

illume | VOLUME 49 issue 1 Spring 2016



features

Playing for Money

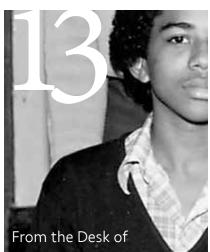
Alumni set out to make the Midwest a destination for competitive gaming

The "I" Word 24

18

Innovative projects viewed through the lens of the five phases of innovation







departments

32	Behind the Scene	2	You Said
35	Open Dialogue	4	State of the U
36	Colleges	10	The Big Picture
40	World Class	12	Student POV
41	Quotables	14	Scoreboard
42	Class Notes	16	Essay

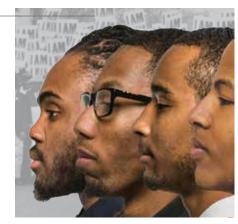
YOU said | feedback

AN EYE OPENER

I want to reach out to you regarding the article An American Story. This was one of the best stories I have read in a while. The comments by those interviewed really opened my eyes to their life experiences. It also made me so proud of all of them and for USI to step up to address this topic.

Fantasic job on this story!

Liz Childers '99



ACCOLADES

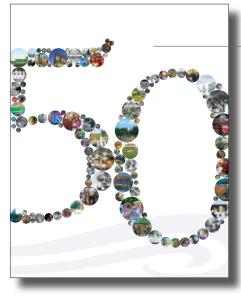
I just received my beautiful copy of the USI Magazine. I worked at USI the first year it changed from ISUE to USI. I worked in the Personnel Office with Cindy Brinker. I really enjoyed looking at the commemorative issue.

Kristi (Hollis) Hasting

PARENTAL THUMBS UP

As parents, Dan and I received the 50th Anniversary magazine. It is great! I loved the timeline provided with it. Tell your team—great job.

Cathy Spieth



GREAT CHANGES

A special thanks to you and your staff for the wonderful USI 50th Anniversary issue of USI Magazine. The magazine has changed dramatically over the years since I was a student. The colorful imagery and stories serve as not only a historical record of USI's impact to the community but as a look into the future of the University's endeavors through the leadership of Dr. Linda Bennett, current students, future students and alumni that stand 37,000 strong. It is through learning and innovation that USI will continue to change the lives of USI students and make a difference that reaches far outside the campus.

Kenny Lasley '10

"50" LOOKS GOOD ON YOU

Wow—this is beautifully done! So many engaging pieces. I love the then-and-now numbers, and I found myself drawn in to the quotes about faculty, having to remind myself, "Wait, you don't know any of these people." They were moving, nonetheless.

Jennifer Cline

BRAVO

Enjoyed the 50th Anniversary issue. Nice work!

Mark Fisher '90

We invite readers to comment on articles and start conversations by bringing unique perspectives to relevant magazine topics. Correspondence and comments will not be limited to letters mailed to the editor, but may be from email or social media networks. Letters mailed to the editor may be published in the magazine unless the author states it is not for publication. Letters should be kept to 250 words, and may be edited for style, length, clarity, grammar and relevance to USI issues. Letters to the editor should be sent to magazine@usi.edu.

CLARIFICATION:

The fraternities and sororities mentioned in the 50th Anniversary issue's "Clubbing" were organizations still active on campus. Over the decades there have been a number of worthy organizations on campus—including the veteran's fraternity Chi Gamma Iota (XGI) 1970s—whose presences and contributions helped make USI the university it is today. We wish we could have listed them all.



Jan 28 Eric Schueller @EricAtCEA

Archie wants to study abroad. You should too! @USIedu @USIStudyAbroad #ceaabroad #archieabroad



gxb1 University of Southern Indiana



This morning was my first time giving a newscast for @The EdgeRadioUSI! It was super fun.

Feb 11 Abby Hooyer @chipsahooyer Once an eagle, always an eagle. #screagles #screaglepride #USI

Sean Rickey @SeanRickey Excited to announce that I have decided to continue my soccer career at the University of Southern Indiana. @USI msoc

Feb 13

University of Southern Indiana Feb 11 at 2:30pm

The new approved degrees include a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Physics. All three programs will be implemented for the start of the fall 2016 semester.

Courtney Feather Kistler That's Awesome news... So proud to say I'm a Screaming Eagle RN grad. GREAT GREAT school right here in my home state!

Feb 13 Dr. Linda Bennett @USIPrez @USIedu Cheer and Dance teams are amazing! #ScreaglePride



fOrever yOung95



Dropping this boy off for an overnight college visit! This reality is gonna hit home in about 6 months. #USI

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illume is published two times annually by the University of Southern Indiana for its alumni and friends. Reach us at: University of Southern Indiana, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712. Send editorial information to University Communications (812-465-7005) or magazine@usi.edu.

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STATE OF THE U

2016-2020 strategic plan

As USI heads into its next 50 years of elevating excellence, a new five-year strategic plan is being rolled out. President Linda L. M. Bennett shares insights into the plan and its importance to the University's future.

When you became president in 2009, one of the first things you did was to start the planning process for the University's first strategic plan, covering 2010-2015. How has it helped to shape the evolution of this University?

We found evidence that by engaging in the process of developing and implementing an institutional strategic plan, it encouraged offices on campus to develop planning documents for their units. That amounts to a change in thinking and culture that will stand us in good stead as we move to the next five-year phase. Collectively, we are thinking more about the environment for higher education, how it has changed, and the role of an institution such as USI in addressing those changes and anticipating state, national and international trends.

When a new five-year strategic plan was being conceived, you had some interesting conversations with Tom Wappes, information technology manager at Crane Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, who was instrumental in creating a strategic vision for the naval base. Why was that helpful in guiding our own planning process?

■: I attended a presentation by Tom Wappes during 2013, wherein he discussed an environmental scanning process to help Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center rethink and articulate its value to Indiana and the nation. The base was being considered for closure, and Tom proposed surveying national and international trends affecting the defense industry. Learning about environmental impacts and demographic changes is true for higher education as well. All industries need to be aware of changes in the population they serve and hope to hire. What made the greatest impression on me was the journey to find ways to articulate the value of Crane in succinct,

powerful phrases. That's the same journey USI has been on and the inspiration for our marketing messages.

Q: Can you explain how this plan's process differs from the first?

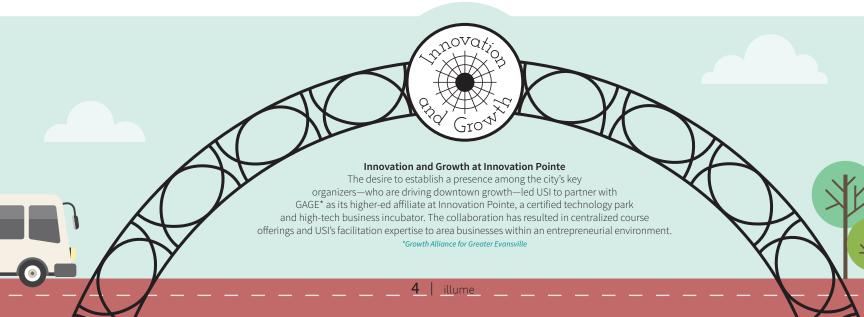
The first strategic planning process reflected on what makes our community unique, and what direction we believed USI needed to take to continue to develop. We were coming together to think about our mission and vision for the future. The work from that process was so solid that we did not need to revisit the mission and vision statements. Both will be visible and serve as a guide to strategic priorities for the 2016-2020 phase.

To develop the second strategic plan, I held a retreat for President's Council to share with them the framework that Tom Wappes presented earlier that year. I ended the session with a statement and question: In 1965, we were the disruptive force for education in this region of the state. What can we learn from our history?

I asked for volunteers from the colleges to conduct an environmental scan for USI. Dean Ann White contacted Dr. Kevin Valadares, chair of Health Administration, who was very familiar with this process through his consultative work with healthcare organizations. In turn, Dr. Valadares reached out to his colleague, Dr. Matthew Hanka, director of the Master in Public Administration program. Both faculty members invited graduate students to assist in the early stages of the research process.

The new strategic plan has three main goals/components compared to six in the University's first plan. What are they, and why were they selected?

A: The three goals came from a series of discussions about the



environmental scan with groups on and off campus. Kevin, Matt and I were in Chicago to present the environmental scan work at a national conference when our conversation seemed to gel around three priorities:

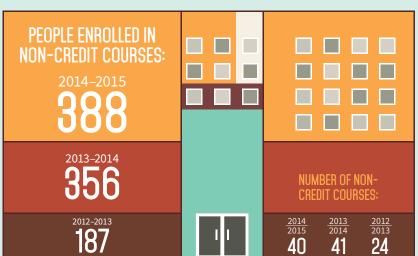
- 1. Learning Excellence for the Entire USI Community—to recruit and retain outstanding students, we must be intentional in how faculty, staff and the community continue to learn and develop.
- 2. Access and Opportunity by Design—intentional design of collaborative and diverse opportunities among students, faculty and staff by generating greater access between our expertise and talents and the organizations with whom we partner.
- 3. Purposeful and Sustainable Growth—dynamic growth in student enrollment, in full-time faculty, in programs particularly with a focus on graduate education, in reputation and in geographic reach.
- What is the process for executing this new strategic plan? And, will there be measurable outcomes that the University can look back on in five years to gauge the success of this plan?

We will begin with a simple set of metrics for each priority. As initiatives continue to be developed within and between the three strategic priorities, additional metrics will be layered into our data dashboards to monitor progress. I am a big fan of data. We know that data can disprove assumptions but, I'm also a fan of a great story. Data need case studies, individual voices, to lend depth and texture to the impact of our work. Whether we use data or narratives, we need to remember that we are transforming lives. The work in our strategic plan has a grand purpose: to educate in ways that are lasting and to prepare individuals to continue to learn. We already have a strong reputation for educating learners of all ages, and our tagline is "Knowledge for Life." Shaping the future through learning and innovation is our focused effort. The next five years are going to be exciting!



What topics would you like President Bennett to address? | magazine @ usi.edu







CONEucopia happenings

Continuing the tradition

The University of Southern Indiana is in the process of renewing its accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). As part of that process, USI is seeking public comment about the quality of the instruction or its academic programs. The HLC evaluation is scheduled for September 12-14, 2016. USI has been an accredited member of the HLC since 1974.

Please submit comments by August 11, 2016, to hlcommission.org/comment.

Expect no less

Since USI's focus is, and always has been, on preparing students for greater opportunities, so it's no surprise that six new degrees were recently created to expand their career paths. That brings the University to 80 majors.

- Master of Arts in Second Language Acquisition, Policy and Culture
- Master of Science in Sport Management
- Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy
- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in **Electrical Engineering**
- Bachelor of Science in Physics

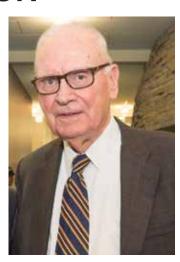


Therapy dogs have been coming to campus for the past two semesters, helping students de-stress during finals week as part of an initiative sponsored by the Recreation, Fitness and Wellness Center, the Counseling Center and the David L. Rice Library. The dogs—all certified by Therapy Dogs International —belong to USI staff and faculty. Last semester, 443 students from across disciplines descended on the REC to play with pooches and pick up goodie bags filled with treats and tips on how to handle stress.

CIVILITY IN ACTION



Civility in American politics was the focus of an on-campus conversation between former Senator Richard Lugar and former Congressman Lee Hamilton in March. The event was created as a "civil public square" where people with strong points of view, tempered with respect, could come together and learn from each other. The conversation was moderated by USI President Linda L. M. Bennett, who earned all three of her degrees in political science.



"American political language has always included a mix of lofty rhetoric and earthy insults. In recent years, mudslinging from all sides has covered any sign of lofty rhetoric, and we are losing sight of working together to achieve a greater good."

- Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett

PARTNERING NEAR AND FAR

Internships and Research Opportunities

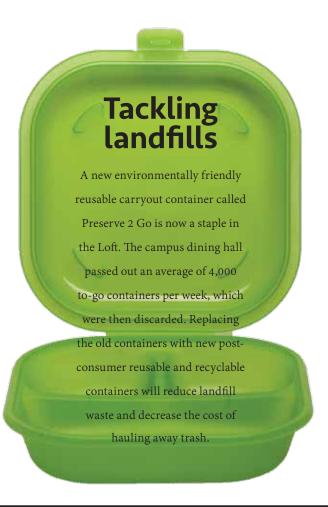
What began as a conversation concerning student internships has developed into a learning-exchange partnership between the University and Pollux Systems, Inc.—an Evansville-based medical claims processing company. The five-year agreement consists of three parts: student internships, faculty internship research opportunities and an on-campus satellite office for Pollux. USI students in both the Romain College of Business and the College of Nursing and Health Professions will now have the opportunity to gain experience in revenue cycles and medical coding as well as prepare for careers in the field.

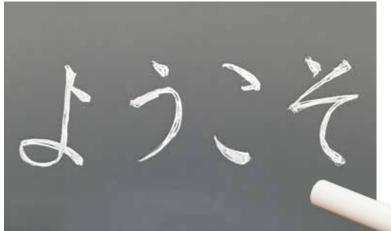
The need for medical coding experts who can navigate the complex system with accuracy has exploded in recent years when the number of codes for medical procedures that physicians use when billing rose from 14,000 to 70,000 plus.

STARTUP COLLABORATION

The University also has partnered with Ireland-based Microbide, a producer of biodegradable chemicals, that serves clients in the medical, agricultural, water and wastewater, and insecticidal industries. In this partnership, the University is working with the company to help establish itself in the region by providing it with both laboratory space and expertise in developing quality assurance testing for their new products.

With USI assistance, the company can be up and running faster than if it had to wait for new lab space to be developed. By 2018, Microbide says it plans to create 18 new jobs, with an average salary doubling that currently earned in Vanderburgh County.





THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL

It happened again. For the 10th consecutive year, USI's Southern Indiana Japanese School (SIJS) received the School Award in Writing from the Japan Overseas Educational Services, a subsidiary of the Japanese government's Ministry of Education and Science. Only 20 out of nearly 300 Japanese schools received the award. Responding to community needs and requests by Japanese companies located in southern Indiana, USI created SIJS in 1997 as part of its Outreach and Engagement Department. The school ensures K-12 children of Japanese employees at these companies will keep abreast of their peers in Japan so they can integrate smoothly back into Japanese schools when they return.

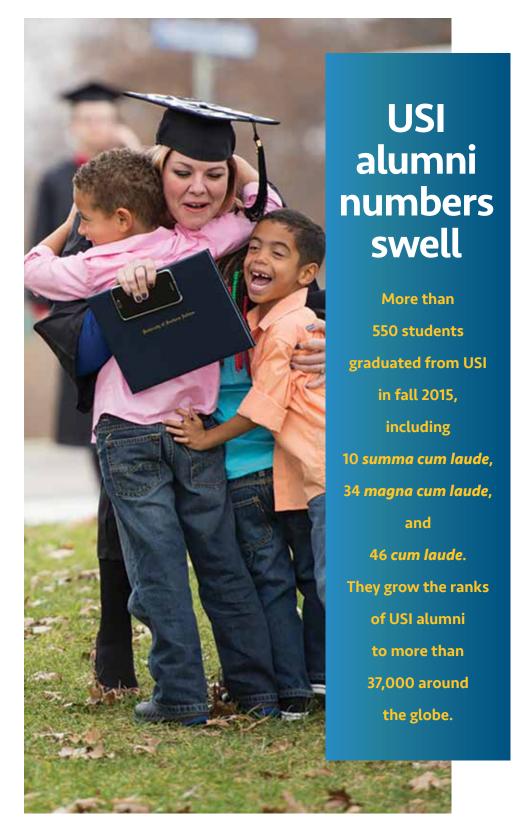
CONEucopia happenings

PARTY ON THE QUAD

It started with a group of alumni brainstorming ways to celebrate their time and connections at USI, and has resulted—the second year in a row—with a Party on The Quad. The idea of a 21-and-over event in the center of campus is a dream many of you have secretly wished for since your youthful yesterdays. The party, hosted by the Alumni Association, is designed to create an atmosphere of fellowship and allow alumni to connect with friends, faculty and staff.

There will be delicious local barbecue, vegetarian and gluten-free foods, a selfie photo booth, corn hole, caricature artist, and music from three bands: Boscoe France, The Flatheads and Osiella.







Who knew that with the turn of a hand, clay could transform into \$16,000 to benefit non-profits, and spawn interdisciplinary collaboration as well? Alisa (Al) Holen, assistant professor of ceramics and coordinator for the USI Empty Bowls project, in its fourth year, and Audrey Hillyer, interim director of composition and instructor in English, knew. Last semester, Holen and Hillyer teamed up to open the eyes of art and English students to real social issues and community needs. Hillyer's class put in the legwork, researching local non-profits and writing grant proposals, and Holen's students spent long hours trimming and firing bowls and teaching numerous volunteers the art of spinning a bowl. "Projects and collaborations like these can really impact students and their investments in the community," Hillyer said, "and benefit others through work that's fun and rewarding."

Last year's proceeds started a food pantry for homeless veterans at ECHO Housing Corporation, and provided funding for Patchwork Central and United Caring Services.

Bucking a trend

In the wake of a trend by other universities to close their literary presses, USI has started a new one. In addition to Southern Indiana Review (SIR), there is now a second literary collection published by the newly created Southern Indiana Review Press (SIR Press). SIR Press is dedicated to publishing a collection of poetry created by the winner of the annual Michael Waters Poetry Prize, established in 2013 to honor Water's contributions to SIR and American arts and letters.

In 2014, there were two winners: Dennis Hinrchsen (Skin Music) and Hanna Faith Notess (The Multitude). "SIR Press seeks out fresh voices and perspectives while favoring no one mode of poetry over another," said Marcus Wicker, faculty member and co-director of USI's SIR and SIR Press. "We don't know what we're looking for until a writer shows us. And that's what makes us vital. That's why we matter."

Farewell and hello

USI's College of Liberal Arts is passing the torch of leadership following the retirement of Dean Michael Aakhus after nearly 40 vears of dedication and contributions to the College, including five as its dean. The College will soon look to the leadership of Dr. James Beeby, who will

assume the dean position when he arrives July 1 from Middle Tennessee State University where he chaired a large History Department with a nationally-ranked doctoral program.



Beeby brings a wealth of leadership experience in

areas such as curricular changes, course redesign, faculty-mentoring programing, new research agendas, faculty development and student scholarships. His academic interests include U.S. southern history, African American history, race relations, and the Gilded Age and Progressive Era.

begun to publish such books, and 30 and 40 years from now some of them will still be in print and on the shelves of serious readers.

- Michael Waters

Skin Music

2014 Michael Waters Poetry Prize

The Multitude





USI believes in expanding students' cultural awareness through experiential learning opportunities that prepare them to live wisely in a global community. What better way to do that than by immersing them into a community some 4,800 miles across the Atlantic Ocean? That's what happened when 25 students and three faculty from the Art Department traveled to Italy to be beguiled by the works of Caravaggio and Michelangelo, before exploring Baroque churches, the Colosseum, the Uffizi Gallery and the ruins of Pompeii.

THE PICTURE

- Jessica Simpson '15, art with a minor in art history

Why Voting Matters We don't all look alike or come from the same cultural backgrounds, but we all want the same thing—a say in how our lives are impacted. In the United States, this is determined through voting. Our freedom to speak, to be heard and to choose is carried Almira Havic, '16 out by elected officials. Voting, whether **Master's in Communication** locally or nationally, is a freedom everyone, **Bosnian-American** especially millennials, must take full advantage of. It's a right that others before us have fought for and for which some nations continue to fight.

From the student debt crisis to education reform, we, as college students, have a personal stake in these issues, and we should participate in how they are addressed. If we don't become involved, others will make those vital decisions for us. Even if an issue doesn't directly affect us now, we still need to exercise our right to participate in the narrative. Take taxes, for instance. If you haven't yet entered the workforce, you may not be interested in the policies governing tax laws until you begin receiving a paycheck. Then, you'll be more concerned about where your money is going.

Being the largest, most educated and diverse generation in the United States, millennials have the opportunity to be a loud voice in the country and thus, an influential political force. Yet, we remain silent. Too often I hear the excuse, "My vote won't make a difference." Right, as long as you don't vote it never will.

But millennials represent more than one quarter of the nation's population, so our votes can have an enormous impact. Imagine the significant influence we can have on the nation's future. We have the potential to influence the political system to reflect our interests. It's our time to help reform current policies and shape new ones; we should not only join the conversation, we need to start the conversation.

Social media sites expose readers to an array of information and conflicting beliefs, but in order to vote responsibly we need to be able to form our own opinions regarding political issues and candidates. Just because our family or friends vote one way doesn't mean we must conform to their beliefs and attitudes, especially when it comes to politics. It's a poor reason to vote for a candidate.

Don't get me wrong, if you value someone's opinion, then ask for advice but don't forget to do your own research too. As John F. Kennedy said, "Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought."

We [millennials] are a curious and passionate group of individuals, and we need to channel our energy into asking questions and seeking answers concerning issues and policies. I encourage all of my fellow millennials to strive to become politically conscious, because whether we are engaged or not, politics affect us. By not voting, decisions concerning our future remain in the hands of others. We must ignite the fires within ourselves to get involved, to motivate others and let our voices be heard. Together, we can make a difference. Voting matters. Vote.

continue the conversation at #illumeUSI

Over time, I've come to realize that although failure is a fact of life, what we do with it determines our destiny. There are several moments in my life where I "came up short." One in particular stands out, because it was during an impressionable time in my path to manhood.

In 1978, I was class president of my high school; a skinny, shy senior with a big afro who couldn't wait to enter college, despite the prediction of a grade school teacher who told my mother, "If he graduates from high school it will be a miracle." Neither of my parents attended college, but for their children it was a "must" and not an "option." The same was true for my choice of college —the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Growing up on Chicago's south side, U of I was the choice. All of my friends were headed there, and I would be among them. I told anyone who would listen that I would be attending U of I to become somebody.

I came home every day and checked the mailbox for my acceptance letter, my anxiety growing until finally I held a thin, flat envelope in my hands. I knew upon seeing the envelope that it was a rejection, since acceptances arrived in thick, robust envelopes with offerings of campus life. Reading "Dear Ronald, we regret to inform you..." made me feel as if I'd let everyone important in my life down, especially my mother. Not being accepted to one of the best universities in the country devastated me. I wouldn't, after all, be the first person in my family to earn a college degree.

My mother, who had what I called "Alice's non-negotiable plans for success," arranged for me to meet with Dr. Jasper Williams to discuss the possibility of me attending Tuskegee University,

DR. RONALD ROCHON

Provost

where he sat on the Board of Trustees. I was thankful for my mother's efforts and appreciative of Dr. Williams' interest in my future, but Tuskegee simply was not Illinois. My mother, however, knew that at Tuskegee I'd see African-American women and men in prestigious roles—attorneys, mayors, architects, professors, physicians and entrepreneurs—whom I could look up to and learn to emulate.

I applied to Tuskegee and was accepted, making my family proud. My parents' joy at my acceptance reenergized me, renewing my plan to change the world. My freshman year, however, was a nightmare. I studied relentlessly, yet I was consumed with fear. I did not want to disappoint my family again. My new friends teased me because all I did was study. My first exam was in biology and I failed the test. I called my mother, "I can't do this. I don't think I have what it takes to be successful in college." Despite my self-doubt, she held unconditional belief in me, saying that I should give each of my classes my very best effort, and if I still felt that way, then "come home."

I didn't share my mother's vision or confidence in me. I'd failed, and was afraid of more failure. Afraid that failure would ultimately become my new identity.

A few days later, I received a package from my mother filled with homemade gingerbread, pound cake, oatmeal raisin cookies and a letter containing a Langston Hughes poem titled "Mother to Son." The poem is about resiliency and perseverance; it's about a mother's unwavering belief in her son's ability. She and my father gave up their own dreams to ensure my siblings and I would achieve ours. Sending me the poem meant Langston Hughes' meaningful lyrics were speaking through my mother's heart, encouraging me to carry on and to never give up on myself.

I graduated from Tuskegee with a bachelor's and later enrolled at the University of Illinois where I received both a master's and a doctorate. What I once perceived as rejection and failure was nothing more than a temporary "no thank you." Life is a marathon, not a sprint, and rejection isn't synonymous with failure; nor is it permanent. In fact, as we navigate life succeeding and failing, we must remember that honorable work worth achieving never comes quick or easy. It never has for me, and that's okay. For as Langston Hughes so eloquently stated, "I'se still climbin'."

score BOARD



Where are they | **NOW**?



When Dr. Todd Niemeier '95, optometrist, was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in 1995, he never gave up his dream of becoming a doctor. Niemeier joined the team after finishing his college career

as USI's all-time leading pitcher in baseball wins. "I had a lot of great experiences at USI, both on the field and in the classroom," Niemeier says. "I graduated feeling prepared to tackle my goals."



Niemeier played for the Mariners for two years then enrolled in the IU School of Medicine. He now operates his practice, Professional Eyecare Associates, in Evansville.



WHAT ATHLETE DO YOU WANT A **FOLLOW-UP ON?**

magazine@usi.edu

MILESTONES: HALL OF FAME **INDUCTEES**

DON BISESI*

Women's Golf coach

ERNIE BROTHERS '76

Men's Basketball

CANDACE PERRY FAIRER

Women's Track & Field

SHANE GIBSON '93

Men's Soccer

BRIAN MERRIL '96

Men's Golf

HEATHER COOKSEY PLATT

Women's Cross Country/ Track & Field

*posthumous

COACHES' QUOTES

"You are a regional and team, so act

Sue Kunkle, head coach Women's Softball

unas by AmyLu Riley '93

The school bus radio broke the news to me: The Jarvik-7 artificial heart had replaced a human heart and the patient had lived. My sciencehungry young mind whirled: How did it work? What had the surgeon done with the sad, defective human heart that had failed its owner, a dentist named Barney Clark? The choice had been transplant or death, and this gadget-heart had thrown open a new door in medicine. Even if the new heart had only extended a man's life for fewer than four painful months, having one's own vital organ fail no longer meant immediate death. A heart could be removed and replaced with something other. And if a heart could be transplanted, I reasoned, what other organs might soon be swapped out on the operating table?

Transplants were possible.

The first time I saw Jonathan, with his shiny blond hair, there was something about his face that became synonymous with my brain's lifelong image of him. It was a smile that seemed to be from somewhere other than this world, surrounded by deep wrinkles that belonged on someone much older. He's been gone for several years now—and I hadn't seen him for a long time before that—but I can vividly recall that face, and the musical laugh that always came out of it.

The laugh originated in lungs that had betrayed him since birth: mucous-filled, fibrous, cystic lungs. Or maybe the laugh originated from his heart, one fully devoted to Jesus, the name he reverently spoke often in his quiet, sweet South African accent. He coughed and laughed, took digestive enzymes, and traveled the country and the world, sharing the good news about Jesus that he had learned from his missionary parents.

Several years later, after too much time in the hospital with pneumonia, he was given someone else's lungs, and more time. When the surgeon trimmed away his ruined lungs, his world-travel wings were clipped as well. But his laugh remained; the transplanted lungs hadn't changed that at all.

New lungs would give him time to meet and marry the love of his life. He would have more years—working from a U.S. home office—to support others who now traveled doing the global missionary work to which he had devoted his life. There would be more laughter in the world from that wrinkled smile with the matching crinkly eyes.

Transplants were good.

Later, Jonathan's laugh was quieted for many weeks while he slept in a coma. The immunosuppressive drugs that prevent transplantorgan rejection had held open the door for colon cancer to grow unchecked. His only hope for treatment required an abdominal surgical site kept open to a doctor's view day after day, as the calendar pages turned. He lived. He went home.

But there was more pneumonia, more cancer, more coma. It ran together, and then it came to an end.

As I learned more about the immune system, I came to understand that accepting someone else's organs in a transplant meant more than just receiving interchangeable spare parts. A transplant meant likely trading one cause of death for another, because turning off the immune system to prevent organ rejection was akin to unlocking the front door to the castle and leaving the drawbridge down over the moat. Nothing would be kept out. It was first-come, first-served to any pathogen that wandered in or disease state that developed.

Transplants were still good, right?

I began to take a deeper look. I had known several other people involved with transplants, and I was surprised to learn about some of the other issues they had encountered, such as the deep sorrow that can arise as a family waits for a donor. Anguished

family members can find themselves hoping and praying for a donor to die. When they learn that organs are on the way, their relief can also be hung with the heavy chains of grief for having hoped for the death of a stranger. The weight falls hard on some and is not easily shrugged off.

Learning that new lungs might arrive with a spiritual heaviness embedded in their delivery informed my previous, glass-half-full, scientific viewpoint. It came as a surprise to hear how a soul can be deeply scarred in the search for its loved one's next breath. An unconsidered reality was now before me: If I ever needed and chose to be the recipient of a vital organ, my loved ones might struggle with the moral net I had cast over them. Was it still a better choice than the alternative?

Were transplants good for some families and not others? Were they good only if we didn't think too deeply about these questions? Or were they good only if we could peacefully answer them all?

And what if I were to be an organ donor? The weight of that decision would certainly fall more heavily on my family than it would on me. After all, it is not the donor, but the family who lives with that decision when it is carried out.

I had declared my own organ-donor intentions at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles back when transplants had simply been good. Transplants had extended the lives of people I cared about. My decision had included consideration of myself, some nameless stranger whose organs had failed, and the cut-and-paste surgical science that could save a life using what I no longer needed. I had not considered that this transaction would have implications for others. I now needed to understand what those were.

I spoke with someone whose dearest love, a registered organ donor, had died unexpectedly, leaving him in a room with medical professionals who had to get on with the business of harvesting the organs to be donated.

After his wife died, her body had to be kept on life support for a full day to give the transplant surgeons time to arrive. And while the new widower was still in shock, the questions came about what he would permit them to take. He was fine with the liver, heart, kidneys, and even bone. After all, those were interior structures he had never seen. But he soon felt the list growing morbid.

"Retinas?"

He paused. "Okay."

"Eyeballs?"

His loved one's body was being dismantled, and although donating her organs was what she had wanted, the timing of these decisions was hurting him, piercing him even through shock. He told the surgeons, "We quit here."

He later received grateful letters from several of his wife's organ recipients and their families. He was glad they had been helped; he was a goodhearted man and he knew this is what his wife had wanted.

Could everyone's family bear with such strength the added burden of organ harvesting in the hours after a loved one's accidental death? I wondered. What would it be like for my family if I were the donor in such a scenario? Who would be in the room answering those questions and waiting for the transplant team to arrive if it were my body on the table? I needed to consider those individuals in my own decision about being a donor. I now realized that my choice to donate organs would barely affect me at all. It would greatly affect other people, some of whom I know and dearly love, and others I'll never know but also need to love.

There were more issues surrounding transplants than I had ever realized. How could I weigh them all?

Several years before the first Jarvik-7 heart transplant, I had learned a song at school about how to treat others. "Do as you wish to be done by," we sang, our high, childish voices fueled by our gusty lungs, "for that is the Golden Rule. Do as you wish to be done by—at play, at home, at school." It had been good advice for life, and it had stuck with me through the years. Could that old, simple principle possibly apply to such new, complex issues as the ones now being posed by the science of transplants?

The song hadn't addressed a scenario in which I needed someone else's lungs and so hoped for an unknown person to take his last breath. It hadn't told me whether I should register to give a desperate stranger my heart at a time when the hearts of my loved ones would be freshly broken from an unexpected goodbye. The principle of "do unto others" hadn't equipped me to weigh all of the ethical, spiritual and emotional aspects of transplants of which I was now aware.

Or maybe it was the only thing that had.

© 2015 AmyLu Riley '93, communications, is a writer in Evansville, Indiana.





Todd Arnold '14 had a growing interest in gaming long before attending the Red Bull eSports StarCraft II tournament in Detroit, Michigan, in 2014. But, it wasn't until working behind the scenes at the tournament's fourth qualifying location where players sought to advance to the finals and a chance to win \$100,000—that his life turned a corner.

Maybe it was the big stage with the overhead screen showing players, the flashing lights or the 1,000-plus cheering fans that prompted the young accountant to convert his mobile electronic sports business into a brickand-mortar location. But, whatever the case, the reality is that Todd and his wife Britni (Torstenson) Arnold '11 have invested heart, soul and savings into the emerging business of competitive electronic gaming.

Evansville Esports' Mario Tournament Trophy

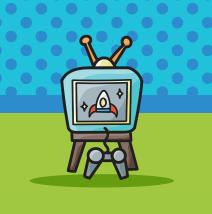




-Todd Arnold

THE MIDWEST GETS ROBBED OF ANY TALENT THAT IT HAS."







according to *USA Today Sports*. "More people are playing and watching esports than are watching the NBA Finals, World Series or [college bowl series]. *The League of Legends* Season 3 World Championship had 32 million viewers. That's more than double the World Series and NCAA Final Four."

Unlike traditional sports, most esports viewers are players who watch to improve their own gaming skills. "We want to watch what they're doing," Todd said, "and they're doing really cool stuff."

The average professional *StarCraft* player (18 to 19 years old) executes 260 actions per minute (amp) over the course of an average two-hour session. Compare that to an NFL game in which the ball is in play an average of 11 minutes during a three-hour game.

Todd admits that at 27, he's aging out of the ability to make those fast moves, saying his amps are about 45. "You'd fall asleep watching me play."

By day, Todd's an accountant at Vowells & Schaaf, but on nights (and weekends), he and Britni are collaborating with other like-minded entrepreneurs to establish official, competitive tournaments in the Midwest as a means of creating a ranking system, a series necessary for putting players on a path to the pros.

Before ranking tournaments took hold, the Arnolds were organizing local tournaments,

Video games—
think Donkey Kong,
Spacewar and Pac-Man—
have been a mainstay
of our culture
since the early 1970s,
with the first known
competition taking place
at Stanford University
in 1972.

But the animated world of punching, throwing and annihilating your enemy largely lived underground where a few friends gathered to engage recreationally.

That changed in 2000,

when broadband Internet networks revolutionized the way players connected around the world.

The Arnolds

are part of a movement to bring the industry back to its roots of face-to-face play in a communal

drawing players from Fort Wayne, Louisville and Indianapolis. For their first tournament they chose Super Smash Bros Melee for its huge contingent of followers—despite being a 15-year-old console-controlled game. Since the game isn't online—like League of Legends that has 90+ million players world-wide—accessing pockets of players took a less direct route. "Smash Brothers uses a lot of Facebook, so I got highly involved in a variety of Facebook groups and started talking to people online," Todd said. Over time, the investment has paid off. In one of their more recent tournaments they hoped for 45 players, planned for 60 and had to close registration one week before the event when registration topped 100.

When the Arnolds began holding tournaments, they had limited TVs and consoles, and offered a discount if players brought their own. This is pretty common within smaller tournaments, and players arrive toting behemoth TVs (modern digital televisions produce a lag between players' inputs and their outcomes in Smash games). Today, the couple owns more than enough setups housed in their stationary business.

Evansville Esports is not just about creating



21 usi.edu/illume







The Mind of a Gamer

EE Eseif (aka, Elliot Seifert '15) has one thing on his mind when he sits down to play *Super Smash Bros Melee*: "What's the best option at this specific moment? Should I be aggressive and try to land a blow before he hits me, or should I bait

him into thinking he can hit me and then punish his mistake?"

Ranked Evansville Esport's second-best player, Seifert's expert hitting, kicking and punching skills in fighting games earned him Esport's sponsorship to the 2014 Evolution Championship Series (EVO) in Las Vegas, billed as the world's longest-running international fighting tournament. "I've been to tournaments before, but EVO was really something special," Seifert said. "Going into two very large ballrooms and seeing people of

Seifert loves to win (as do most game players), describing this drive as self-actualization: to be the best you can be. "Playing competitively and trying really hard to beat other people fulfills that need," he said. His desire to be the best, something USI aspires to instill in all its students, will serve him well as he begins his career in marketing.

all kinds with the same

passion for gaming as me was an amazing feeling."











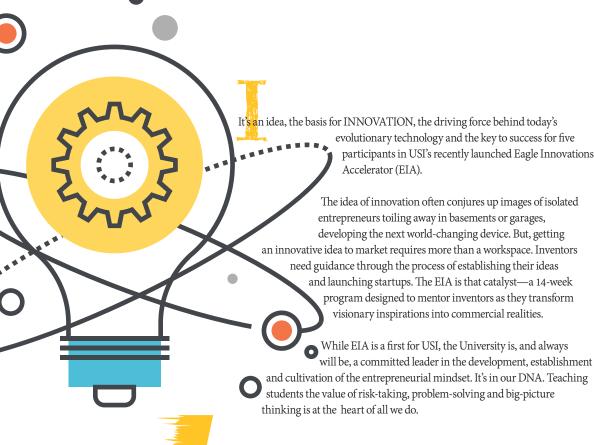
by C. L. Stambush

It doesn't discriminate between age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, education or economics.

It strikes at the oddest times, and in the oddest places: taking a shower, walking the dog or lying in bed.

There's no way to force it into the light of understanding; rather, it lingers at the edge of revelation and aha.

While it's central to humanity's future, at its purest state it can't be physically held.





When the first five EIA teams (including USI faculty, students and community members) came together in spring 2015, their inventions ranged from products to assist the handicapped, lull babies to sleep, keep food warm, determine an idea's commercial viability and eliminate unsightly cables and cords in homes and offices.

Collaboration and shared ideas are key to the success of the accelerator. Participants met weekly, first as a group and later individually, in the co-working space at USI's downtown Innovation Pointe. Dr. Jason Salstrom, USI technology commercialization manager, facilitated and mentored each group through the process.

It also takes dollars to get an idea off the ground. EIA participants can receive up to \$15,000 to launch their startups. Successful endeavors repay seed money, ensuring the program's ability to reinvest in future innovations. But if an idea fails, the inventor isn't obligated to repay. The seed money is made possible through a \$3 million grant USI received from Lilly Endowment Inc. to promote economic opportunities through educational collaboration.

The process of innovation involves a multitude of intricate steps from focus groups to patenting a product, all of which fall into one of five phases: ideation, evaluation, experimentation, commercialization and implementation. While each step involves assessing, pivoting and planning, every invention's path to success is a bit different. Each of these stories highlights one aspect of the five phases of the innovation process.

> Interested in becoming involved in Eagle Innovations Accelerator as an investor, donor, mentor or participant? Visit USI.edu/EIA.



Jason Derrington's life had never been easy. He'd been in and out of trouble, disappointed family members and was generally directionless until January 5, 2010. On that cold winter night, he was shot in the back, leaving him paralyzed from the waist down. The simple things most of us take for granted were no longer part of Derrington's world. He'd not only lost the use of his legs at 26, but also the ability to easily care for himself in a public restroom. "I was in an airport bathroom and thought, 'I can't attend to myself, and I'm a grown man?""

The problem was one of access. At home, he had an elevated toilet seat that provided front access for cleaning, and while it was better than what's offered in public stalls, it still didn't meet his personal need, which was a product that allowed side access.

Confronted with this loss of dignity, Derrington—not a USI student but a community member—started sketching out ideas to bring independence and dignity to others' lives. He arranged to have his idea created in a CAD drawing, and began talking to everyone he could to further develop his idea: Easy Reach. He attended Startup Weekend Evansville 3.0 at USI, what he called "a learning foundation," but it wasn't until he was accepted into USI's EIA program last spring that his idea began to take shape as a feasible business.

Within the innovation, there are two key components in an idea becoming a relaity: a desire to make something happen, and the freedom to explore ways to do so. Derrington has consistently shown the determination needed to propel his invention through every stage of the process, while USI's EIA has provided the support, funding and guidance necessary to make it a reality.

> "Innovation really boils down to strategy. My strategy is surrounding myself with the right resources that I can utilize to help me build my product, whether it's talking to a banker or a mentor from USI, the director of HealthSouth or the patients themselves," Derrington said. "It takes networking in the proper channels to get to each step. And, of course, a little bit of passion and motivation."

He received a full patent for Easy Reach last year, and it was pilot-tested by Healthsouth Deaconess Rehabilitation Hospital for patients experiencing a variety of health issues—from obesity and paralysis to instability, pregnancy and post-surgery—and earned the hospital's endorsement. He's currently seeking to license his product through a medical supply manufacturer, or find an investor to help mass produce Easy Reach.

Next step: evaluation

Teaching feasibility analyses (part of USI's entrepreneurship minor) led Dr. Jack Smothers to discover a need for a logical and methodical approach to increase a product's likelihood of success. Much like a detective, entrepreneurs ask questions, gather evidence and make feasibility assessments based on that evidence. Students in the program don't learn theory; they practice the pursuit of entrepreneurial ideas, encountering numerous hurdles along the way.

"When I began teaching this experiential course, I quickly realized there is not a tool available on the market that will help entrepreneurs logically follow an idea to completion," said Smothers.

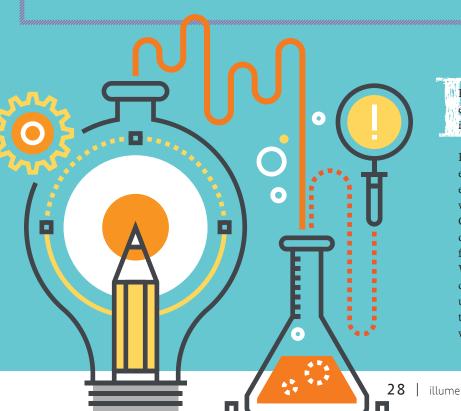
Competitors' tools help develop a business plan or marketing model, but none guides inventors through important steps such as market

research, product development and business operations as a whole. Smothers' Feasible Idea Test (FITest) software application provides entrepreneurs with a process to do just that.

Employing a flowchart process, FITest walks would-be entrepreneurs through the process of determining customer needs, identifying the invention's advantages over its competitors, designing/manufacturing a prototype, engaging customers and the overall business financials (revenue, cost of goods sold, expenses and profits). It is also a valuable tool for existing companies planning to develop new products or expand into new territories.

"It's been an interactive process of realizing which elements are valuable, and which are not, in conducting this type of analysis. There





Failure is part of the innovative process, but not all failure results in ending a project. Sometimes it's more of a roadblock that pivots an idea to become something bigger and better.

For Tyler Fitzsimmons, double majoring in economics and engineering, the innovative process resulted in not one, but two entrepreneurial ideas: Clever Cubes and Ideorex. Clever Cubes was developed during his participation in USI's 2014 Technology Commercialization Academy. His team, a cohort of students from diverse majors, was charged with finding a commercial application for a patented military product developed by Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center. Clever Cubes is a smart power-strip device that allows consumers to remotely power devices on/off as well as track energy usage to save money and increase efficiency. The idea borrows the technology in a slip-ring devise used on tank turrets that allows guns with electronic scopes to rotate 360 degree without cords tangling.

are many different types of analyses you could do but entrepreneurs don't have time to figure out the correct process for testing the feasibility of an idea, and they shouldn't have to. FITest clarifies the process so they can focus on the products."

The order of the process is as important as the steps within it. In phase one (determining the market), if the data doesn't support the entrepreneur's initial hypotheses, the product can be modified to make it more attractive to consumers, or dropped entirely in pursuit of a new idea. "It's very important for an entrepreneur to follow a logical set of steps to validate their idea for feasibility. If they do the steps out of order, they could be wasting a lot of time and money," Smothers said. "Until you know what all the components of the product will be, there is no point in estimating how much money you will make from it."

Next step: experimentation





The simple yet revolutionary idea fueled Fitzsimmons to apply to the Eagle Innovations Accelerator (EIA). While validating the commercial viability of the device, a second initiative was spawned. "Through our process of developing Clever Cubes," he said, "we realized that every person we talked to had an idea that they wanted to develop and sell, but had no understanding of how to get it past the ideation stage and onto the shelves. We learned we needed to adopt a different strategy for developing the Clever Cubes market."

Ideorex is that solution, a "new-and-improved version of Kickstarter," that allows customers to provide inventors with early feedback so they can develop target-specific and desired products. It turns out that one thing people desire is designer control over how their desks, at home and at work, look. "Aesthetics are huge to people," Fitzsimmons said.

"People want devices that look good." Beauty, however, is subjective, which is why potential customers are currently voting on Clever Cubes' shape, color and features.

Fitzsimmons is using Ideorex to tweak Clever Cubes' design, while simultaneously working out the kinks in both. "Down the road, we want Ideorex to become a household name," he said. "It's where you'll go to create an idea."

Some might equate the need to pivot with failure, but the entrepreneurial mindset taught at USI stresses that failure is not bad by any stretch of the imagination—a sentiment Fitzsimmons echoes. "I love failure. It will be the success of me."



food warm in chafing dishes, didn't happen overnight. Nor did its burgeoning success. Rather, Logan Hayford's war to keep bacteria at bay began in his first entrepreneurship minor class in 2014, when he and four classmates repurposed Crane's heat-producing thermal target technology used by military snipers. "We were spitballing ideas for uses of this same type of technology," he said, "when the idea of keeping food warm popped into my head."

The catering industry currently uses pans of water, heated by electricity or open flames, to keep food warm. Electricity isn't always available and open flames are dangerous because they get knocked over and tablecloths can catch fire. Hayford focused his attention on finding a solution—developing the idea further in two entrepreneurship classes: Ideation and Innovation Feasibility Analysis and Business Plan Development.

A computer science major and entrepreneurship minor, Hayford developed a prototype for Cuisine Caterer during an entrepreneurship minor class. Although he doesn't cook, and has no background in chemistry, he began playing around with a combination of chemicals that would produce a sustained minimum temperature of 195-205 degrees Fahrenheit—the temperature required by the Food and Drug Administration. The ingredients in the thermal-target patents were mixed together to find the right combination of chemicals to produce the desired temperature.

By the time Bryan Bourdeau got involved with Lullafi—a device invented by Mike Boren that combines environmental white noise, soothing vibrations and delta sleep waves to lull babies to sleep without having to drive them around—many of the product's kinks had been worked out, but there was still a lot of work to do developing it into a viable business.

Boren discovered the need for Lullafi during a visit to his brother's home to see their new baby. Despite a house full of baby sleep aids, his nephew only slept if his dad drove him around. Even then, there was no guarantee he'd stay asleep once the car pulled into the driveway. Boren, a professional musician, music teacher, sound engineer and tinkerer, began toying around with a combination of sleep-inducing sounds and vibrations, eventually arriving at the perfect pitch for Lullafi.

Bourdeau, USI instructor in business, knew about the project because he and Boren play music together, and he was intrigued enough to become a partner. While Boren is the product development guy, Bourdeau took over the business end, securing federal certification, creating financial statements, organizing product development,

prototyping, sourcing beta-testing opportunities, conducting intellectual property searches and more. Researching the problem and competition, he discovered how large and global the problem is, noting new parents drive an average of 1,322 miles annually in an attempt to get their babies to sleep, spending \$800 to \$1,000 and countless hours in the process.

To streamline Lullafi, the partners worked with Berry Plastic's Blue Clover, an innovative offshoot that provides 3-D printing and CAD drawings for entrepreneurial startups. This allowed them to refine the product so it fits in the palm of a hand. Getting it to this point allowed them to show a demo-day at a local children's store that carries unique items. "We did an in-store demo, which allowed people to provide us with valuable survey information while interacting with Lullafi, resulting in positive 'aha' moments for all of us," Bourdeau said.

Last spring, Lullafi was accepted into USI's EIA. "Getting into the accelerator helped us focus on the business model and more explicit validation of our value proposition, customer segments and other market-relevant concerns," said Bourdeau. The seed money from EIA allowed them to hire USI marketing and MBA graduate Brad

GIALIZATION

Before taking a third entrepreneurial minor class (Strategic Entrepreneurship), Hayford partnered with a family friend, A. J. Hale, a manufacturing engineer at Berry Plastics. "We mixed chemicals in his garage and house, and got it up to 190.3 degrees," Hayford said. "That's higher than we ever expected we could get, so at that moment, both of us knew this was an idea that was definitely going to be a big thing once we found someone to manufacture it." Hayford and Hale have now teamed with a manufacturer in California to produce the sealed pouches.

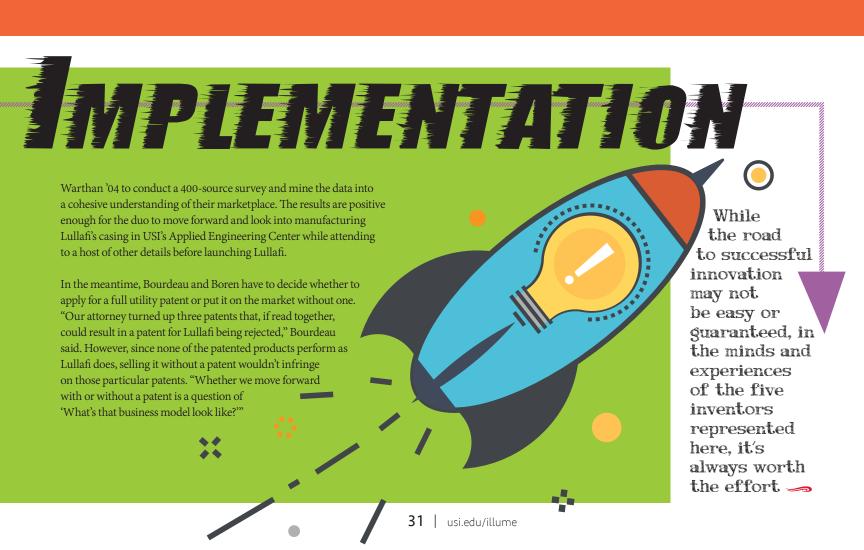
The genius of Cuisine Caterer is that it uses a combination of safe, common chemicals to generate a direct-contact heat source, produced when exposed to air. "There are a lot of problems with the chafing fuels currently used, but there's no better solution right now," Hayford said. "That's why we're trying to disrupt the market and bring in something new."

Hayford credits all three entrepreneurship classes, as well as participation in the Eagle Innovations Accelerator (EIA), with playing a major role in advancing his idea and entrepreneurial spirit. "Without going through these classes, Cuisine Caterer wouldn't be where it is today. The entrepreneurship classes teach you to take that leap and not be scared of the consequences; to take a chance and see where it goes."

What's next on the menu for Hayford? Get it into the hands of early local adaptors—caterers, restaurants, hospitals, schools. If the results are as favorable as expected, they plan to take it to the CaterSource Tradeshow in Las Vegas, Nevada, to generate awareness.

"The idea of working for ourselves," he said, "building our business from the ground up, is what's driving us."

Next step: implementation







BEHIND THE SCENE

Tucked between labs in the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education basement is a research room housing thousands of specimens gathered by USI scientists and their students over the years, from Lincoln Boyhood National Monument in Spencer County, New Harmony, Indiana, and USI's own 1,400 acres. The collection hosts a spectrum of birds, mammals, fish and plants, as well as the equipment needed to collect and curate them.

Central to the compendium are the vouchers, permanent records referencing the ecological, behavioral, genetic and physiological or other work involved in a particular field research. While imperative to the

original studies, they are equally vital to future researchers seeking additional answers. The vouchers allow other scientists to confirm claims and provide them with material about a species that may or may not be related to the original study.

Among the researchers keeping specimens in the room are Dr. Eric McCloud, associate professor of biology. His scholarship involves two butterfly research projects in which McCloud and his biology students, Laura Unfried, sophomore, and Andrew Hamilton, senior, have uncovered evidence to suggest that these accepted hypotheses may not be true. To read about McCloud's butterfly research, visit USI.edu/butterflies.

- Archilochus colubris, hummingbird, collected by Dr. David Rice, president emeritus, in 1972 and prepared by Dr. Jack Marr, the first Biology Department chair.
- 2. *Piranga olivacea*, Scarlet Tanager, collected by Dr. James Bandoli, emeritus professor of biology.
- Semotilus atromaculatus and Ericyimba buccata fish collected from Turkey Creek in Martin County in 2005 as part of the Crane faunal survey.
- 4. Nicrophorus orbicollis, Round Necked Sexton beetles collected in 2010 from traps on the USI-Burdette Trail.
- 5. Colias eurytheme, butterflies from a 2011 faunal survey conducted on USI's property south of Broadway Avenue.
- Eptesicus fuscus brown bat collected in 1988 from the Evansville State Hospital.
- Procyon lotor, raccoon skull, male, collected by Dr. Eric McCloud in Vanderburgh County in 2011.
- **8.** Pins in pin sorter used to secure specimens to collection boards.

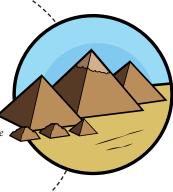
Gary Long '72 went from working in his father's hardware store to partner, senior scientist and vice-president of a biotechnology company in Maryland.

1969-1972

I didn't grow up wanting to be a scientist, but got some A's in biology at USI, so I stuck with that. Dr. Melvin Denner motivated me to pursue graduate school for a career in biology after earning a bachelor's degree in life science. I have him to thank for the career I have today.



I studied trypanosomiasis, a type of parasite that causes African sleeping sickness and Chagas disease, at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana, earning my Ph.D in 1978 before attending the University of Chicago, where I worked on diagnosis of schistosomiasis, a disease occurring in Asia, as my post-doc. During this period, I did field work in the Philippines and Egypt.



1982-1990

When a job opened up at a Navy research laboratory in the Philippines, I joined the Navy as a lieutenant and worked on malaria drug resistance and pathology of schistosomiasis. It gave my wife, three children and me our first experiences in another culture.

After three years abroad, we returned to the U.S. for me to work at the Naval Medical Research Center in Bethesda, Maryland, on biotechnology and malaria vaccine programs, conducting field work in Thailand and Kenya.

1994-1999

When I learned of the Navy's need for someone who could develop tests that detected and identified infectious bacteria and viruses, I returned as a civilian to the Navy's Biological Defense Research Program.

I served as an inspector for the United Nations, investigating bio production facilities in Iraq, looking for the presence of agents, such as anthrax, plague and botulism. We supported the FBI and Secret Service in the Washington D.C. area by



analyzing suspicious objects, powders or liquids, in general, but also at several political nominating conventions and the Atlanta Olympics. I became head of the Navy's Biological Defense Research Program in 1998.



I left the Navy to join Johns Hopkins University's

School of Hygiene and Public Health where

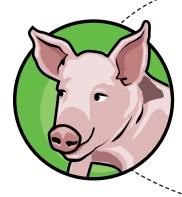
1998-present

1990-1994

Three of my coworkers and I had developed a host of simple tests for the Navy to detect the presence of chemical threats. We felt there was a private-sector market for similar tests, and broke away to start Tetracore, a biotechnology company that focuses on clinical, veterinary and domestic preparedness testing. It was a risk. I was 49 years old. My wife supported us with her paralegal career for several months, while my partners and I used our personal monies to fund the laboratory's operation. Today, Tetracore has grown from four founders to 67 employees, among them scientists, engineers and a physician.



Life is long, so invest in the front end of your career—education because finding the right path in life takes time.







Creating visible spaces that celebrate the accomplishments and successes of individuals from diverse backgrounds can help break the entry barriers to an 'Inclusive Experience.'

Dr. Sudesh Mujumdar,
 Professor of Economics

Open
Dialogue
creating
diversity

Universities should create different programs for groups of students, teachers and other administrative members who are interested and have ideas to promote diversity and multiculturalism on campus. These groups should be hybrids, and not necessarily made up of people who are affected by the problem. All students and faculty members have to be able to participate in a free and engaged fashion.

Tânia da Assunção Machonisse
 Fullbright scholar from
 Zimbabwe in the Master of Arts
 in Communications program

To achieve real diversity and cultural inclusivity we need to be fluent in each others' histories. Requiring students to take at least one diversity/global emphasis-oriented class, or bringing in speakers that address difference, are two ways through which we can begin a dialogue.

Dr. Sukanya Gupta,
 Assistant Professor of English



"I really like the idea of a Global Community but I feel that can stop some people from making American friends when coming from abroad to study in America. To combat this, maybe students in UNIV101 courses can be assigned to meet and interview one or two students from different countries, asking them about traditions, clothing style, food, greetings, etc."

 VanBawiTha Thawang from Myanmar and majors in Management and Information Sciences





For diversity to happen, there has to be a shift in mindsets and a buy-in from those "truly" wanting change on campus. University communities must learn and understand the various challenges diverse cultures bring with them. But, if given the proper resources, support and nurturing environments, then innovative thinkers could create, maintain and sustain a nurturing environment on college campuses.

– Kerseclia Patterson, SWI-AHEC Academic Outreach Coordinator



We must take a holistic approach. We need an environment where our students encounter a culture that provides equal levels of comfort and belonging while not shying away from challenging conversations conducted in a civil manner. As educators, we have as much to learn as our students, and only by modeling learning and growth in the area of cultural awareness will we enrich our campus.

Dr. Bryan Rush,
 Dean of Students



THE HEART OF ART AND INNOVATION

Anything can happen when a student mixes a little bit of computer science skill with chemistry, design and math. In the case of Matthew Koewler '15, art with an emphasis in graphic design and a minor in entrepreneurship, the result was a 3D rendering of his heart. The prompt to produce a replica of his own heart, made of resin, sprang from a visit to the emergency room. Thankfully, the CT scan of his heart delivered not only a clean bill-of-health, but a solution to a problem. At the time,



TE(HNOLOGY SE(VRES HISTORY

The Taliban's purposeful destruction of Buddhas in Afghanistan led the non-profit organization CyArk to

establish a free online library of the world's greatest heritage sites before they are lost, either by natural disaster, the passage of time or human aggression. The library, in turn, prompted two USI professors from different colleges to collaborate and create a record of historical buildings in nearby New Harmony, Indiana. Poised on the banks of the ever-flooding Wabash River, New Harmony's historical structures are at risk of being destroyed in a flood. "Although New Harmony isn't at great risk of destruction from mankind, we cannot control nature

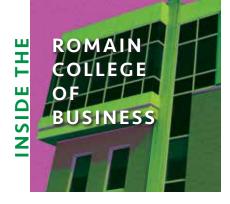
and we feel it is important to have digital archives of the historic buildings in case they ever are damaged," said Dr. Zane Mitchell, chair of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education's Engineering Department.

"THIS WAS A GREAT **OPPORTUNITY FOR USI** STUDENTS IN **ART/DESIGN AND ENGINEERING TO COLLABORATE IMPORTANT PROJECT TO PRESERVE THE PAST. WORKING** TOGETHER, THEY **UNIQUE SKILLS IN 3D SCANNING** AND MODELING TO DIGITALLY **ARCHIVE HARMONISTS' HOUSES."**

-Joan Dejong



Using a 3D laser scanner purchased by the University as part of its engineering and manufacturing equipment, Mitchell and Joan deJong, assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts, with students launched the New Harmony Scanning Project. So far, they've physically scanned two of the older homes and the Atheneum.



WOMEN WANTED

The computer science field may be brimming with opportunity—1.4 million new jobs by 2020, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics—however, these opportunities aren't being taken advantage of by women. In fact, the number of women pursuing degrees in this field have been dropping since the 1980s.

Dr. Mohammed Khayum, dean of the Romain College of Business, wants to change this. "Our goal is to expand computer science

educational opportunities and experiences for all individuals with a focus on underserved student populations, including women and minorities.

Incorporating the talent and creativity of women and minority populations more systematically in the computer science field will be a tremendous gain for our society."

AbiGail Westfall, one of 12 women (6 percent) at USI taking advantage

of computer science education chose the major because she wanted to be challenged, and says she's looking forward to job security in this rapidly growing industry. "I think there are plenty of women out Computer Science Majors
at USI there who can do this," she said, "but they just don't realize it."

> Computer science, a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) program, is usually offered in science and/or engineering colleges, but USI is unique in that it's offered in the Romain College of Business. "In an increasingly digital world, it's relevant and beneficial to expand access to computer science skills and competencies," Khayum said. "Over the past decade the number of USI's computer science majors has nearly tripled."



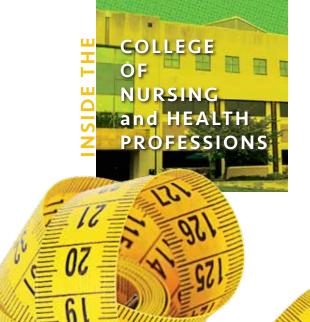
When Dr. Gongjun Yan, assistant professor in computer science, learned Ming Zheng's business was struggling, he decided USI students could help. Zheng, who owns a scrap metal business in Kentucky, was born in China but has been living in the United States for 30 years. He can speak English but barely reads or writes it, making it difficult to communicate with employees and customers, or to expand his company. Yan's students solved Zheng's problem while gaining real, practical problem-solving skills in the process.

"USI's computer science students stepped in and designed and implemented software for him as a term project. They created software with several features, such as enabling bilingual or multi-language options, storing transactions, inventory tracking, simple statistics and remote access."

The project not only benefited Zheng, but the students as well, who gained hands on experience by solving a community issue. "Mr. Zheng was very pleased with our program. He's reduced his costs and increased his revenue," Yan said. "His business is growing and he plans to hire more staff in the future."

'08 '10 '12 '14 '16





BRINGING CHANGE TO ONE COKNER OF THE WORLD

No doubt about it, obesity is a major health concern in the United States. A big task to tackle. But when Evansville, Indiana, was designated the most obese city in the nation, Dr. Serah Theuri, assistant professor of food and nutrition, knew she could help bring about the change needed. She implemented a free nutrition care program at USI-Glenwood Community Health Center, one of USI's three school/ community health centers. Residents in that neighborhood suffered from obesity, diabetes and hypertension, ailments she knew could be reversed through diet and lifestyle changes. The program is a winwin for both community members and USI nutrition students, who help educate people on nutritional health while gaining valuable field experience in the process.

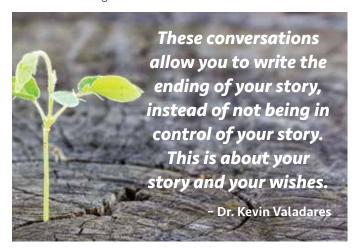
•••••

WRITING THE END OF YOUR STORY

Death represents one of the most important conversations Americans are not comfortable having, which is why Dr. Kevin Valadares, associate professor of health services and chair of health administration, was determined to jumpstart the conversation, starting in historic New Harmony, Indiana. Modeled after a project in La Crosse, Wisconsin, where 99 percent of the residents have advanced directives as opposed to 30 percent across the nation, Valadares and New Harmony community members aimed to examine if this would work in their community.

With support from USI grants, they launched the New Harmony Conversations project. Focused on advanced care planning, the project encourages individuals to have conversations when

they aren't in a state of crisis, allowing loved ones to never agonize over what the individual wants, or to second guess making the right decision. Zeroing in on New Harmony, the goal is to have 200 advanced care planning conversations by August 1, 2016. With federal funding potential, the project has the opportunity to continue and to expand throughout various communities.



ADVANCING EDUCATION

To create a better learning environment, the college's second floor has been revamped with smart technology, courtesy of USI donor Vic Schriefer. The new design allows for interactive teaching instead of traditional lecturing, and the room's layout provides faculty the opportunity to use many teaching/ learning approaches, resulting in greater learning by students.

POTT, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, and EDUCATION

EXPOSING A SILENT KILLER

When a close friend died of lung cancer as a result of high levels of radon gas in his home, Dr. Kent Scheller, associate professor of physics, took it personally. He teamed up with Dr. William Elliott, associate professor of geology, and the two embarked on a mission to study the effects of radon and educate community members of its danger as well as ways to prevent it.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas resulting from the decay of uranium in the Earth's crust. Scheller and Elliott's grantfunded research (conducted from 2007 to 2013) identified the presence of radon in local geological features. They discovered in a survey of 744 homes in Vanderburgh County that 415 (or 56 percent) had some level of elevated radon. Mitigating radon exposure can be as simple as drilling a hole in the basement or foundation and venting the dangerous gas outside.

The two professors have given free public lectures and made appearances on local news and talk shows to stimulate awareness of the issue. Their paper on the subject was published in the Journal of Environmental Radioactivity.

ENGINEERING BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

USI's engineering program has seen much growth since it was started in 2002, and now has taken another step forward. Starting in fall 2016, students will be able to pursue two new named bachelor degrees: mechanical engineering and manufacturing engineering.

"These programs have been requested by our stakeholders for years, and we expect they'll prove to be just as important to the Tri-state region as our ABET-accredited Bachelor of Science in engineering program," said Dr. Zane Mitchell, chair of the Engineering Department.

Having these degree programs in place will result in tremendous regional economic and workforce benefits, and poises USI as a key player in that growth.

NEW PHYSICS DEGREE

Filling out USI's STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) offerings is the new physics major. "Our new physics degree will enable us to recruit some of the highest performing science students in the Midwest to USI," said Dr. Kent Scheller, associate professor of physics and program coordinator for the discipline. "It also will help us to prepare more physics teachers for the high school classroom, which is sorely needed in the Tri-state."



WORLD | Classification

illume

BREAKING BARRIERS

While public and political debate surrounding U.S. border relations with its southern neighbor rages on, USI has joined an initiative aimed at enhancing hemispheric competitiveness, increasing prosperity and providing new study abroad opportunities with Mexico.



Twenty-four students and faculty from Mexico became USI students for four weeks last spring as part of a collaboration between USI's Center for International

Studies and Intensive English program, and the Mexican government. The initiative, "Proyecta 100,000," was part of the Mexican government's plan to have 100,000 citizens studying in U.S. colleges and universities by 2018. USI was one of a handful of U.S. institutions selected for the program—a reciprocal effort to President Barack Obama's signature education initiative, "100,000 Strong in the Americas."

Participants increased English language skills and knowledge of higher education, as well as American culture. They had full access to campus facilities and student activities, and participated in day trips to absorb local culture. They also served as "cultural ambassadors," cooking Mexican cuisine, providing activities for children and showcasing traditional

folk dance.

PASSPORT TO EDUCATION

For many USI students studying abroad, their departure may not only be their first time out of the country, it may be their first time on a plane. That's just one more reason for a strong emphasis on details and safety when it comes to preparing students for an international experience.

That training was crucial last year when a group of USI students found themselves in downtown Paris during terrorist attacks. Thankfully the group was ok, and a rigorous safety and tracking plan let USI and host agency staff quickly identify, account for and communicate with affected students.

However, preparing students to study abroad goes well beyond crisis preparation; there are language and cultural barriers, driving and travel laws, insurance needs and inoculations to consider. With the growing popularity of study abroad programs, especially over the summer months, mandatory full-day orientation sessions can swell to well over 100 students and parents.

Participants learn general safety and travel tips, then break out into smaller groups where they engage with faculty and past participants who have experience in areas they'll be traveling to. "They'll talk about everything from culture shock, visa and passport guidelines and money matters, to what to pack," said Heidi Gregori-Gahan, assistant provost for International Programs and Services. Faculty also undergo rigorous travel and policy training.

In addition to training, the University wants to do even more to protect its students traveling abroad, and is in the process of implementing a new Terra Dotta software that will track students and help keep them safe before, during and after their stay. The software provides 24/7 tracking and communication with students on a web-based platform that can be accessed from anywhere. It provides a checklist that walks students through the preparation process and keeps them accountable for completing all the appropriate steps as well. "We see this as the future for all of our international travel, whether that's students, faculty or staff," said Gregori-Gahan.

USI works closely with the U.S. Department of State to keep up-to-date on travel warnings and other information related to students studying overseas. The State Department, along with insurance providers, offers a number of valuable resources specific to the region where students are traveling.

"At the end of the day," said Gregori-Gahan,

"it's about knowing our students are
prepared and safe so they can concentrate
on the full benefits of gaining an
international education and
experience."

66 I'KNEW THERE **NEEDED TO BE** SCRATCHED-SO I WAS READY TO JUMP ON IT WHEN THE

DOUG FIELD | VP of Romain College of Business Executive-in-Residence



 $^{\circ}$ IT'S THE VIEW OF FAILURE THAT WE HAVE TO CHANGE. WE NEED TO GET EVERYONE TO AGREE THERE'S GOOD VALUE IN FAILURE. I LOVE THE WAY THIS UNIVERSITY IS THINKING. IT SAYS, 'LET'S FIND A **Challenge** that's so tough, failure is likely.'`

66 MY THOUGHT, IN TERMS OF BOTH THE COMPOSITION AND THE PLACE IT WAS GOING TO BE, WAS TO **ELEMENTS THAT**

KICHARD HUNT sculptor of From Our Past Toward Our Future, a 14-foot, 2,000-pound

"I FARNED

COURSE AND GET YOU TO YOUR GOAL

DOUG JOEST | executive

YOUR GENERATION, THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE STUDENTS NOW, 🚧 TO WRITE ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL CHAPTERS OF ALL. WILL YOU RISE TO IT AND BE WORTHY OF THE GREATNESS OF YOUR PAST.

AND OF THE CHALLENGE OF THIS HUGE ISSUE - WHICH IS THE ISSUE FOR HUMANITY - HOW DO WE LIVE WITH DEEP DIFFERENCES? I SAY WITH GREAT ADMIRATION, AMERICA HAS SHOWN THE BEST WAY FORWARD THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN, COMBINING LIBERTY, DIVERSITY AND HARMONY, BUT YOU'RE SQUANDERING IT. AND THIS GENERATION NEEDS TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE AND RESTORE IT.

"We make 250 food choices a day-only 50 are conscious decisions and 200 are unconscious decisions."

DAN BUTTINER | author of The Blue Zone: Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who've Lived the Longest, and keynote speaker at the College of Nursing and Health Profession's Mid-American Institute on Aging conference



Michael Buchanan '71, management, has retired from his position at IBM as an account executive.

David Schutte '77, psychology, has taken the position of development program director at Deaconess VNA Plus in Evansville.

Brenda Young '79, communications, is the extended services director for Boonville-Warrick County Public Library in Boonville, Indiana

1980s

Michael Head '80, finance, has been elected 2016 chairman of the board of directors of the Indiana Bankers Association. He currently is president, chief executive officer and a director of First Federal Savings Bank in Evansville.

Michael Moore '80, electrical engineering tech, is the director of business development for Nidec in St. Louis, Missouri.

Randy Blanton '81, chemistry, received an Excellence Award for his work on the faculty at The Citadel, a university in South Carolina.

Brian Kuester '81, social science teaching. has been named to the Indiana Baseball Hall of Fame for his coaching prowess at South Spencer High School.

Phil Dixon '85, finance, has been hired as executive vice president and chief risk officer at Field and Main in Henderson, Kentucky.

Steven Shore '85, management, has been appointed to the position of president/CEO of DayMet Credit Union in Dayton, Ohio.

Karen Hamilton '86, management, has been promoted to vice president of performance management and strategic sourcing at Vectren Corporation in Evansville.

Brian Simpson '88, accounting, vice president of The First National Bank of Odon, has joined the lending staff in Odon, Indiana. He will serve as an Aglender specializing in agribusiness development and commercial lending.

lerry Clark '90 occupational studies is the principal of SAA Cedisus EB-5 Projects LLC in Evansville.

Kevin Hammett '90, accounting, is president and CEO of Regency Commercial Associates LLC in Evansville.

Glenn Kingsbury '90, business administration, has been promoted to senior branch manager at the First Avenue office of Heritage Federal Credit Union in

Edwin Staton '90, business administration, vice president of State Regulation and Rates at Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company is retired.

Susan Bohrnstedt '91, accounting, has been promoted to director of accounting at Woodward Commercial Realty, Inc., Newburgh, Indiana

Brad Schepers '91, mechanical engineering technology, has joined the firm of Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP as a partner in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Kathy Schoettlin '92, communications, chief of communications at Old National Bank, has joined the ranks of Indiana's Torchhearers

Jeff Bosse '93, communications, president of Bosse Title Corp., has received the Indiana Title Professional designation from the Indiana Land Title Association at the association's annual convention.

Jason Carroll '94, social science secondary education, is a senior account executive at Assured Neace Lukens in Evansville

Shannon Scholz '94, accounting, is the

senior audit manager with Kruse, Dicus, and Associates in Evansville.

Crystal Heaton '95,

husiness administration, has joined Deaconess VNA Plus Home Care and Hospice as the director of finance in Evansville

Mark Treadway '95, psychology, has been

promoted to senior branch manager at the west side office of Heritage Federal Credit Union in Evansville

Brian Chattin '96,

business administration. is the new assistant GM for the Florida Marlins in Miami Gardens Florida

Jill Trautvetter '97, communications, has been hired as program manager of the Mobile Breast Center at Deaconess in Evansville

Jacob Fulcher '99, political science, has been named a Rising Star in Employment and Labor Law. He is a labor and employment lawyer at Kahn, Dees, Donovan & Kahn LLP in Evansville.

Paul Esche '00, accounting, has been recognized as a 20 under 40 recipient by Evansville Business Journal.

Ryan Haas '00, elementary education, has been appointed to the Dubois County Community Foundation Board of Directors in Jasper, Indiana.

Dr. Jeremy Bigge '01, biology, has joined Deaconess Regional Laboratory as a pathologist in Evansville.

Amy McDowell '01, accounting, has been promoted to trust officer at Field & Main Bank in Henderson, Kentucky.

Matthew Schwartz '01, sociology, '07, masters of public administration, is the assistant vice president, Division of Outreach and Engagement, College of Extended Studies at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana.

Vanessa Wagler '01, psychology, has been

hired as director of children's programs at Arc of Evansville.

Kyle Wininger '01, accounting, has been recognized as a 20 under 40 recipient by Evansville Business

lournal.

Marcy Crull '02, health services, is the membership development manager for Girl Scouts of Central Indiana in

Richmond Indiana

Allison Grabert '02, science (teaching), has been recognized as a 20 under 40 recipient by Evansville Business lournal.

Ben Joergens '02, marketing, was recognized for his service to the community and the banking industry with the American Bankers Association George Bailey Distinguished Service Award.

Julie Mann '02, marketing, is a marketing manager and account executive at Maverick Abrasives in Placentia, California.

Cori Meunier '02, public relations and advertising, has been hired as a marketing and organizing specialist at Lasting Order in Newburgh, Indiana.

Kevin Rock '02, master's in business administration, has been hired at Regency Properties as vice president of accounting and finance and chief financial officer in Evansville

Before USI's campus grew to a collection of state-of-the-art buildings, cows occasionally wandered across the open areas.



Derek Adams '03, accounting and Spanish studies, has been promoted to director of BKD in Evansville.

Chad Crowe '03, political science, is the new deputy director of the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities in Indianapolis, Indiana.

David Milligan '03, accounting, has been promoted to Chief Risk Officer at Heritage Federal Credit Union in Evansville.

Christina Utterback '03, master's in social work, has been hired on as a behavior support specialist at Arc of Evansville in Evansville

Anthony Black '04, radio and television, is sports information director for Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia.

Ashley Vezzoso '04, public relations and advertising, received the 2015 Individual Supplier of the Year Award hosted by the Indiana Society of Association Executives.

STAY IN TOUCH

EMAIL us at alumni@usi.edu.

UPDATE your information and send photos via the form at USI.edu/AlumniUpdate.

Class notes may be edited for length or clarity. We regret That we may not be able to use all submitted photos, and reserve the right to select which ones are included.

Joyce Bretz '05, nursing, has been hired on as an in-patient facility hospice nurse for Deaconess VNA Home Care and Hospice in Evansville.

Andy Lemon '05, journalism and computer publishing, has taken the position of internal auditor at French Lick Resort in French Lick, Indiana.

Jessica McDaniel Bryant '05, art, has been promoted to human resources and training officer at Field & Main Bank in Henderson, Kentucky.

Kyle Patz '05, accounting and professional services, is finance manager at Wheaton Worldwide Moving in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dusty Russell '05, master's in social work, has been hired on as a social worker and spiritual coordinator at MSA Hospice in Evansville.

Aaron Veech '05, accounting and professional services, has been promoted to director of finance for Evansville Teachers Federal Credit Union in Evansville.

Marcus Clark '06, public relations and advertising/radio and television, has joined Willos Marketing as a senior account manager in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Catherine Voegele '06, political science, has been hired as an agent at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Indiana Realty in Evansville.

Stephanie Wininger '06, finance, has been hired as executive administrator at Woodward Commercial Realty, Inc., Newburgh, Indiana.

Paula Amacker '07, nursing, '08, master's in nursing family nurse practitioner, is a hospitalist at Aguirre Healthcare in Redding, California.

Rhianna Blumberg '07, elementary education, is a fifth grade teacher at Southwest Preparatory School NE in San Antonio, Texas.

Jason Goodwin '07, social science teaching, is an assistant principal at YUHSD #70, Cibola High School in Yuma, Arizona.

Jason Gossett '07, accounting and professional services, has taken the position of internal audit manager at French Lick Resort in French Lick, Indiana.

Alan Lentz '07, history, has been promoted to the rapid rehousing team lead at Aurora, Inc. in Evansville.

Matt Duncan '08, master's in business administration, has been promoted to vice president and commercial lending officer for Field & Main Bank in Henderson, Kentucky.

Robert Garwood '08, public relations and advertising, '11, political science, has joined Cox & Cox Attorneys At Law as an associate in Evansville.

Wendy Gumbel '08, psychology, has been promoted to director of Quality Assurance and Risk Management at Brentwood Meadows in Evansville.

J. Quintin Myers '08, elementary education, is a fifth grade teacher at Washington Junior High School in Washington, Indiana. He also coaches varsity soccer at Washington High School.

Christi Pagett '08, biology, has joined Deaconess Clinic West as a family medicine physician in Evansville.

April Beard '09, biology, is a rehabilitation coordinator and veterinary assistant at Abilene Zoo in Abilene, Texas.

Scott Crutcher '09, health services, has been promoted to retirement plans manager at Vectren Corp. in Evansville.

Jason Miller '09, public relations and advertising, is the marketing and sales manager for Air Quality Services in Evansville.





8) hotos

1. Several USI biology major alumni gather at the Ambassador House and Heritage Gardens, in Fishers, Indiana on May 23, 2015, to celebrate Steven '11 and Emily '11 (Severeid) Geiss's wedding. The newlyweds invited Dr. Jeanne Barnett, USI professor emerita of biology, so a photograph of biology majors "only" was a must. (Left to right) Ajay Patwari '10, Jordan Pond '11, Alex Aust '11, Kolin Kramer '11, Ally McDaniel '12, Steven Geiss, Jeanne Barnett, Emily (Severeid) Geiss, Ashish Arshanapalli '11, Julie Loza '11 and Jordan Heitman '11.

2. Bill '96, '01 and Beth (Dodson) '99 Centifanto's four children (front) Luke, Sarah, (back) Jon, Drew chill with Archie during March Madness. They're members of Archie's Jr. Varsity Club.

3. Katie '13 (Webster) and Johnathon Ely married June 27, 2015.







87 hotos

4. Felicia and Andrew Clark '12 married August 15, 2015

5. Alan Tompkins '83 was awarded the International Bluegrass Music Association's Momentum Award for Industry Involvement. He is president of the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation in Dallas, Texas.

6. USI Texas alumni group gather for Christmas cheer. (left to right) Kate Chandler '10, Maria (Bengert) Wedding '12, Alissa (Piekarski) Wallace '13, James Wallace '12, Bryce Chambers '13 and Kayla (Malcom) Chambers '12

2010s

Kinzy Amos '10, nursing, '13, master's in nursing education, is a nursing instructor at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville. She also is a nursing

instructor at the University of Southern Indiana.

Anna Bullock '10,

accounting and professional services, '11, finance, has been promoted to senior financial analyst—global supply chain at Mead Johnson in Evansville.

Hyeryun Park '10, art, is a studio coordinator at Guna Foundation in Berkeley, California.

Chelsi Carter '11.

communications, recently purchased Sunshine luice Company on Main Street in downtown Evansville. She was the chief development officer at the Ronald McDonald House Charities, for whom she continues to do contract work.

Jim Beabout '11, management, is the store manager at Play It Again Sports in Evansville.



Remember the sixpack—six classroom trailers behind the Science Center? They were donated to schools in Petersburg, Indiana, after 37 tornados leveled the town June 2, 1990.

Molly Elfreich '11, health administration, is assistant director and forensic interviewer at Holly's House, and has attained the highest level of credentialing from the National Association of Certified Child Forensic Interviewers Credentialing Board.

Jared McIntosh '11,

business administration, is a commercial relations manager at Old National Bank in Evansville and has been recognized as a 20 under 40 recipient by Evansville . Business Journal.

Mackenzie McNamara-Bates

'11. radio and television, has joined The Mac Group Agency Inc. as a media buyer and account manager in Evansville.

Andrew Walker '11, biology, is a resident physician at University of Utah Healthcare

Brett Bueltel '12,

in Salt Lake City,

Utah

accounting and professional services, is an

associate attorney for Jackson Kelly PLLC in Evansville.

Michael Devoy '12, master's in business administration, has been recognized as a 20 under 40 recipient by Evansville Business

Anthony Holt '12, nursing, '15, master's in nursing family nurse practitioner, has joined the staff of Country Health Center as a family nurse practitioner in Montgomery,

Mallory Joest '12, accounting and professional services, is a staff accountant at Allegion, PLC, Carmel, Indiana.

Brandon Spainhour '12, engineering, has joined Three I Design as an engineer in the structural engineering department in Evansville.

Tammy Sutton '12, master's in social work, has been hired on as a re-entry case manager at Aurora, Inc. in Evansville.

Catherine Carter '13, English (teaching), is an English teacher at Kokomo High School in Kokomo, Indiana.

Mark Furman '13, elementary education, is the seventh grade homeroom teacher at Saint Wendel Catholic School in Wadesville, Indiana.

Kyle Kamp '13, food and nutrition, is a clinical dietitian at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho.

Tonya Peters '13, individualized studies, is a chemist at Nexgen Pharma in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The noise level at basketball games in USI Arena (today's YMCA) in downtown
Evansville was unbelievable, unnerving the opposing teams.

Angela Sams '13, Nursing, '15, master's in nursing family nurse practitioner, has ioined as a nurse practitioner at Deaconess Primary Care for Seniors in Evansville.

Rachel Sherfield '13, social work, '14, master's in social work, has been hired as a behavior support specialist at the Arc of Evansville.

Zachery Williams '13, nursing, received the DAISY Award from the University of Chicago Medical Center on November 25, 2015. It is awarded to extraordinary nurses. He was one of 90 nominees.

Kaitlin Baker '14, accounting and professional services, has been hired as an Evansville-based staff associate at Myriad CPA Group in Evansville.

Jamie Combs '14, accounting, has been hired as a supervisor of data entry at Myriad CPA Group in Evansville.

Kelly Hugunin '14, occupational therapy, '15, master's in occupational therapy, is a OTR at Healthcare Therapy Services, Inc. in Greenwood, Indiana.

Lynnette Matteson '14, nursing, '15, master's in nursing family nurse practitioner, has joined as a nurse practitioner at Deaconess Primary Care for Seniors in Evansville.

Cody McGill '14, engineering, has been promoted to plant manager at Evansville Association for the Blind in Evansville.

Gabriela Murrow '14, marketing, is a marketing specialist at Chicago Magazine in Chicago, Illinois.

Courtney Reed '14, occupational therapy assistant, '15, health services, is a certified occupational therapy assistant at Ardor Health Solutions in Florida.

Sierra Riordan '14. social work, has been promoted to the Vision 1505 team lead at Aurora Inc. in Evansville.

Christopher Willis '14, public relations and advertising, is the Material Flow Supervisor (Group Leader) for General Motors in Spring Hill, Tennessee.

Jordan Evan '15, public relations and advertising, is the marketing and circulation coordinator at Tucker Publishing Group.

Alyssa DeTalente '15, social work, has been hired on as a community integration coordinator at the Arc of Evansville in Evansville.

Chad Greenwood '15, computer science, has been hired on as a software engineer in the information systems department for Shoe Carnival, Inc. in Evansville.

Zachary Wehner '15, art, has been hired on at Tucker Publishing Group as a graphic designer in Evansville.

Kristina LeCrone '15, master's in nursing family nurse practitioner, has joined Weber Medical Clinic as a Family Nurse Practitioner in Olney, Illinois.

Sara Scott '15, art, journalism, is community relations and volunteer coordinator at Evansville Rescue Mission, Evansville.

Megan Vickers '15, public relations and advertising, was hired as the director of marketing for Lefler Collision in Evansville.

Chad Wargel '15, engineering, has been hired as an electrical engineer at Hafer Associates in Evansville

Marriages

Tina Alcorn '86, management, and David Schutte '77, psychology, January 11, 2014.

Frank Rago '92, computer information systems, and Angela Dowell, July 5, 2015.

Pamela Mitchell '00, computer information systems, and Shawn Batten, October 2015.

Natalie Ruhe '03, elementary education, and Matt Wells, March 1, 2014.

Jamie Jordan '04, psychology, and Katherine Kranz, July 4, 2014.

Jessica Hass '08, marketing, and Nathan Wildeman, May 11, 2013.

Daryl Booth '08, art, and Jillian Hemmer, May 3, 2015.

Nikolaus Hoffman '08, economics, and Roxane Dalton, October 4, 2015

April Hensley '09, biology, and Walt Beard, May 23, 2015.

Stephanie Durbin '09, health services, '10, nursing, '14, master's in adult gerontology nurse practitioner-acute, and ${\bf Ryan\ Strouse}$ '12, computer information systems, December 13, 2014.

Gerald Wright '10, management, and Alesha Knapp, May 30, 2015.

Krystal Knust '11, elementary education, and Mark Furman '13, elementary education, June 20, 2015.

Drake Rogers '11, engineering, and Stephanie Hodge, July 25, 2015.

Sara Weinzapfel '12, food and nutrition, and Brett Bueltel '12, accounting and professional services, July 27, 2013.



7. Sampson, Mary Johnson Yegerlehner's '12 pooch, shows his Eagle Pride by sporting a USI sweatshirt.

8. Cooper, Caylin Blockley's '13 Beagle puppy, poses with new friend Archibald T. Eagle.









9. Jamie '12 (Haynes) and Jason Elliott married September 5, 2015.

10. Morgan '07 (Laswell), Scarlett Lola and Nathan Rignall.

11. George, Angie O'Nan's '12 cat, is right at home with USI's Archie bobblehead.





Chelsea Schmidt '13, marketing, and Jeremy Rexing, May 23, 2015.

Emily Lenig '13, occupational therapy assistant, and Jordan Rector '13, accounting and professional services, June 27, 2015.

Audrey Hudson '13, nursing, and David Key '11, marketing, September 26, 2015.

Tonya Hamilton '13, individualized studies, and Jordan Peters, May 10, 2013.

Kyle Kamp '13, food and nutrition, and Lindsay Kamp, August 9, 2014.

Lindsey Robertson '13, health services, '15, master's in health administration, and Jarod Neukam '13, respiratory therapy, October 25, 2014.

Brooke Biddle '14, radio and television, and Drew Hill, January 10, 2015.

Gabriela Randazzo '14, marketing, and Benjamin Murrow, July 25, 2015.

Brooke Wynn Bell '14, dental hygiene, and Derek Wynn '13, business administration, August 1, 2015.

Andrea Qualls '14, health services, and Ethan Broerman '14, management, July 2015.

Births and Adoptions

Matthew Schmitt '01, mathematics education, and Stacy, welcomed Rachel Anne on November 6, 2014

Tara Willett Whiteside '02, biology, '13, nursing, and Wesley, welcomed Colton Wesley, July 14, 2015.

Kristi Katterhenry Etienne '04, business administration, and Josh, welcomed Josie Sue, July 23, 2015.

Nathan Esche '05, business administration and Andrea Esche '05, management, welcomed Tyler Alan, February 12.

Ashley Flamion Kirk '06, finance, '08, master's in business administration. and Joseph Kirk '05, exercise science, welcomed Jovi Kirk, December 12, 2014.

Amanda Wildeman Mitchell '06, early childhood education, welcomed Wyatt D. L. on March 12, 2015.

Casey Alexander Thorbeck '07, finance, and Daniel, welcomed Kiley Jo, September 25, 2015.

Dawn Johnson Hoesli '08, art, and Jay Hoesli '04, art, welcomed Gracie Danielle, August 26, 2015.

Jessica Hass Wildeman '08, marketing, and Nathan, welcomed Millie Marie, December 3, 2014.

Audrey Merkley Zimmer '08, accounting and professional services, and Nicholas **Zimmer '05**, applied computer science, welcomed Chloe Lynn on January 18, 2016.

Emiley Esche Chamberlain '09, management, and Darryl, welcomed Addyson Elizabeth, June 2, 2015.

Andrea Niemeier Jarboe '09, radiology technology, and Andy, welcomed Garrett Michael on October, 14, 2015.

Joshua Dodd '09, visual art K-12 teaching, '13, master's in art in liberal studies, and Megan, welcomed Lennox Melrose on December 23, 2015.

Nickolas John '10, management, '12, master's in business administration, and Katie, welcomed Josalina Kaye, April 22, 2015

Brittani Johnson Cohee '10, marketing, and Travis Cohee '10, business administration, welcomed Sutton Kay and Sawyer John, May 20, 2015.

Koryn Heeke Parsons '11, public relations and advertising, '14, master's in communications, and Joshua, welcomed Mya Ann on September 2, 2015.

Sofas used to be hauled out of students' apartments and set on the grassy lawns around the boulevard to watch the Eagle Grand Prix bike races.

In Memoriam

Robert Lee 'Bob' Miller '72, history, of Evansville, died December 15, 2015. He served in the United States Army.

Michael W. Gelarden '73, elementary education, of Fulda, Indiana, died November 5 2015

Diane Schroeder Marheine '73, elementary education, of Sullivan, Indiana, died June 15, 2015. She retired in 2014 after 34 years of teaching elementary school.

Robert J. Ward '74, management, of Mt. Vernon, Indiana, died August 21, 2015. He served in the 82nd Airborne division of the U.S. Army for three years, serving as a medic in his last year of service.

Pamela Bowers '75, communications, of Henderson, Kentucky, died December 18, 2015. She was a news director for WSON for several years.

Billy Sandefur '77, communications, of Evansville, died June 29, 2015. He retired from Whirlpool after 35 years of service.

Walter Spencer '77, accounting, of Henderson, Kentucky, died June 25, 2015. He worked as the finance officer for the

Henderson Board of Education for the past 17 years.

Betty Gerber '77,

sociology, of Jasper, Indiana, died January 3, 2016. She was a house parent for many years for the Dubois County Persons Residence Center, as well as a Head start teacher for SIRs, and taught at Vincennes University junior college for 11 years.

Nancy Eilers Peters '82, art, of Evansville, died December 16, 2015. She was an artist, teacher, art conservator and an animal lover.

Edward Heard '84, political science, of Phoenix, Arizona, died June 17, 2015. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and received many commendations.

Jonelle (Jodi) Kleeman '84, accounting, of Troy, Indiana, died June 2, 2015. She was coowner of Bret Kleeman Masonry, Inc., and an account manager at Krueger and Associates in Ferdinand, Indiana.

Clifton Scott Morgan '85, business administration, of Morganfield, Kentucky, died May 23, 2015.

Lena King '86, accounting and management, of Boonville. Indiana. died November 8. 2015. She worked as an auditor for the State of Indiana for 14 years. She also was a homemaker.

Jeff D. Scott '87, marketing, of Patoka, Indiana, died September 18, 2015.

Connie Rae Sutton '89, business administration, of Kansas City, Missouri, died January 4, 2014. She started her own computer training center in Naperville, IL -DCG, Incorporated. It celebrated 20 years in February 2014.

Michele Marie Barnes Huber '92 husiness administration, of Evansville, died December 9, 2015. She worked as an account manager for 14 years at Escalade Sports.

John R. Gillespie Jr. '92, social work, of Evansville, died November 27, 2015. He was a licensed clinical social worker and a licensed clinical addictions counselor. He was a proud member of Bill W.'s fellowship for more than three decades.

Christy Cook Agnew '93, social work, of Boonville, Indiana, died July 3, 2015. She

The first student literary

publication (spring of 1968)

was called

The Moving Finger.

Why? #illumeUSI

worked as a job coach at Goodwill Industries and Evansville Arc

Shelby Stevens Jr '93,

elementary education, of Princeton, Indiana, died November 18, 2015. He was a man of many great accomplishments throughout his lifetime.

Kristi Sanders Miller '94, English, of Bedford, Indiana, died January 9, 2015. She was a homemaker.

Tammy Jo (Lewis) Modlin '96, political science, of Fort Myers, Florida, died January 24, 2016.

Roger D. Nalley '97, history, of Evansville, died August 30, 2015. He worked as a bartender/manager at Funky's and other establishments throughout the Evansville

Ruth Hooper '97, master's in social work, of Newburgh, Indiana, died August 24, 2015. She served as a dedicated social worker for several public and private agencies.









12. Adam Dennis '14 and Kate Galloway '15 married and bought a house in Covington,

13. Roxy is an eight-year-old Rhodesian Ridgeback mix adopted by Michael Stephens '15 and Sarah Harlan '10, MA '15 from the Vanderburgh County Humane

14. Buddy, a Golden Retriever belonging to Dawn Worman '07 M'10 nursing, wears his USI nursing scrubs with pride.

TAIL feather | Dr. Ronda Priest

Ronda has played poker for 20 years with a group of USI's faculty.

USI faculty member since 1996 and veteran poker player, Dr. Ronda Priest, associate professor of sociology, knew from the first sociology class she took as an undergraduate at Regis University that she'd found her calling. Although always interested in science—she had a full-ride scholarship in biology—Priest found the "puzzle of measuring humans" more difficult than other sciences and, therefore, her career path of choice. Always up for a challenge, Priest spends part of her time teaching at USI and the other part as USI's research liaison for Community One, Evansville, helping neighborhoods become better places to live—a project very much in

school. And then I taught kindergarten for one year and realized it was too much pressure.

When and where are you happiest?

Snorkeling in the Caribbean Sea. There are small black and yellow fish (sergeant majors) that school with me, as my dive gear matches their colors. They seem to think I'm their leader.

What is your hobby outside of the

does it teach you? I'm an enthusiastic crafter/DIYER. I've learned not to be afraid of failure and just go for it.

classroom, and what

What one word sums you up? Independent.

What are the best and worst traits students can possess? Best trait Curiosity. Worst trait: Apathy (tied with) Unprofessionalism

If you were an animal, what would it be and why? Easy...a cat. They are curious, independent, slightly sneaky, ackobatic, strong, lie in the sun and find the most amazing places to sleep.

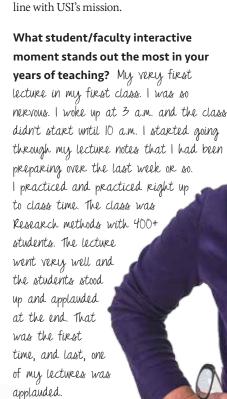
How would you like students to remember you? As authentic. I teach from my heart and as myself, not as an actor on a stage. I believe (and hope) that comes through with every interaction I have with students.

How do you envision USI will look in the future?

I've seen a lot of changes over the past 20 years and have no doubt we will continue to grow and improve. I would like to see a strengthening and expansion of what I call university foundation disciplines. In times of rapid social change, there is a reason these traditional disciplines have remained. I believe they give our students the most flexibility for career(s) and the knowledge necessary for engaged citizenship.

Ronda's cats have slept inside her Christmas tree and a shoe; on top of a bird house; balanced on top of an open door; in a roof gutter; curled up in a bathroom sink.

HAVE A FAVORITE PROFESSOR YOU'D LIKE TO SEE FEATURED HERE? Let us know at magazine@usi.edu.



Why did you become a professor?

I was always a teacher. I held class with my stuffed animals as a young child. I tutored students in grade school through high











"USI encourages you to branch out, expand your knowledge and live life to the fullest."

Evansville native Hope Doninger '17, international studies. Swiss Alps. USI.edu/HopeDoninger

Visit USI.edu/spiritheart for student submission guidelines.