OWOP.

With plans for OWOP 2019 laid out, one of the major concerns that student leaders conveyed was the process of getting events approved, especially when they included food. The levels of bureaucracy involved with preparing activity planning forms (APF) had discouraged and continues to dissuade many organizations from proposing additional events. The organizers of OWOP 2019 sought to help simplify the process for everyone.

OWOP met with representatives of Student Activities and Organizations (SAO), Business Office for Student Organizations (BOSO), and Radiological and Environmental Management (REM) to find various ways to help organizations satisfy the requirements for each event.

Table 1. Participating Organizations and Countries

Country/ Region	Organization
Partner	Purdue Student Government (PSG)
Partner	Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG)
Partner	Purdue Student Union Board (PSUB)
Partner	University Residences Multicultural Connections (URMC)
Partner	University Residences Global (UR Global)
Partner	National Society of Minorities in Hospitality (NSMH)
Partner	Asian Student Union Board (ASUB)
Partner	Muslim Student Association (MSA)
Asia	Asian American Association
Asia	Ascend
Asia	Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE)
Asia	South Asian Student Alliance (SASA)
Asia	Lambda Phi Epsilon
Asia	Alpha Kappa Delta Phi
Middle East	Purdue Arab Society
Latin America	Latinx Graduate Student Organization
Latin America	Latinx Student Union
Caribbean	Caribbean Student Association (CARIBSA)
Afghanistan	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Argentina	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Students Association (BDSA)
Brazil	Brazilian Student Association (BRASA) Purdue
Canada	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Chile	Purdue Chilean Association (PCA)
China	Chinese Students and Scholars Association (PUCSSA)
China	Global China Connections (GCC)
Colombia	Colombian Students Association (CSAP)
Ecuador	Ecuadorians at Purdue University
France	French Club
Germany	German Culture Club
Greece	Hellenic Students Association
India	Indian Students Association (ISA)
India	Sangathan
Indonesia	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Israel	Hillel Student Board
Italy	Italian Club
Jamaica	Caribbean Students Association (CARIBSA)
Japan	Japan Students Association (JSA)
Kazakhstan	Kazakh Students Association (KSA)
Lebanon	Lebanese International Organization (LIO)
Malaysia	Malaysian Students Association (PUMSA)
Myanmar	Myanmar Students Association
Pakistan	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Palestine	Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)
Panama	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Philippines	Purdue Filipino Association (PFA)

Country/ Region	Organization
Philippines	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Puerto Rico	Puerto Rican Students Association
Russia	Russian Club
Saudi Arabia	Purdue Arab Society
Spain	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
South Korea	Asian American Association / Lambda Phi Epsilon
Sri Lanka	Sri Lankan Association (SLAT)
Taiwan	Taiwanese Student Association (TSA)
Thailand	Thai Students Association (PUTSA)
Trinidad & Tobago	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Tunisia	Purdue Fulbright Association (PFA)
Vietnam	Vietnamese Student Association (VSAP)
Dance	Purdue Salsa Club
Dance	TuTango, Tango Social Club
Language	School of Languages & Cultures GSC

The SAO-BOSO-REM information sessions were a product of collaboration and brainstorming that involved the regulatory offices and the student organizations.

There were two information sessions. The sessions started with an OWOP committee member going over several FAQs about serving food at events. Each of the offices would answer the question from their perspective including what they would need to see in the APF. The sessions were held in ITaP labs to allow student leaders to fill out the forms during the session. Organizations were able to get hands-on help from representatives of each of the offices.

Given the faceless and sometimes complicated exchanges of comments and responses that happen in Boilerlink, the OWOP committee wanted leaders to have personal interactions with the offices and complete forms with assistance to reduce the confusion and communication breakdowns around the process. The benefits of the SAO-BOSO-REM information session were a more efficient approval process, improved relations, and increased compliance.

OWOP 2019 MAJOR EVENTS

The One World, One Purdue opening ceremony was held at the Marriott Hall Atrium on November 11, 2019. The short program preceded the opening of the International Food Market at the same venue. West Lafayette City mayor John R. Dennis gave the keynote address (Figure 2).

Figure 2. From left to right: Ivan Henares (President, Purdue Fulbright Association), Jordan M. Boileau (President, Purdue Student Government), Hailey Dady (Assistant Director, International Students and Scholars), Dr. Richard Ghiselli (Head, School of Hospitality & Tourism Management), Mayor John R. Dennis, Dr. George T. C. Chiu (Assistant Dean, Global Engineering Programs), and Rahul Kartick (ISPC)

The International Food Market, also held at the Marriott Hall Atrium, was an opportunity for cultural clubs to come together and celebrate their traditional cuisine. Each group prepared one to three dishes representing their culture, country, or religion to sell at the market. Despite the snowstorm, there were an estimated 450 people at the event. OWOP did not ask for any fees or commissions for participation and the money earned by the organizations remained with their club.

We were able to convince organizations to participate by (1) serving as a liaison between them and REM, (2) securing a public kitchen at Marriott Hall, which the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management graciously allowed students to use for food preparation, and (3) ensuring the presence of ServSafe-certified individuals at the kitchen. During our consultations with the organizations, these were three of the difficulties raised when it came to food preparation. OWOP was

able to assist the organizations to satisfy food safety requirements.

This event was a great opportunity for students to learn about new cultures through food. The organizations were able to talk to attendees and engage with them. This event highlighted the cultural diversity on campus and provided a platform for students to have access to other cuisines. This food festival brought various countries and cultures into one space as a big celebration of diversity.

Three events—Coffee and Chats (November 14), Noche de Yerba Mate (November 20), and World Tea Night (November 20)—showcased coffee and tea traditions from different countries. During the events, there were student and faculty speakers who conveyed the significance of each beverage through the performance of traditions, and conversations and anecdotes involving the beverages.

Figure 3. Prof. Akiko Ohashi Brennan demonstrates the intricate movements of the Japanese tea ceremony.

For Coffee and Chats, attendees were invited to try coffee from 12 countries and converse openly about their cultural experiences through an open mic session. Noche de Yerba Mate was an event that introduced South American *mate* traditions to Purdue students. *Mate* or *chimarrão* (Brazil) is prepared by filling a special gourd container, also called *mate*, with dry *mate* leaves (*Ilex paraguariensis*) and hot water. If prepared with cold water, it is called *tereré*.

Student and faculty speakers demonstrated tea traditions during World Tea Night, such as the Japanese tradition of the preparation of matcha (Figure 3), the Chinese Tea Ceremony, and *teh tarik* pulling from Malaysia. Teas included saffron (*Crocus sativus*) from Afghanistan, Greek mountain tea (*Sideritis*), *salabat* ginger tea (*Zingiber officinale*) from the Philippines, and green or black tea (*Camellia sinensis*) in various forms such as *chai masala* (India), *teh tarik* (Malaysia), *matcha* (Japan), *chai* (Kazakhstan), and *shay* (Palestine).

The closing event was the World Dance Festival (November 21). The OWOP committee worked with the EEE GSO to create the event, providing a unique platform for students to access this facet of culture.

OWOP utilized the abundant diversity on campus by inviting international students and faculty dance practitioners at Purdue to showcase international dances and teach them to the students in attendance. This was beneficial to attendees as it allowed them to expand their cultural understanding through performance and learning, a form of cultural exposure that is generally unavailable at Purdue.

During the entire celebration, an International Film Festival (November 4–22) was also held. Students were able to learn about different cultures through cinema. Organizations and departments led classroom screenings of a movie from a country or culture, with Purdue professors leading meaningful discussions after some of the films to enhance the cultural engagement.

Due to the near-zero budget, we had to contact producers or directors directly and engage diplomatic missions to be able to screen the films. In coordination with the University Copyright Office, we were able to screen several films as part of classroom activities with discussions led by professors.

Popcorn was served with funding from ISPC, and popcorn machines from the Purdue Student Union Board (PSUB) and GEPP. During the screening of *Sunday Beauty Queen*, Filipino meals served were funded by the Department of Anthropology through Dr. Dada Docot.

COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

One of the key reasons for the success of OWOP 2019 was its collaborative efforts. The OWOP 2019 organizing committee quickly realized that to provide students with maximum cultural exposure in a short time, OWOP would need the help of cultural organizations and programs on campus.

The OWOP organizing committee worked with student organizations and programs to help organize their own events during the OWOP timeline. Major events organized by other organizations during OWOP included the Diwali Show 2019 (November 10) of the Indian Student Association; GEARE Poster Symposium: Study Abroad & Work Abroad (November 12), which allowed Engineering students that participated in study abroad, working abroad, and research abroad to showcase their international experiences and provide mentorship to prospective students; Engineering Across the World: Navigating the Janus Face (November 13); Diaspora: Navigating Asian American Identity in America (November 13) of the Vietnamese Student Association (VSAP); the Refugee Gala (November 15) organized by the Muslim Student Association (MSA) at the honors college to tackle the refugee experience and to reflect on how relevant and unifying it is for communities of all geographical backgrounds; Taste of Asia (November 16) of the Asian Student Union Board (ASUB); Brazilian Feijoada (November 16) of the Brazilian Student Association (BRASA); Hot Pot Night (November 17) of Global China Connections (GCC); the Multicultural Cooking Demonstration (November 18) of the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality (NSMH); and the Thanksgiving Dinner (November 21) organized by University Residences Multicultural Connections and UR Global.

Organizations reported that through collaboration with OWOP's marketing team (one of the primary methods of

collaboration due to the small budget), events saw a diversification of the demographics of their audience in terms of people outside the cultural organization and people from both graduate and undergraduate programs.

As a testament to its success, OWOP 2019 was named Co-Sponsorship/Collaboration of the Year, awarded to a collective effort for the betterment of campus, students, and Purdue University by Purdue Student Life and the SAO.

IMPLEMENTING MSPS AND MEASURING CULTURAL COMPETENCE

By providing a platform for students to engage with various cultures directly, OWOP 2019 demonstrated the potential of hands-on interaction to improve students' intercultural competence. In OWOP 2019, Rahul Kartick compared his Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) (a cultural competence measure) score taken before and after OWOP. Results after OWOP saw an increase in his IDI scores, signifying an increase in cultural competence. Rahul, through conversations with an IDI administrator, was able to trace back the reasons for improvement to the amount of cultural exposure gained during OWOP. The 2019 OWOP Organizing Committee believed that such an observation indicated the success of applied cultural exposure to students from other countries, such as through OWOP, in increasing intercultural competence. To study the implications of the hypothesis further, all OWOP participating organizations and domestic students in attendance could be asked to take the IDI survey before and after OWOP to identify any change in their cultural competence.

Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS) are outlined in the CAS Professional Standards for Higher Education (Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education, 2019) and state that MSPS must enhance "students' understanding of their own culture, heritage, and identities," as well as "cultures, heritage, and identities other than their own." MSPS must also "contribute to students' formal education, which includes both curricular and co-curricular" (CAS, 2019). Because OWOP precisely addresses those objectives, including OWOP events and activities in Purdue's programs will enhance its MSPS.

Also mentioned in the CAS Professional Standards, "MSPS must collect and use campus climate data to identify and address the needs of multicultural groups on campus" (CAS, 2019).

OWOP was also in discussion with the Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center (AAARCC), the LGBTQ Center, and intercultural competence programs at Purdue about pursuing a study to document potential positive effects of OWOP on the intercultural competence of students at Purdue University and potentially incorporate OWOP into Purdue's holistic curriculum.

Additionally, OWOP can conduct surveys at events to identify the demographics of the participants in attendance at events. This will provide keen insights into the current state of intercultural exposure of undergrads, and a comparison between years can highlight progress.

LEARNINGS FROM OWOP 2019

OWOP 2019 relied heavily on the core organizers and partners to spread the word and organize events. While this led to overstress, especially on the core group, the enthusiasm of the group to push forward its objectives of increasing intercultural competence and inclusion among students made the pilot university-wide celebration perform beyond what was expected.

OWOP 2019 also lacked funding. The main source of funding, which was used to acquire marketing materials and rentals, came from ISPC. Logistical help in setting up events, manning booths, and spreading the word via flyers came from members of the core student organizations responsible for OWOP 2019. Despite very limited funding and number of workers, OWOP was able to attract hundreds of students throughout the events through creative and enterprising collaboration.

In 2020, there were several challenges in continuing OWOP. First, in spring 2020, the College of Engineering suspended the ISPC Program. Without the program, OWOP lost all sources of funds and a significant amount of logistical assistance. This pushed the remaining members of the core group to seek other resources to enable the continuation of the program.

To keep OWOP funded, the core group worked to get grants. They received a \$25,000 grant for AY 2020–2021 from the Student Fee Advisory Board (SFAB) and were working to get several projects funded by the One Community Grant. However, the entire celebration was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The core group recognized that one of the initial challenges for the continuation of novel programs such as OWOP is the lack of annual funding. If we are to

institutionalize OWOP, we must ensure that future organizers of OWOP can secure sufficient funds easily every year.

WHAT WAS IN STORE FOR OWOP 2020

To prepare for OWOP 2020, Cultural Catalysts was renamed One World, One Purdue and was to serve as the secretariat for all OWOP events. The One World, One Purdue Council (OWOP Council) was also created by OWOP and was to serve as the new core group with regional and sectoral representation.

Right before the COVID-19 pandemic school closure, there were also plans to convene the One World, One Purdue General Assembly (OWOP GA) that would have served as the coordinating and information dissemination body for events organized as part of OWOP. The OWOP GA was to be composed of leaders of recognized cultural student organizations at Purdue University.

For OWOP 2020, the OWOP secretariat worked to get larger funding so that events could cater to a larger number of students, pursue new initiatives, and most importantly represent cultures on campus that do not have organizations.

One of the major events that was not implemented in 2019 was the Global Poster Symposium. Various colleges were contacted about participating and encouraging students to present research posters that had previously been featured at conferences and other academic and research fora. As this event was formulated only toward the later stages of planning for OWOP 2019, it was not realized.

Through the initial stages of formulation and discussions with poster symposium committees, we realized that the cost of poster board rentals, refreshments, and venue required a specifically allocated budget. However, through the enthusiastic responses in the meetings with the deans and directors of many colleges and departments, we realized that this would be a successful event if planned well in advance.

Plans were underway to organize it for fall 2020. The event was supposed to be a collaboration between OWOP and the different colleges and departments to showcase the university's international research efforts and results. Posters were to be grouped together by country and region, rather than by discipline. The aim was to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration. Also,

students would have been able to learn about the opportunities for research in a global environment.

OWOP IN A COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT

Despite the challenges involved with mounting in-person events, OWOP continued to look for opportunities to organize virtual events that met its objectives. Early in spring 2021, OWOP co-sponsored a virtual screening of the Oscar-nominated film *Minari* and the International Women's Day Panel and Concert 2021 with AAARCC. Speakers were Dr. Carolyn Woo (former dean of the Notre Dame Business School, former CEO of Catholic Relief Service, now Purdue's Distinguished President's Fellow for Global Development) and Dr. Reini Wirahadikusumah (President, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia). Both are Purdue alumni. OWOP organized a concert of rapper Ruby Ibarra after the panel discussion, using funds from SFAB.

OWOP decided it could mount a larger celebration—the Purdue Spring 2021 Culture Month in April 2021. Despite the limited planning time, close to 35 events were listed in the calendar. OWOP- and partner-organized events included a virtual concert of Ugandan world musician and educator Kinobe; the Politics of Hair, a panel featuring Sulma Arzu-Brown, Ona Diaz-Santin, and Julissa Prado; Vaisakhi 2021: Sikh New Year Celebration; live Q&As with *Chinatown Rising* co-director Josh Chuck; and *Happy Cleaners* producers, co-directors, and writers HJ Lee, Julian Kim, Peter S. Lee, and Kat Kim.

OWOP also co-hosted virtual film screenings of *The Lady* (France / UK / Myanmar), *Chinatown Rising* (USA), *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara* (India), *Pelo Malo* (Venezuela), *Quezon's Game* (Philippines), and *Happy Cleaners* (USA). All these events were funded by the SFAB grant. Despite the strong promotions in the *Purdue Exponent* and Facebook, many events were not able to gather the expected attendance, especially among domestic students, possibly because of the burnout with online events. This observation highlights the need to partner with professors to invite their classes to attend these experiential events.

CONCLUSION

OWOP is a unique opportunity to celebrate cultural diversity and encourage student involvement. Domestic student organizations should take advantage of this opportunity to partner with international student organizations to create even more vibrant events and hands-on intercultural learning experiences.

Currently at Purdue, students are exposed to different cultures mainly through study abroad or independent events held throughout the year by different student organizations. While these are great opportunities to learn about specific cultures, these events reach only a small percentage of domestic students. Also, even with courses offering theoretical knowledge on intercultural learning, domestic students will benefit even more from hands-on cross-cultural experiences with international students to better improve intercultural competence.

By collaborating with cultural student organizations all over campus, OWOP in 2019 was able to provide a catalog of cultural events happening synchronously. By identifying and addressing the problem of multiple cultural events overlapping and being repetitive, OWOP 2019, in our experience, has shown that a shift in the campus climate is possible. Additionally, through the experiences of the organizers and participants of OWOP 2019, we noted that actual exposure to a cross-cultural setting, especially in a learning environment, seems to enable unique skills in intercultural competence and adaptability. As students graduate and are exposed to the global nature of the workforce, those practical skills will be invaluable to them.

In 2019, OWOP was the only IEW activity listed for Purdue University on the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' (2019) website. We must stress, however, that participating in IEW should be a university-led initiative and a working group should be organized among students, faculty, and staff to coordinate activities that celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange on a campus as culturally diverse as Purdue.

Participation in IEW allows us to mount events that strengthen service-learning and international engagement. To increase Purdue University's participation in IEW, colleges and departments should be encouraged to have their own activities and events that can be included in the OWOP calendar. Celebrating cultural diversity through OWOP highlights the strength of Purdue as a home for a large international and minority community.

NOTES

1. Bermuda, Hong Kong, Macau, Palestinian Territories, and Taiwan were listed throughout the ISS report but were not included in the country counts.
2. Minority domestic students include all nonwhite, noninternational students.
3. Underrepresented minority domestic students include all indications of American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students, including a breakout of those from the Two or More Races category.

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