

Service Learning: Enhancing student learning with community projects

In 2007, the **Division of Outreach and Engagement** at the University of Southern Indiana launched a formal **Service Learning Program** designed to support faculty and staff who incorporate community projects into courses or activities for USI students. The goal of the program is to enhance student learning while providing valuable services to the community.

Students who participate in the Service Learning Program have an opportunity to better understand course material and can apply their knowledge to “real world” experiences.

USI offers three types of service learning: academic, curricular, and co-curricular. Academic activities are credit-based courses that integrate community service, faculty instruction, and structured reflection. Curricular projects are noncredit-based activities sponsored by a specific academic major or program and occur outside a traditional classroom setting. Co-curricular projects, which are also noncredit-based, are community service activities that are often completed by student clubs or organizations and are comprised of learning objectives and opportunities for reflection.

“Service learning projects as a learning process in my courses have helped students experience ‘entrepreneurship,’ using creative ways to bring resources and opportunities together; ‘engagement,’ using acquired knowledge to help people in need; and ‘excitement,’ balancing challenges and capability.”

—**Dr. Andy Yu**
Assistant Professor of
Management
University of Southern Indiana

Directed by **Dr. Anne Statham**, who developed and implemented service learning programs at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, the USI Service Learning Program offers faculty and staff training, project

matching requests, and general support for project execution. Staff members **Sarah Munjas**, graduate assistant, and **Lauren Van Hook**, undergraduate student coordinator, also are available to assist faculty and staff with projects to help ensure successful outcomes.

Past service learning projects have included: a study on the efficiency of the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System (METS); trips to Jamaican orphanages for social work students; web site development for local nonprofits and small businesses; workshops and learning activities for the local Boys and Girls Club Chapter; public relations plans for nonprofit and governmental groups; monthly home builds with Habitat for Humanity; The Big Read, a community literacy/reading program funded by the National Endowment for the Arts; a College Mentors for Kids program coordinated by the USI Multicultural Center; various activities and trips focusing on homelessness and poverty coordinated by USI Housing and Residence Life; and much more.

This spring, with grants from the State Farm Foundation, North Carolina Campus Compact, and Indiana Campus Compact, the USI Service Learning Program will spearhead a major co-curricular project with the Evansville Area Trails Coalition. USI students, along with local at-risk K-12 youth, will refurbish and build campus and community trails. Participants will also identify trail projects that will help Evansville become a healthier community through the development of hiking and biking trails. The project will end with a series of events during Global Youth Service Days, April 15-17.

Since its inception, the Service Learning Program and participating faculty and staff, have engaged more than 5,300 students and 120 community partners through service learning courses and co-curricular activities.

For more information, or to find out how you can get involved with USI’s Service Learning Program, visit www.usi.edu/servicelearning or contact Statham at 812/465-1203 or aastatham@usi.edu.



The Service Learning Program staff includes: Front, Dr. Anne Statham, director. Back row, left to right: Sarah Munjas, graduate assistant and Lauren Van Hook, undergraduate student coordinator.

“I really enjoy service learning courses because I am able to apply the knowledge I’ve learned in the classroom to help people in the community. The Service Learning Program offers a different learning experience as opposed to sitting in class and learning through lectures. Every USI student should enroll in a service learning course.”

—**Chris Seibert**
Student
University of Southern Indiana

Letter from the Dean



Cleek

The only certainty is change . . .

As I write this, we are still awaiting confirmation of our moving date to the newly-renovated University Center East. We have had several preview tours and are anxious to move and settle in. In preparation, we've been cleaning the files, getting rid of obsolete items (3.5" floppy disks, anyone?), and digitizing records to streamline both searching and storing them. Please come see us in our new digs . . . but call first (812/464-1863) to make sure we're there!

There are some things we are sure of, and I'd like to point out a few of them to you:

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art and Historic New Harmony are co-hosting a "Bicentennial House" competition open to artists and architects of any level. Information about how to apply is available from Erika Myers-Bromwell at 812/682-3156 or emyersbro@usi.edu.

Historic New Harmony's first interfaith dialogue retreat, "A New Harmony for Peace" will take place March 15-20 at the Macleod Barn Abbey in New Harmony. International scholar and author John Philip Newell, acclaimed for his work in the field of Celtic spirituality, will lead the retreat. Joining him will be Rabbi Nahm Ward-Lev and Mydea Hussain, a leader in the Islamic Center of Evansville. More information can be found on page three in this issue of *engage*.

We have opened our Innovation Lab and Idea Lab at Innovation Pointe. These exciting spaces will be used for facilitated events including problem solving, strategic planning, and more. We'll host an open house to introduce the possibilities later this spring. More information is available from Julie Brauser, 812/461-5425 or jbrauser@usi.edu.

The search committee for our next leader, the Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement, continues its work. By the time you read this, we should know who the finalists are and when they will make visits to campus.

We bid Ed Jones a fond farewell with a little Bon Voyage reception on December 17. Although Ed will continue his work with GAGE and outreach programs in New Harmony, we hope he'll also have time for some well-deserved rest and recreation.



Dr. Edward Jones, senior advisor to the president for Outreach and Engagement, celebrates his upcoming retirement during a Bon Voyage reception on December 17.

And some things don't change . . .

Our mission has been and will continue to be outreach. We complement the University's traditional role by providing and facilitating quality educational, research, and technical services for people, groups, and organizations in Indiana and the Tri-State. These activities support and promote individual well-being, social and cultural enrichment, economic opportunity, and regional development.

If you have questions about any of these changes we'd love to hear from you. Call 812/464-1863 or email outreach@usi.edu.

Linda Cleek
Interim Dean of Outreach
and Engagement

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SIJS receives School Award in Writing fifth year in a row

The Japan Overseas Educational Services, a subsidiary of the Japanese government's Ministry of Education and Science, has awarded the School Award in Writing to the **Southern Indiana Japanese School (SIJS)** for the fifth consecutive year.

Over 300 Japanese schools worldwide were eligible for the annual award; only 20 were selected to receive it.

In addition to the School Award in Writing, second grade student **Emiri Okada** was

awarded the Japan Broadcasting Association Award and fourth grade student **Shunnya Asami** won the Nippan IPS Award. This is the first year SIJS students have won these specific awards.

SIJS opened in 1997 at the request of and with the financial support of Tri-state regional companies to help prepare students for a smooth transition into Japanese school life when they return home. Currently, the school has 55 students and 11 teachers who provide instruction in Japanese language, culture, and

other selected disciplines on Saturdays and after the regular school day.

The SIJS is a USI **Division of Outreach and Engagement** program.

Additional information about SIJS can be found online at www.usi.edu/extserv/outreach/japaneseschool.asp.

Interfaith retreat coming to Historic New Harmony

Historic New Harmony's first interfaith retreat in March will bring together a theologian, a Jewish rabbi, and an Islamic teacher to discuss with participants the topic of interfaith dialogue. The retreat will be based on Abrahamic traditions.

International scholar and author **John Philip Newell** will lead the spiritual retreat called *A New Harmony for Peace*. The retreat will take place at the Barn Abbey in New Harmony, Indiana, from Tuesday, March 15, to Sunday, March 20.

Newell is companion theologian for the American Spirituality Centre of Casa del Sol in the high desert of New Mexico. He is acclaimed for his work in the field of Celtic spirituality, a spiritual practice earth-centered and inclusive. He is described as a Church of Scotland minister with a passion for peace in the world and a fresh vision for harmony between the great spiritual traditions of humanity. He plays a leading role in the re-birthing of a creation spirituality. His best-known titles are *Listening for the Heartbeat of God*, *Christ of the Celts*, and a poetic book of prayer *Sounds of the Eternal*, which he dedicated to **Jane Blaffer Owen** for her vision of a new harmony.

Rabbi Nahum Ward-Lev, active in Rabbis without Borders, also will participate. As one of 22 rabbis in Rabbis without Borders, he works to make Jewish wisdom more accessible to the wider American public.

The third retreat leader is **Myeda Hussain**, an Islamic teacher who serves as director of the Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment, an interdenominational coalition of Evansville houses of worship to achieve a greater degree of justice in Evansville.

"We are very pleased to present this retreat, as it carries on decades of work by Jane Owen," said **Connie Weinzapfel**, director of Historic New Harmony. "She introduced the idea of interfaith dialogue to New

Harmony, and in many ways, to the region. Gaining an understanding of other cultures and faiths engenders a greater global perspective for people. Participants at this retreat will have an intimate experience with other traditions."

The retreat will be limited to 50 participants. It will include a week of prayer and meditation and morning teaching sessions followed by a time of silence and then shared reflections. Evening sessions will be more experiential with song, dance, movement, and discussion.

The Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand, Indiana will serve as co-sponsors of the retreat. **Sister Kathryn Huber, OSB**, a trained spiritual director who has served her community in leadership roles for many years, said, "Benedictine women and men have been involved for years in dialogue that engages conversation with other people searching for God, including searchers in other Christian denominations as well as in other faith traditions."

"In this retreat the focus will be on the spiritual richness that God has poured out upon the human race. The *New Harmony for Peace* retreat will focus on the spiritual richness that unites the traditions of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity."



HISTORIC
NEW HARMONY

Public panel discussion on March 16

A panel of the retreat teachers will be held the evening of Wednesday, March 16, to explore the common ground of the three faith traditions. The panel is free-of-charge, and open to the public. It will be held at the Atheneum/Visitor Center in New Harmony at 7 p.m.

The retreat is presented by Historic New Harmony, a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites and sponsored by the Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation and the Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand, Indiana. The deadline to register is February 15.

Connect with Southern Indiana announces 2011 class

Connect with Southern Indiana, a regionally based leadership program offered through USI's Center for Human Resource Development, has selected 26 participants for its 2011 class.

The 2011 includes **Manuel Apodaca-Valdez**, assistant professor of Spanish, University of Southern Indiana; **Daniel Applegate**, welding engineer, Babcock & Wilcox, Nuclear Equipment Division; **Stephen Burger**, vice president of radio and Internet director, WNIN Tri-State Public Media; **Brad Burkhart**, technical services supervisor, Old National Bank; **Mark Caskey**, facility manager, Consolidated Grain and Barge Company, Inc.; **Jami Coffman**, individual and corporate coach, Imagine Unlimited, LLC; **Tonia Cowan**, inventory control, OFS Brands; **Jan Dougan**, extension educator for consumer and family sciences, Purdue University, Purdue Extension Dubois County; **Melissa Eckert**, sales specialist, Kimball Office; **Jay Fischer**, principal business analyst, MasterBrand Cabinets, Inc.; **Robin Good**, project manager, Carver Community Organization; **Elizabeth Gutsell**, concierge extraordinaire/owner, The Pickled Cricket, LLC; **Matt Hanka**, assistant professor of political science and director of Master of Public Administration

program, University of Southern Indiana; **Rina Harris**, conservation analyst, Vectren; **Darin Lander**, community outreach branch executive director, YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, Inc.;



Julie Marie Ko, manager of business services, Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana; **Stephanie Lancaster**, associate director of global environment in Health and Safety, Mead Johnson Nutrition; **Jeanne McAlister**, research coordinator, University of Southern Indiana; **Amie McKibban**, assistant professor of psychology, University of Southern Indiana; **Brian Meyer**, president and owner, Meyer Creative Landscapes; **Bill Nadeau II**, general manager of Swonder Ice Arena, City of Evansville; **Matthew Schwartz**, director of

military education, Vincennes University; and **Tiffani Weatherford**, administrative director, Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana, Posey County office.

Connect with Southern Indiana is open to Indiana residents living in Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, or Warrick counties who would like to improve the quality of life in their communities. The annual program is intended to boost Indiana's retention of intellectual capital by helping participants strengthen their skills and opportunities for involvement in community and regional projects, meet business and civic leaders, and gain greater awareness of community and regional needs.

Program participants will attend ten full-day sessions over a six-month period and will develop a collaborative project to be presented at the end of the program in June.

Topics for this year's class include community overviews, critical thinking, personality profiles, opportunity identification, project management, public skills, presentation planning, and government relations. USI faculty and staff and Southern Indiana community leaders will facilitate each program.

Ellspermann joins cast of presenters at Department of Defense conference

USI's **Sue Ellspermann**, director of the Center for Applied Research (CAR), **Les Nunn**, chair of Accounting and Business Law; **Daniela Vidal**, program coordinator for Advanced Manufacturing; and a team from the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC Crane); attended the Department of Defense Technology Transfer TTIPT Conference in Philadelphia in November. The team delivered a presentation on identifying Intellectual Property (IP) and demonstrated IP Mining as a best practice.

Developed by USI, IP Mining is an innovative discovery process that was created for NSWC Crane. The process received the 2009 Partnership Award from the Midwest Region Federal Laboratory Research Consortium and identifies IP by engaging lead NSWC Crane engineers and technologists who share completed projects,

discuss problems solved in the project and commercial applications of new inventions, and identify potential patentable innovations.

The conference included a process demonstration utilizing a project from the US Air Force. Ellspermann facilitated the IP Mining Process using a panel that included Nunn, Vidal, technology transfer experts, and entrepreneurship faculty from Ball State University. The demonstration netted five potential disclosures and over 20 commercial opportunities. Approximately 100 participants representing technology transfer offices from all Department of Defense research laboratories observed the demonstration for possible use in their own organizations.

"Developing the IP mining process for Crane has allowed the Center for Applied Research to engage almost a dozen faculty and staff, as well as other regional IP experts, in the

promising technologies being developed at Crane," said Ellspermann. "Demonstrating this process to the Department of Defense as a 'best practice' was an honor and accomplishment for USI."

USI has conducted four IP Mining events since 2008, which has identified nearly 100 potential disclosures and 200 commercial opportunities. NSWC Crane has more than doubled their patent production by using the IP Mining Process.

NSWC Crane entered a Partnership Intermediary Agreement (PIA) with USI in 2010 to help accelerate the USI STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) program. The joint partnership also helps NSWC Crane with continued improvement on their innovative path to create new businesses and jobs using NSWC Crane patents.

Owensboro resident meets four-year degree goal

A **Bachelor of General Studies** (BGS) degree for **Angela R. Young** means career advancement opportunities and meeting a personal goal to be marketable in healthcare informatics. The Owensboro resident received the degree from the University of Southern Indiana in December.

Young works for the Owensboro Medical Health System in Owensboro, Kentucky, as a member of the Epic Implementation Team. The baccalaureate degree is necessary for advancement to a system analyst level in the Information Systems Department.

The BGS degree program has options that fit Young's life, and in fall 2006 she enrolled at USI in Evansville. She was able to complete her classes online except for an algebra class she took at Owensboro Community College. Because she lives about an hour from USI, it was too time consuming to take classes on campus.

"I would take a week at a time when the course work of reading, writing, and studying for a test would weigh on me. The hardest part was having class work to complete following a day of healthcare work."

She learned of the USI program at work during a department presentation by **Lee Ann Wambach**, academic programs manager in the Division of Outreach and Engagement at USI. Young earned her associate degree in nursing after high school and went to work as a surgical nurse at Owensboro Medical Health System. She married, and she and her husband began their family. She wanted to spend quality time with the children when they were young and had planned to complete a bachelor's degree once her daughters were older.

Young said, "When the youngest started driving, I realized I had more time to take classes and work toward my goal."

"Lee Ann helped me enroll in the classes at the correct course levels in order to meet BGS program requirements. She also insured that I received credit for the certification courses I had taken over the years. The BGS program was exactly what I wanted."

"I didn't have a desire to pursue a four-year nursing degree. The BGS allowed me to be more selective in the classes I took. I was able to take several courses related to nutrition, which I am interested in personally. It also allowed me to choose classes directly related to the job I currently hold and I was able to apply some of the certifications I had to the degree."

The BGS degree program at USI is for working adults with significant educational experience and a strong desire to complete college course work and earn a four-year degree. More details about the program are online at www.usi.edu/extserv/academic/bgs.asp.

Corydon resident Karen Schwartz receives the 2010 O'Bannon Award

Karen Schwartz, president of the Historical Society of Harrison County in Corydon, Indiana, received the 2010 Frank and Judy O'Bannon Heritage Engagement Award at the annual meeting of Historic Southern Indiana in October in Cannelton, Indiana. Presented by **Historic Southern Indiana**, the award recognizes an individual who is an exemplary model of community education activities.

"Karen Schwartz has reorganized and revitalized the Historical Society of Harrison County," said **Vi Eckart**, director of the Harrison County Public Library, who nominated Schwartz for the award. "She has been particularly vigilant in passing on the rich history of Harrison County to young people by producing literature and programming specifically targeted to bring history alive for students."

Schwartz has coordinated several historical books on Harrison County, including *Harrison County History and Families*, *Harrison County Pictorial*, and *The Harrison County Fair Sesquicentennial Booklet*. She has produced calendars on Harrison County buildings, townships, barns, and the Harrison County Fair.

With the help of grants from the Harrison County Community Foundation and the



Leslie Townsend, director of Historic Southern Indiana, left, presents Karen Schwartz with the 2010 Frank and Judy O'Bannon Heritage Engagement Award.

Community Foundation of Southern Indiana through the Harrison County Youth Philanthropy Council, Schwartz has developed a variety of materials about Harrison County. These materials include an informational brochure called "Who Put the Harrison in Harrison County?" and a booklet called "Historic Corydon, Indiana from A-Z."

"Historic Corydon, Indiana from A-Z" has been placed in every fourth grade classroom in this district and the response from the teachers and students has been very positive," said **Neyland Clark**, superintendent of South Harrison Community School Corporation. "The layout and organization of the book makes the information easy for everyone to use, especially fourth grade students."

"Flags Over Corydon," an interpretive project also developed by Schwartz, identifies 35 flags that have flown over downtown Corydon throughout the town's history. "There was no signage to document each flag's name and historical significance," said Eckart. "Karen designed interpretive plaques and bolted them to each pole, making the Flags over Corydon site self-interpreting for students and other visitors to the site."

Schwartz is currently working on two additional projects. "Nine Historic Buildings that Were in Corydon During the Capital Period and are Still Here!" will document the antiquity of buildings that remain in Corydon from 1816-1825 and "Journey Along Blue River" will identify historic points of interest along the Blue River.

Notes

CAR holds listening sessions on government reorganization

The Center for Applied Research (CAR) hosted two facilitated community listening sessions for the City-County Government Reorganization Committee. Held in November and December, the sessions provided community feedback on a proposed comprehensive reorganization plan to merge the City of Evansville and Vanderburgh County. Sessions were open to the public and met at the University of Evansville and USI. Participants provided feedback on the consolidation plan, including concerns and benefits.

CAR is available to provide neutral and objective facilitation and conduct applied research projects to help your business or organization prosper and solve issues. For more information, call the CAR office at 812/461-5442.

HSI featured in Cultural Heritage Tourism Survival Toolkit

Historic Southern Indiana (HSI) is featured in a new online resource intended to help communities across the nation promote their unique historic and cultural attractions. Produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the online toolkit includes profiles of more than 80 communities achieving success despite the challenges posed by today's economy.

Web site visitors can search for stories by region, type of attraction or organization, or by one of eleven key survival strategies. The toolkit also includes links to other online resources to help cultural and heritage tourism attractions and organizations stay afloat during tough times. The toolkit can be found online at www.preservationnation.org/issues/heritage-tourism/survival-toolkit/.

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Follow USI's Division of Outreach and Engagement on Facebook for all the latest news and events. You can find us at www.facebook.com/usioutreach.

Read engage online

If you would prefer to receive *engage* by email instead of postal mail, please send your name and email address to Brandi Schwartz, *engage* editor, at blschwartz@usi.edu, or register online at www.usi.edu/engage/.

Amanda Wheaton-Collins joins USI as Children's Learning Center manager



Wheaton-Collins

A m a n d a Wheaton-Collins has been named manager of the **Children's Learning Center** at the University of Southern Indiana. The Center offers child care to children of USI students, faculty, and staff ages two to six years old on a full-day, half-day, or hourly basis.

Wheaton-Collins was employed at Northwest Arkansas Head Start as the lead teacher where she planned and implemented weekly curriculum. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in human environmental sciences and a Master of Science degree in human development and family studies from the University of Arkansas where she served as a graduate assistant in the Infant Development Center.

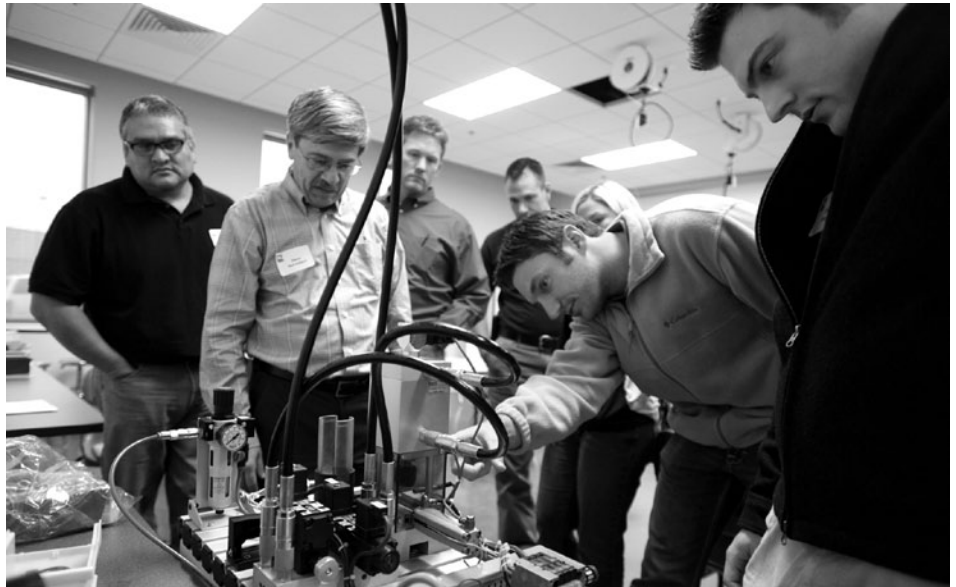
Wheaton-Collins will supervise eight teachers and several student workers. She will

oversee the functions of day-to-day programs, including compliance with the State of Indiana licensing requirements and accreditation guidelines with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

"Amanda has extensive experience working in a NAEYC accredited center and has worked in a university setting," said **Ginger Ramsden**, director of the USI Center for Education Services and Partnerships. "She has a solid understanding of best practices and her philosophy is a great match for our Center."

The USI Children's Learning Center is a constituent of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Five Star Environmental Recognition Program, is accredited by the NAEYC, and is a Level 4 on 4C's Paths to Quality rating system. It is licensed for up to 77 enrollments and offers an environment that encourages children to develop their capabilities and interests at their own pace and on an individual needs basis.

Wheaton-Collins replaces **Pam Buschkill** who retired from the University in December after 20 years of service.



Festo Didactic and USI's Pott College of Science and Engineering and Division of Outreach and Engagement sponsored an Interactive Lean Manufacturing Workshop at USI in November. Participants were introduced to techniques such as 5S's, Value Stream Analysis, Single Minute Exchange of Die (SMED), Total Productive Maintenance (TPM), Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE), KANBAN, One Piece Flow, and the Continuous Improvement Process. USI will host a second Interactive Lean Manufacturing Workshop April 19-20. For more information, or to register, call 812/464-1989.



A temporary labyrinth created out of pumpkins was on display at the Labyrinth Society's International Gathering held in November in New Harmony, Indiana. The annual gathering supports those who create, maintain, and use labyrinths and was co-sponsored by the University of Southern Indiana and Historic New Harmony.

Azteca Milling: Long-term partner with the Center for HRD

Over the years, the **Center for Human Resource Development** (Center for HRD) has built several long-term partnerships with regional businesses through on-site contracts and public programs. One of those partnerships includes Azteca Milling, the world leader in the corn masa flour industry.

Located in Evansville, Indiana, Azteca Milling began utilizing the services of the Center for HRD 14 years ago for on-site and off-site developmental training programs for supervisors. The Center for HRD staff identified specific areas for further development of supervisory skills and designed specific training programs to meet the needs of the company.

Supervisors from Azteca Milling also participate in the USI's award-winning Management Diagnostic Center (MDC), which uses a well-recognized and accepted assessment center methodology to develop comprehensive training needs profiles for supervisors, managers, and those aspiring to management positions.

"Azteca has actively participated in USI's Management Diagnostic Center to help identify candidates who will fill open supervisory positions and to identify skills a candidate may need to further succeed in their current position as well as future growth opportunities," said **Kelly Huff**, logistics manager at Azteca Milling. "Once development opportunities are identified, the MDC suggests a wide range of materials

to the participants in an effort to meet their particular training needs. It's a wonderful tool to help identify developmental opportunities and to establish an action plan for those individuals who desire to further develop their career opportunities."

The Center for HRD has offered organizational and professional development services for over 30 years. The Center's core values are to assist organizations in professional development of employees, identify unmet workforce development needs, and to work collaboratively to form partnerships between USI and regional organizations.

"USI's Center for Human Resource Development provides an important service in Evansville's business community," said Huff. "The training consultants are well informed and have a broad exposure, which allow them the opportunity to offer clients ideas or best practices to further enhance their competitive advantage. Azteca Milling will continue to work with USI's Center for Human Resource Development as we offer our employees the opportunity for growth and career development in addition to the tangible performance results any company would recognize when investing in their key asset."

For more information on services available from the Center for HRD, call 812/465-1629 or visit www.usi.edu/extserv/business/consulting.asp.

Notes

Monthly emails from the Office of Continuing Education

The Office of Continuing Education will distribute a monthly email announcing upcoming noncredit continuing education opportunities. To receive these monthly messages, email Brandi Schwartz, marketing coordinator in the Division of Outreach and Engagement, at blschwartz@usi.edu, or use the sign up box at www.usi.edu/extserv/continuingeducation.asp.

CAP announces fall 2010 enrollment numbers

During the 2010 fall semester, the College Achievement Program (CAP) enrolled 1,606 students and generated 4,763 credit hours. CAP is a cooperative program between USI and 22 participating high schools that gives motivated juniors and seniors an opportunity to earn college credit through their high school. The courses follow the same curriculum and academic standards as USI courses and are taught by high school faculty who participate in ongoing, discipline-specific professional development with USI faculty members. More information about CAP can be found online at www.usi.edu/extserv/academic/cap.asp or by calling 812/228-5022.

Spring RopeWalk Reading Series announced

The spring RopeWalk Reading Series will include free readings at USI by poetry authors Todd Boss on Thursday, February 17 in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center and Adrian Matejka on Thursday, April 7 in Carter Hall in the University Center and fiction/nonfiction author Heather Sellers on Thursday, March 3 also in Carter Hall. All readings will start at 5 p.m. and will be followed by a reception and book signing. Publications by these authors are available for purchase in the USI Bookstore and Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

University Center Expansion Dedication/Open House

The University of Southern Indiana will hold a dedication/open house for the newly expanded University Center from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 3. A ribbon cutting will take place and USI students will offer tours of the 60,000-square foot space. The new space will house the Division of Outreach and Engagement, student organizations, new dining and meeting space, and more.



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Evansville, IN 47712



www.usi.edu/outreach
Read *engage* online at www.usi.edu/engage/

Noncredit Course Sampler

Arts and Leisure

February 1, 10, or March 2

Social Security Planning for Boomers, this seminar covers the basics of Social Security and reveals strategies for maximizing your benefits. Three offerings are available.

February 2–March 24

Getting Started on Acoustic Guitar, learn basic acoustic guitar-playing techniques, including simple strumming, finger-picking, tuning, chording, and reading skills. Bring your guitar to the first class. Meets eight Wednesdays.

College Readiness

Saturday, February 26 or Saturday, April 23

Verbal Skills for SAT, emphasis will be on vocabulary development, written English, and critical reading.

Saturday, March 5 or Saturday, April 30

Math Skills for the SAT, skill development in problem solving, working mathematical equations, and the rules pertaining to calculators. Students should bring a calculator.

Computers and Information Management

Thursday, February 10

Getting Started with Access, a quick start on the Microsoft Access database system. Emphasis will be on table design and Access capabilities and functions. Participants should be familiar with Microsoft® Windows.

Monday, March 8

Getting Started with PowerPoint 2007, start-up basics for the popular presentation graphics package: how to design and develop text presentations from content outlines, adding clip art and scanned graphics, and editing the presentation master.

Visit usi.edu/extserv for more information and additional courses.

Languages

February 22–April 5

Beginning Conversational Russian, learn basic conversational Russian. Russian culture and customs will also be discussed. Meets six Tuesdays, no class March 8.

February 24–April 7

Beginning Conversational Japanese, learn basic conversational Japanese and Japanese customs, traditions, and protocols. Meets six Thursdays, no class March 10.

Kids, Parents, and Teachers

April 9 and 16

Saturday Art Workshop (ages 6-14), participants will join USI art students and faculty to create two- and three-dimensional artwork including collages, paintings, printmaking, sculptures, and more. Meets two Saturdays.

Fitness/Aquatics/Recreation

March 28–May 2

Beginning Golf, Professional instruction on golf equipment, terminology, rules, and etiquette. Bring a five- or seven-iron to the first class session. Two class sections are available, enrollment is limited to eight per section. Meets six Mondays.

April 4, 11, and 16

Bicycle Basics, Safety, and Touring, learn the fundamentals of choosing a bike, basic maintenance and bike safety, and planning a bike trip. A group ride will conclude the course.

April 5–28

Stroke Mechanics for Competitive Swimmers, for those who swim competitively, or who hope to, can improve their times through this analytical approach to stroke mechanics. Meets four Tuesdays and four Thursdays.

Registration information: 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600