



Greetings from VUI!

Our Spring semester is in full swing with lots of events coming up! We hope you find this newsletter to be informative and that it brings back warm memories of your time at Valpo!

-The OIP Staff



World Banquet

The Valparaiso International Student Association (VISA) has been very active this Spring preparing for World Banquet. World Banquet is happening THIS SATURDAY, February 24th at 6pm in the Harre Union Ballrooms. VISA invites any alumni living in the Valpo area to come to World Banquet. Tickets are \$20 for adults & \$10 for children and can be purchased [online](#) or at the Union Welcome Desk. If you are not able to attend, look for pictures/videos from the event later on social media!



Recruitment News

Marci Fradkin joined us as the Associate Director for International Recruitment. She has been instrumental in developing recruitment strategy and forming new partnerships with agents around the world. This Spring, Marci went to Nepal & Pakistan. Jennifer McQuady from the Graduate School will be traveling to India & China later this Spring. If you are interested in helping with recruitment efforts in your country and/or meeting up with VU recruiters who come to visit cities near you, please contact marci.fradkin@valpo.edu.

MEAL @ Valpo

MEAL @ Valpo is a program we started in Spring of 2017 that has become very successful on campus. MEAL stands for Meet Eat And Learn. Faculty & staff volunteer to host international students in their homes for lunch or dinner (on a specified date) two or three times a semester. This program has helped students get to know faculty & staff outside of a classroom/professional setting. Students also get to know other students while sharing meal together. Our first MEAL this Spring included seven faculty/staff hosts and twenty three students.



Current Student Spotlight

Max Joseph & Tevonn Walker, both from Canada, are the only two seniors graduating from the men's basketball team this year. Though the team lost a close game to the University of Northern Iowa on Tuesday in the final home game, Max & Tevonn have been pillars of the team's success in recent years. You can read more about them in this [article](#) published in the Chicago Tribune.

The men's basketball team will head to the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament next Thursday in St. Louis, Missouri. Go Valpo!

Alumni Spotlight

Name: Charan Prathipati

Degree from Valpo: MS Information Technology

Hometown: Hyderabad, India

Where are you now: Pittsburgh, PA working as a Senior Software Engineer for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

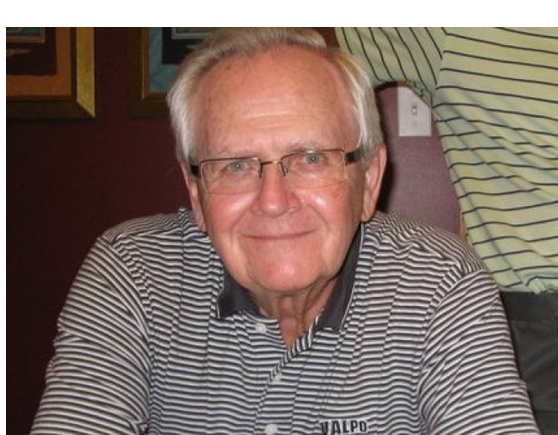
Favorite Valpo Memory: Most of the time I spent in Valpo was in the Library. I had fun with friends while studying. Another great experience was being part of the Valparaiso Indian Student Group.



Students in the Community

Exchange students Gautier Barbereau & Tobias Bosse won the Valpo Velocity Bike Challenge this Fall by logging 49 & 46 rides respectively. Valpo Velocity is a new bike rental/bike sharing program in Valparaiso.

Another exciting addition to Valparaiso is a new stop on the CoachUSA bus! This has been a great addition to the city and has made it easier for students to get to and from the airport in Chicago.



Dr. Hugh McGuigan Scholarship Fund

Dr. Hugh McGuigan was the Director of International Studies at Valparaiso University for over 25 years from 1983 to 2008. He has impacted the lives of hundreds of international students that have come to Valpo from around the world. A group of alumni has started a Go Fund Me campaign to raise money to start an endowment scholarship in honor of Dr. Hugh McGuigan. Funds will be distributed to international students that demonstrate exemplary scholarship & leadership qualities. For more information about Dr. McGuigan, the endowment campaign, or to make a donation, please visit the [Go Fund Me](#) page.