From:	News Services
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Included below is a press release regarding International Education Week at Ferris State University. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

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Nov. 12, 2007	Ferris State University
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International Education Week brings world cultures to Ferris

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University's International Student Services is hosting the inaugural International Education Week Nov. 12 through 16.

Created by the departments of State and Education, the goal is to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences in the United States, organizers said.

World Language Day kicks the week off from noon to 2 p.m. on Nov. 13 in the Campus Quad. According to Luzia Tartari, coordinator of international student recruiting, the focus of this event is to "create awareness of the diversity in cultures present in our campus community. Although our international community is not big, it's amazing to see how much our students can be exposed to different cultures if they want to do it."

Students have the opportunity to meet professors, staff and other students who speak 14 foreign languages and will be able to learn a few words and expressions from each of them. Languages that will be spoken at the event include Swedish, Russian, Italian, Punjabi, Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese, Nepali, Arabic, Catalan, German, French and Spanish.

Free hot chocolate, coffee and cookies will be available.

World Awareness Day will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Nov. 15 in the Rankin Student Center lounge area and the FLITE Extended Hours Study Court.

"Students will be given the opportunity to discover the different cultures that are present around them on campus. Students are encouraged to become more involved globally and to recognize the different cultures that exist around them," said Tara Benzing, study abroad events coordinator.

At the event, students will have the opportunity to test their knowledge about current world events and have the chance to enter contests to win prizes such as gift cards and a MP3 player.

"The goal is to make students aware that they can get in touch with the world right here on campus," Tartari added. "They just need to take the first step by enrolling in a language class; talking to international students, staff and faculty; and learning more about Study Abroad opportunities."

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