



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS



We are students at Widener and people from the community who want to build friendships with internationals. We are here to help you in any way we can, and to get to know and learn from you!

- **Help with Orientation** – Provide welcome bags, rides to stores, help moving in, and are here to greet new students
- **Host Special Events** - Including a Fall and Spring Picnic, Fall Festival, Thanksgiving Dinner and Spring Celebration
- **Host International Friendship Corner** – Host regular gatherings on campus to meet Americans, ask questions, and learn about other cultures
- **Sponsor Local Trips** – to Philadelphia Zoo, Longwood Gardens, Linvilla Orchards... day trips, campus break trips
- **Connect to Friendship Families** – Get to know a family in the community, join them for a meal or special outing
- **Offer Rides to Church / Campus Bible Studies** – Visit a local church or get together with students on campus to read some of the Bible and discuss what Christians believe
- **And More** ... if there is anything you would like to do with others from the community, or ways we can be a help to you on campus, please let us know!

International Friends is overseen by Mark and Sue Bickel. Mark and Sue are volunteers with Widener and Mark is a pastor at Grace Bible Fellowship Church.

You can reach Mark at: international.friends.MB@gmail.com (484) 788-9026

Keep up to date on our website: gracebfc.org/internationals

Like us on **Facebook**: facebook.com/groups/WidenerIntFriend

RIDES

If you need a ride to any event from either Widener's main campus in Chester or the law school campus in Delaware just let us know, we would be happy to pick you up!

Partnerships

International Friends partners with International Student Services and International Club to sponsor events on Widener's campus. We also partner with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Widener (see below for more on their group) and with Grace Bible Fellowship Church in Wallingford.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Thursdays, 7:30 pm, Room A

InterVarsity is a multiethnic community of students following Jesus into mission. All students are welcome to visit and get connected with the friendly people in this community, no matter your faith background. We'd love to meet you! Here are some events to check out:

Large Group: Thursday gatherings at 7:30pm in Room A in the University Center. Musical worship, a speaker, and time to make new friends.

Fall Retreat: October 4-6. Travel away from campus with InterVarsity to be refreshed and explore Christian faith. Transportation provided. Come to a Thursday Large Group gathering for more information or sign-up online at iveasternpa.com



Fall Cookout & Volleyball

Saturday, August 31

2:00 – 5:00 pm

Join us on campus, outside the University Center, for a traditional American Picnic including Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Corn on the Cob, Watermelon, and much more (including several vegetarian dishes), and a Volleyball Tournament. Free for all!



Longwood Gardens & Fountains

Friday, September 6

4:00 – 9:00 pm

Enjoy world-class gardens and a 30-minute illuminated fountain show like no other. Reservations are required. **Email Mark by September 4 for tickets and transportation.**

**GAME
NIGHT**



Game Night and Fall Festival

Date to be determined!

Join us for a game night later in September and our Fall Festival in October. Contact Mark Bickel or sign up for our email on our website (link to the right) to get all the details!

Thanksgiving Dinner



Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 24 - 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Join us in the Webb Room for a traditional home-made Thanksgiving, dinner of Turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, and more (including some vegetarian dishes). watch ISS emails to reserve a spot!

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CORNER

Contact us so we can schedule a time

That works for those who are interested

Meet other International students as well as Americans from the community for a time to share cultures, ask questions, and build friendships. This year we want to offer two initial meetings, and from there see who is interested in continuing to get together and what schedule might work best. If you have an interest but cannot come August 30 or September 5, email Mark and we will find another time.

Visit an American Church

Any Sunday Morning

While you are in America we invite you to visit a Christian Church. Several of us attend one just up the street from Widener called "Grace Bible Fellowship Church". We would love to have you visit some Sunday morning. You do not need to have any particular religious beliefs to visit us. Our normal Sunday service is at 9am and we would be happy to pick you up on campus. You would even be welcome to stay for lunch.

For More Information

web: gracebfc.org/

internationals

or email Mark & Sue:

mbickel@gracebfc.org

