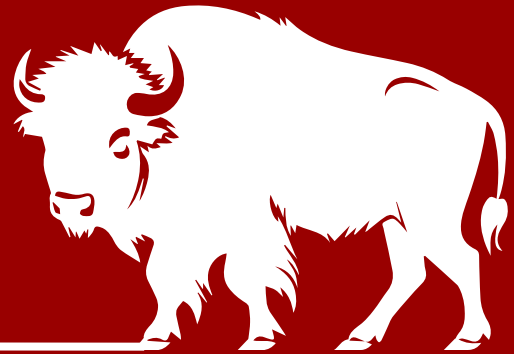




The Informed Student

December 2024 | No. 8





Stay Informed and Keep Current

Hey Hoosiers! Happy New Year's Eve! We hope you're enjoying your winter break. As you recharge for the semester ahead, we're excited to bring you the latest edition of *The Informed Student*, the monthly newsletter from your Indiana University Student Government (IUSG).

We are dedicated to keeping you connected and informed with everything you need to know about IUSG, right at your fingertips. On the last day of every month, you can dive into detailed updates on our initiatives, discover our upcoming events, learn how to access essential campus resources, and so much more!

Fuse team

IUSG 2024-2025 Administration



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FUSE Administration Mid-Year Report

The FUSE Administration Mid-Year Report provides an in-depth overview of the achievements and ongoing initiatives of the Indiana University Student Government (IUSG) under the leadership of Student Body President Cooper Tinsley and Student Body Vice President Nicole Santiuste. Since the FUSE administration took office on April 25, 2024, it has focused on fostering a sense of belonging, unifying the campus, and empowering and supporting students. With a mission to build bridges and break barriers, the administration has worked diligently to fulfill campaign promises while addressing the evolving needs of the IU student body. This report highlights key progress made across various initiatives, showcasing a commitment to resilience, inclusion, and the creation of a thriving university environment.



Press the QR Code for
the FUSE Administration
Mid-Year Report

Student Body Survey Report Fall 2024

The FUSE administration conducted the Student Body Fall Survey to gather critical insights into IU Bloomington students' experiences, concerns, and priorities. Developed by the Office of Data and Research, the survey was designed to reach students across all programs, years, and learning modalities. Shared through email, campus efforts, and social media, it reached a wide audience, providing invaluable insight into the student experience. The results from this survey will continue to help shape advocacy efforts, initiatives, and policy recommendations that reflect what matters most to students. This report below highlights those findings and underscores the FUSE administration's commitment to amplifying student voices to shape the future of IU.

Indiana University Student Government
**Student Body Survey
Report Fall 2024**

Issued in December 2024

Prepared by Luke Saxton-Stivers, Director of Data and Research, and Abhinav Gurram, Data and Research Intern



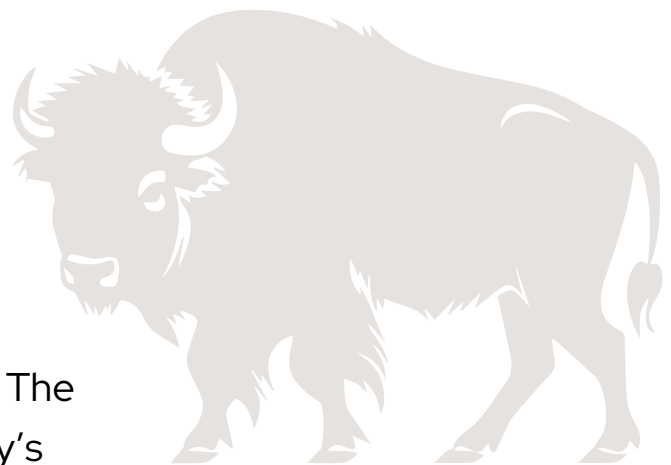
Press the QR Code for
the Student Body
Survey Report Fall 2024

IU Student Government says

Bring Back the Bison

Since the retirement of the bison mascot in 1969, IU Bloomington has lacked an official mascot or a central symbol beyond the IU trident and the Hoosier identity. The FUSE Administration is leading the charge in addressing this long-standing void by advocating for the return of the bison, a mascot deeply rooted in IU's history, heritage, and traditions. This initiative has garnered overwhelming support, with a recent student poll showing that 72% of respondents favor bringing back the bison. The excitement surrounding this effort builds on the unity fostered during the 2024 football season, which brought students together to celebrate a high-winning record.

Student Body President Cooper Tinsley is working closely with IU Athletics and other stakeholders to seamlessly reintegrate the bison as a lasting emblem of IU's identity. This initiative seeks to elevate school spirit, enrich campus traditions, and enhance IU's branding as a vibrant and united institution. The advocacy from the FUSE administration revives a cherished tradition and underscores the importance of shared symbols in fostering connection and belonging. The bison will represent Indiana University's excellence, resilience, and a sense of community for current and future generations. We invite the entire IU community to join us in celebrating this historic milestone as we embark on a new chapter of shared pride.





Apply for Student Organization Funding

Is your student organization in need of funding? Due to recent challenges faced by student organizations in securing funding, the IU Student Government has stepped up to offer financial support.

While we aim to assist as many organizations as possible, **funding is allocated based on the scope and impact of the proposed material needs or events**. All funding applications must be submitted at least 15 business days (approximately three weeks) before the requested date of funding. If you have any questions, please email iusgexec@iu.edu



Press the QR code for the application, step-by-step instructions and answers to frequently asked questions



IU Student Government's

Blooming Hope

The FUSE administration's Department of Sexual Violence Prevention/Title IX hosted Blooming Hope, a heartfelt event dedicated to raising awareness about sexual violence and honoring survivors. Students came together to create beautiful flower bouquets, with the option to take them home or dedicate them to survivors as a symbol of solidarity and strength. This event provided a meaningful opportunity for students to engage in a creative and supportive activity, fostering a sense of community and compassion. By offering free supplies and encouraging students to take part in this initiative, the FUSE administration demonstrated its ongoing commitment to advocacy, awareness, and creating a safe and inclusive campus environment.



IU Student Government's

Globes of Hope

In collaboration with the Exploration Club, the FUSE administration hosted Globes of Hope, an inspiring event that combined creativity, community engagement, and meaningful impact. Students gathered to build snowglobes, with the option to donate their handcrafted creations to children in the foster care system through the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program. This event offered students a much-needed opportunity to de-stress while raising awareness for CASA's mission to support and advocate for foster children. By seamlessly blending campus involvement with social impact, the FUSE administration showcased its dedication to enriching the student experience while contributing to the Bloomington community during the holiday season.




IU Student Government's

First-Year Internship Program

This year, 21 first-year students joined the program, setting a new standard for engagement and inclusivity. FIP, a cornerstone of IUSG, is designed to empower first-year students by providing them with hands-on opportunities to work on impactful initiatives, develop leadership skills, and gain meaningful experience. Each intern is paired with an Executive Branch member, creating a mentorship dynamic that helps them implement projects and contribute to transformative changes across campus. As part of the program, participants engage in an eight-week, one-credit course to enhance their leadership skills and deepen their understanding of IUSG. The course concluded with impressive presentations from the interns, highlighting their individual projects and application of the course material. Their hard work and creativity set a high standard for leadership and innovation. We are excited to continue working with these talented interns in the upcoming semester and look forward to seeing their continued growth and contributions!

Resourceful posts

 iustudentgov

...



If you **witness or experience a bias incident, your voice matters**. Follow the steps to report it and help create a safer, more inclusive community. Together, we can stand against discrimination and support one another.

 iustudentgov

...



Stay informed about potential **changes to U.S. immigration and visa policies** as the new administration transitions into office. IU Global is committed to keeping students updated with accurate information and guidance.

Join an IU Student Government

Executive Committte

As an executive committee member, you'll have the opportunity to contribute your ideas, develop leadership skills, and collaborate closely with our executive officers to help execute campus-wide initiatives that enhance student life on campus. We are currently accepting applications for the following executive departments:

- City and Local Relations
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Environmental Affairs
- Federal Relations
- Graduate Affairs
- Health and Wellbeing
- Sexual Violence Prevention
- State Relations
- Student Rights
- Transportation and Infrastructure



Press the QR code to learn more and submit your application reviewed on a rolling basis



Passed in Congress *December 2024*

Regular Session of the 2024-2025 IU Student Body Congress

CONGRESS ENROLLED ACT No. 1002

Be it enacted by the students of Indiana University in Congress assembled:

On December 2, 2024, Congress passed Bill No. 1002, authored by Representative Elizabeth Conley, which **encourages transportation to religious venues.**

- Support the efforts to provide consistent and reliable public transportation to religious venues.
- Encourages The Indiana University Transportation Group to ensure that public transportation routes extend regular stops at or near religious centers on campus.
- The university transportation committee would update all transportation maps, mobile apps, and websites to highlight the routes and stops that serve as religious centers on campus.

In each newsletter, we will highlight student-focused Congress bills that have passed during the month. However, you can access IUSG records and full versions of all Congress bills at any time on our website iustudentgovernment.indiana.edu

Passed in Congress *December 2024*

Regular Session of the 2024-2025 IU Student Body Congress

CONGRESS ENROLLED ACT No. 1011

Be it enacted by the students of Indiana University in Congress assembled:

On December 9, 2024, Congress passed Bill No. 1011, authored by Representative Eric Cannon, which **tasks the Office of the Student Body President to work in partnership with university administration to establish take-out food options at Forest Dining Hall**. The bill urges a focus on improving dining accessibility and convenience for students across campus. Key findings include the Forest Dining Hall's high usage, students' lack of time to dine in, and existing partial use of disposable utensils. The bill emphasizes:

- Prioritizing breakfast take-out options to accommodate morning schedules.
- Maintaining sit-down dining to uphold Forest's mission.
- Exploring practical take-out container systems.
- Ensuring healthy options, leveraging the existing salad and fruit bar.

In each newsletter, we will highlight student-focused Congress bills that have passed during the month. However, you can access IUSG records and full versions of all Congress bills at any time on our website iustudentgovernment.indiana.edu

Passed in Congress *December 2024*

Regular Session of the 2024-2025 IU Student Body Congress

CONGRESS ENROLLED ACT No. 1013

Be it enacted by the students of Indiana University in Congress assembled:

On December 16, 2024, Congress passed Bill No. 1013, authored by Representatives Ryan Gray and Eric Cannon, which **advocates for Indiana University Bloomington to Bring Back the Bison.**

- Congress reaffirms its recognition and adoption of the Bison as the official mascot of Indiana University Bloomington as established in 1965.
- Reinstating the Bison mascot as a tangible symbol would enhance the sense of pride and unity among students, faculty, alumni, and other supporters of IU athletics.

In each newsletter, we will highlight student-focused Congress bills that have passed during the month. However, you can access IUSG records and full versions of all Congress bills at any time on our website iustudentgovernment.indiana.edu

Passed in Congress *December 2024*

Regular Session of the 2024-2025 IU Student Body Congress

CONGRESS ENROLLED ACT No. 1014

Be it enacted by the students of Indiana University in Congress assembled:

On December 16, 2024, Congress passed Bill No. 1014, authored by Representatives Maddi Sponsel, Leo Cavinder and Eric Cannon, which **supports the Indiana Daily Student**.

- The Office of the Student Body President is tasked with working with IU administration to find sustainable ways to maintain the weekly print edition of the IDS.
- Encourages The Committee for Fee Review (CFR) should heavily consider funding the IDS in recognition that it serves the entire student body.
- Urges the IDS to work with Indiana University Student Government to identify ways in which to further engage the study body.

In each newsletter, we will highlight student-focused Congress bills that have passed during the month. However, you can access IUSG records and full versions of all Congress bills at any time on our website iustudentgovernment.indiana.edu

Support students by donating to

IUSG's Funds!



IUSG Student Healthcare Fund

Gifts will support student-led healthcare prevention efforts on the Bloomington campus. These initiatives, developed in consultation with the Division of Student Affairs, address pressing student health issues.

[**DONATE HERE**](#)



IUSG Fund

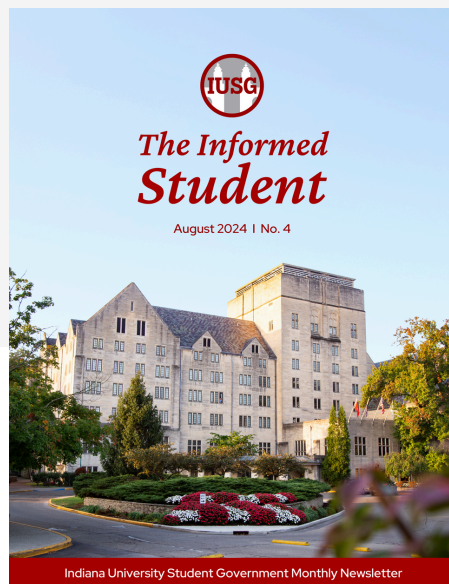
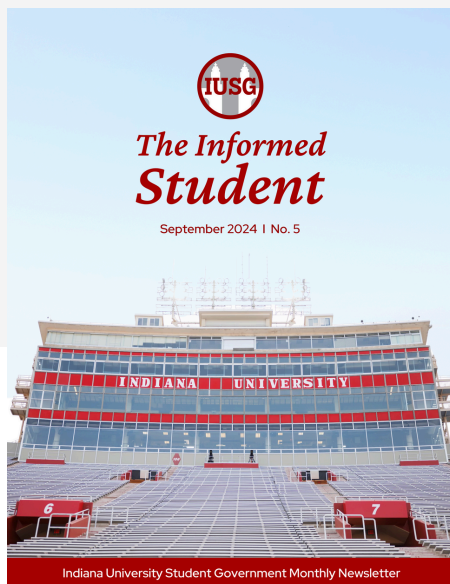
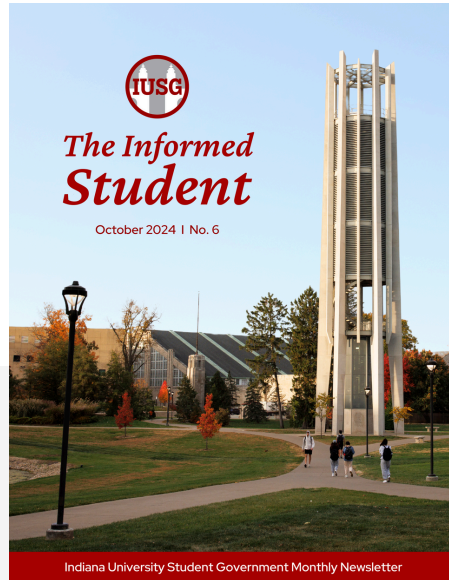
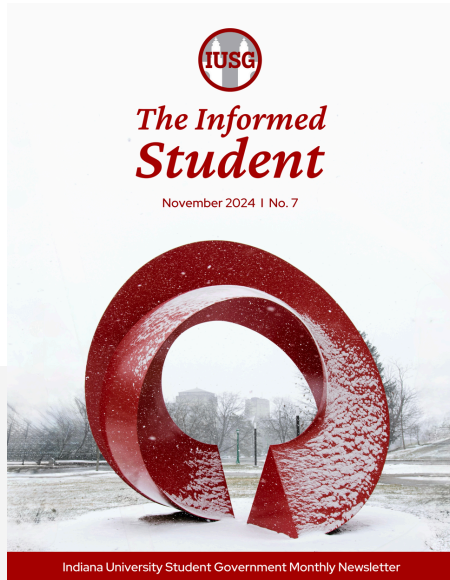
Gifts will be allocated to support the diverse activities, programs, and initiatives of the student government. These contributions will enable high-impact projects such as the Makerspace, Crimson Closet, and the Textbook & Test Prep Library

[**DONATE HERE**](#)

For more information on our student support funds or if you're interested in financing one of our high-impact projects, please contact us at iusgexec@iu.edu.

Check out the past editions of the

Informed Student!



Press the QR code to explore all our past editions of the Informed Student!



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is observed annually on December 3rd to promote the rights and well-being of individuals with disabilities across the globe. The day was first established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1992, with the goal of fostering an understanding of disability issues and advocating for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of political, social, economic, and cultural life. Each year, the United Nations selects a specific theme to focus attention on various aspects of disability, and to emphasize the importance of creating a more accessible, inclusive world for all. This year's theme is "Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future". In the FUSE administration, we are deeply committed to supporting the purpose of IDPD by fostering an environment that values diversity, amplifies the voices of people with disabilities, and actively works to remove barriers to inclusion. Through our initiatives, we aim to raise awareness, celebrate contributions, and take meaningful actions to create a more inclusive and supportive community for all.



PRESS THE QR CODE TO FIND RESOURCES





CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a holiday of joy and reflection, marking the birth of Jesus Christ, whom Christians revere as the Son of God. While the exact date of his birth remains unknown, December 25 has become the traditional day for Christians to honor this sacred event, with Orthodox Christians celebrating on or near January 7. Originating during the darkest days of winter, Christmas traditions have long symbolized bringing warmth and brightness into the world. The decorating of Christmas trees, originating from ancient European customs, serves as a centerpiece of homes, adorned with lights and ornaments symbolizing life and beauty. The exchange of gifts reflects the generosity of the Three Wise Men, who brought gifts to the newborn Jesus, while festive meals bring loved ones together in gratitude and celebration. Santa Claus, inspired by Saint Nicholas, embodies the spirit of goodwill, delighting children and adults alike. **The FUSE administration wishes a Merry Christmas to all who celebrate!** May your season be filled with peace, love, and warmth.



PRESS THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE





HANUKKAH

Hanukkah, also known as Chanukah, is an eight-day Jewish celebration that commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem during the second century BCE. The holiday begins on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar and honors the miracle of the menorah, when a small vial of oil, expected to last one day, burned for eight days. This is why the lighting of the nine-branched menorah, called the Hanukkiah, is at the heart of the celebration. Each night, one additional candle is lit after sundown, using the shamash, or "helper" candle, until all eight are illuminated. Blessings accompany this ritual and serve as a reminder of the miracle that inspired the holiday. Hanukkah is also a time for joyful traditions, including sharing festive foods and exchanging gifts. Known as the Festival of Lights, it embodies themes of resilience, dedication, and the enduring power of faith. **The FUSE administration wishes a Happy Hanukkah and Chag Sameach to all who celebrate!** May this season of light bring joy, peace, and unity.



**PRESS THE QR CODE
TO LEARN MORE**



KWANZAA

Kwanzaa, created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga during the civil rights movement, is inspired by traditional African first-fruit harvest festivals. It reflects themes of community, culture, and self-determination. Observed from December 26 to January 1, the holiday is centered around the Nguzo Saba, or Seven Principles: Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith). Each evening, a candle is lit on the Kinara, a seven-branched candelabra, with each candle representing one of the principles. This ritual is accompanied by music, storytelling, and reflections, deepening the meaning of the celebration. Kwanzaa is also marked by exchanging handmade gifts, traditional African foods, and fostering a stronger connection to cultural heritage, identity, and resilience. **The FUSE administration wishes a joyous Kwanzaa to all who celebrate!** May the light of the Kinara inspire hope, unity, and creativity in the year ahead.



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The Informed Student

*Indiana University's Student
Government monthly newsletter.*