Ivy Tech highlighted National Hispanic Heritage Month with events celebrating Hispanic heritage and culture. The college kicked-off the celebration in early October with Salsa, Merengue and Cha-Cha dancing lessons.

Other events included a viewing of “West Side Story” and, in conjunction with Indiana University’s Asian Cultural Center, attended a lecture entitled “Talented but Undocumented: The impact of the recent debate on immigration” at the Asian Cultural Center.
CONSTRUCTION BEGINS: THE INDIANA CENTER FOR THE LIFE SCIENCES

Ivy Tech Community College-Bloomington and Monroe County Government have joined together to build the Indiana Center for the Life Sciences, a 20,000 square foot training facility for local students and life science employees. The groundbreaking ceremony was held Friday, Sept. 28, 2007.

“The Indiana Center for the Life Sciences is an investment in our community that will pay dividends for years to come,” said Chancellor John Whikehart. “This Center will benefit the community, life science workers in training, and students who wish to obtain jobs in the growing life science economy.”

In August, the Monroe County Redevelopment Commission awarded the $4.48 million construction contract to Garmong Construction Services of Terre Haute. The cost of construction will be paid through a 5 million dollar bond, raised through the west side tax increment financing (TIF) district.

Construction recently began at the site, on property owned by Ivy Tech Community College. The Center is expected to open next fall.

Ivy Tech-Bloomington Surpasses 5,000 in Enrollment

For the first time in its history, Ivy Tech Community College-Bloomington exceeded its goal of enrolling more than 5,000 students for the fall semester 2007. Enrollment grew by 11 percent as compared to enrollment figures on the same date last fall.

In order to accommodate surging enrollments, the college leased an 8,500 square foot facility where more than 90 classes are taught. The facility on Liberty Dr. has seven classrooms, a commons area for students and offices for the college’s life science initiatives.

Along with the increase in enrollment, the college is seeing more traditional students (ages 18-25) enrolled in classes. In order to meet the needs of these younger students, creating a traditional college experience has become a priority on campus. "These student life activities are part of the college’s strategy to retain students,” said Chancellor John Whikehart. “Studies show that the integration of students with the institution is vital to a student’s success.” The college now offers recreational sport programs (basketball, flag football and volleyball) for students and is creating a larger variety of student clubs and organizations. The college will also offer its second alternative spring break experience, and bring musicians to the campus in hopes of creating the type of atmosphere that appeals to students. The first week of class included several activities, from rock climbing to video game tournaments, for all students.

NEW LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CREATES IVY TECH AMBASSADORS

Last spring, the college created Student Ambassador programs designed to assist the college with enrollment and retention efforts, while building leadership, professional, and networking skills among its students.

In August, the Student Ambassador Program utilized Ivy Tech students to build relationships with incoming students. Student Ambassadors Stephen Shipley and Tabitha Leshley participated in the week long training. During orientation, they were solely responsible for distributing information about the college, answering questions and leading several team building exercises.

Shapley said the program provides him with a chance to help people. “I can help our students better their own college experience,” he said. “After several orientation sessions my confidence just soared because I could see that I had really helped make a difference.”

In addition to being a full-time student and a Student Ambassador, Leshley works 12 hours per week at Bloomington Hospital. Despite her grueling schedule, Leshley says that being part of the program has been the greatest experience of her life. “It is so empowering to be there as they (students) are changing their lives,” she said. “We are making a more independent student from the beginning.”

Student Ambassadors must maintain a 2.0 grade point average and be enrolled as full-time students. They staff Enrollment Services and Student Development offices anywhere from five to 10 hours per week. Tuition – up to 12 credit hours per semester – is paid for Student Ambassadors reaching the highest leadership level in the program.

Voters Host Annual Forums

Ivy Tech Community College and the League of Women Voters of Bloomington-Monroe County hosted two League of Women Voters local candidate forums in October. The forums featured Common Council candidates from District 2, District 5 and District 6 on Oct. 2 and candidates for Mayor and Common Council At-Large on Oct. 11, 2007.

Chancellor John Whikehart, Ivy Tech Community College-Bloomington, said the college was pleased to host this year’s League of Women Voters local candidate forums. “It is important for our students and our community to learn as much as they can about the local candidates running for office before voting on Election Day,” he said. “Hosting the local candidate forums falls right in line with the college’s commitment to civic engagement.”

IVY TECH AND LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HOST ANNUAL FORUMS
SBDC Fuse Awards
Third Annual Fuse Business Innovation Awards

- Co-sponsored by the South Central Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and in Venture, Bloomington’s technology business incubator
- Oct. 25, 2007 beginning at 11 a.m.
- Bloomington Convention Center, 302 S. College Ave.
- $25 per person (register today – seating is limited)
- Register by calling (812) 339-8937
- Rebecca Ryan, Next Generation Consulting, delivers keynote presentation “Cool Communities”

Constitution Day Celebrated On Campus

Standing room only crowd watched and listened as City of Bloomington Mayor Mark Krupan and City Council Member David Sabbagh discussed their personal stances regarding the United States Constitution as part of the college’s Constitution Day presentation. The presentation entitled “The Constitution is Not Just a Piece of Paper” was held Sept. 17 in Lamkin Hall.

The U.S. Constitution celebrated its 220th anniversary this year. Delegates attending the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, PA., signed the document on Sept. 17, 1787.

Pursuant to legislation passed by Congress, educational institutions receiving federal funding are required to hold an educational program pertaining to the U.S. Constitution on Sept. 17th of each year. The legislation authorizing Constitution Day was created by West Virginia Senator Robert Byrd in 2004.

Eyeglass Donations to Help Latin Americans

Instructor for Office Administration, runs through the end of spring semester 2008.

Due to FDA regulations, prescription lenses cannot be legally redistributed within the United States; however, the lenses can be distributed outside of the country. The distribution of collected lenses will provide much needed eye care to Latin Americans. With countless eyeglass donations, we may be able to provide a perfect match for someone in need.

Collection boxes are located in the Ivy Tech Student Commons, the vending machine area, and the Adjunct Faculty Lounge. All nine Head Start sites, three Movie Galleries (two in Bloomington and one in Ellettsville) along with Highland Park Elementary have collection boxes. If you would like to donate items or become a collection point, please email dkyoung@ivytech.edu or call (812) 330-6128.

Students Taking Office Administration 121 (Office Procedures and Team Dynamics) are giving the gift of better eye care to Latin Americans. The class, in partnership with Indiana University School of Optometry, is currently collecting prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses and eyeglass cases. This service learning project, lead by Donna Young, Ivy Tech

Donate a pair of eyeglasses for the people of Latin America.

Ivy Tech Community College, in partnership with the IU School of Optometry.

Eyeglass donations accepted through April 30, 2008.

Due to FDA regulations, prescription lenses cannot be legally redistributed within the United States; however, the lenses can be distributed outside of the country. The distribution of collected lenses will provide much needed eye care to Latin Americans. With countless eyeglass donations, we may be able to provide a perfect match for someone in need.

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Sixty-five students were recognized during a scholarship recipient and donor reception held Sept. 26. Donors funded over $42,000 of the scholarships awarded to students in the fall semester. Much of the money raised for scholarships is a result of Ivy Tech-Bloomington’s Grow Ivy Tech campaign.

Ivy Tech-Bloomington awards student scholarships for fall, spring, and summer semesters. If you are interested in funding a scholarship for an Ivy Tech student, please contact the Ivy Tech Foundation office at (812) 330-6067.

Congratulations to all 2007 fall scholarship recipients:

Janet Langley
Sarah Truax
Rhonda Kraese
Joy Lee
Melissa McMillan
Rebecca Najib
Timothy Baker
Glenda Warden
Elijah Stevens
Sasha Puckett
Allison Martin
Jennifer Quakenbush
Alessandra Ferrorio
Anna Hoard
Joseph Pridemore
Katie Noel
Samatha Deck
Matthew Hines
Cathy Kinser
George Fedynskyi
LaTanya Pierson-Bennett
Napa Sharma
Elizabeth Reed
Tabitha Leshley
Jeffrey S. Brown
Kristi Kessinger
Elizabeth Carpenter
Pamela Vaughn
Nicole Gray
Chiona Aneke
Darci Newbold
Jennifer Hamblen
Keila Hammans
Angela Patterson
Monique Dallas
Kelli Bastin
Maryellen Thomas
Jason Dixon
Mary Campbell
Tiffany McBee
Nicole Gray
Danielle Matthew
Annette Haley
Shawn Nichols
Debra Stockhover
Elizabeth Morales
Jennifer Davis
Angela Gilliam
Zoe Ragland
Mary Sowders
Jenna Abbott
Nancy Ball
Jeri Evanoff
Connie Bolling
Virginia Iozzo
Allison Martin
Rebecca Pharo
Sheri Beaver
Kimberly Wittmer
Tony Stewart
Jessica Dow
Wendy Carroll
Michelle Yoho
Donna Hardy
Patrick Cassidy