Applied Engineering Center is one of a kind

More than $3 million of custom-made, high-tech manufacturing and engineering equipment and its versatility make USI's new Applied Engineering Center important, not only in the region, but in the United States. “This is the only equipment of its kind outside of Germany,” said Daniela Vidal, director of USI's Center for Applied Research and Economic Development and former instructor and coordinator of advanced manufacturing and industrial supervision.

The only other equipment like it is located at Osnabruch Technical College in USI's sister city in Germany. USI's Applied Engineering Center is a $3.3 million facility with more than 25,000 square feet of space, including a 12,000-square-foot open high-bay area equipped with a 10-ton crane and flexible utilities.

The center, located near the Distribution Services Center on the east side of campus, is nearing completion and the first students are scheduled to begin using it in spring 2013. Custom designed to support USI's advanced manufacturing and industrial supervision programs, as well as its engineering program, it also will support industrial training needs for area industries.

The showpiece of the center is the MPS Transfer Factory Manufacturing System, created by the German company Festo. Located in the Center's automation lab, it features a complete assembly line which can be reconfigured to meet a variety of manufacturing needs. It will give USI the opportunity to partner with local industries that want to experiment with designing new production lines.

Vidal learned about the concept during a visit to Germany in 2010, and worked with Festo to have the equipment custom built for USI. Students will use the center for everything from the basics of manufacturing and equipment integration to more advanced industrial engineering concepts and production control. “That's what makes this facility so special,” said Vidal. “As far as I know, the capabilities are unique to the United States.”
Advising center promotes student success

Starting this fall, students have a new place to go for advice. The Pott College Advising and Resource Center is located in the third floor atrium of the Science and Education Center. In addition to advising, it serves as a clearing house of resources for students, offering information on a wide variety of topics related to student success.

Dr. Scott Gordon, dean of the college, said sophomore retention will be a strong focus, and the center will help the University meet its goal of increasing graduation rates. “We’ve done a great job of getting students from their freshman to their sophomore year, now we’re seeing that we’re losing some students at the sophomore level.”

Gordon explained that, within the last 10 years, the college has gone from the lowest retention rate in the University to the highest retention rate. Much of that success can be attributed to Pathways Leading to Success in Undergraduate Sciences (PLUS), an intensive advising program the college already had in place. The new center is based off the same model.

Theresa Hitchcock has been named director of the center. She comes to USI from Indiana University, Bloomington, where she was a fulltime academic advisor and doctoral student in Higher Education and Student Affairs. She will coordinate the advising and other work of the center. Additional staff will include two academic coordinators. Faculty advising fellows also will assist, along with two University Division liaisons.

“All of the center’s work will be data driven,” said Gordon. “The ultimate goal is student success. While it’s unrealistic to think that every student will be successful, I’d like to get as close to that as we can.”

Research, leadership, and new facilities

The 2012-2013 academic year is off to a great start. This fall we welcomed several new faculty and staff who join an outstanding group of professionals dedicated to providing the best education possible for our students. In this newsletter, you will read about our new hires, accolades and success of our faculty, student achievement in a variety of areas, our new Advising and Resource Center, and a sampling of the college’s wide range of outreach activities. We are proud of our students and faculty and their continued success!

As this newsletter arrives in your mailboxes, we are setting up the equipment in our newest facility, the Applied Engineering Center. This building will house more than $3 million in equipment and instrumentation for use by our students as well as regional business and industry. The facility will house a FESTO MPS Transfer Factory Manufacturing System which contains a complete and reconfigurable assembly line—the only one of its kind within the United States. We are excited to begin using this “learning factory” for enhancing our regional workforce and supporting our manufacturing-based economy.

Summer 2012 was busy as we completed our fourth summer of the National Science Foundation (NSF)-sponsored Early Undergraduate Research Program. We had 36 students and 18 faculty participate in research projects which encompassed nearly every department and discipline within Pott College. The experience students receive from this program is invaluable and many students have even presented and published their work in peer-reviewed outlets. Summer 2013 will mark the fifth and final year of the program. A team of faculty has been formed to begin seeking another NSF grant to continue and expand this program.

In alignment with the University Strategic Plan, Pott College continues to provide leadership in the region with an extensive array of STEM activities and professional development. Additionally, faculty are actively engaged in a variety of service activities in the region, a sampling of which can be found in this edition of Periodic Review. Additional information on these and other items can be found on our web site at www.usi.edu/science. I hope you find this edition of Periodic Review both enjoyable and informative. Also, if you haven’t done so, join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pottcollege.

Dr. Scott A. Gordon
Scott A. Gordon, Dean
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Letter from the Dean

Dr. Scott A. Gordon
The open floor design, large capacity crane, and flexibility of setup are far from the traditional lab approach. “Here, everything is open, and that allows us to connect manufacturing processes—from raw materials to assembly—and have students see how it all flows and connects together,” said Vidal. “Instead of isolating technologies, we’re connecting them, because that’s what’s going to happen when these students are out in the real world.”

The Center also will include laboratories for machining, materials processing and welding, plastics processing, automation, precision measurement/computer-aided design, and fluid power and HVAC (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning).

In designing the facility, Vidal and others at USI worked closely with an industrial advisory board including representatives from area industry. The professionals advised on equipment, building design, and curriculum.

New Curriculum

An upgraded curriculum marries the new capabilities with industry needs. “We added classes that are more relevant to the needs of our industrial advisors and the community,” said Vidal. “We placed more emphasis on automated equipment, lean manufacturing business management strategy, quality and Six Sigma, and other modern manufacturing philosophies. There’s not another program in the state that teaches students in such a practical and hands-on way.”

She hopes the curriculum will give students an understanding of challenges they’ll face, as well as important contacts with industrial partners, which can translate into future employment. The center will benefit other programs as well. For example, business classes will be able to see business tools and integration in practice, instead of being strictly theoretical.

The goal is for local industry to present problems that students can solve, but also use the building and its capabilities for training and certificate programs for local companies. “They can send their employees to get training on equipment and processes without having to stop their own production,” said Vidal.

USI designates nature preserve

A vast tract of land stretching south from the USI campus could become an important research opportunity for USI students and faculty following a recent move by the University to protect it. In October, the USI Foundation Board of Directors passed a resolution designating more than 730 acres south of the University’s Broadway Recreational Complex as a nature preserve.

For many years the property was held in a trust by the Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. It was available to the University but no plans were ever put in place for its use. Around 2009-10, the corporation disbanded and the property reverted to the USI Foundation. Around the same time James Bandoli, professor of biology at USI, and other faculty from biology, chemistry, and geology got together to begin exploring possible uses for the land.

“We had just started the Early Undergraduate Research Program in the Pott College,” said Bandoli. “We had money to support faculty and student research projects over the last several years. We were able to do a fair amount of leg work in the area and figure out what’s there.”

Results of that research were compiled and became part of the data supporting the creation of a preserve. The students and faculty identified 105 species of butterflies, 13 species of dung beetles, 15 species of fishes, 21 species of herps (amphibians and reptiles), 20 species of mammals, and 53 species of birds. These particular species are key indicators of biological diversity in a given area.

According to Bandoli, the preserve will be a huge asset for USI. Other universities have preserves, but having one this size and connected to campus is rare. He foresees a number of uses, including the creation of experimental wetlands, research projects, and teaching opportunities. “It’s an opportunity we need to take advantage of,” he said. “Once you lose it, it’s gone.”

Bandoli plans to continue to research and inventory the property and its species as the University considers long-range plans. The preserve could serve other schools in the area as well. “There’s a lot of room for continued work through summer programs and other research opportunities,” he said.
Engineering students, faculty partner with Evansville Airport

When the Evansville Regional Airport began work on its strategic plan, they knew they wanted to involve the local community. Nate Hahn, operations manager, and other airport officials approached USI’s Center for Applied Research and Economic Development (CARED), and acquired the services of Tom McDonald, assistant professor of engineering, to develop a process map showing how passengers and baggage flowed through the facility for both arrivals and departures. The airport plans to use the data to help improve its efficiency. “We worked with students who are eager to learn and get real life experience, which is beneficial to them,” said Hahn.

McDonald worked with the Engineering Process Improvement class as well as the Simulation Modeling and Analysis class. Students collected data on the time it took passengers to get into the building, check in, pass through security, and board their flight. They then did the same research in reverse for flight arrivals. Using that information, they built a simulation. McDonald recently presented the data to officials at the airport.

“It was a great hands-on approach to implement some of the knowledge we gained in the classroom into a real world application,” said engineering major Kevin Appel.

Engineering instructor Kerry Hall also is conducting ongoing research on noise levels for the relocation and extension of one of the airport’s runways. Hall, who had done similar acoustics research in the past, found equipment in the USI lab that was specifically suited for the project. He worked closely with Robbie Schlotterbeck, a sophomore engineering major, who made sure the device was operational and calibrated.

“Involving students in community projects like this really helps to show them the importance of engineering and how it’s applied,” said Hall.

“Giving back to the community is what being an engineer is all about and this was a perfect opportunity to experience that,” added Schlotterbeck. Readings will compare noise levels in surrounding communities during and after the runway project. Hall hopes to involve more students during the next phase. “This data will be valuable as we communicate with local residents that believe aircraft noise will automatically get louder,” said Hahn.

USI to repeat Technology Commercialization Academy

In 2012, USI piloted its first five-week Technology Commercialization Academy (TCA). Teams of six engineering students and six business students worked together over a period of five weeks to develop ideas and strategies using three Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division (NSWC Crane) patents.

Three teams conducted exercises tied to megatrends, preliminary market research and feasibility analysis, business modeling, and developed prototypes as well as three-year financial plans. They later made final pitches at USI for faculty and staff, potential financial investors, and area business and community leaders.

Plans are in place to host a second TCA from May 6 to June 7, 2013. The academy will use the same format with the addition of a five-week period during which teams can perform start-up activities like securing licensing agreements with Crane and developing potential customer relationships.

Retired professor honored

Augustine J. (Jay) Fredrich, professor emeritus of civil engineering technology at USI, was one of three honorees inducted into the Arkansas River Hall of Fame this spring. Fredrich, a native of Little Rock, Arkansas, was part of the engineering team who helped plan and design the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System hydroelectric projects. Fredrich began his career as a hydraulic engineer with the Little Rock District Corps of Engineers developing procedures for operating multiple purpose projects in the Arkansas and White River basins. He first came to USI in 1979 as a professor of civil engineering, and later served for many years as associate dean in the Pott College. Before retiring from USI, he received the 2003 H. Lee Cooper Curriculum Teaching Award. He also received the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 2012 History and Heritage of American Civil Engineering Award at the ASCE National Convention in Montreal, Canada, on October 18, 2012.
STEM News

Grant will expand SeaPerch into Posey County schools

The Southwest Indiana STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Resource Center (SwISTEM) is expanding its SeaPerch program to more schools in 2013. The expansion is made possible through a $4,500 grant from the Posey County Community Foundation. The grant will provide funds for instructional workshops, underwater robotics kits, and team registration fees for as many as 25 teams in Posey County schools. “This grant opens the door for schools that couldn’t afford to create a team or hadn’t thought about trying to form a team,” said Allison Grabert, director of SwISTEM. “We’re excited about extending the SeaPerch experience to more Posey County students.”

Girls Only camp was all about the science

The University of Southern Indiana’s Girls Only (GO) STEM! Summer Camp for girls entering grades nine through 12 was held this summer at USI and Holiday World & Splashin’ Safari in Santa Claus, Indiana. Twenty-six girls from Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky attended. This is the third year for the five-day residential summer camp that focuses on the application of STEM disciplines. It is partially funded through a grant from the Alcoa Foundation and uses Holiday World & Splashin’ Safari as a laboratory for experiments and activities. “This program gives the girls a chance to experience USI, work with faculty and staff, and gain experience they wouldn’t typically get from a mainstream curriculum,” said Grabert. The camp will be held June 9–13 in 2013.

STEMtastic Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana teamed up with the Pott College on several occasions over the summer to learn about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The scouts participated in an educational day at Holiday World and Splashin’ Safari where they learned about the engineering and mathematics behind their favorite rides and participated in experiments using USI’s state-of-the-art scientifically equipped STEM truck. The scouts also attended a day camp at USI over the summer where they experimented with robotics as part of the experience.

DiPietro book will appeal to many audiences

Dr. Joseph DiPietro, professor of geology at USI, has worked for the New York State Geological Survey, heading a major mapping project in the Adirondack Mountains. He’s completed a Ph.D. project in the Northwest Himalaya of Pakistan, spent a summer doing mapping for the Idaho State Geological Survey, and received a $225,000 National Science Foundation grant to continue research on the stratigraphy, structure, metamorphism, and tectonics of the Northwest Himalaya while at USI. In addition, he teaches six geology courses at USI.

As a culmination of his work and experiences, he recently announced the release of a new book, *Landscape Evolution in the United States: An Introduction to the Geography, Geology, and Natural History*. The book is being published by Elsevier Academic Press and is due out in early 2013.

“I wrote this book for those curious about the natural wonder and beauty of the United States, for those wishing to delve into how mountains form and evolve beyond the obligatory colliding of continents, and for those who seek insight on the reasoning and methods geologists use to interpret landscape evolution and geological history,” said DiPietro.

The book is intended to serve as a textbook for first- and second-year university students, a reference book for advanced geology students, and as an interesting read for general audiences. In addition to being a stand-alone textbook, DiPietro said the book could serve as a complimentary text for college courses or as reference material for students and teachers at the K-12 level.

Grabert takes lead STEM role at USI

Allison Grabert has been named the director of the Southwest Indiana STEM Resource Center (SwISTEM) at USI. She previously served as interim director and science coordinator of the center.

Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series

Grabert was recently accepted into the Lugar Series for Excellence in Public Service. The series is a political leadership development program geared toward placing Hoosier women into positions of influence. “I find it a tremendous honor to have been selected alongside 19 other distinguished, service-oriented women in Indiana,” said Grabert. “This opportunity will further enhance my leadership skills so I can more effectively promote and advocate for the statewide STEM initiative and other initiatives.”
New faculty, staff, and departmental changes

**UNIVERSITY**

Shelly Blunt  
Interim Assistant Provost  
Ph.D., Chemistry  
University of Iowa

Evan Frederick  
Assistant Professor  
(Sport Management)  
Ph.D., Sport Management  
Indiana University at Bloomington

**COLLEGE OFFICE**

Zane Mitchell, Jr.  
Interim Associate Dean  
Ph.D., Engineering  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Maggie Roe  
Instructor (Kinesiology)  
Masters of Science, Kinesiology; Concentration, Exercise Physiology  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

**KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT**

Jason Langley  
Assistant Professor  
(Exercise Science)  
Ph.D., Kinesiology; Emphasis: Physical Teacher Education  
Ph.D. Exercise Physiology  
West Virginia University

David Daum  
Assistant Professor  
(PE Teaching)  
Ph.D., Kinesiology; Concentration, Pedagogy  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

**MATHEMATICS**

Ashley Whitehead  
Instructor (Mathematics)  
Masters of Science, Applied Mathematics  
Indiana State University

**GEOMETRY/PHYSICS**

Jeffrey Polak  
Instructor (Physics)  
Masters of Science  
North Carolina State University

**TEACHER EDUCATION**

Joyce Rietman  
Director (Advanced Clinical Experiences and Co-Teaching)  
Master of Arts, Education  
University of Evansville

**BIOLOGY**

Becky Sparks-Thissen  
Assistant Professor (Biology)  
Ph.D., Biology  
Princeton University

**ENGINEERING**

Andrew “Jason” Hill  
Assistant Professor  
(Engineering)  
Ph.D., Engineering  
Tennessee Tech University

Blunt  Mitchell  Dedmond  Langley  Frederick  Roe  Daum  Anderson  
Whitehead  Polak  Rietman  Ndemanu  Raisor  Branson  Bartley  Sparks-Thissen  Hill
Associate Dean for Teacher Education

Dr. Bonnie Wilcoxen Beach is the new associate dean for Teacher Education in the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education. She is responsible for the overall administration of undergraduate and graduate teacher education programs and assisting the dean of Pott College in all matters related to teacher education and training.

Students keep youth hockey players safe and fit

The Evansville Youth Hockey Association (EYHA) recently collaborated with USI in an effort to improve safety and fitness for young hockey players. Two projects coordinated by the Center for Applied Research and Economic Development include cognitive baseline and physical performance analyses.

Patricia Marcum, instructor in Kinesiology and Sport, and Dr. Jason Langley, assistant professor in Kinesiology and Sport, teach Measurement and Evaluation of Physical Education at USI, and are using their projects to give students a hands-on learning approach. “I really enjoyed the work outside the classroom,” said junior Kayla Martin. “This type of work allows the other students and me to realize real applications for what we’re learning in class,” added senior Dylan Swartzell.

During cognitive baseline analyses, Marcum and her students measured athletes’ neurocognitive function. If the athlete is injured, an identical test can identify cognitive changes from the initial test, tell if the brain has fully recovered, and determine if the athlete is ready to return to the sport. “Players need to be protected from themselves,” said Craig MacDonald, hockey director of EYHA, “They just want to play and often overlook the dangers of what a concussion will cause down the road.”

Langley’s work with his students involves 11 physical tests that cover muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition, body mass index, and muscular strength/power, and will be used to gauge athletic capabilities of children and adolescents. “In general, this age group is not often tested in the way we approached this project,” said Langley, “The body of literature is also minimal when describing youth hockey athletes.”

USI will continue to work with EYHA. Data gathered will be used to improve all aspects of the hockey program, from the physical capabilities of the players to education about concussion prevention and management.

New minor has students talking sports

The Pott College has announced a new sport communication minor in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport, beginning in 2013. Students will gain practical skills in media writing, public relations and strategic communications, as well as an understanding of the issues affecting professional and college sports today.

The minor is an interdisciplinary program between the Department of Kinesiology and Sport and the Department of Communications. It provides sport communication background with a combination of broadcast media and other electronic communications, and print media.

Two new courses were created to support the minor—Introduction to Sport Communication, and Sport Blogging and Social Media. The minor consists of 21 hours and will be offered as a stand-alone minor or as a track of the revised sport management major.

“The coursework provides excellent opportunities for students to receive hands-on experiences within the Athletic Department, Communications Department, and the Kinesiology and Sport Department,” said Dr. Glenna Bower, chair of the Department of Kinesiology and Sport.

Upgrade will benefit future chemistry research

The purchase of a new nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer will allow both students and faculty to continue important chemistry research in the Pott College. The new machine will replace the college’s 12-year-old NMR spectrometer, located in a dedicated lab on the ground floor of the Pott College’s Science and Education Center.

Vince Frazier, a lab technician in the Pott College, maintains the NMR machine to keep its core at a steady -452 Fahrenheit.

NMR technology laid the groundwork for the invention of today’s MRI scans and is one of the more important instruments to help chemists identify materials at a molecular level.

Anticipated to be online by January, the $223,000 spectrometer will increase readings from 300 to 400 megahertz and will provide additional automated tuning advantages. The unit requires careful maintenance including two-week and monthly additions of liquid helium and liquid nitrogen to keep the superconducting magnet at a frigid −452 degrees Fahrenheit.

“The expense and maintenance of the unit is what keeps many universities from owning one,” said Jeff Seyler, professor of chemistry and chair of the Chemistry Department. “It’s a privilege for an institution like USI to be able to have an instrument like this to support faculty research and student learning. Our students get hands-on experience using equipment that they’ll see in many industrial settings.”
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Your gift strengthens programs and provides support for students and faculty.

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  - David W. Kinsey Mathematics Scholarship
  - Labhart-Olsen Family Renewable Scholarship
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Electronic checking, savings, and credit card deductions are available at www.usi.edu/onlinegiving.

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A contribution of $25 or more to any USI Foundation fund makes graduates active members of the USI Alumni Association.

PERIODIC REVIEW

Barnes’ passion for life lives on through bequests to benefit USI

Geologist, artist, poet, philosopher, naturalist, lover of music, avid reader, entrepreneur, risk taker, and world class swimmer are vocations and avocations of the late John M. (Jack) Barnes, assistant professor emeritus of geology and geography. But ask anybody who knew Barnes and they’ll tell you his number-one trait was his passions—passion for Mother Earth, passion for art, and passion for humanity. His zeal shined through his work at the University of Southern Indiana.

“Jack and I connected through our love for the environment, and he reaffirmed my staunch belief that passion and rigor will make you a more successful educator,” said Paul Doss, professor of geology.

Barnes was an active environmentalist, playing a key role in several environmental studies, including one that assisted in the modification of federal blasting laws.

“Blasting of strip mines was tearing apart people’s homes north of town,” explained Dr. Howard Dunn, professor emeritus of chemistry. “Jack had strong ethics, and he vowed to see that families’ homes stay intact. He was always advocating for the public in that way.”

Following employment with Carter Oil and Exxon in oil and gas exploration, Barnes formed his own Mid-States Consulting Corporation before joining the University in 1969 to be a part of the new geology program.

Choosing a position at USI “was the best thing for me,” he said. “I developed new insights, took art classes, learned how a university operates, and studied philosophy and creative writing.”

A devotion to lifelong education is what inspired Barnes and others like him to set the foundation for USI. Barnes died in July 2011, but bits of his legacy, including maps, books, published articles, artworks, and other collections continue to be found in geology classrooms, labs, and offices on campus.

His legacy also lives on through the Belle McGregor Student Scholarship in Geology, honoring his grandmother, and bequests honoring three of his colleagues at USI, including a gift to support the RopeWalk Writers Retreat, honoring Dr. Thomas Wilhelmus, professor emeritus of English; a gift to the USI Geology Department for geology field studies, honoring Dr. Frank Stanonis, professor emeritus of geology; and a gift to finance faculty training and research in environmental chemistry, given to the USI Chemistry Department to honor Dr. Howard Dunn, professor emeritus of chemistry.

“I was honored by this unexpected bestowment to the Chemistry Department,” Dunn said. “Jack was an inspiration, and for him to regard me in this way is a great compliment.”
Morris finds calling in elementary education

Sharon Morris ’12, is delving into her first year on the job, teaching fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade students as a Title I teacher at Joshua Academy in Evansville. The elementary education major with a minor in reading graduated summa cum laude from the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education in spring 2012.

Her teaching skills earned her a 2012 Outstanding Future Educator award from the Indiana Association for Colleges of Teacher Education.

As a nontraditional student, Morris held a physical therapy degree from the University of Oklahoma and worked in that field for 22 years. She and her husband John, an instructor in Radio and Television at USI, are the parents of four children.

“I was involved with my children’s education, and that’s what inspired me to get an elementary education degree,” said Morris. Attending USI gave Morris the edge as she prepared for her career. She met dedicated educators in the community during field experiences and witnessed a variety of teaching situations, including hours in the classroom at Joshua Academy, a K-5 elementary charter school. “The charter school has created a special culture that helps students learn to take responsibility for their choices and the future,” she said. “My favorite words of encouragement I hear the teachers say to the students are, ‘I hope you make good choices today.’” Morris also points to USI faculty who helped her along the road to her career.

With her skill, zeal, and enthusiasm for teaching and learning, Morris is providing excellent learning opportunities for her students.

Bogan leads programs with Wesselman Nature Society

Neal Bogan ’08, biology, is a program naturalist and biologist with Wesselman Nature Society in Evansville. He is responsible for running the Canoe Evansville program for area school children and the public. The program teaches about area waterways and water quality.

He oversees several educational programs at Wesselman Nature Center for school children of all ages and leads trips to Hovey Lake for USI biology students. His responsibilities also include managing resources, taking care of Wesselman Nature Center, and making decisions related to the property and its upkeep.

“I took as many wildlife resource management classes as I could,” said Bogan. “USI prepared me well for what I do now. Even the general biology knowledge I learned, I use on a daily basis.”

Bogan and his wife Anna (Weber) Bogan ’08, engineering, live in Evansville with their two children, Dyson and Jane.

Vidal to head research and development at USI

“My new role embodies what I’m most passionate about — enhancing the economic outlook for our region while applying my skills in driving value, creating processes, and connecting people with opportunities,” said Daniela Vidal ’00, who was recently named the director of USI’s Center for Applied Research and Economic Development.

As director, she is responsible for developing and leading USI’s applied research and economic development mission to engage the intellectual and physical assets of the University.

Vidal came to USI in 2009 as an instructor and coordinator of advanced manufacturing and industrial supervision in the Department of Engineering.
2013 Calendar of Events

March 14–15  Tri-State Science and Engineering Fair
February 2  Southwest Indiana Regional SeaPerch Competition
February 9  USI Hearts on Fire 5K Race
March 16  USI Run of Luck 10K Race
April 2013  Project Lead the Way Student and Counselor Conference
April 6  Hoosier Science and Engineering Fair, Bloomington, IN
April 9  Teacher Recruitment Fair
April 13  USI Spring Into Fitness 10K Race   NEW!
April 19  USI Sport Management Golf Scramble
April 20  USI Robotics Competition
April 27  Indiana State Mathematics Contest and Math-O-Rama
June 9–13  Girls Only |GO| STEM! Summer Camp