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Bridging the Divide

OUR ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NIGHT, held each fall, opens like many similar campus events, with the Parade of Nations. The students hold their flags high and greet the crowd of more than 600 students with an enthusiastic hello in their native language. It is something that the crowd looks forward to with anticipation, but that I often dread due to feelings of students whose politics interfere with the joy of the occasion.

Last fall after the event, I saw a very animated crowd of Indian and Pakistani students. As I made my way over to them, I realized that they were gathering for a photo displaying their flags and their

friendship. Those of us who have had to counsel students on this issue can share my amazement and happiness at the sight.

Isn't this what all of our hard work and dedication is for?

Michele Lewis

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Contributor's note: Photographs were taken at Idaho State University prior to joining Carroll College.

YOU'RE INVITED! We invite you to submit your photos along with a brief (approximately 200 words) description of why these images are important in your understanding of a person, place, idea, or incident from your experiences in international education. The photos could be of a simple moment on your home campus involving international students, a major event in an exotic location, or anything in between. The editors of *IE* will run selections on this page throughout the year. Please contact us for submission details at elainal@nafsa.org.