FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Sustainability in Focus”
International Education Week at UB, November 10-14

BUFFALO, N.Y. – October 26, 2014 – International Education Week (IEW) 2014 at the University at Buffalo will focus on sustainability in a global context. An annual UB tradition since 2001, IEW showcases the rich cultural diversity of the campus community, provides insightful analysis of issues of critical importance worldwide, and highlights the university’s international programs and outreach.

The keynote lectures will be presented by Roger-Mark De Souza, Director of Population, Environmental Security and Resilience, Wilson Center, and Lisa Palmer, Public Policy Scholar, Wilson Center. They will speak on “Global Sustainability: Interconnectedness, Resilience and the Path Forward” on Wednesday, November 12 at 4:00 p.m. in the Student Union Theater, UB’s North Campus. Focusing on ways we can build our resilience to natural and human-made shocks and stresses by investing in youth, women and communities, they will explore how integrating concepts like women's empowerment, reproductive health, community engagement and food security can lead to better policy and actions that help us cope with adversity. They will also present innovators who are developing new ideas and models of social change to address global and local sustainability. By sharing stories of some of these remarkable innovators, they will discuss the surprising ways that the broader integration of sustainability and conservation practices and policies can open the door to resilience.

De Souza leads the Wilson Center’s Global Sustainability and Resilience Program, Environmental Change and Security Program, and Maternal Health Initiative. Before joining the Center, he served as vice president of research and director of the climate program at Population Action International, and director of foundation and corporate relations at the Sierra Club. Prior to working at the Sierra Club, he directed the Population, Health and Environment Program at
the Population Reference Bureau, where he designed and implemented research, communications, and capacity-building projects in the United States, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Before joining the Wilson Center, Lisa Palmer was a journalist and reported almost exclusively on climate change, the environment and business sustainability. Her work has appeared in publications such as Slate Magazine, Nature Climate Change, The Guardian, Yale E360, The Yale Forum, Scientific American and The New York Times, among many others. She is a professional member of the Society of Environmental Journalists, the National Association of Science Writers, the D.C. Science Writers Association, and the American Society of Journalists and Authors.

Other IEW 2014 keynote events will help raise awareness of the importance of sustainability and draw attention to various sustainability efforts the university has undertaken as part of its effort to achieve climate neutrality and create a better future through sustainability. These events will include presentations of student research on sustainability issues, a tour of UB’s LEED Certified Gold Building Greiner Hall and a screening of “No Impact Man”. The tours will take place on Tuesday, November 11 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. starting in the Greiner Hall lobby. The film will be screened on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:30 p.m. in Capen Hall 107. The 2009 film follows the Manhattan-based Beavan family as they abandon their high consumption 5th Avenue lifestyle and try to live a year while making no net environmental impact.

Other IEW 2014 events will highlight UB’s international student population and feature the international efforts of UB faculty and students. They will include student presentations on holidays in Iran, and traditions, economics and business opportunities in Tibet and Nepal. There will also be career-related sessions featuring job search advice from management alumni, and discussing careers opportunities in Asia and in sustainability fields.

The “World Bazaar”, which celebrates the differences and commonalities of all people, cultures and abilities, will expose attendees to a wide range of performances, cuisine and demonstrations. 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 student clubs will take place in the Student Union Lobby on Monday, November 10. Boasting Argentine tango, Asian-American hip hop, and traditional Bengali and Punjabi folk dances, the performances will conclude with Indian fusion and a Filipino bamboo dance.

IEW events at UB are made possible through generous support from AT&T; Bank of America; Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Inc.; and UB’s Alumni Relations, Asian Studies Program, Campus Living, English Language Institute, Intercultural & Diversity Center; Office of International Education, Study Abroad Programs, Sustainability Office, Undergraduate Academies, and School of Public Health & Health Professions Office of Global Health Initiatives. 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 2014 schedule, please visit www.buffalo.edu/intlservices/special_events.html.

With more than 6,000 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, UB is a member of the Association of American Universities.

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