BUFFALO, N.Y. – October 29, 2012 – International Education Week (IEW) 2012 at the University at Buffalo will focus on the Arab Spring and its aftermath. An annual UB tradition since 2001, IEW showcases the rich cultural diversity of the campus community, highlights the university’s international programs and outreach, and draws attention to the importance of international education and exchange.


Husain will speak on “The Arab Spring and Its Aftermath: Islamism, Democracy and the Politics of Dissent” on Monday, November 12 at 3:00 p.m. in the Student Union Theater on UB’s North Campus. He will explore the growing influence of Islamist groups in the wake of the Arab Spring and their role in shaping the new Middle East, whether as heads of state, civil society leaders, protesters or rebel fighters in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Syria. Husain will address questions such as “Who are the various Islamist groups and what do they represent?” and “What role do they seek in their respective societies?” in a wide-ranging discussion of the past, present and future of Islamism in the Middle East.

The IEW 2012 keynote film “Goodbye Mubarak!” will explore the socioeconomic conditions in Egypt which triggered the protests in Tahrir Square in Cairo and eventually brought down President Mubarak. The film will provide a visually rich
and insightful portrayal of segments of Egyptian society through face-to-face interviews with students, factory workers, military officers and business owners. “Goodbye Mubarak!” will reveal a revolution-in-waiting already simmering under the surface of Egyptian society in the run-up to legislative elections and before the mass outpouring of opposition. An Egyptian student panel discussion will follow the film. “Goodbye Mubarak!” will be screened on Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Student Union Theater on UB’s North Campus.

Other IEW 2012 events will highlight UB’s international student population and feature the international efforts of UB faculty and students.

Helping the community understand the perspectives and traditions that international students bring with them to Buffalo is the goal of “Understanding International Cultures: South Korea” and “Holidays Around the World: Japan”.

The annual “Without Borders” lecture series, which highlights UB’s global reach, will feature “Place, Space and Pace: Their Influence on Research in Tanzania”, “Measuring Tobacco Use Around the World”, “Evaluating a Malaria Education and Prevention Program” and “Making the World Global: Bringing Home International Perspectives on U.S. Domestic Violence Law.”

At the “World View: Study Abroad Photo Contest and Exhibition”, a vibrant display of photos taken by UB students studying in all corners of the world will highlight the wide range of study abroad programs offered at UB.

Noontime performances and interactive displays by international student groups and community organizations will take place in the Student Union Lobby on Monday, November 12, Tuesday, November 13 and Friday, November 16. Boasting an impressive Lion Dance and featuring lively Filipino bamboo, Bhangra and Middle Eastern dances, the performances will conclude with Kendo and Tae Kwon Do martial arts demonstrations, and the popular International Fashion Show. Chinese calligraphy, henna hand painting, Thai tea and Singlish (Singaporean English) language lessons will highlight the interactive displays.

IEW events at UB are made possible through generous support from AT&T, Key Bank, M&T Bank, UB Alumni Relations, UB Undergraduate Academies, UB Asian Studies Program, Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Inc., UB English Language Institute, UB
Office of International Education, Grand Tours & Ridge Road Express, and the UB School of Management HSBC Center for Global Leadership. The week’s events are organized by UB’s Office of International Student and Scholar Services.

For more detailed information and the complete International Education Week 2012 schedule, please visit www.buffalo.edu/intlservices/special_events.html.

With more than 5,000 international students, the University at Buffalo ranks in the top 20 of 2,700 accredited U.S. universities in international enrollment, according to the Institute of International Education (IIE). The University has exchange agreements with more than 80 institutions in over 30 countries.

The University at Buffalo is a premier research-intensive public university, a flagship institution in the State University of New York system, and its largest and most comprehensive campus. UB’s more than 28,000 students pursue their academic interests through more than 300 undergraduate, graduate and professional degree programs. Founded in 1846, the UB is a member of the Association of American Universities.

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