Ready for the world

An increased emphasis on preparing students with the international and intercultural knowledge they need to succeed and compete in today’s world is moving forward throughout the University. This emphasis has many aspects — enhancing the culture of diversity on campus, integrating more international content into the curriculum, boosting the global competency of faculty, and continuing to increase experiential learning opportunities, including study abroad, for students.

A new opportunity for students in occupational therapy represents the kind of experience that gives USI graduates a competitive edge. At press time, Dr. Barbara Williams, program director for occupational therapy, was preparing to take five students on an eight-day visit to Honduras where they would provide occupational therapy services to children whose developmental delays or physical impairments affect their school performance. The program was designed to offer students an international perspective on the profession and insight into an alternative setting.

Read about new and longstanding components of USI’s focus on preparing for life and work in a global society in President Linda L. M. Bennett’s column (p. 2), the “Meet the provost” article (p. 10), and the “Going global” stories (p. 12). The USI Foundation pages tell about a graduate’s success in Switzerland and new activity in Canada. Our sports pages profile two student athletes from other countries.

New initiatives reflect goals and strategies in the 2010-15 strategic plan. To learn more, visit www.usi.edu/president/strategicplan.

Betty R. Vawter
On the Cover
The 97-foot-tall campus tower anchors the newly expanded University Center. The tower covering is made of castoff limestone from B.G. Hoadley Quarries. Rough and irregular outside faces of large blocks were cut into pieces 2 ¼-inch high and of varying lengths to form the walls of the conical tower. See page 6.

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USI-Escalade Sports Ideation Contest

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Presidential Scholar alumnus

National championship rings

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President’s Perspective
by Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett, President

China trip: learning from international study

USI’s strategic plan emphasizes the importance of “experiential learning.” Enhancing international study opportunities is one part of this goal. Most program development focuses on students, but a college president can learn a great deal from a study-abroad opportunity, too! I was delighted to have just such an opportunity in October when I traveled to Beijing, China, for a higher education conference and student recruitment exposition.

The Beijing student recruitment “Expo” brought together more than 35,000 Chinese students and parents to explore educational opportunities at universities around the world. I was proud to see the USI banner posted in the recruitment booth where I worked representing state college and universities in the United States. Watching students milling from booth to booth, I thought about the 23 students from China already on USI’s campus. After five days in China, I could appreciate how challenging it must have been for them to move so far from home, adjust to a different culture and language, and absorb the knowledge necessary to continue their education.

The highlight of our sightseeing tours was, without question, visiting the Great Wall — a remarkable edifice that took more than 2,000 years to build. It snakes along mountain ridges as far as the eye can see. I also was delighted to have the opportunity to visit with the president and administrative team from Minzu University in Beijing, where I attended an art exhibit and toured an impressive campus museum featuring costumes of the diverse peoples of China.

I left China with the hope of returning to learn more. With USI’s selection as one of 10 universities in the nation to participate in a program to develop partnerships with Chinese universities through the Institute of International Education, that hope will be realized and shared with faculty and students. Learning is going global at USI!

President’s Perspective appears in each issue of USI Magazine.
Aakhus named dean of College of Liberal Arts

Michael Aakhus, a member of the USI Art Department faculty since 1977, has been named dean of the College of Liberal Arts. The appointment was effective March 1.

The selection of Aakhus was announced by Dr. Ronald S. Rochon, provost, following a national search.

"This is wonderful news for USI," Rochon said. "Michael is respected by faculty peers, national and international artists, and individuals throughout our community. He has shown great leadership in the College of Liberal Arts."

Aakhus had been associate dean of the college for five years before being appointed interim dean in 2010. Throughout his career, Aakhus has served on numerous University committees and been active in community organizations at local, state, and national levels.

He currently is on the Endeavor Committee for faculty and student research, the Academic Planning Council, the Academic Affairs Council, and the Graduate Programs Committee and the Executive Committee for the College of Liberal Arts. He is a member of the Center for Communal Studies Board of Directors, the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana Board of Directors, and the Art for Life Committee of the AIDS Resource Group in Evansville.

Known as a scholar of the ancient art of Mexico and a Maya expert, Aakhus regularly leads study trips to Mexico and Central America. His own art, represented in public and private art collections throughout the United States and abroad, has been displayed at invitational and juried exhibitions since 1975. He was named the 2009 Artist of the Year by the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana.

Aakhus earned the Master of Fine Arts degree at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and an undergraduate degree from Bemidji State University.

"I am honored to have been selected to serve as dean of the College of Liberal Arts," Aakhus said. "Above all, I value the foundations of academic life which support teaching, scholarship, creative work, and service to the University and community. The college has a great team. As we move forward our agenda, I look forward to working with such exceptional people to shape the future."

"Throughout the community, region, and state, the University of Southern Indiana has established a reputation for dedication to student learning and engagement, quality programs, and effective use of resources," Aakhus added. "We are a young institution with a history of phenomenal growth and innovation, led by a dynamic, optimistic, and creative team. The University is at a crucial and exciting moment in its development, as it moves from state and regional recognition to status in the national and international arena."

New name, new space for University’s outreach programs

The Division of Extended Services has a new name — Division of Outreach and Engagement. In addition, the staff has relocated from Orr Center to University Center East. To learn more about the Division of Outreach and Engagement, visit www.usi.edu/outreach.

Campus will be tobacco free

The University of Southern Indiana campus will become tobacco free July 1 when an updated smoking policy goes into effect. Smoking and the use of other tobacco products will be prohibited except in personal vehicles and in designated outdoor spaces in the student housing areas.

The policy applies to all University-owned, -operated, and -leased property and vehicles. It updates smoking and tobacco-use regulations that went into effect in 2005.

"This new policy is a step forward," said USI President Linda L. M. Bennett, "in providing a clean, healthy working and learning environment for everyone in the campus community."

Members of the University community who wish to curtail their use of tobacco are encouraged to attend campus cessation programs, employ other resources available on campus and through the community, and otherwise prepare for the tobacco-free campus.

Visitors, prospective students and parents, fans, and patrons also are expected to follow the directives of the tobacco-free policy. Learn more about Tobacco-Free USI online at www.usi.edu/tobaccofree.
Take a whirlybird-type projectile, toss it into a target with multiple scoring options, add teams of players, and you have “Throw-Copter.” That’s the working name for the game concept that won top honors for a team of three students in a game-design contest sponsored jointly by the College of Business and Evansville-based Escalade, Inc.

Members of the winning team in the USI-Escalade Sports Ideation Contest are Sarah Krampe, freshman, marketing, Evansville; Michaela Hahn, junior, finance, Scottsburg, Indiana; and Lucas Ball, junior, marketing and finance, Newburgh, Indiana. The team received $1,000 and the opportunity for members to interview for an internship in the Product Development Group of Escalade Sports.

Robert J. Keller, president and chief executive officer of Escalade, introduced the competition while serving as executive in residence for the College of Business. The challenge was to develop a competitive outdoor game that Escalade Sports can produce and market. Escalade hopes to manufacture and sell one or more of the resulting ideas in the future.

Each student team designed a product concept and developed a marketing plan for its product. Six teams were selected in preliminary judging by College of Business faculty to pitch their proposals to a panel of judges representing Escalade Sports and the community.

“It’s amazing how well these young entrepreneurs have adapted the principles of product innovation and brand marketing to the outdoor game category,” Keller said at the final presentation. “Clearly they understand what people of their generation desire as an alternative to video games and other less social activities. Today we have witnessed the great potential this next generation of business leaders holds in shaping the future of consumer products.”

The contest encouraged innovation and offered an opportunity for experiential learning. USI faculty and experts at Escalade mentored the students.

Dr. Chad M. Milewicz, assistant professor of marketing, was the USI liaison for the contest. “The ability for students to interact with experts, ask them questions, and learn from their feedback is truly invaluable,” he said.

Evan Lederman, category manager for Escalade Sports, facilitated student contact with company engineers, marketing specialists, and other professionals who consulted with the students as they conducted research and developed their product ideas.

Hahn met her teammates through the Marketing Club. One of her goals was to get to know more students and business professionals by participating in the project.

Jared Neible, a senior marketing major from Evansville, was named runner-up in the contest. Players of his Disk It! game catch a plastic disc on a stick.

Fifteen teams with a total of 38 students from academic disciplines throughout the University entered the competition. Twenty-seven students who participated are pursuing the minor in entrepreneurship introduced in the fall by the College of Business.

A global company, Escalade is the world’s largest producer of table tennis tables and one of the largest marketers of premium basketball systems, playground equipment, and archery products.
Camp for high school girls promotes STEM careers

Holiday World and Splashin’ Safari in Santa Claus, Indiana, will serve as a laboratory for experiments and activities this summer when 48 high school girls participate in a camp that promotes careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields.

The GO (Girls Only) STEM! Camp will be held June 5-10. The program is provided by the Pott College of Science and Engineering and the Southwest Indiana STEM Resource Center. Young women who are rising sophomores or juniors at high schools in the Tri-state are eligible to apply. A teacher recommendation is required.

A grant from the Alcoa Foundation will support the camp this year. There is no fee for participants. Begun last summer, the program expands from three to five days for its second year. Participants will spend a day at the theme park gathering samples and data and plan to complete experiments in chemistry, nutrition, mathematics, biology, and engineering/applied physics in Pott College facilities. Female faculty members in STEM fields instruct the program, and female USI students majoring in STEM fields mentor the campers, who stay overnight in residence halls.

For more information, contact Dr. Shelly Blunt at sblunt@usi.edu.

USI hosts first regional SeaPerch underwater robotics challenge for area students

Twenty-two teams from 12 middle schools and high schools competed recently in the first Southwest Indiana Regional SeaPerch Competition, held at the USI Physical Activities Center pool. Participants designed and built remotely operated underwater vehicles at their schools prior to the contest.

A national robotics program funded by the Office of Naval Research, SeaPerch teaches basic engineering and science concepts with a marine engineering theme.

The Southwest Indiana STEM (SwlSTEM) Resource Center sponsored the regional competition, including training for teachers. The contest attracted 88 students competing on 13 middle school teams and nine high school teams. Kits for building the robots were provided with support from the Naval Surface Warfare Center - Crane Division and an Indiana SeaPerch grant.

Students learn about water sampling, habitat, buoyancy, electrical wiring, the evolution of oceanic exploration, and other subjects through the SeaPerch experience.

Regional winners will advance to the state competition April 16 in Bloomington, Indiana. State winners will attend the National SeaPerch Challenge May 23-25 in Philadelphia.
Landmark University Center Expansion open

University Center East is a new facility on campus with ties to the heritage of USI and the surrounding region. The original University Center (now UC West) was completed in 1974 with an addition completed in 1996. It was joined to the original USI library by an elevated corridor containing four conference rooms.

With the new David L. Rice Library dedicated in 2006, the old library building could be repurposed to become UC East. The construction increased the total size of the University Center complex to 173,904 square feet, including
- 100,801 square feet of the original University Center that has been modestly updated;
- 59,720 square feet of reconstructed building space (former library building); and
- 20,815 square feet of new multi-story link and tower construction.

The UC East expansion was carefully conceived by Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture. Partner Malcolm Holzman said, “The building’s new spaces and wide range of multiple vistas provide many inviting opportunities for congregation and interaction by students and faculty. By combining new and reclaimed materials and incorporating regional references in unexpected ways, our goal was to create moments of discovery throughout the structure to develop a sense of connectivity fueled by shared experience.”

One component in particular has historical significance to the University and to the community, the Orr Iron arch.

Orr Iron Arch used as portal

The Orr Iron Arch serves as a portal into the central two-story student lounge in UC East. The Orr Iron Arch was the main entrance to the 1912 Orr Iron Company headquarters at Fulton Avenue. Samuel Orr founded the company in 1885 and was succeeded by his son Robert D. Orr, who was governor of Indiana from 1981 to 1989 and signed the legislation creating the University of Southern Indiana in 1985.

The Orr Iron Arch was salvaged by USI and the state highway department when the Orr Iron Company building was demolished in 2008. New limestone blocks, identical to the originals, were added at the jambs increasing the height of the arch.

Local materials incorporated

The standard manufactured materials of Can Clay Corporation of Connelton, Indiana; Alcoa Warrick Operations in Newburgh, Jasper Chair Company of Jasper, Indiana, and Berry Plastics Corporation in Evansville are used in innovative ways as construction materials in UC East. Photos of the materials and details are available online as part of the web-only magazine content.

Mark Rozewski, vice president for Finance and Administration, said, “With a range of local products and artifacts used in the construction, the building is one that is uniquely at home in Evansville and Southwestern Indiana. As the University’s presence constantly expands beyond our regional beginnings to statewide and national stature, this building will remind us of where we came from. Its creativity, energy, and design will be a built reminder of what it will take to move us forward.

Go to www.usi.edu/magazine for expanded web-only content
Psychology faculty receive USI Foundation teaching awards

The USI Foundation has awarded its 2011 Outstanding Teaching Awards to two faculty members in the Department of Psychology.

Dr. Aimee Mark, assistant professor of psychology, is the recipient of the Outstanding Teaching by a New Faculty Member Award. Mark joined USI in 2007 after teaching at Transylvania University, University of Kentucky, and Eastern Kentucky University.

One student said, “She always has new and interesting ways for us to learn the material, whether this is through group in-class activities or something we do on our own. She brings a certain excitement and energy to every class.”

Mark will receive a $1,000 cash stipend and a faculty development grant of $1,000.

Paul Kasenow, instructor in psychology, received the Outstanding Teaching by an Adjunct Faculty Member Award. Kasenow has taught at USI almost every semester since fall 1988.

A former student said, “He has a gift for taking complicated material and breaking it down into smaller parts for students to better understand. It’s been a while since I took his course and I still remember so much, thanks to his methods.”

Kasenow is a professor of psychology and serves as division chair for Social and Behavioral Sciences at Henderson Community College, where he has taught since fall 1989.

He will receive a $500 cash stipend and a faculty development grant of $500.

Steve Bridges named assistant vice president

Steven J. Bridges has been named assistant vice president for Finance and Administration and assistant treasurer for the University of Southern Indiana. He has been the controller and Business Office director at USI since 2006.

Bridges joined the University in 1989. He has held the positions of staff accountant, chief accountant, controller, and director of the Business Office.

A USI alumnus, he earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1989 and a master’s degree in business administration in 1995.

Bridges received the Rising Star Award from the National Association of College and University Business Officers in 2007.

Elliot Wasserman named artistic director for New Harmony Theatre

Elliot Wasserman, chair of the Department of Performing Arts, has been named the producing artistic director for New Harmony Theatre.

The 2011 season offers three plays that will provide a roller coaster of emotions. Neil Simon’s Lost in Yonkers combines emotional honesty with sentimental comedy. The 39 Steps, adapted by Patrick Barlow from the novel by John Buchan, is a fast-paced parody of the classic Alfred Hitchcock film by the same name. The musical Avenue X by John Jiller and Ray Leslee recalls the early days of doo-wop music.

“These plays are recent, written during the last two decades,” Wasserman said. “I love the classics, but in my first summer, I wanted to offer our audiences a look at the current theatre, even as we set about charting New Harmony Theatre’s future.”

Wasserman also directs the USI Theatre program. He joined the University in 1991.

Angela Torres is the new managing and marketing director for New Harmony Theatre.

A change in this summer’s performance schedule is designed to allow more theatre-goers to enjoy the historic town of New Harmony by day. Saturday matinees will replace Thursday night performances.

New Harmony Theatre is a professional Equity theatre produced by USI. For more information on the 2011 season, see back cover.
Former USI Presidential Scholar Bruce L. Yoder ’02 finished a doctorate in July in physical chemistry at Switzerland’s École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, one of the world’s leading institutions of science and technology. His next stop is the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, where he will be a postdoctoral research fellow. The Swiss National Science Foundation is funding the project.

Yoder returned to Indiana recently to visit with family and friends in Washington, Indiana, and came to USI to see former faculty members and friend Bruce Baker.

Along with a bequest from Harold W. Ashley, Bruce Baker and his wife, Carol, established the Harold W. Ashley Endowed Presidential Scholarship that Yoder received at USI. He considers the scholarship a first step in his success of receiving grants and other funding for his work.

“The Presidential Scholarship was one of the best things to happen,” he said. “It gave me the ability to take classes I wanted while at USI. I didn’t take the fastest avenue through college. I was able to obtain a second major in Spanish, and I was not strapped by financial concerns. My receiving it convinced decision makers that people believed in what I could accomplish. It said to others, ‘he has good ideas and he means to execute.’ I’m sure it was useful as I applied for other funding.”

Doctoral research
In his PhD research Yoder used lasers to control reactions between gas molecules and catalytic surfaces. His work was aimed at a fundamental understanding of methane reformation to produce hydrogen fuel.

Part of his doctoral thesis work was published as an article in Science, a leading journal of original scientific research, global news, and commentary. Dr. Evan Millam, assistant professor of chemistry who taught Yoder, said, “The publication is the top peer review journal for the field. It publishes research that is groundbreaking in a significant way.”

Engaged student
Yoder discussed his research with Dr. Mark Krahling and Dr. Tom Pickett, faculty members in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. Krahling said, “Dr. Yoder described an experiment and it became quickly apparent that his curiosity led him to ask complicated, fundamental questions about chemical reactions.”

Millam had Yoder in class during undergraduate days. He said, “I knew he would do something interesting. I recall he would come in my class, sit at the back of the class, peel a grapefruit to eat, and not take notes. And he was the most engaged student in the class.”

While studying in Switzerland, Yoder taught quantum mechanics in French. He is accustomed to working in French and can converse in Spanish. He earned a master’s degree at Indiana University and began a doctoral program there before moving to Switzerland in 2006.

The future
Yoder’s research in Vancouver will focus on contributing to the field of atmospheric science by producing a better understanding of ultrafine aerosol particles. His career goals are to conduct research and/or teach at a top research university or to be a consultant.

For recreation, Yoder plays soccer. He played on an amateur team in Bloomington and in Switzerland.
Dr. John M. Butler, an international authority on forensic DNA typing, is the inaugural speaker for the annual Marlene V. Shaw Biology Lecture Series. The series is funded by an endowment established by Dr. Shaw who retired in 2009 from USI after 36 years.

Butler's lecture “Beyond CSI: Exciting Applications of Forensic DNA” at 7 p.m. March 29 in Mitchell Auditorium of the Health Professions Center is open to the public. He will deliver a second lecture called “Biology, Technology, and Genetics of Forensic DNA Typing” the following day to USI students and faculty.

STR Data Base
Butler earned a doctorate in 1995 from the University of Virginia for dissertation research completed at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. As a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), he designed and built the Short Tandem Repeat Data Base (STRBase) containing standardized information used in human identity applications. He is author of the internationally acclaimed textbook *Forensic DNA Typing*, now in its third edition. Currently, Butler leads the efforts in human identity testing at the NIST Biotechnology Division in Gaithersburg, Maryland. As a member of the World Trade Center Kinship and Data Analysis Panel, he aided the New York City office of chief medical examiner in identifying the remains of victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Solving crimes
“The popular TV series ‘CSI: Crime Scene Investigation’ has given the impression to the general public that science is used to solve crimes in a matter of minutes,” Butler said. “The truth is that data take a little longer to collect and are often not as conclusive as represented on TV. However, over the past two decades, DNA typing methods have revolutionized the law enforcement community with the ability to solve crimes involving biological evidence.

“In the past few years, the general public has become more familiar with the power of DNA evidence as the media has covered the O. J. Simpson murder trial, the identification of the remains in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and efforts to identify the victims of the terrorist attacks from September 11, 2001.”

In his lecture, Butler will review basic issues with the biology, technology, and genetics of STRs using a number of forensic DNA cases as examples.

Giving back
The lecture series will feature speakers based on their scholarship and expertise at the crossroads that biology shares with other academic disciplines and community interests.

“Students, colleagues, and friends have enriched my time at USI,” said Shaw, professor emerita of biology. “This annual lecture is a way for me to give back to current and future students, alumni, colleagues, and the community. I gratefully thank those who support this annual lecture.”

Support the leaders of tomorrow with a gift to the Annual Fund
Your gift to the USI Annual Fund goes to work immediately to provide leadership training for students, cutting-edge technology for classrooms and labs, grants for faculty research, programs and activities that enrich student life, and many more resources.

“Last summer, eight students accompanied me to Oxford and London, England, where they did research at the British Library, Bodleian Library, Pitt Rivers, and British Museum. They were privileged to study medieval manuscripts and artifacts to which graduate students and established scholars rarely have access. Our trip made an enormous difference to their learning goals. Opportunities like this would not be possible without the generous support of University friends and alumni who make gifts to the annual fund.”

**Patricia Aakhus**
Director, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies
Program Director, International Studies major
Associate Professor of English

**How to make a gift to the Annual Fund**

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When parents of traditional-aged college students make a choice to send their children to a particular institution of higher learning, they send a signal about their confidence in that university. When families choose the University of Southern Indiana, Dr. Ronald S. Rochon, provost, takes their decision seriously.

“Parents entrust us to develop their children as young adults and to lead them,” he said. “We need to continuously rise to the occasion. This is a major priority for me — to take on the parents’ greatest gifts, their children, and to give back to these parents by demonstrating our commitment to fully serve and educate their young people.”

Rochon joined USI in July 2010 following a nationwide search. As provost, his foremost goal is student success overall — for all students, whether of traditional or nontraditional age.

Building Synergy

Rochon said the structure is in place for USI to continue to prepare students for life and for the careers of their choice. The Office of Provost combines responsibilities for all academic units and student affairs.

“We are continuing to build a great synergy between academic programs and student affairs,” Rochon said. “The closer these units work together, the more we will hone in on those things most relevant to the lives of our students, both academically and socially. Both sides of the University — academic and student life — are working together and building greater success. This model encourages and reinforces our ability to serve those students who choose to call USI home.”

The payoff is greater student retention and greater overall student success.

Another priority for the provost is the continued recruitment and retention of outstanding faculty. “USI has high expectations for faculty in terms of teaching, research, and service. We have highly skilled and highly competent faculty, and we need more of them,” Rochon said. “To maintain the highest level of instructional delivery as well as continue to compete with our institutional peers, we need additional faculty resources.”

Global experience

Rochon is a leader in the University commitment to increase the global experience for faculty and students. In the fall, he and representatives of the College of Nursing and Health Professions and the College of Business traveled to India investigating opportunities for educational exchange. The trip opened discussion about a number of opportunities. Plans are in progress to bring students from India to begin a program at USI as early as fall 2011.

A student from the College of Business will have the opportunity to participate in an experience in India learning about the country’s economic system. The student will participate within the intellectual environment of the University of Mumbai and implement a project that will involve the Reserve Bank of India and other educational institutions. The Reserve Bank of India will provide financial support for the USI student to complete...
the program. Assistance with travel expenses will be available from the Office of the Provost.

“This kind of experience doesn’t come along every day,” Rochon said. “Learning more about the economy — especially a competing economy — at an international level, will allow our student to come back better informed and better prepared to serve our community.”

**Educational policy**

An interest in educational policy was the trigger that influenced Rochon to pursue a career in higher education, a change from his original career plan. He earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science at Tuskegee University and a master’s degree in animal sciences with an emphasis in reproductive physiology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He holds a doctorate in educational policy studies from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The low high-school graduation rate across his hometown of Chicago concerned him. He became interested in finding out how educational policy could assist families in exercising choices that yield healthy educational outcomes.

“I wanted to know how I could become a servant in this area — in particular, with respect to students from urban and rural communities,” he said. “Quite often young people do not see themselves as being worthy of going to college. We must continue to be attentive and supportive of first-generation college attendees. I was a first-generation college student. People reached out and pushed me to succeed.”

Rochon’s research and teaching interests include topics relating to culturally responsive education and administration. He came to USI from Buffalo State College of the State University of New York, where he was the inaugural dean of the School of Education for five years. He has previous experience at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, where he was director and co-founder of the Research Center for Cultural Diversity and Community Renewal, among other responsibilities. At his previous posts, he was instrumental in developing exchange programs with universities in Ghana, England, and China. He also served at Texas A & M University and Washington State University.

**Greater community**

Rochon began to learn about the University of Southern Indiana when a colleague and mentor in higher education circles, knowing his experience and skills, brought the search for provost to his attention. Dr. Kay Schallenkamp, president of Black Hills State University, told him about the University, its growth, and the surrounding community, Rochon visited campus as a finalist for the position.

“Immediately, I sensed a community of concerned individuals,” he said, “and a sincere desire on the part of everyone to help students succeed.”

During his visit, he also felt the University’s strong commitment to community outreach and engagement.

At the national level, Rochon has represented USI as chair of the board of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. His one-year term ended in February. His participation in the professional organization brought him face to face with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and legislators who make national education policy. It enabled him to exchange information with scholars from other countries who are advocates for teacher education.

Settling into Evansville, the Rochon family feels the welcoming arms of the community. Rochon’s wife, Lynn, holds a master’s degree in education. In Buffalo, she served at a community health center as an advocate for noninsured and underinsured individuals. The Rochons have a son, Ayinde, 13, and a daughter, Nia, 11.
Throughout the University, faculty and students are becoming more globally aware. A wider range of international activities reflects concerted efforts to integrate global learning into all aspects of the USI experience. New and strengthened partnerships throughout the world provide both opportunities abroad and enrichment for the campus community.

“Everywhere one looked were trees, rice fields, groves of fruit and vegetables, temples, contemporary buildings and historical monuments, the oceans, and clay.”

— Leonard Dowhie, professor of art, photographed Tianyuan Temple during a summer experience as guest lecturer at a university and museum in Taiwan. See more, including excerpts from his trip journal on page 19.
A guest lecturer from Germany explains the universal healthcare system in his country. One marketing class analyzes an international market basket of products with students in the Netherlands and Denmark while another compares branding strategies with students in Germany. A teacher education student observes classes in Finland’s highly rated schools. Administrators and faculty travel to Europe and Asia exploring linkages for study and research.

In all corners of the University, new initiatives combine with long-standing programs to prepare graduates for the global society and the global marketplace. Technology, including videoconferencing, inspires new ways of connecting people and curriculum in distant locations while traditional travel and study abroad still rate as premier ways to develop global awareness.

Institutional commitment

Two of six goals in the University’s 2010-15 strategic plan focus directly on international issues. One is to enhance experiential learning opportunities. Strategies to reach this goal include promoting and integrating global experience in the curriculum and increasing study-abroad opportunities. Another goal calls for increased diversity of faculty, staff, and students. Strategies here include enhancing support networks for faculty, staff, and students of diverse backgrounds and providing more international programming.

“We feel that we are in a whole new phase,” said Heidi Gregorighahan, director of International Programs and Services, the department that supports and coordinates international activity across campus.
USI chosen for national program focusing on China

As the University ratchets up its international focus, one of the most exciting developments is the opportunity to participate in the International Academic Partnership Program (IAPP), funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The program is sponsored by the Institute of International Education (IEE), the organization that administers the Fulbright program.

USI was chosen in January as one of 10 universities nationwide for the 2011 IAPP Program which will facilitate the formation of international partnerships with institutions in China, an economic and world power. The program will include a study tour this spring to visit institutions of higher education in China. Webinars, mentoring, and other services will foster the development of partnerships, faculty development, and the understanding of higher education in China.

“Student interest in study abroad, in general, and in China, in particular, has grown steadily in the past three years,” Gregori-Gahan said. “Our enrollment in Chinese language (which was introduced in 2009) remains strong. More USI faculty than ever before are interested in developing short-term programs abroad — ranging from business to public health to education.”

USI offers a major in international studies through the College of Liberal Arts. The College of Business is developing a major in international business.

Gregori-Gahan said the experience in China will provide a template that can be replicated as the University develops initiatives in other strategic regions of the world.

Osnabrück and other initiatives

The international focus includes the revitalization of a long-standing partnership with the University of Osnabrück and the University of Applied Sciences in Osnabrück, Germany. Dr. Silvia A. Rode, chair of the Modern and Classical Languages Department, visited the universities four years ago to promote new collaboration.

“They were tremendously eager,” she said.

Since that time, the deans and other representatives of the USI College of Business and College of Nursing and Health Professions have visited Osnabrück, and USI has hosted return delegations.

The conversations have paid off. Dr. Brandon M. Eggleston, USI assistant professor of health services/administration, taught international public health last year at the first annual International Summer University, sponsored by the University of Applied Sciences. He will return for summer 2011. Five USI students attended the 2010 program. USI students may apply for financial support to complete the program, which includes courses in language and culture as well as weekend trips to Paris and Berlin.

Eggleston traveled to Osnabrück for a week in December to teach about the U.S. healthcare system and to talk with faculty and students interested in attending programs at USI. Several exchanges are under development for next year.

Most recently, the College of Nursing and Health Professions hosted Johannes Grundmann, a doctoral candidate and lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences, for a 16-day stay during which he taught students about the German system of healthcare.

“We learn about the strengths and weaknesses of healthcare systems in the United States and Germany and how we solve problems differently,” he said. “We learn what we can pick up from each other.”

Dr. Kevin J. Valadares, director of the USI health services and health administration programs, taught at the University of Applied Sciences in
December during a week-long block program that included 40 seminars, many taught by international faculty.

“It was a diverse group that I got to know,” he said. “Faculty came from countries such as South Africa, Indonesia, and Slovakia.”

Valadares found students in Osnabrück surprised to learn that for most individuals between ages 18 and 64 in the United States, health insurance and thus healthcare are tied to being employed.

“That’s not the way it is in Germany,” he said, “although individuals can get added features by being employed.”

Faculty need experience in other traditions to be effective international-study teachers. Dr. Hilary Braysmith, associate professor of art history, completed the Asian Studies Development Program at East-West Center last summer in preparation to teach a non-western art history seminar and other courses. Eastern traditions can be incorporated into the material to internationalize the content. The program covered topics such as the graphic novels of India (similar to U.S. comic book art), traditional theatre in the East, and monuments of the East. Though the development program is located in the United States, the teaching faculty were experts from across the globe. She had teachers from India and Pakistan.

Braysmith experienced an exchange of influences. “You learn how to introduce a subject and how other teachers organize materials. And, because each participant gives a presentation, you learn from your classmates,” she said. “Even teachers who are passionate about teaching need intellectual stimulation to pump up their interest and reinvigorate their work.”

Besides being the focus of the IAPP Program, China is an area of interest for the USI education and social work programs. A delegation representing the Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services and the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation may go to China on a

In today’s highly competitive and global marketplace, graduates need a professional edge. Study abroad can make the difference, says Dr. Silvia A. Rode, chair of the Modern and Classical Languages Department.

“Regardless of location, companies operate in a global economy,” she said. “They look for employees who can understand and communicate with their counterparts all over the world. Cultural confrontation raises awareness, increases sensitivity, and gives graduates the ability to function in a global society.”

A native of southwest Germany, Rode came to the United States as an undergraduate student, studying initially in Florida. “I thought it was an exotic wonderland,” she said. “Everything was new and exciting.” She earned bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Rode encourages students to invest time in another country, especially in programs where they can immerse themselves in the language and culture. Students have been successful in applying for nationally competitive scholarships. The German government generously sponsors a range of scholarships and awards for undergraduate study. Hollan Staker, a German and English major, spent the 2009-10 academic year at the University of Osnabrück. She received a full scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (known as DAAD).

Rode provides opportunities for students to think globally and learn locally. She uses technology in the language lab to bring individuals from European universities into the classroom. Last semester students in her classes encountered well-known writers in the Netherlands and Switzerland through videoconferences.

Four years ago, Rode visited the University of Osnabrück and the University of Applied Sciences, also in Osnabrück. She encouraged new partnerships with these longtime USI education partners. USI colleagues followed up on the visit. Collaboration is flourishing with creative opportunities under development or in progress.

“The ties we have with Germany are very strong from Evansville to New Harmony to Osnabrück,” she said. “We have a strong German tradition.”

Osnabrück is a partner to Evansville through the Sister Cities International program.

Rode, associate professor of German, taught at Central College in Iowa prior to joining USI in 2007. She also has held teaching positions at Vanderbilt University and directed its study-abroad program at the University of Regensburg in Germany.

Continued
weeklong fact-finding trip this summer.

“We want our graduates to have the skills to work with a diverse body of students,” said Dr. Michael L. Slavkin, associate dean of the college. “It’s imperative that we prepare young people to work in a multicultural world. Our goal is to help them explore what it means to be a part of a global society.”

Participants plan to take beginning Chinese language and culture classes and tour cultural sites near Beijing, including the Great Wall and Tiananmen Square. During their time in China, they would seek opportunities for collaboration and exchange with various schools in Zhengzhou and Shanghai. Their aim will be to develop a cultural exchange that will allow USI faculty and students, along with area teachers and social workers, to partner with K-12 schools in China during the academic year as well as for short-term summer programs. They want to arrange distance education opportunities as well as traditional exchanges.

Other exploratory trips and discussions are contributing to global learning efforts of the University. USI President Linda L. M. Bennett participated in October in a Presidential Mission trip to Beijing sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (see p. 2). Dr. Ronald S. Rochon, provost, traveled to Mumbai and New Delhi to explore partnerships in India (see p. 10), along with Dr. Sudesh N. Mujumdar of the College of Business and Dr. Nadine Coudret and Dr. Ann White of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. A new partnership with Izmir University of Economics in Turkey, proposed by Dr. Mehmet Kocakulah of the College of Business and Gregori-Gahan, is currently under discussion.

Virtual collaboration

Technology offers new ways for students and faculty divided by oceans to collaborate. Marketing students of Virginia Weiler in the USI College of Business analyzed an international market basket of products last semester along with students at the University of Applied Sciences in Amsterdam and Business Academy Aarhus, Aarhus Tech in Denmark. Students exchanged information electronically. Each of the three faculty members videotaped a lecture for all students to access online.

Danish professor Ulrik Bisgaard believes more work of this sort — people working on the same project across borders and cultures — will be necessary and common in the future. “I think my students gained language skills, a better understanding of common problems in virtual project work, and also a view of two cultures different from the Danish,” he said.

Students in marketing also participated last semester in a virtual collaboration to compare the differences in how branding is used by corporations and politicians. The project was designed by Dr. Chad Milewicz and Dr. Carl Saxby, USI faculty members, in coordination with Dr. Kai Michael Griese, professor of international marketing management at the University of Applied Sciences in Osnabrück. Griese got to know Milewicz and Saxby as a member of a delegation that visited USI.

More study abroad: a national trend

USI is not alone in its focus on widening and encouraging students to pursue international experiences. Nationally, participation in study abroad more than doubled from 1989-90 to 2008-09. More than 260,000 U.S. students studied abroad for academic credit in 2008-09.

At USI, participation in semester-long study-abroad programs has more than doubled in the past five years, reaching a record number of 49 semester placements this year. Although the number of short-term programs led by USI faculty varies each year, the number of students participating in these has increased by 80 percent in the past five years. In 2009-10, 114 students earned academic credit for semester or short-term study abroad.

Increasingly, USI students choose programs in nontraditional locations, such as Uruguay, South Africa, Ghana, and Bulgaria. This year USI students attend programs in 19 countries.

Study-abroad programs at 281 locations in 60 countries are available to USI students. The University partners with organizations such as the International Student Exchange Program to provide a wide array of undergraduate opportunities. With advance planning, students in any field can find a program that fits their needs. In many cases, costs are based on tuition, room, and board at USI. Since
participants pay program fees to USI and receive USI credit, they can continue to apply their scholarship and other financial aid toward those fees.

International students at USI

While USI students take advantage of study programs in other countries, the University attracts progressively more students from abroad. This, too, follows a trend. Nationally, over the past decade international student enrollment increased by more than 26 percent to almost 691,000 students. International enrollment at USI has risen by 75 percent in the past three years. In fall 2010, 197 students representing 45 countries enrolled at USI. Their fields of study extended throughout all colleges of the University.

The diversity of the international student population enriches University and community life. International students share their culture in programs and events throughout the year. International students also have a significant economic impact. In fall 2010, international students at USI contributed more than $4 million to the area economy.

Campus opportunities

In 2009-10, the Office of International Programs and Services sponsored more than 75 programs and activities on campus and in the community.

USI students learn to appreciate and understand individuals of another culture through residence life by participating in the Global Community program, a multicultural living-learning community where American freshmen and international students interact on a daily basis.

The International Club, one of the most active student organizations on campus, also promotes understanding and unity. American and international students develop friendships through activities such as weekend trips and the annual International Food Expo.

Finland: an unforgettable experience in and out of the classroom

Elementary education major Jessica Roos got a look at one of the world’s highest-ranked educational systems last semester while she studied abroad through the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP).

A sophomore, Roos studied at the University of Jyvaskyla in Jyvaskyla, Finland. She observed in many classrooms but concentrated on a sixth-grade class and a class in English as a second language. She also had opportunities to teach.

An article in the October/November 2010 issue of NEA Today Magazine touted Finland’s education reform. Its students rank first among all developed nations on an international test for 15-year-olds in language, math, and science literacy.

Roos said elementary classrooms had a relaxed atmosphere. Students are encouraged to ask “why” questions.

“In the sixth grade, students are asking and answering questions of each other,” she said. “This helps them develop confidence.”

Roos taught fourth- and fifth-graders about American culture, including the Thanksgiving tradition. “They were able to carry on a conversation in English,” she said. “That impressed me.”

Through a program called Each One Teach One, Roos helped other college students learn English. “It became more of a friendship than a class,” she said. “We sat down together and talked in English.”

Roos chose Finland for study abroad as a personal challenge. “I wanted to get out of my comfort zone,” she said.

During her semester abroad, she took in sights near the university and traveled to other locations.

“I visited museums in my town and went to a chocolate factory right outside of town,” she said. “Finnish chocolate is the best.”

She visited the Aland Islands in the Baltic Sea on a trip sponsored by the university and spent four days in Russia.

“I saw many things that I thought I would see only in books,” she said of Russia. “I will never forget my time there.”

On a trip to Lapland, she saw the northern lights and experienced dog sledding.

Roos is historian for the USI Student Alumni Association. She graduated as a valedictorian from Evansville’s Central High School in 2009.

Jessica Roos withstands the frigid temperatures of the Arctic Circle.
Strategic directions

New directions in enhancing and integrating global awareness into the faculty and student experience combine with long-established opportunities at USI. Many faculty members involve students in research with far-reaching impact. Dr. Joseph A. DiPietro’s geologic research in the Himalayas of Pakistan, for example, has enriched his teaching for many years. Dr. Wendy Turner-Frey of the social work faculty leads an annual service-learning trip to Jamaica. The College of Nursing and Health Professions adds a new study program in Osnabrück this summer while continuing a long-standing summer experience that provides a firsthand look at the healthcare system in the United Kingdom. USI students and faculty prepare to contribute more to the global society through a growing array of international opportunities.

Business graduate represents Evansville company around the world

Alumnus Trenton Christian knew as a student he wanted a career involving international travel. Today he is a sales representative in eastern Asia and Australia for the International Operations Department of Red Spot Paint and Varnish. Based in Evansville, Christian travels out of the country about 75 days a year. He devotes much of his time to managing a joint venture in South Korea and supporting affiliates throughout China.

Learning about other cultures is fascinating to him. “Every country is different,” he said. “The overarching thing I’ve learned is to keep my eyes and ears open. I try to observe and listen. It’s not a time to be individualistic. As the relationship grows stronger, you can let more of yourself out. Colleagues will respect that.”

A 2007 graduate, Christian completed a major in business administration with an emphasis in international business and a minor in economics. As a student, he prepared himself to be ready for any international opportunity that came along. He participated in a summer study-abroad experience in Heidelberg, Germany, in 2005, traveling independently in Europe beforehand. Courses in international business included an independent study on international trade theory with Dr. Peter Cashel-Cordo. He completed five semesters of German at USI (in addition to a German language component in the Heidelberg program) and studied Japanese for one semester. In summer 2006, he completed an internship for Toyota supplier Millennium Steel Service. Learning during his senior year that Red Spot was expanding internationally, he contacted company officials. They were interested in his qualifications and created an internship. Christian worked six months as an intern and stepped into a full-time position upon graduation.

Recently, he served as alumnus in residence for the College of Business. He advised students that — no matter what their field — their future job may include some element of international business. Christian wants to be involved in an advisory capacity as the college develops a major in international business. He serves on the board of the Tri-State World Trade Network.

Christian has walked on the Great Wall of China, run a 10K along the barb-wired North Korean border, and visited the Taj Mahal. Still, he values most of all the personal relationships he has developed halfway around the world.

“Being able to see all these places is great,” he said, “but having dinner at the end of a day with my friends and colleagues — that’s rewarding for me.”
Each day brought new experiences for Leonard E. Dowhie, professor of art, last summer when he traveled to Taiwan to present guest lectures and workshops at Taipei National University of the Arts and the Yingge Ceramics Museum.

Taiwan native Ray Chen, a faculty member in ceramics at Indiana State University, arranged and led the 26-day trip. The group included Sala Wong and Peter Williams, faculty members in art from Indiana State and DePauw universities, respectively; Deborah Ball, a 2005 USI art graduate and a 2011 Master of Fine Arts graduate from Indiana State; and Karen Page, a student at Ivy Tech Community College.

A prolific ceramicist, Dowhie found a shared appreciation for the art of the teapot, a form that he favors in his studio work. Dowhie met Taiwanese master teapot maker and sculptor, Tang Kuo-Liang, and presented workshops to his students.

Excerpts from Dowhie’s detailed trip journal give insights into the cultural immersion and its impact.

**The ceramics.** The teapot and teacup are intricately woven into the Taiwanese culture. As master Tang says, you cannot make teapots until you understand tea and understanding tea takes more than merely sipping it during dinner.... The differences and the subtleties of tea are something one learns through time and study. Tea is such an important cultural activity that individual artists can make their entire living making and selling nothing but tea sets.

**Back home.** It will be exciting to see how and when we begin to see the influence our journey has given us. While I do not expect radical changes in the art works of any of us, I do expect that our attitudes toward our (and others’) work will change. As for me, I know the extraordinary kindness shown us by the people of Taiwan has begun to influence how I think about my teaching. I also believe the determination of the Taiwanese artists has made me rethink how I approach my own studio work.... Our individual and collective memories will be with us for life. ...Indeed, Taiwan is in our hearts.

For additional photos and impressions on the culture, the Joy Hotel, scooters, the countryside, food, workshops, and the museum, see online USI Magazine content.

Dowhie joined USI in 1978. He is on sabbatical during spring semester and plans to retire July 1.
Most University of Southern Indiana men's basketball players consider a road trip of a few days a long trip, but for senior center Mohamed Ntumba of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and freshman guard Eduardo Gallina of Brazil, road swings are just a part of the journey.

Ntumba took the first steps toward USI in Kinshasa, Congo, with the help of former USI player, Ilo Mutombo '92. “My family moved to the capital (Kinshasa) and I discovered basketball at the park,” said Ntumba. “I met Ilo and his brother Dikembe (a former NBA star) in Africa while they were distributing basketball shoes and equipment.”

Coaches from club teams noticed Ntumba, but the women triggered his trip to the United States. “Women from the club team played for the Africa championship and were recruited by Southeastern Illinois College (SIC),” Ntumba said. “They did very well at SIC and had the men's coach asking if there were any men players.

“I sent a player profile to the SIC coach and received an invitation to come to the United States. I had always wanted to further my studies, but going to school in Europe was going to cost too much. When I was offered the athletic scholarship at SIC, I decided to come to the United States.”

After two successful seasons at the community college in Harrisburg, Illinois, the 6-foot-7-inch, 230-pound center transferred to USI. He was a major factor off the bench for the Eagles through the first 14 games of last year and became a starter late in the season.

**Major contributor**

In 2010-11, Ntumba has become a dominant force for the Eagles and is a co-captain with senior guard Kevin Gant. He is second on the team in scoring with more than 13 points per game. He leads in rebounds with nearly 10 per appearance. Shortening his first name, USI fans chant “Mo-Mo” when he dunks the ball.

While he would like to play professional basketball, earning a degree in computer science is his top goal. “Computers are a growing field,” he said. “I will take what I have learned back to the family business (a conglomerate that includes transportation and farm equipment).”

To stay in touch with his family, Ntumba talks face-to-face by Skype, a free web videoconferencing program. “Calling is very expensive, but we can ‘Skype’ for hours,” Ntumba said. “I can stay up to date with the family and see them much more.”

**Brazil basketball**

Gallina traveled a different path to USI, leaving home at age 13 to play basketball at an academy in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

“My parents are physical education teachers in Brazil, so I've been in sports since the beginning,” Gallina said. “When I was 11, my dad said I had to pick a sport, so I chose basketball.

“I moved to Sao Paulo from Florianopolis (in southern Brazil) to concentrate on school and basketball. It was like being in college at 13. I lived in a dorm near the gym with seven other guys. I never thought about coming to America, but I have wanted to go pro since I was young.”

Three years later, he played for Reserve Christian School in Reserve,
Louisiana. He would have finished his prep career there after helping the team win the Class C state title in 2009, but the school closed its doors due to the recession.

Gallina moved to Riverside Academy, just blocks away from Reserve. He helped that team win the Class 2A state crown.

With each progressive level of play, Gallina has lived with fewer roommates — seven in Sao Paulo, three in Louisiana, and now two at USI.

Gallina plans to study engineering.

“I want something I can use in America or in Brazil since I don’t know where I am going to be,” he said.

The 6-foot-4-inch freshman has a brother, Lucas, who plays for Our Lady of Mount Carmel High School in Essex, Maryland. Eduardo, Lucas, and their parents, Doutel and Clarice, spent the winter holidays in Maryland.

The USI experience

In their first game as USI teammates, Ntumba and Gallina enjoyed the good-natured taunting of University of Illinois students at Urbana-Champaign.

“When the crowd started yelling ‘USA’, I said ‘wow, they are getting political’ and thought it was funny,” said Ntumba.

“Before the game the students were messing with us,” Gallina said. “They said ‘you’re from Brazil. You need to play soccer.’ One fan emailed me through Facebook to apologize and to say I really played well.”

Although both Ntumba and Gallina have been at USI for a short time, they have found a home in Evansville.

“At USI, I have met people and made friends from all over the world,” Ntumba said. “USI is established to help international students.”

Gallina, who has not been in one place more than three years in the last 10 years, said, “I thought all the cities would be bigger, like New York. Plus in this area, there are deer all over the place.”

While Ntumba is finishing his college career and Gallina is just beginning his, both will be capitalizing on what they learn and will take a piece of USI into a larger world.

**NCAA announces findings regarding 2008-09 violations**

The NCAA Committee on Infractions released its findings and placed the University of Southern Indiana on probation for one year due to violations involving the men’s basketball program during the 2008-09 academic year. The committee also levied a $2,500 fine and accepted USI’s vacating of all victories (27) during the 2008-09 season. No additional post-season bans were added past the GLVC-imposed penalty in 2009-10.

“The Committee on Infractions and the NCAA investigators commended our extraordinary cooperation,” said USI President Linda L. M. Bennett, “and praised our diligence in dealing with these violations.”

The report concluded that the University maintained “institutional control” and instituted corrective measures as soon as the violations were discovered.

**Baseball players presented championship rings**

USI celebrated the baseball team’s first national title with the presentation of the championship rings to players and coaches at halftime of the Screaming Eagles basketball game on December 4. The Eagles defeated the University of California-San Diego last spring to win the NCAA Division II Championship.
Alumni Council 2010-11

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2011 Alumni Calendar of Events

April 16
USI Day at the Zoo, Mesker Park Zoo

April 17
Spruce Up...time to refurbish campus trails, 4–6 p.m.

April 21
Indianapolis Chapter After-hours
7 p.m., Ted’s Montana Grill, Indianapolis

May 7
USI Alumni Association Annual Meeting
Followed by Class of 2011 Graduation Celebration Reception and Dinner
USI University Center

May 8
USI Spring Commencement
3 p.m., Roberts Stadium

June 5
Alumni Picnic, 4-6 p.m., USI Quad

June 9
Indianapolis Chapter Cook-out
6:30 p.m., Bob ’71 and Mary Roeder Home

June 18
USI Day at Churchill Downs, Louisville, KY

June 26-July 5
Shades of Ireland, USI Alumni Association Trip

July 21
USI Eagle Hour, 5-7 p.m., Ri Ra Irish Pub

July 30
USI Night with the Otters
6 p.m., picnic and baseball game, Bosse Field

August 19
Indianapolis USI Scholarship Golf Scramble
Noon, Eagle Creek Golf Club, Indianapolis

September 16
Alumni Golf Scramble
11:30 a.m., Helfrich Hills Golf Course

September 24-25
Parents & Families Weekend

All alumni are invited to attend these events.
1970s

Doug Joest ’75, accounting, was named manager of the Evansville Regional Airport.

Ken Sendelweck ’76, accounting, was appointed an officer for the Dubois County Area Development Corporation in Jasper, Indiana.

Alan Smith ’77, art, is founder of Alan Smith Graphic Design in Sunnyvale, California.

Dan Green ’78, psychology, is a mortgage servicing unit manager at Bank of America in Frisco, Texas.

1980s

Jeanne Dewig Mesker ’82, dental hygiene, is friends and alumni coordinator at Mater Dei High School in Evansville.

Mark Schultz ’82, marketing, has joined the sales staff at Piranha Mobile Shredding in Evansville.

Kathy Kuebler Oeth ’83, communications, has taken the position of administrative assistant in the USI College of Liberal Arts.

Mary Beckman ’84, psychology, ’94, occupational therapy, was promoted to occupational therapy manager at HealthSouth Deaconess Rehabilitation Hospital in Evansville.

Trudy Williams Stock ’86, accounting, has been named president and CEO of Harding, Shymanski & Co., in Evansville.

LaDonne Craig ’87, communications, was promoted to general manager of Townsquare Media, a seven-station radio cluster in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Gretchen Wallace Brennan ’88, communications, is senior counsel for CitiBank, N.A. in O’Fallon, Missouri.

Michael Roeder ’89, communications, was promoted to vice president of government affairs and corporate communications at Vectren Corporation in Evansville.

1990s

Mike Hensley ’90, English, has been named the project manager for The Nature Conservancy’s Green River Project in Boca Grande, Florida.

Jeffrey Somers ’90, economics/political science, has been promoted to vice president, cash management services at Ameriana Bank in New Castle, Indiana.

Daryn West ’90, business administration, ’10, accounting and professional services, joined Sanders Accounting as a certified public accountant in Evansville.

Jane Crowley ’91, Master of Business Administration, has joined RE/MAX Midwest Real Estate as a sales associate in Evansville.

Mike Beamer ’92, psychology, ’05, nursing, has taken the position of clinical application specialist at Draeger Medical in Telford, Pennsylvania.

John Gillespie ’92, social work, has been hired as a transitional residential therapist at Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. in Evansville.

Katherine Brizius Peak ’93, radiologic technology, is the technical director for the vascular lab for Evansville Surgical Associates.

Jason Smith ’94, biophysics, ’00, geology, is manager of production and development at CountryMark Energy Resources in Evansville.

Christopher Combs ’96, elementary education, is a seventh-grade remedial aide and sixth-grade boys’ basketball coach at Castle South Middle School in Newburgh, Indiana.

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Submit your news online and stay in touch with friends and former classmates.

• Professional news
• Education updates
• Engagements and marriages
• Births and adoptions

To access the password-protected area of the site, sign up by answering the personal security questions. If you need assistance, contact Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/464-1924 or alumni@usi.edu.

Send your email address to alumni@usi.edu to help us Go Green with Red, White, and Blue. The new community features allow increased online communication to and between alumni, and save on printing and postage costs.
40 Years of Connections

How do YOU stay connected to USI?

Organized with the first graduating class in 1971, the USI Alumni Association commemorates 40 years in 2011. Alumni tell us the many ways they stay connected to USI. Some ways are easier to achieve if you live in or around Evansville while others will connect you with USI from just about anywhere in the world.

“I stay connected through the Internet and through my granddaughter, Stephanie Orsburn, who is a student at USI.”

Dennis Orsburn ’71, retired, Springfield, Missouri

“I stay connected by: a) reading e-news, b) attending the basketball game- USI vs University of Indianapolis, c) attending other events held in Indy, and d) communicating personally with other USI people.”

Harolyn Atwater Torain ’71, retired assistant principal, Ben Davis Junior High School, Indianapolis

“I will always stay connected to my University. We especially like to attend basketball and baseball games, but other school-related functions as well. We make financial contributions where we can. I think it’s important to stay involved so my employer will see the value in continuing to support USI financially in the many ways it has over the years.”

Doug Claybourn ’77, assistant vice president, relationship manager private banking, Fifth Third Bank, Evansville

“Since I’m in Texas, I stay in touch through the alumni magazine and annual donations.”

Alan Tompkins ’83, vice president/general counsel, Unity Hunt Inc., Dallas, Texas:

“I have remained in contact through the Alumni Association and by volunteering and contributing to the USI Foundation. The association and foundation host great events, and I have benefitted from the association discounts.”

Jamie Wicks ’91 M’97, assistant vice president/trust officer, Fifth Third Bank, Evansville
"I speak to USI students and alumni, proudly display my USI license plate, donate funds, and attend alumni chapter meetings and events like the Greater Indianapolis Golf Outing to raise funds for student scholarships. I stay connected with fellow USI alums and “like” USI on Facebook."

Tarrie Kendall Crist ’94, co-owner, Bladz Lawn Care and Decorative Concrete Curbing, Indianapolis

"I have stayed connected through Career Services. My business participates in annual job fairs, mock interviews, and classes for outgoing seniors entering the job market."

Thomas Burkhardt ’96, general manager, C. H. Robinson Worldwide, Evansville

"I stay connected through the USI Speakers Bureau, donations, and attending USI events."

Amy Lutzel ’96, personal trainer, Ivy Tech Community College, Evansville

"I enjoyed so much my experience as a student, that after graduation my goal was to work for the University. Thus, I stay connected by being on campus each day, participating in events, and seeing how my financial contributions are put to good use."

Jenny Medcraft ’98, computer systems analyst, USI

"I have stayed connected with USI by serving on the Advanced Manufacturing and Industrial Supervision Advisory Board and the USI Alumni Council. I have also had the privilege to be a mentor in the Career Mentor Program and have helped recruit some of the nation’s top accounting students to work at our firm, Harding Shymanski & Company."

Kyle Wininger ’01, advisory services manager, Harding Shymanski & Company, Evansville

"I stay connected by pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree at USI."

Josh Ellard ’04, project engineer, Burlington Civil, Inc., Evansville

"I have contracted with the USI Center for Applied Research to do a research/survey for the City of Evansville/Department of Metro Development."

Lana Abel ’06 M’10, redevelopment specialist, Department of Metropolitan Development, City of Evansville
John Phipps ’96, business administration, has joined Heritage Federal Credit Union as chief lending officer in Evansville.

Christina Beeler ’98, social work, ’00, Master of Social Work, is a clinical social worker at Southern Hills Counseling Center in Rockport, Indiana.


Angela Hanes Torres ’98, communication/economics, ’07, Master of Business Administration, has been named manager and marketing director of the University Theatres at USI.

Rick Fiene ’99, physical education teaching, is a teacher at Elkhart Community Schools in Elkhart, Indiana.

Katie Sprouls ’99, psychology, is the chief executive officer/psychologist at Eleutheria L.L.C. Special Education Services in Avondale, Arizona.

Julie Stilger Willoughby ’99, health services, is a registered nurse at Floyd Memorial Hospital in New Albany, Indiana.

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Scott Bishop ’00, English, was appointed to the design team of E.W. Scripps' Centralized Services Group in Evansville.

Katherine TenHave Haraburda ’00, mechanical engineering technology, is a process engineer at Sony DADC in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Jill Zimmerman Harbison ’00, occupational therapy, is a policy analyst for the U.S. Census Bureau in Washington, D.C. She earned a master's degree in sociology from the University of Louisville.

Jason Hudnall ’00, communications, has joined Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance as an agent in Evansville.

Amanda Schreiber ’00, elementary education, is a second-grade teacher at Scott Elementary School in Evansville.

Anita Shaw ’00, social work, ’02, Master of Social Work, has been hired as an addiction services coordinator at Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. in Evansville.

Kara Baskett ’01, business administration, is a senior recruiter for Playdom (a Disney subsidiary) in the Greater Seattle area.

Richard Bennett ’01, biology, completed a doctorate in cellular molecular biology in 2007 at the University of Cincinnati. He is an assistant professor of biology at USI.

Lucas Franklin ’01, mechanical engineering technology, is the manager of the fossil hydro outage management department at Duke Energy Indiana in New Albany, Indiana.

Sara Hilderbrandt ’01, public relations and advertising, was promoted to accounting manager at U.S. Surveyor in Evansville.

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**Nursing pass rate is No.1 in state**

University of Southern Indiana is ranked No. 1 in Indiana for licensure exam pass rate by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

The 2010 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) graduates had a 99 percent pass rate on first attempt for the NCLEX exam, a test for entry-level nursing competencies of candidates for licensure.

“We’ve been informed that based upon this pass rate, USI is ranked No. 1 in Indiana and is in the top 10 percent in the nation,” said Dr. Ann White, associate dean of the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions. “A majority of graduates from nursing programs in the nation sat for the RN licensure exam between April and September 2010, as did USI students. For this same time period, the average pass rate for all schools in Indiana was 83 percent and the national average was 87 percent.”

“This ranking is important to USI and the College of Nursing and Health Professions,” said Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the college. “It speaks to the excellence of programs within the college and the dedication of our faculty, the partnership with our community healthcare providers, and the generous support of donors.”

The nursing program is celebrating more than 20 years of excellence since its start in 1988 when USI responded to the demand for a state-supported university four-year nursing program in southern Indiana. Coudret was appointed dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions and still serves in that capacity.

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**ATTENTION**

Former International Students

Are you interested in becoming part of a USI International Alumni Network? Renew friendships and meet other USI alumni around the globe.

Would you be interested in attending a gathering of international alumni in New York in 2012?

To indicate your interest and learn more, contact Heidi Gregori-Gahan, director of International Programs and Services, gahan@usi.edu.
Kyle Wininger ’01, accounting, has received the certified valuation analyst designation from the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts. He is employed with Harding, Shymanski & Co., P.S.C. in Evansville.

Jessica Sallee Cottone ’02, business administration, is the operations support supervisor at Professional Transportation in Evansville.

Heath Powers ’02, finance, has joined Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance as an agent in Evansville.

Kimberly Armstrong ’03, English, has joined USI Outreach and Engagement as an administrative assistant.

Jennifer Jones Chansler ’03, accounting, is the controller at SCHOTT Gemtron Corporation in Vincennes, Indiana.

April Beasley Forker ’03, public relations and advertising, has joined Tri-State Athletic Club as a concierge and marketing agent in Evansville.

Joshua Gessling ’03, political science, has joined the Evansville law firm of Kahn, Dees, Donovan & Kahn, LLP, as an associate attorney in the firm’s litigation department.

Joshua Hodge ’03, finance, is an administrative coordinator at Innovative Consulting Group in Evansville.

Jarod Morrison ’03, finance, is the director of financial planning and analysis at MasterBrand Cabinets in Jasper, Indiana.

Caitlin Poe ’03, political science, ’08, Master of Public Administration, has been appointed by Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman to serve on the Indiana Main Street Council. She is the executive director of Historic Newburgh, Inc.

Ryan Rubenacker ’03, political science, is the owner of Rube’s Liquor Locker in Hamilton County, Illinois.

Michael Shirrell ’03, political science, ’06, Master of Business Administration, is a project manager at Klipsch Group, Inc. in Indianapolis.

Julie Heil Stucki ’03, health services, is a cardiac rehabilitation exercise specialist at The Heart Hospital in Evansville.

Richard Clements ’04, Master of Business Administration, has been appointed assistant vice president and commercial relationship manager at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Travis Clowers ’04, political science, was elected Posey County prosecutor in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

Shawn Collins ’04, art, is founder and chief executive officer of EXTEND Interactive in Evansville.

Emily Dunbar-Daugherty ’04, public relations and advertising, has joined Information Technology Architects, Inc. as an account executive in Evansville.

Sarah Hogg ’04, political science, is a manager at Fleishman-Hillard, a communications agency, in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Jim McGillem ’04, health services, has been appointed director of facility and real estate operations for Saint Mary’s Health System in Evansville.

Matt Overley ’04, biology, is a family medicine resident at Saint Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

Kimberly Nall Stambush ’04, management, has received the 2010 Emerging Leadership Award from the Indiana Credit Union League for leadership skills and outside accomplishments. She is the manager of Evansville Teachers Federal Credit Union Call Center.

Wendy Hudson Youngblood ’04, computer information systems, has joined Information Technology Architects as an IT technician in Evansville.

Kyle Bernhardt ’05, sociology, has been named property manager for F.C. Tucker Emge Realtors’ Property Management Solutions Division in Evansville.

Bryce Corbin ’05, engineering, an engineer with Hafer Associates in Evansville, passed the professional engineering test.

Kyle Dodd ’05, marketing, was promoted to vice president/relationship banker/commercial lending at First Federal Savings in Evansville.

Andy Lannert ’05, accounting and professional services/finance, was promoted to audit supervisor at Dauby O’Conner & Zaleski, LLC in Evansville.

Seven inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame

Five former student athletes and two past directors of athletics are the newest members of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame.

The 2011 class includes Chad Gilbert ’97, men’s basketball, 1994-96; Keil Kaiser ’97, men’s cross country and track, 1992-97; Jason Krack ’96, baseball, 1992-95; Karianne Osowski ’95 M’97, softball, 1993-95; Meagan Russell ’00, women’s soccer, 1996-99; Dr. Donald Bennett, director of Athletics, 1992-95, and vice president for Student Affairs, 1970-95; and Wayne Boultinghouse, men’s basketball coach and director of Athletics 1974-81.

The new members were inducted in a ceremony during Homecoming Week in January. Photos and more are available online.

Go to www.gousieagles.com for expanded web-only content
Jamie Meece ’05, history, is a staff archaeologist and lithic analyst at Cultural Resource Analysts in Hurricane, West Virginia.

Kalie Ackerman Naas ’05, elementary education/French, is a teacher/coach for Avon Community School Corporation in Avon, Indiana.

Rhonda Powell Welch ’05, social work, is a social service clinician with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services in Henderson, Kentucky.

Brooke Decker Arterberry ’06, English/psychology, graduated from Indiana University with a master’s degree in counseling in May 2010. She was accepted into the University of Missouri-Columbia doctoral program in counseling psychology.

David Bothast ’06, elementary education, is the director of Goodwill Family Center in Evansville.

Courtney Carrico ’06, chemistry, is a medical student at DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine in Harrogate, Tennessee.

Loretta Young Heidorn ’06, Master of Business Administration, has been named director of performance management and continuous improvement for the Vectren Corporation in Evansville.

Elise Campbell Schutt ’06, nursing, ’10, Master of Science in Nursing, has taken the position of nurse practitioner at Plaza Park Family Practice in Evansville.

Amanda Kelly Certain ’07, accounting and professional services, has taken the position of vessel database operator for SABIC Innovative Plastics in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

Brian Reine ’07, computer science, has joined Keller Schroeder as a member of the Network Solutions Group in Evansville.

Brandon Robbins ’07, economics, is a homeland security planner for Indiana Department of Homeland Security in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Terrance Smith ’07, marketing, has joined American General Life and Accident as an insurance agent in Evansville.

Tajee Goldsberry Wathen ’07, elementary education, was promoted to reimbursement services manager at Progressive Health in Evansville.

Myra Wetzel ’07, health services, has been appointed clinic manager for the Saint Mary’s Pulmonary Care, Rheumatology and Sleep Center Physicians in Evansville.

Amy Aders ’08, accounting, is an accountant for the City of Huntingburg in Huntingburg, Indiana.

Derrick Coy ’08, communications, has joined Management Recruiters of Newburgh as an executive recruiter, specializing in biotech/biomedical industries in Newburgh, Indiana.

Stephanie Elam ’08, radio and television, is a production assistant at WSJV Fox 28 in Elkhart, Indiana.

Jason Hurst ’08, history, is a banker at First Vincennes Savings Bank in Vincennes, Indiana.

Joseph Love ’08, biology, presented research in May at the Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference in Amsterdam. He is a post-baccalaureate trainee in the research laboratory of Dr. Joey Barnett ’81 at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Quintin Myers ’08, elementary education, is a fourth grade teacher for Washington Community Schools in Washington, Indiana.

License to Learn

Support and promote the University of Southern Indiana. When you purchase a USI collegiate plate for your vehicle, you show pride in the University and provide scholarships for deserving USI students.

The USI plate has a new design!

Order or renew your plates www.alumni.usi.edu by mail, or at your local license branch.

Alumnus named to Country Radio Hall of Fame

Dale Carter ’88, program director and morning show host at KFKF in Kansas City, Missouri, has been inducted into the Country Radio Hall of Fame. He was recognized in March at a ceremony in Nashville as a 2011 On-Air Personality inductee.

Carter began his career in country radio in 1979 at WROZ in Evansville and later worked at WROZ and WYNG. Prior to joining KFKF, he was program director and on-air personality with WWYZ in Hartford, Connecticut. Carter is a District 1 City Councilman in Blue Springs, Missouri, and the stadium voice for the Kansas City Chiefs.
Jennifer Kluesner Titzer ’08, nursing, ’10, Master of Science in Nursing, has taken the position of full-time faculty member in the undergraduate nursing program at USI. Jennifer has been accepted into the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at USI.

Lacey Wheeler ’08, public relations and advertising, is a graphic designer at The Journal Review in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

David Wilson ’08, management, has joined Whayne Supply Company as an agri-specialist in Evansville.

Mandy Chinn ’09, accounting and professional services, has joined Regency Properties as a financial analyst in Evansville.

Anthony Delp ’09, political science, is a management assistant at the United States Census Bureau in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Shauntrece Crider Deters ’09, nursing, ’10, Master of Science in Nursing, is a nurse practitioner at Plaza Park Family Practice in Evansville.

Joshua Dodd ’09, visual art teaching, has taken the position of art instructor at Jasper High School in Jasper, Indiana.

Michael Hawa ’09, nursing, is the first recipient of the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses at Saint Mary’s Medical Center in Evansville.

Kimberly Hayes ’09, occupational therapy assistant, is an occupational therapy assistant at Transcendent Healthcare in Owensville, Indiana.

Kimberly Davis Hill ’09, mathematics teaching, has taken the position of math teacher at Heritage Hills High School in Lincoln City, Indiana.

Lesley Lockhart ’09, radiologic technology, is a computed tomography technologist at Methodist Hospital in Henderson, Kentucky.

Daniel Lucky ’09, Master of Science in Nursing, is a police academy graduate and a public health nurse practitioner with the Ceres Police Department in Ceres, California.

Betty Brown heads national professional group

Betty Brown ’92 M’04 is president elect of the National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ), the nation’s leading organization for healthcare quality professionals. Brown is senior vice president and chief quality and safety officer for Parkview Health in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

An NAHQ fellow since 2006, she is co-chair of the organization’s national Fellowship Review Board. She has held several positions with NAHQ and has been active in the state affiliate for Indiana. NAHQ has more than 4,000 professional members and 100 institutional members.

Rick Reed’s first novel published

Rick Reed ’92, a retired Evansville Police Department detective, is the author of The Cruelest Cut, published in November by Kensington Publishing Corporation of New York.

The novel, Reed’s first, features fictional hero Jack Murphy, a detective in Evansville’s violent crime unit. Reed is working on two more books in the Jack Murphy series. He is co-author with Steven Brown of the 2009 book Blood Trail, the story of Indiana serial killer Joseph W. Brown. Reed majored in sociology at USI.

Deidra Conner receives Distinguished Accountant Award

Deidra R. Conner ’87, president and executive director of Evansville ARC, Inc., has been named University of Southern Indiana Distinguished Accountant for 2010.

The award recognizes professional achievement, service to the region and/or the University, and service to the accounting profession. The USI College of Business accounting program and the Accounting Circle, an advisory group, presented the award.

Conner joined Evansville ARC in 2001 as director of finance and was promoted to her present position in 2002. The nonprofit organization provides programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Kathy Schoettlin named ATHENA winner

Kathy Schoettlin ’92 was named the 2010 ATHENA Award recipient in Evansville.

Named for the Greek goddess of wisdom, the award promoting women’s leadership is administered each year by the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana.

Schoettlin is the chief marketing and communications officer and an executive vice president for Old National Bank.
Ron Romain inducted into Evansville Business Hall of Fame

Ronald Romain ’73, president of United Companies in Evansville, is a 2010 inductee into the Evansville Business Hall of Fame. The awards are sponsored by the Evansville Business Journal and Junior Achievement of Southwestern Indiana.

United Companies, a transportation and commercial financing firm operating throughout North America, is listed as one of Indiana’s top 100 privately held companies. It includes Professional Transportation, Inc., United Leasing, Inc., and Romain Automotive Group.

Romain also was honored recently with the Dr. William Wooten Champion of Youth First Award for his philanthropic support of youth and families through Youth First and other causes. A marketing graduate, Romain is a member of the USI Board of Trustees.

Peggy Hollis named USI Distinguished Nursing Alumna

Peggy F. Hollis, a specialist in wound, ostomy, and continence care at St. Mary’s Medical Center in Evansville, is the 2010 recipient of the Distinguished Nursing Alumna Award presented by the USI Nursing Alumni Society.

She was honored in the fall at the organization’s annual dinner. Her service to the College of Nursing and Health Professions includes assistance in developing a continuing education program in wound management that has been completed by nurses across the United States and from other countries. She teaches USI nursing students in the clinical setting.

Hollis earned a bachelor’s degree in 1999 and a master’s degree in 2003 from the USI nursing program.

Leukemia Research Foundation recognizes Jennifer Tornatta

Jennifer Tornatta ’05, advanced practice nurse/clinical manager at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, is one of two nurses selected as the 2010 Nurse of the Year by the Leukemia Research Foundation, based in Wilmette, Illinois.

The award recognizes the contributions of hematol- 
gy-oncology nurses to the care of patients with leukemia, lymphoma, and myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS). Nominations from dozens of hospitals, doctors’ offices, and hematology/oncology clinics throughout Illinois and parts of Wisconsin and Indiana are submitted annually for the award.

Tornatta earned degrees in nursing and health services at USI and a master’s degree in nursing from Indiana University.

Jacob Minniear ’09, public relations and advertising/international studies, has joined the USI English Department as an instructor in English as a Second Language International. He teaches three courses to 40 students from nine countries.

Carol Vermilye Periou ’09, social work, ’10, Master of Social Work, was hired as an intensive outpatient therapist at Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. in Evansville.

Craig Prindle ’09, public relations and advertising, is an account executive at FOX 7 WTVW in Evansville.

Nick Sallee ’09, marketing, has been named a power systems rental representative for Whayne Supply Company’s western region.

Erik Scheub ’09, public relations and advertising, is the director of media and public relations at the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault in Indianapolis.

Julie Talbot ’09, radiologic technology, is a diagnostic medical sonographer and vascular technologist at Evansville Surgical Associates and Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

Adam Trinkel ’09, political science/public relations and advertising, is an account executive at FOX 7 WTVW in Evansville.

Brady Edwards ’10, elementary education, is a kindergarten teacher at Van Buren Elementary School in Plainfield, Indiana.

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Adam Trinkel ’09, political science/public relations and advertising, has joined the USI Development office as an annual giving officer.

Brandon Whobrey ’09, marketing, is a navy representative for the U.S. Navy in Indianapolis.

Stephanie Wilson ’09, chemistry, has been awarded a Graduate Fellowship in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering from the U.S. Department of Energy. She is a graduate student at Texas A&M University, studying inorganic/organometallic chemistry.

Jeff Alexander ’10, management, has taken the position of corporate operations management trainee at Kerry Ingredients and Flavours in Evansville.

Samantha Davis ’10, health services, is a marketing assistant at Wabash Valley Eye Center in Vincennes, Indiana.
Meral El Ramahi ’10, biology, is a recipient of a nationwide Tylenol Scholarship. She is a medical student at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine in Iowa City, Iowa.

Robert Hafner ’10, Master of Science in Nursing, has accepted the position of acute care nurse practitioner with Centerpoint Medical Center in Independence, Missouri.

Eric Knepp ’10, art, has taken the position of designer at Gray Loon Marketing Group in Evansville.

Jennifer Lowe ’10, elementary education, has taken the position of site coordinator for the 21st Century After-School Program at Springs Valley Elementary School in French Lick, Indiana.

DeAndra Magdaleno ’10, health services, is a dental assistant with Meyer & Hall in Bedford, Indiana. She also works in the emergency room and front-desk registration at Monroe Hospital in Bloomington, Indiana.

Kacheyta McClellan ’10, management, was promoted to assistant director of the Multicultural Center at USI.

Leah Oeth ’09, health services, ’10, radiologic technology, is a sonographer at The Women’s Hospital in Newburgh, Indiana.

Bryan Smith ’10, business administration, has joined Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division as a program analyst in Crane, Indiana.

Katlyn Thais ’10, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist at Herman Family Dental in Vincennes, Indiana.

Nick Wildeman ’10, business administration, was elected auditor of Posey County. He is the youngest person to be elected county auditor in the state of Indiana. He resides in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

William Yu ’10, Master of Social Work, has been hired as an intensive outpatient therapist at Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. in Evansville.

### Marriages

Michele Rodriguez ’99, elementary education, and Kenny Mansfield, November 6, 2010

Jennifer Craig ’01, health services, and Jake Williams ’07, finance, ’10, Master of Business Administration, March 5, 2011

April Hecker ’04, exercise science, and Adam Alday, October 9, 2010

Stephanie Hummel ’05, public relations and advertising, and Zack Starkey ’06, engineering, October 23, 2010

Rhonda Powell ’05, social work, and Jeffrey Welch, December 12, 2009

Nate Willis ’05, accounting and professional services, and Samantha Keller, June 12, 2010

Jason Goodwin ’07, social science teaching, and Jaqueline Eguia, July 23, 2010

Amanda Wilson ’07, health services, and Troy Helm ’04, business administration, October 4, 2008

Amy Aders ’08, accounting and professional services, and Nicholas Stevens, September 4, 2010

Kimberly Davis ’09, mathematics teaching, and Garren Hill ’08, sociology, March 27, 2010

Joshua Dodd ’09, visual art teaching, and Megan Wagner, July 3, 2010

Matthew Staller ’10, radio and television, and Amber Davis, July 24, 2010

### Births

Randall Harris ’87, communications, and Denise welcomed Jenna Denise, October 12, 2010

Amy Huebschman Lutzel ’96, communications/German, and John welcomed Breanne Elizabeth, adopted September 14, 2010

Erin Wilson Stump ’98, elementary education, ’05, Master of Science in Education, and Steven Stump ’99, communications, ’09, Master of Business Administration, welcomed Lauren Elizabeth, November 17, 2010

Lori Logan Craig ’09, occupational therapy assistant, and Grant Craig ’02, business administration, welcomed Evan Andrew, August 19, 2010

James Myrick ’99, physical education teaching, and Melodie welcomed Sawyer Allen, June 23, 2010

Danielle Hargis-Scott ’00, occupational therapy, and Sanford welcomed Ansley Danielle, June 10, 2010

Jamie Gregory Mullins ’00, elementary education, and Scott Mullins ’00, political science, welcomed Hollis Elliot, November 21, 2010

Jean Cunningham Blanton ’01, political science/public relations and advertising, and Jared Blanton ’05, marketing, welcomed Haley Jane, September 8, 2010

Mark Chandler ’01, business administration, and Renee welcomed Mallory Ann, December 1, 2010

Krista Schmutzler Downey ’01, nursing, and Josh Downey ’03, exercise science, welcomed Cooper Alan, March 18, 2010

Kari Bryant Kirsch ’02, business administration, and Christopher welcomed Parker Brian, August 26, 2010

Erin Wilson Stump ’98, elementary education, ’05, Master of Science in Education, and Steven Stump ’99, communications, ’09, Master of Business Administration, welcomed Lauren Elizabeth, November 17, 2010

Lori Logan Craig ’09, occupational therapy assistant, and Grant Craig ’02, business administration, welcomed Evan Andrew, August 19, 2010

James Myrick ’99, physical education teaching, and Melodie welcomed Sawyer Allen, June 23, 2010

Danielle Hargis-Scott ’00, occupational therapy, and Sanford welcomed Ansley Danielle, June 10, 2010

Jamie Gregory Mullins ’00, elementary education, and Scott Mullins ’00, political science, welcomed Hollis Elliot, November 21, 2010

Jean Cunningham Blanton ’01, political science/public relations and advertising, and Jared Blanton ’05, marketing, welcomed Haley Jane, September 8, 2010

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Kari Bryant Kirsch ’02, business administration, and Christopher welcomed Parker Brian, August 26, 2010

Erin Smith Watjen ’02, marketing, and Jess welcomed Elaina Marie, June 10, 2010

Mark Brendel ’03, art, and Nikki welcomed Micah Joseph, April 8, 2010

Tori Owens Osban ’05, accounting and professional services/computer information systems, and Christopher welcomed Parker Brian, August 26, 2010

Reyne Padgett Vollmer ’05, elementary education, and Scott welcomed Cooper Henry, February 13, 2010
Sarah Chandler Burke '06, elementary education, and Bart Burke '05, elementary education, welcomed Olivia Loraine, April 18, 2010

Jonathan Helm '06, radio and television, and Mary welcomed Navy Ann, September 4, 2010

Sara Droge Wininger '06, accounting and professional services, and Kyle Wininger '01, accounting, welcomed Emma Christine, August 19, 2010

Kara Dyrkopp Brass '07, radiologic imaging, and Derek welcomed Olivia Hope, October 12, 2010

Rachel Scheu Stratman '07, health services, '08, nursing, and Chris welcomed Cameron Alan, October 24, 2010

Jeanette Schafer Hay '08, nursing, and Edward welcomed Lillian Grace, July 27, 2009

Cindy Robertson Callahan '09, elementary education, and Tony welcomed Andrew Joseph, August 16, 2010

Ann Sisk Moore '09, social work, and Charles welcomed Mailey Nicole, July 6, 2010

In Memoriam

Ralph Dierlam '71, management, of Rock Island, Illinois, died May 10, 2010. He was a member of the Posey County Masonic Lodge in Poseyville, Indiana. Dierlam had been employed by Swanson Nunn Electrical, Alcoa, Montgomery Ward, and Sears.

Richard Hettenbach '73, business, of Evansville, died August 24, 2010. He retired as the director of career and employment services from Ivy Tech Community College. At the time of his death, he was the admissions tele-counselor at Ivy Tech. He formerly worked at Mead Johnson and Medco. Hettenbach was active in the community, serving on many boards, clubs, and committees.

Sherry Miley Huck ’73, elementary education, of Evansville, died August 34, 2010. She taught at Tekoppel Elementary School for 23 years.

William Fox ’75, sociology, of Evansville, died October 23, 2010. A green beret in the army, he received a Purple Heart for his service in the Vietnam War. Fox worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 30 years, first as a clerk, and the last five years in the Passport and Claims Office.

Ruth Blythe Cobb ’77, elementary education, of Evansville, died December 8, 2010. She was a teacher for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, teaching at Scott and Harper elementary schools.

James Parrent Jr. ’77, art, of Mount Vernon, Indiana, died January 13, 2011. He taught drawing and design at USI for many years. Parrent was deeply connected to nature and owned James Parrent Garden Design for the past 10 years. His favorite projects were the Lenz House Garden in New Harmony and the grounds of Willard Library in Evansville.

Gene Holtry ’81, English, of Evansville, died August 14, 2010. He was a radio announcer at WRAY Radio in Princeton, Indiana. He worked at Central and Willard Libraries.

Cobb (Nick) Tait II ’82, sociology, of Evansville, died October 27, 2010. He was a retired executive director of Echo Housing Corporation. He served on the board of the Evansville Zoological Society and ECHO. Tait was a former member of the North Park Kiwanis Club.

Linda West ’82, accounting, of Boonville, Indiana, died August 23, 2010. She was an office manager at Just for Kids Dentistry for 15 years.

Dian Killough Troutman ’85, accounting, of Henderson, Kentucky, died August 12, 2010.

Joseph Jacobs ’93, philosophy, ’96, Master of Liberal Studies, of Evansville, died January 11, 2011. He was an organist at Holy Redeemer Church.

Phyllis Dawson ’94, nursing, of Newburgh, Indiana, died November 15, 2010.


Lindsey Franklin ’04, business administration, of Evansville, died October 21, 2010. She worked as a server at O’Charley’s.

We want to hear from you!

Do you have professional news about yourself to share with fellow graduates? Have you moved? Do you have a suggestion for a story? Let us know! We value your comments via mail (Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712), phone (812/464-1924), FAX (812/464-1956), or email (alumni@usi.edu).
ENJOY ACTIVITIES IN NEW HARMONY, INDIANA

Heritage Artisans Week
April 12-16
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Celebrating 19th century crafts with more than 20 authentic craftsmen. For adults and children. There is a fee.

Fourth of July Celebration
Patriotic speeches, music, and community picnic

Archicamp
July 15-16
A day camp for children ages 8 to 12 who want to learn about architecture

VIEW LABYRINTHS IN THE MAKING

Labyrinth enthusiasts and experts met in New Harmony in November to celebrate the use of labyrinths and to see a variety of labyrinths created during the annual gathering of the Labyrinth Society. New Harmony is home to the Harmonist Labyrinth and the Cathedral Labyrinth.

Photos of the work of artist-in-residence Jim Buchanan also are available online. His work was installed at a historic log cabin on West Street in New Harmony as part of the Society’s gathering.

Historic New Harmony, an outreach program of the University of Southern Indiana in partnership with the Indiana State Museum and Historic Site, preserves the utopian legacy of New Harmony through its programs, retreats, and tours. Engagement opportunities are available year round for students and faculty of USI and visitors to the town.
2011 Season

Lost in Yonkers
A comedic drama by Neil Simon
June 17-26

The 39 Steps
A fast-paced comedy adapted by Patrick Barlow, from the novel by John Buchan
July 8–17

Avenue X
An a capella musical with concept, book and lyrics by John Jiler, and music and lyrics by Ray Leslee
July 22-August 7

Producing Artistic Director – Elliot Wasserman
Managing/Marketing Director – Angela Torres

www.newharmonytheatre.com
877/NHT-SHOW