University of Southern Indiana



From the editor

Get the Edge.

As you receive this issue of *USI Magazine*, we are in the midst of rolling out a bold new identity initiative for USI, "Get the Edge." It's a way for us, as a University, to focus on what we're already doing well, and share those stories with you.

Get the Edge applies to many things. Our students get the edge through top-notch affordable education, global learning opportunities, internships, state-of-the-art facilities, and excellent faculty—just to name a few. Our 32,000 alumni are strong examples of what it means to get the edge.

The community benefits through outreach and engagement and service learning projects. Local business and industry have access to well-educated employees and interns and benefit from ongoing partnerships with the University. Our faculty, alumni, and friends help us give our students the upper hand.

In this edition you'll see stories of how USI provides the edge through experiential learning opportunities. From applied engineering and archaeology, to writing and English skills, our students get the experiences that give them a competitive edge in today's job market, engage them in real-world experiences, and prepare them to be leaders in our region and beyond.

You can get a feel for the new initiative by taking a look at the ad on the back cover of this issue. That's not the only place you'll see it. We're rolling it out in campus and community publications, radio and television ads, marketing and recruitment pieces, our web site, and on billboards around town.

You'll also see Get the Edge across campus, at sporting events, and on our clothing and other items in the USI Bookstore.

I hope the message and stories you see are something you can be proud of—we certainly are, and you're an important part of our story.

John Farless '98

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On the Cover

A portion of the ceiling of the Adath B'Nai Israel Temple in Evansville. The photograph is part of a collection of images by Jessica Durkin, a senior international studies major from Houston, Texas, who is cataloging all of Evansville's religious architecture, regardless of denomination, through a project made possible in part by the USI Foundation. See page 10.



Biology experience in Belize



Mathew Rowe: Reitz Home Museum

USI Magazine

Online exclusives

- Spiritual Structures images
- Loft renovation slideshow
- Sister city students
- Strategic Plan update
- and more online content







Experiential Learning

Opportunities expanded at home and abroad

I'm often struck by the wide variety of experiences that our students are involved in. Here at USI, we're much more than a brick and mortar school. Our classrooms extend into the community, throughout the region, and around the world. Through a strong focus on experiential learning, our students will leave here prepared for a world of opportunities.

Our new Applied Engineering Center, featured in this issue, will be completed this fall, and will give students hands-on, realworld training in exciting new areas of industry, applied engineering, and business applications. It really is an incredible facility, from the state-of-the-art equipment, to the partnerships that will be formed with industry.

Next summer our Archaeology Field School will be heading to Fort Quiatenon, near West Lafayette, where our students will be digging up an exciting piece of U.S. history. We're able to do this thanks to an important grant from the National Parks Service.

When we developed the goal of enhancing experiential learning opportunities in our strategic plan, international study programming was an important part of the goal. In a little more than a year, faculty and students have deepened USI's commitments in China, India, Scotland, Malta, Germany, and Uganda. USI's impact is extending beyond the region and state to national and international venues. In this issue you'll see examples of an intern in India and a group of students spending part of their summer studying in Belize. What these students learn will change how they view the world, their college experience, and likely their life choices.

I think it's clear that we're providing more than an education. We're giving our graduates opportunities that will give them a competitive edge throughout life.

You have been part of this growth and making these experiences possible. I hope you are as excited as I am by the stories of experiential learning in this issue. There is more to come.

USI breaks ground on state-of-the-art teaching theatre

Opening set for fall 2014

Before ground was broken for the highly anticipated \$16.7 million USI Teaching Theatre, its location was already the site of a top-notch performance. At a groundbreaking ceremony on August 14, Department of Performing Arts alumni (and spouses) Kensington Blaylock Eck '08 and Brandon Eck '10 entertained assembled supporters of USI with a rendition of "Brush up Your Shakespeare" from Cole Porter's Kiss Me Kate.

After the lively performance and remarks from President Linda L. M. Bennett and USI Board of Trustees Chair Ted Ziemer Jr., Elliot Wasserman, chair of Performing Arts and director of Theatre, said, "Today we stand on the doorstep to a promising future in the performing arts here at USI. For many years we could only dream of this theatre, and then we spent several years actively planning it, lobbying for it, funding it, and engaging in a collaboration which everyone here today may be justly proud of, from students past and present who demonstrated the need for a theatre. to administrators who responded to the challenge, to legislators who listened and understood its importance, to the teachers who clarified its range of effect, and to the architects who gave it shape. It says that here is a university that celebrates its cultural legacy and keeps its eve on the future."

Among those in attendance at the groundbreaking were Barbara Blevins. wife of the late Dr. James Blevins, dean emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts; Bruce Baker, chair of the USI Foundation; Scott Wylie, chair of the USI Society for Arts and Humanities; and Dr. Douglas



Hubbell, associate professor emeritus of theatre. Legislators in attendance were Vaneta Becker, Ron Bacon, Wendy McNamara, Gail Riecken, and Jim Tomes, as well as former legislator Dennis Avery.

The Teaching Theatre will be constructed using locally sourced and recycled materials such as those utilized in the construction of University Center East—clay pipe from Can Clay Corporation of Cannelton, chair legs from Jasper Chair Company, and Bedford limestone. In addition, the theatre will include a sound baffle system with acoustic panels created with Toyota Sienna dashboards donated by Princeton-based Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Inc.

The theatre's red sandstone exterior is an homage to the Smithsonian Institution's Castle. Built in 1855, it is the oldest building on the National Mall. Congressman Robert Dale Owen (son of Robert Owen, founder of the second utopian experiment at New

Harmony) was chair of the Smithsonian Building Committee. His brother, geologist David Dale Owen, recommended it be built from red sandstone. Both Owens resided in New Harmony for a time, and USI is one of the sponsors of Historic New Harmony.

A virtual tour of the USI Teaching Theatre as well as a video of the groundbreaking is online at www.usi.edu/magazine.

Like UC East, the Teaching Theatre was designed by Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture of New York. It will have a thrust stage with additional staging areas incorporated into the walls, a shallow proscenium to allow for greater sightlines, exceptional natural acoustics, and state-of-the-art light and sound technology. "We will become the premiere theatre program in the state and region," Wasserman said. "We already have the programs, and now we'll have the facilities to match."

The general contractor is Empire Construction, mechanical contractor Deig Brothers Construction, and electrical contractor Alva Electric with mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineering by Hafer Associates. Estimates are that more than 100 construction jobs will result from the two-year project.

"Today we stand on the doorstep to a promising future in the performing arts here at USI.

-Elliot Wasserman, chair of Performing Arts and director of Theatre



USI home to sister city students

This semester, USI, through the Office of International Programs and Studies, is providing a temporary home for exchange students from all three of Evansville's sister cities, Tizimín, Mexico; Osnabrück, Germany; and Tochigi, Japan.

Evansville's three sister cities are designated by Sister City International, Inc., a nonprofit citizen diplomacy network that creates and strengthens partnerships between the United States and international communities. USI has fostered unique partnerships with universities in all three of Evansville's sister cities, inviting exchange students to participate in interdisciplinary and disciplinary programs. Some of the partnerships have been ongoing for years.

Read more about each of the exchange students online at www.usi.edu/magazine. ᠺ

Administrative Appointments









Dr. Bonnie Wilcoxen Beach has been named associate dean for Teacher Education in the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education.

Beach has 22 years of experience in higher education. Prior to serving as dean of Education for Ohio Dominican University, she also served as a faculty member at Ohio University, teaching mathematics education and curriculum change courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and serving as associate dean for Ohio University's College of Education. Additionally, she has 16 years of preschool through 12th grade experience. She holds doctorate and master's degrees in mathematics education from Ohio University and a bachelor's degree in mathematics and science education from The Ohio State University.

Marna Hostetler is the new director of Rice Library at USI. She brings close to 14 years of college library administration experience to the job. She replaces Ruth Miller who retired as library director after 15 years of service.

Hostetler was previously the associate dean of libraries and director of the Thomas Cooper Library, the main library at the University of South Carolina (USC) in Columbia, South Carolina. Earlier she was the head of Access Services and head of the Interlibrary Loan Department at USC.

She earned her master's degree in Library Science and her bachelor of arts degree at Indiana University.

Dr. Angela E. Batista is the dean of students at USI. She served previously as associate dean of students in the Office of Community Life at Mills College in Oakland, California. She replaces Barry Schonberger, who retired as dean of students after 38 years of service.

She earned a doctorate in education leadership from Nova Southeastern University and her master's degree from the University of Vermont. Her undergraduate work was completed at Brooklyn College.

Prior to working at Mills College, she was the inaugural chief diversity officer at Champlain College in Vermont.

Daniela Vidal was recently named the director of USI's Center for Applied Research and Economic Development.

Vidal came to USI in 2009 as an instructor and coordinator of advanced manufacturing and industrial supervision in the Department of Engineering. She has taught courses in robotics, advanced manufacturing principles, engineering materials, engineering economics, and statistics and safety in manufacturing.

She holds an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from Universidad Metropolitana in Caracas, Venezuela, and a master's degree in business administration from USI. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at the University of Louisville.

Strategic Plan

Engaging the Future: An Update on Year Three

USI faculty, staff, and administrators continue to make progress on the five-year strategic plan approved by the Board of Trustees in summer 2010.

With the goal of increasing the graduation rate, advising centers are being established in each of USI's four colleges—in fall 2012 for the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education and the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and fall 2013 for the College of Liberal Arts and College of Business.

The new centers will benefit all students, generate a better understanding of advising on campus, and provide a more consistent advising experience

across campus, while still allowing colleges to meet their individual needs.

In another move to increase the graduation rate, a taskforce consisting of faculty, administrators, and students are revising the University Core Curriculum to make it more concise, flexible, appealing, and accessible. The core curriculum will require less credit hours.

"The focus on improving our graduation rate gets to the heart of the strategic plan," said President Linda L. M. Bennett. "Through better advising, more flexible ways to earn a degree, and other retention efforts, we will give students a

better chance for academic successand produce more graduates for our state and region. Improving student experience and success is evident in each of our goals."

In the past five years, the number of USI courses available by distance education has increased from 52 to 138. In addition, steps are being taken to allow students to fulfill all University Core Curriculum requirements via distance education.

Read the full strategic plan update at www.usi.edu/magazine.

USI, Craig win 2012 Arts Council Awards

The Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana presented 2012 Arts Awards to Daniel Craig, associate professor of music, and to the University of Southern Indiana for its efforts to make the arts an integral part of programming for students and as part of the University's outreach efforts.

The award recognizes USIsponsored programs and locations including the McCutchan Art Center/ Palmina F. and Stephen S. Pace Galleries; New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art; choral ensembles and the annual Madrigal Feaste; theatre program, including the Repertory Project and the New Harmony Theatre, the University's professional Equity theatre; Creative Writing program, and support of art and architecture through Historic New Harmony.

Craig, who has led USI's music program for more than 20 years, received the 2012 Vanderburgh County Arts Award. He conducts the USI Chamber Choir and the USI Women's Choir, and produces the Madrigal Feaste, which he calls "USI's oldest living tradition."

Under his direction, the University choirs have performed nationally and internationally, including trips to Poland, Canada, Germany, and Ireland. A Chamber Choir Tour of Ireland in spring 2012 was the 11th international tour Craig has led since joining USI 22

years ago, and his sixth trip to Ireland. Rowan Tree, his Irish traditional band, accompanies him on the Ireland tours. The choir's performances there raise money for local charities, including the Clare Crusaders, AIDS West, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.



Craig was recently honored by the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana.

International scholars partner with USI on communal studies research



The University Archives on the USI campus provide one of many valuable resources for international scholars.

There is still much to be learned about the utopian communities that founded and developed New Harmony, Indiana, and the USI Center for Communal Studies is attracting scholars from around the world to help build the body of knowledge about them.

New Harmony, located near USI in Posey County, Indiana, was founded in 1814 by a group of German Pietists led by George Rapp and then purchased by social reformer Robert Owen for a second utopian experiment that lasted from 1825 to 1827.

This year, scholars from Germany and Poland have been looking into little-studied topics related to the Owenites.

"These young scholars were able to pick up the threads and follow them here," said Dr. Casey Harison, director of the center. "It's building up the historic stash of knowledge we want to have at the University and haven't been able to get there ourselves."

Franziska Bechtel, recipient of the center's 2011 Research Travel Grant of \$2,000, is working on a Ph.D. in history at the University of Frankfurt, Germany. She traveled to USI and New Harmony in fall of that year and returned this fall to continue her research. Her dissertation focuses on the "after-glow" period

of New Harmony when the community transitioned from a utopian experiment to an ordinary American town. "That period has never really been covered," Harison said.

"We have wonderful resources for the field of communal studies and our main purpose at the center and the University Archives is to help people do research."

—Dr. Casev Harison

Another research project by Dr. Magdalena Modrzejewska, a political science professor at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland, focuses on Josiah Warren, who is regarded as the first American anarchist. He was among the intellectuals attracted to New Harmony by Robert Owen's new social system. Modrzejewska was at USI in August and plans to return in spring 2013, when she will likely present a lecture on her research.

"Not a lot has been written about Josiah Warren," Harison said.

"Dr. Modrzeiewska spent a lot of time in the archives of the Working Men's Institute [a library founded by Owen's business partner, William Maclurel. There is a ton of material there that simply hasn't been catalogued. She is excited to come back and discover a lot more on Warren that hasn't been brought to light."

The center's 2012 Research Travel Grant was awarded to Rahima Schwenkbeck of George Washington University for her project on New Harmony and other American communal societies.

"We have wonderful resources for the field of communal studies and our main purpose at the center and the University Archives is to help people do research," Harison said. "In the U.S., this is a well-established field, but it's not in Europe, even though a lot of the origins come from Europeans. I think our visitors sense that it's been lost as a discipline there, and want to work with us however they can to build an overseas counterpart to communal studies here. That will be a long-term project."

In spring 2012, Harison traveled to the New Lanark (Scotland) World Heritage Site, the birthplace of Owen's initial social experiments, to make contacts with Scottish colleagues.

In addition to the travel grant, the center also offers awards for undergraduate and graduate student papers on historic or contemporary communal groups. The 2012 Undergraduate Prize of \$250 went to Justin Bray of Brigham Young University for The Lord's Supper and Community in Early Mormon Utah, and the 2012 Graduate Prize of \$500 to Stephen Vider of Harvard University for Brother You Are All I Have: Gay Communes and the Reinvention of the Family.

The Center for Communal Studies was founded in 1976 by Dr. Donald Pitzer, professor emeritus of history and the author of several books about New Harmony, most recently New Harmony Then and Now.

Freshman class demonstrates high level of academic achievement

Enrollment at the University of Southern Indiana is at 10,467 students for the 2012 fall semester, the fourth highest in University history, though lower than last year's record count of 10.820. University administrators, however, are buoyed by indications that academic quality of the incoming freshman class continues to improve. The 1,876 first-time students in the entering class of 2016 represent high levels of academic achievement and potential. Average SAT scores are up 20 points over last year and up 43 points over the last three years. Average high school grade point averages also are at a record high 3.2.

"USI is focusing on admitting students more likely to succeed here," said Eric Otto, director of Admission. In recent years, seven to eight percent of USI students were enrolled with conditional status, a group that may not be as well prepared to find success at a four-year university. This year, only 1.2 percent of the admitted class was in this group.

"USI is adapting with an eve to quality," President Linda L. M. Bennett said. "We are admitting students who are prepared for college work and who have a plan to complete course work in four years. USI accepts students who want to learn, share, and apply knowledge."

"We continue to be a public university of opportunity," said Bennett. "Now, though, students have community college options that were not in place in 1965 when USI was founded. Many of these students eventually come to USI, but after they've raised their academic achievement level and are ready to complete a bachelor's degree."

Bennett noted that USI is intent on increasing its graduation rate. In addition to admitting students more prepared to succeed, the University is improving its student advising.

Profile of student population

The majority of students at USI continue to come from Vanderburgh and contiguous counties. Students come from 89 Indiana counties, 44 other states, and 61 countries. Minority and international students make up nearly 11 percent of the student population. Female students represent 62 percent of the student population and nearly 25 percent of the students are 25 years of age or older. Full-time students continue to be in the majority and 969 graduate students are enrolled.





Loft Facelift

A summer remodeling project expanded both seating and food service options in the USI Loft, located in University Center West. The renovations were paid for by Sodexo, the University's food vending service.

Renovations to the Loft created 90 additional seats and more privacy for patrons; a full-service bakery, larger salad bar, more Italian selections, and new Asian option; and in response to input from a student advisory board—themed seating areas (sports, movies, and international). The seating area is now almost twice as large as the previous arrangement.

Several changes also were made to meal plans. "The structure and design of the improved Loft will create community in the UC," said Steve Bridges, assistant vice president for Business Affairs and assistant treasurer. "It's the culmination of input from students, comments from staff, and a need to refresh the existing site since it has not been changed since 2003."

Watch a slideshow of the renovated Loft at www.usi.edu/magazine. 🔕

2012: End of the world?

The world will not end on December 21, 2012.

Or if it does, it won't have anything to do with the Maya calendar, according to Michael Aakhus, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and professor of art.

Aakhus has traveled throughout Mesoamerica since the 1970s and has led an annual spring break Maya Art and Culture tour since 1996. He teaches a course on the Ancient Art of Mexico and has lectured on the subject in the United States and Mexico.

He points out that the date in guestion, which falls on the Winter Solstice, is when one of the Maya's calendars the Long Count—ends. "It's not necessarily the end of the world. It's the end of the count, and you start counting over again."

The Maya have several calendars that interact in complex ways. The first reference to the Long Count, which began at a mythological Year Zero, projected thousands of years into the past, is on an Olmec site dated 31 BC. "They have been in the process of this Long Count for thousands of years, but they see it not so much as the end of the world as the beginning of a new one," Aakhus said.

That is how the Maya historically interpreted the end of the 52-year Calendar Round. "It was a period for renewing architecture. The Maya would tear down a part of their city at this time; artifacts would be ritually buried and new things would be put in place. You can find bowls that will have a hole punched in the bottom to cancel out its powers. There were a lot of rituals that would symbolize things starting over."

So, yes, the Maya calendar ended the world, but it also began a new one. "We have this idea of Apocalypse, with fire and brimstone and the end of time. The Maya see it as a period of transition between periods of creation—the end of this era and the beginning of a new one."

Outdoor exhibition showcases work of a national artists

Accompanied by drum rolls from the Boom Squad, officials representing the Sculpt EVV juried outdoor sculpture exhibition announced its winners during ArtEVV, a juried art fair and music festival, this summer in the Haynie's Corner Arts District of Evansville.

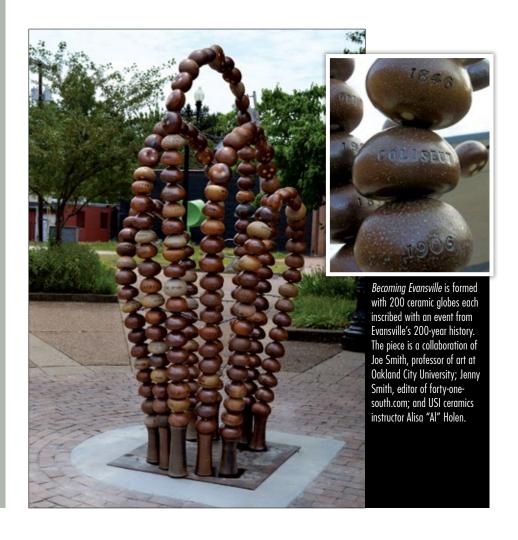
Sculpt EVV is a partnership between the University of Southern Indiana, the City of Evansville, the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana, and the Evansville Bicentennial Committee. During the event, USI students led tours of the 0.3 mile sculpture walk and discussed the artists and their sculptures. Winners of Sculpt EVV were chosen from among 12 nationally submitted sculptures selected for the exhibition by juror Marilu Knode, executive

director of Laumeier Sculpture Park in St. Louis, Missouri.

Sculpt EVV is on display and open to the public through April 21, 2013. The exhibition starts at Washington and Parrett streets next to the Bokeh Lounge. Sculpt EVV maps available at each site guide visitors around the exhibition.

The Best-in-Show winner for Clay EVV, a companion exhibition organized by Alisa Holen, USI assistant professor of ceramics, was Erin Furminsky for her piece, "Push".

Submissions are currently being accepted for Sculpt EVV 2013/2014, which will run from June 15, 2013, through April 20, 2014. The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2012. Information can be found at www.SculptEVV.org.



Science for sustainability: USI professor at UN Earth Summit



In June,
Dr. Stephen Zehr,
professor of sociology, chaired a
session at the
International
Council for
Science (ICSU)
Forum on Science,
Technology, and
Innovation for
Sustainable

Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. ICSU represented the international scientific community at the Rio+20 United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development, also known as the Earth Summit.

The title of Zehr's session was "To Cross a Widening Gulf: New Patterns and Practices of Science for Sustainability." On the panel were Myanna Lahsen of the Center for Earth System Science, Brazilian Institute for Space Research, and Melissa Leach of STEPS Centre, University of Sussex; Zehr's colleagues in the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), an international academic organization that studies the social aspects of science and technology.

"We argued that the social sciences

are necessary as essential collaborators with the natural science community in helping to achieve sustainability objectives; in particular closing the fairly large gap between scientific information and action," Zehr said.

Within the session, Zehr presented on "Interdisciplinary Collaborative Challenges in Global Climate Change Research."

"My interests are in looking at how scientific expertise is presented in policy deliberations in the popular press."

"Social science research is absolutely necessary in meeting objectives about our understanding of climate change, but there are challenges in engaging interdisciplinarily," he said. "Colleges are not organized for interdisciplinarity between natural and social sciences."

Zehr has been involved with 4S, which sponsored his participation in the conference, since the early 1980s. He has worked on climate change issues

since 1994. "My interests are in looking at how scientific expertise is presented in policy deliberations in the popular press. Prior to that, I worked on the acid deposition and ozone depletion."

One of his current research projects is a cross-national study on the framing of climate change in the press in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, India, and the United States over the last decade. During a fall 2011 sabbatical, he interviewed journalists, high-level scientists, and policy makers around the world.

From June 2007 to July 2009, Zehr worked as a program officer for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Science, Technology, and Society program. He also worked as a program officer for the NSF's Center for the Study of Nanotechnology and Society at Arizona State University and University of California-Santa Barbara. "It was a great experience being at NSF," he said. "There is a lot of science floating through there, and it was quite interesting."

Among other courses, Zehr teaches Sociology of the Environment and Science in Society. He plans to attend the 4S meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, in October.

iPhone app offers new features, functionality

The USI iPhone app, first introduced in fall 2010, has rolled out its latest version, with new features and upgrades to functionality.

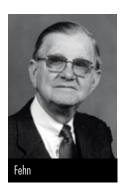
The updated version now has a link to campus dining information, the option for making Eagle Access Card deposits, and a link to USI's social media pages. It continues to offer information on USI contacts, class schedules, events, campus maps, news, and athletics.

Among the improvements is the ability to dial campus contacts directly even if the user's cellular service is outside the 812 area code (long distance charges may apply).



USI was among the first universities to offer a mobile app. Scott Anderson, instructor in computer science, developed the application, with the assistance of several campus colleagues. The app, which also works on the iPad and iPod Touch, is available in the App Store by searching "University of Southern Indiana"—or by linking to itun.es/i6DY8P9.

Spiritual Structures: Endowment breathes life into student project



Remig Fehn was a young boy when St. Joseph Catholic Church was under construction at the corner of Garvin and Virginia streets in Evansville. The beautiful Romanesque church was erected in 1924.

"He and his family were members of the congregation, and he loved telling stories about how he and his friends would walk along the founda-

tion of the church as it was going up," recalled close friend David Bower, president of the USI Foundation.

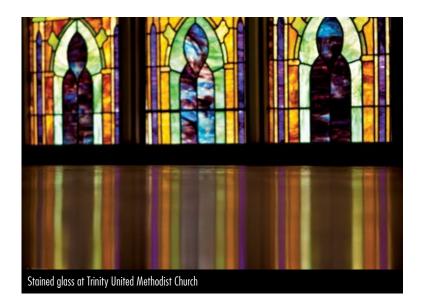
When he died in 2001, Fehn left a generous bequest to benefit USI students in perpetuity. That gift is allowing Jessica Durkin, a senior international studies major from Houston, Texas, to photograph St. Joseph and all of Evansville's religious architecture, regardless of denomination, in a project she calls Spiritual Structures: Revealing Evansville's Heritage, Diversity, and Community.

Durkin is sharing her images online at www.spiritualstructures.com, and on the photo-sharing web site Flickr. In future phases, she plans a public exhibit of the photographs, a Spiritual Structures tour, and improvements to the web site's interactivity. She hopes the project will become a tourist and educa-



tional resource, as well as a model for similar community involvement and online tourist projects statewide.

"When I first arrived in Evansville, I took several walks in the downtown area and the ecclesiastical architectural intricacies caught my eye," Durkin said. "I wrote about my walks in Travel Writing class with Dr. Susanna Hoeness-Krupsaw. From there my simple report was transformed into an Endeavor! project." USI Endeavor! Awards are made possible through the USI Foundation and support research and creative efforts of undergraduate students from any major.







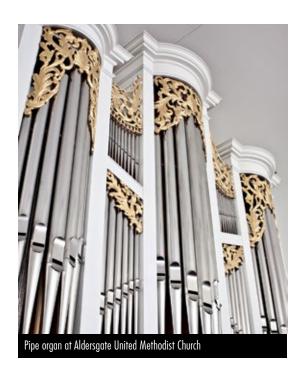
As the project became more ambitious, she sought support from the USI Foundation through the College of Liberal Arts. Durkin received the Remig M. and Pauline Goad Fehn Arts and Humanities Endowment, an annual award established through the Fehn estate to help students grow in their knowledge and love of the arts and humanities.

Fehn and his wife Pauline, a flutist, composer, and poet, served as board members for the USI Society for Arts and Humanities. Though a great supporter of education and the arts, Fehn never earned a college degree. He was forced to give up a full scholarship to Notre Dame University in order to help support his family during the Great Depression. Starting out as a teller at Peoples Savings Bank, he retired 57 years later as chairman of the board.

"He was a true gentleman and through his own industry became an extremely well-educated man," Bower said. "He was a pillar of this community in every way and was an advocate for USI from the day we opened in 1965."

Durkin expects to graduate at the end of fall 2012, but work on Spiritual Structures will continue. "I'd like to make Evansville my home and continue on with community development projects aimed at educating people about this city's hidden beauty in plain sight," she said.





For young alumnus, giving back is about personal growth

A native of Evansville, Adam House '08 graduated from USI with degrees in both mathematics and finance and was hired by Berry Plastics. That same year, he began giving back to the University through the USI Foundation.

"Dave Ramsey, talk show host and financial guru, talks about how in your personal budget you should have a certain portion of your income that goes to charitable endeavors," House says. "I started giving a percent of my income to USI and other charitable organizations. One reason Ramsey says to do that is to reward the spirit and the mind."

Over the last four years he has given to the College of the Business; the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education; and to the USI Annual Fund because he knows that's where the need is greatest. He also attends regional alumni gatherings, where he catches up with other graduates. At one of those events Foundation staff explained that not many of the University's young alumni give back. "That emboldened me to give more," said House. "It's like

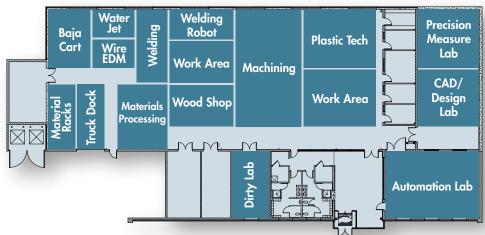


the movie 'Pay it Forward.' Someone helped me out, so I'm trying to return the favor."

"To sum it up, USI taught me how to learn," he adds. "Every day a new opportunity arises that we can learn

from. USI taught me how to approach these opportunities with a positive attitude. Many of the professors made a lasting impact on me. They've helped me grow as an individual, and I'll always continue that growth."





SANDOF AKIND

New Applied Engineering Center puts USI on the map

The building is a \$3.3 million facility with more than 15,000 square feet of space including a 9,000-square-foot open high-bay area equipped with a 10-ton crane and flexible utilities. However, it's what will be inside USI's new Applied Engineering Center that puts the University on the map.

With more than \$2.6 million in high-tech manufacturing and engineering equipment, the Center, under construction near the Support Services Center on the east side of campus, will have some unique features that set it apart from other facilities in the United States, according to Daniela Vidal, director of USI's Center for Applied Research and Economic Development and former instructor and coordinator of advanced manufacturing and industrial supervision. It is custom designed to support USI's advanced manufacturing and industrial supervision programs, as well as its engineering programs. It also will support area industrial training needs.

"This facility will provide our students an opportunity to learn in a real-world industrial and manufacturing setting," said Dr. Scott Gordon, dean of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education. "Our students will work directly with regional industry partners to solve problems, develop products, and streamline processes. This approach fits with our college motto of 'Learning by Doing.'

The equipment purchases were funded through a federal grant. Building construction is being funded by USI, and endowed operations will be provided by the USI Foundation.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in late fall 2012, with the first students using the facility in spring 2013. Programs that will take place in the building will be enhanced by a \$150,000 leadership gift made to the USI Foundation by Barry and Kay Cox, longtime friends of the University, who felt their gift would "further enrich the talent that will shape the future of Southern Indiana."

The showpiece of the Center is the MPS Transfer Factory Manufacturing System manufactured by the German company Festo. Located in the Center's automation lab, it features a complete assembly line, which can be reconfigured in different layouts to meet a variety of manufacturing needs. "This is the only equipment of its kind outside of Germany," said Vidal. "The other is located at Osnabruck Technical College, located in Evansville's sister city in Germany."

Vidal learned about the concept during a visit to Germany in 2010. She worked with Festo to have the equipment custom built for the USI facility. The Applied Engineering Center will be used to teach students everything from the basics of manufacturing and equipment integration to more advanced industrial engineering concepts and production control. "That's what makes this facility so special," said Vidal. "The capabilities, as far as I know, are unique to the United States."

"One of the main features of this building is the opportunity to partner with local industries that want to experiment with designing different production lines," said Vidal. "We can develop projects with our students where we connect different pieces of equipment together into a factory setup to create these production cells."

The facility's open floor design, large capacity crane, and flexibility of setup are far from the traditional lab approach used by other universities. Those facilities are often constrained by the physical area where technology is located. "Instead of

isolating technologies, we're connecting them, because that's what's going to happen when these students are out in the real world," said Vidal.

In designing the facility, Vidal and others at USI worked closely with an industrial advisory board made up of representatives from area industries. "They advised us on equipment to buy and how to design the building, as well as input on the curriculum."

Matching curriculum with capabilities

Along with the new facility came a full upgrade of the advanced manufacturing curriculum, which became effective this fall. The curriculum marries the new capabilities with industry needs.

"We added classes that are more relevant to the needs of our industrial advisors and the community," said Vidal. "We placed more emphasis on automated equipment, lean manufacturing business management strategy, quality and Six Sigma, and other modern manufacturing philosophies. There's not another program in the state that teaches students in such a practical and hands-on way. It's going to give our students a good understanding of the type of challenges they will face, as well as coming out having already made contact with industrial partners, which can translate into employment when they graduate."

The Applied Engineering Center offers benefits for other programs as well. Vidal explains that business classes like operations management, decision science, and others will be able to see business tools and integration in practice instead of being strictly theoretical.

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



Custom-built equipment will give USI students the edge in applied engineering applications.

Festo Didactic GmbH & Co. KG



USI ARCHAEOLOGY STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DIG INTO THE PAST FARTHER AFIELD NEXT SUMMER.

USI's Archaeological Field School has been held in New Harmony, Indiana, since 2008. The first year, the field school was a partnership with the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites at Community House No. 2, a Harmonist site that served as a dormitory for single men and women. In addition to recovering many artifacts, the excavations uncovered information about the location and building techniques used to construct the stable behind the community house.



Since 2009, the field school has been held at the site of the Harmonist kiln, which was in operation from 1815 to 1824. At that site, Harmonist potter Christoph Weber produced redware, a type of ceramic pottery, for use in the community and for sale to surrounding settlers. USI's excavations uncovered large quantities of broken pottery vessels and "kiln furniture"—items manufactured to aid in the firing process. The excavations also identified one of the kiln's fireboxes.

This year, the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Studies received a grant of \$60,241 from the National Parks Service's American Battlefield Protection Program to fund the 2013 Archaeological Field School, which will be held at Fort Ouiatenon, near West Lafayette, Indiana. Ten USI students will participate in the field school, led by Dr. Michael Strezewski, assistant professor of anthropology, for five weeks next summer.

Putting the pieces together

Established by the French in 1717, Fort Ouiatenon was a fur-trading and military post. Strezewski surveyed the site with colleague Dr. Robert McCullough in 2009. "In those investigations, we found evidence for a number of Native American houses in the vicinity of the fort and other possible fort-related activities," Strezewski said.

Using a magnetometer, an instrument that is able to identify magnetic

differences beneath the soil, Strezewski and McCullough detected circular anomalies near the fort.

"When humans do things dig a hole, fill it back in, throw away artifacts, dig a ditch, burn something—they modify the soil," Strezewski said. "Even if those holes are filled back in, there is still a magnetic difference

beneath the soil. The magnetic properties are changed by human activities, and you can see these little blobs on the maps you make."

Strezewski believes the circular blobs on the Fort Ouiatenon map are probably Native American winter houses. The Kickapoo and other tribes in the Great Lakes area often made circular houses for winter quarters. "We are virtually certain they are structures, but it's a matter of excavation."

Europeans and Native Americans lived in relative peace during this time, Strezewski said. "Both groups were working to their own economic advantage. All the furs were hunted out in Europe - they were long gone. Furs were the most desired items from the Americas, and the Indians wanted manufactured goods that they didn't have. The land

1780s. The Native American villages in the area were attacked

destroyed by the Kentucky militia in 1791 under the command of Charles Scott.

"That was the end of Ouiatenon being a hub of settlement," Strezewski said. "There still were Indians on the Wabash up to the removal period, but it never was what it was before."

Strezewski has been investigating fur trade sites since 2005, when he and McCullough worked at Kethtippecanunk, a fur-trading town in the same area. "The types of things we find typical of this period are gun parts, musket balls, sometimes silver items that were traded to the Indians, and pottery."

A hands-on experience

Before Strezewski joined USI in 2006, the University did not have an archaeologist on staff. Marjorie Jones, instructor in anthropology, took students to archaeological digs led by Indiana University.

"One of the great things about the 2013 field school is the experience. It's a class and you get six hours of credit for it, but it's not like any other course you'd take at USI. It's a



on course," Strezewski said.

Experience in the Archaeological Field School led Aaron Harth '09 to a job as a field technician with Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., a national company with an office in Evansville. Strezewski encouraged Harth to apply for a senior year internship with the company, which assists developers in complying with federal and state preservation regulations.

While working at the site of Community House No. 2, Harth and a fellow student unearthed many pieces of Christoph Weber's redware. "We could see his thumb print on the sherds. They all had the same thumb print. It's a direct connection with the man who made it 200 years ago. We can recover it and try to look into his life as he lived it. It's fun to think of what his life was like."

The work sparked Harth's interest in New Harmony, and during his last semester at USI, he took a senior seminar course on communal groups. "I spent the whole next semester researching New Harmony and gaining a greater appreciation for what went on there," he said.

GETTING PERSONAL

We know more about Harmonist potter Christoph Weber and the Harmonists as a result of efforts by Dr. Michael Strezewski and his students since the second Archaeological Field School was held at the site of the Harmonist kiln in 2009.

Weber was born in Germany in 1784. His life's work was making redware pottery for the entire Harmonist community and for sale to surrounding settlers. He left the first American settlement in Harmony, Pennsylvania, with his wife Maria and son Elias, arriving in New Harmony with other Harmonists in the spring of 1815.

Maria died in October of that year and is buried in the Harmonist Cemetery. "During that first year, lots of Harmonists died from a disease," Strezewski said. "We're not exactly sure what it was, but they would catch a fever and die. She may have been one who succumbed."



Dr. Michael Strezewski, assistant professor of anthropology, describes archaeological techniques to a student during a dig at the kiln site—just to the north of the current Lenz House—of Harmonist potter Christoph Weber. Inset: Examples of pot sherds found during the excavation, including one with initials that may have belonged to Weber's son Elias.

Weber is listed as the head of the household on a Harmonist document showing that he and Elias lived with six other people in a house located near the potter's facility. "He would have been the master craftsman with unskilled people assisting. The Harmonists like to mix up people's jobs to keep them from being bored."



Strezewski identified the site using Harmonist maps, and confirmed it with a magnetometer and test digs. He and his students located the site of the kiln, half-buried under the historic Lenz House, in 2010. The Lenz House was moved from its original location in 1959.

Among many pieces of pottery, they found evidence that Weber passed his trade to his son. "We have a sherd—a base from a little pot—with Elias's initials on it. It looks like it was made by a little kid—thick and crudely done. It's likely from Elias learning to make pottery."

Weber didn't sign his work, Strezewski said. "He was a craftsman. He probably didn't consider himself an artist, though the work he did was artistic. He learned a trade and was doing his job providing pottery for everybody in town."

The majority of the redware he produced was utilitarian storage jars, pitchers, jugs, cups, and mugs. "Once in a while he would decorate the pots and did a great job. They didn't have a whole lot of house guests, but they still wanted the things on the table to look nice."

After George Rapp sold the town to Robert Owen, Weber returned to Pennsylvania with the Harmonists to settle a third village at Economy. He committed suicide there in 1861. Strezewski speculates that he may have been sickened by longterm exposure to lead, which was used to glaze the redware he produced for decades.

Strezewski feels a connection to Weber after "poking around in his business for the last four years or so."

"It makes you wonder if they ever thought that 150 years after they died, anybody would be paying attention to their lives. I'm sure they didn't consider themselves all that important or interesting."

Strezewski was able to trace Elias to Albion, Illinois, where he worked as a potter for a time but eventually became a contractor/builder. "He was one of the few Harmonists who didn't go back to Pennsylvania when the Harmonists left New Harmony. I guess he just decided it wasn't for him. When they left in 1824, he was 17 years old."

Elias anglicized his last name, changing it to Weaver. "He blended in, married, and built a number of buildings in Albion, a couple of which are still standing. I am guessing that he lived out the rest of his life there."

Strezewski is still analyzing the results of the excavation, but he said the work shed light on Harmonists' everyday lives.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH ANTHROPOLOGY **DEGREE PROGRAM**

The USI Board of Trustees has approved a new bachelor degree program in anthropology. The College of Liberal Arts has requested approval from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education to begin offering the degree in spring 2013

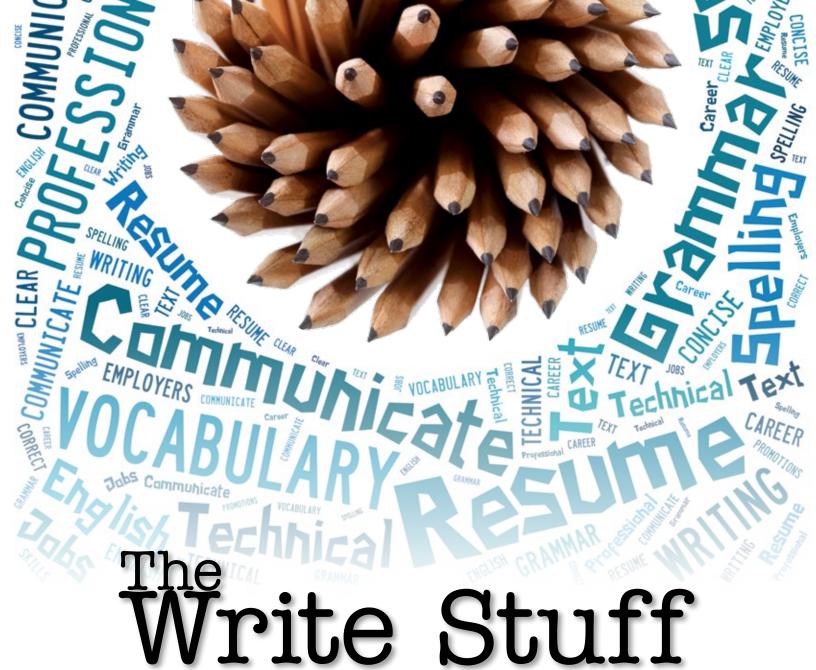
The anthropology degree program is comprised of 120 hours and meets regional and state needs by providing students with a solid foundation for success in positions related to anthropology. It also will prepare students for graduate study in anthropology, medicine, archaeology, cultural and heritage management, and other closely related fields.

The degree will prepare students as cultural and linguistic anthropologists who work in federal, state, and local government, including the military, healthcare centers, nonprofit associations, and marketing firms. It also can prepare physical anthropologists who work in biomedical research, human engineering, private genetics laboratories, pharmaceutical firms, and archaeological work.



John Sureck excavates a deep unit east of the Lenz House in New Harmony that reached the base of the kiln floor. Students get hands-on experience with tools and techniques during USI's summer Archaeology Field School.

"So much of what we know about them is from historic records and documents—mostly financial sorts of things, like receipts and orders for goods. There's very little we know about them on a personal basis. The types of pottery Weber made speak to the cooking techniques they may have had and things about them that are more personal."



Wanted: English and writing skills

"Regardless of the changes in technology, the market for well-crafted messages will always have an audience."

— Steve Burnett, The Burnett Group

In a recent study done by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), written communications was ranked third in a list of skills sought by employers when reviewing resumes. More than three quarters of respondents cited written communications, second only to the ability to work as a team and leadership attributes.

USI offers several tracks for English majors, from emphasis on literature and creative writing to rhetoric and English teaching. However, English and communication skills are becoming increasingly important for students in all majors.

"My advice to students, or anyone for that matter, is to think in terms of skills when preparing for a job interview or a promotion," said Dr. Stephen Spencer, professor of English and chair of USI's English Department. "What are the skills that the employer is looking for? What are the skills you often see on a job description? Those aren't always the same as the skills you may have gained in your particular field. But, at the same time, those skills are universal across all jobs."

Spencer encourages students from any major to think about taking English classes as part of a balanced core set of classes. He's been working with others on campus, like the College of Business, which now offers the minor in entrepreneurship for English majors. The minor, which is open to students in any major, combines business entrepreneurship classes with technical and grant writing skills. "It's an innovative partnership," Spencer says. "I don't know of anyone else doing that right now. We're trying to think outside the box."

Ideally, Spencer would like to see more non-English majors taking 200-level courses. Expanding course offerings also is an option, and he is currently seeking a new faculty member that would be able to put more emphasis on professional and technical writing. A master's degree in that area has been proposed.

More than a hobby

Emily Rastle, 22, is a senior at USI this year, graduating in December with a degree in computer science. She started taking English classes as a hobbynot classes on how to be a better writer or how to write for business. Rather, she enrolled in courses like British literature, Shakespeare, and 19thcentury literature.

"I started taking English classes for fun, but I think it's helped me," says Rastle. "I've had a lot of compliments from professors in my computer science field about how well I write. They tell me that's important. If you can write, it really sets you apart. I'm

not always going to be sitting behind a computer writing code all day. There's a lot more communication and teamwork involved. You may not think that having to write 15-page research papers is going to do much for your career, but the experience of being able to write long, multi-page documents in a formal writing style is very important."

Her advice to others: Find an English class that interests you. "The byproduct is that you become a better writer and a better reader," she says. "It can be a big advantage."



Even email matters

Citing the NACE career skills study, Philip Parker, director of Career Services and Placement at USI, says he has seen written communications skills creep closer to the top of the list in recent years. Computer skills and technical skills have fallen on that list as more employers simply expect all applicants to be proficient in those areas.

"Every student needs to take communications, English, and liberal arts courses seriously," Parker says. "It's what employers are expecting—that you'll develop those soft skills along with the technical skills in your field. If you're an engineering major, it doesn't mean vou're going to be in a box and you're never going to communicate with anyone. Unfortunately, we do see studies showing that graduates, to some degree. are lacking polished communication skills."

Ironically, advances in technology may have something to do with that. Mobile devices, social media, and other technologies lend themselves to abbreviated or abridged communication. A new generation growing up with these tools is falling into a lax attitude toward writing and written interaction. "This communication is very different from a polished document," says Parker. "But, at the same time, employers are still expecting their employees to be able to communicate and write effectively and efficiently."

An employer recently told Parker, "In this vastly global environment, I need someone who can construct a coherent email to the rest of the company, because at the end of the day, that email may be read by a whole different set of people across the globe. Many cultures still place a great deal of value on one's vocabulary and communications skills."

What they expect

Jamie Bare is a senior talent acquisition specialist at Bristol Myers Squibb in Evansville. She reviews hundreds of applications annually and works closely with people like Parker in Career Services. "We're a global company. In that environment, you have to be able to not only communicate verbally, but be able to write what you mean, and in a format that is understandable and grammatically correct," she says.

Bare talks a lot about resumes and writing on the job but she also focuses on electronic communication. Like Parker, she says that technology has caused us to become lazy. At the same time, correspondence by email and other electronic mediums is a large part of how global organizations like Mead Johnson communicate.

"If I'm hiring for an executive or a recruiter position and someone responds to an email from a Blackberry or other mobile device, I might give them a little leeway," she says. "But, if that response came from email or LinkedIn, and the grammar is poor or there are punctuation problems, I'm not even going to

rite Stuff

look at you for an executive-level position, or even an associate manager position. We're in an industry that is highly regulated and proofing is huge. If you're in a quality control position, your entire job may be based on your ability to investigate, understand procedure, and make sure something like a recipe is followed precisely. We have to hire people who can do that."

While the NACE study places writing skills third, Bare says she places them second only to the technical skills needed for the job. "No matter how technical you are, if you can't convey what you need to say, you probably won't succeed in the position," she says. "You're not in a bubble; everyone works as a team."

"If grammar is poor or there are punctuation problems, I'm not even going to took at you..."

Bare doesn't expect applicants to major or minor in English, but she does advise them to spend a little bit of time making sure they know their vocabulary and their punctuation, and honing other English and writing skills.

"And, if you're working on your resume, send it out to other people and have them proof it," she adds. "Does it make sense to someone that's not in the industry you're in? Does it have the right key words? Does it flow? Is it choppy?"

Her last words of advice—keep it concise. "Nobody wants too much information. Nobody will read it."

Tools for Success

At USI, students have ample opportunities to develop English skills needed for success. English courses are an important part of the University's core curriculum. However, resources available outside of required classes give students an added edge.

Student tutors gain experience in Writer's Room

USI's Writers Room offers assistance with writing assignments in any class. Student and faculty tutors provide students with one-on-one guidance and feedback at any stage of the writing process, from understanding assignments, brainstorming, and developing and organizing ideas, to revising, editing, and research and citation.

Dr. Sunny Hawkins, assistant professor of English, teaches a writing center practicum class that prepares students to tutor in the Writers Room, which is run by the University Division and Academic Skills. "It's a great course for students who want to be teachers, because it teaches them how to work one-on-one with students," says Dr. Hawkins. "We also encourage students whose major isn't English to enroll in the class. When students tutor writing, they also improve their own writing skills," she adds.

Targeted electives

English electives offer opportunities both for the English major and non-English major, with emphasis on literature and creative writing, as well as rhetoric and English teaching. English 210 is an introductory technical writing course that often draws students in industrial supervision and engineering programs.

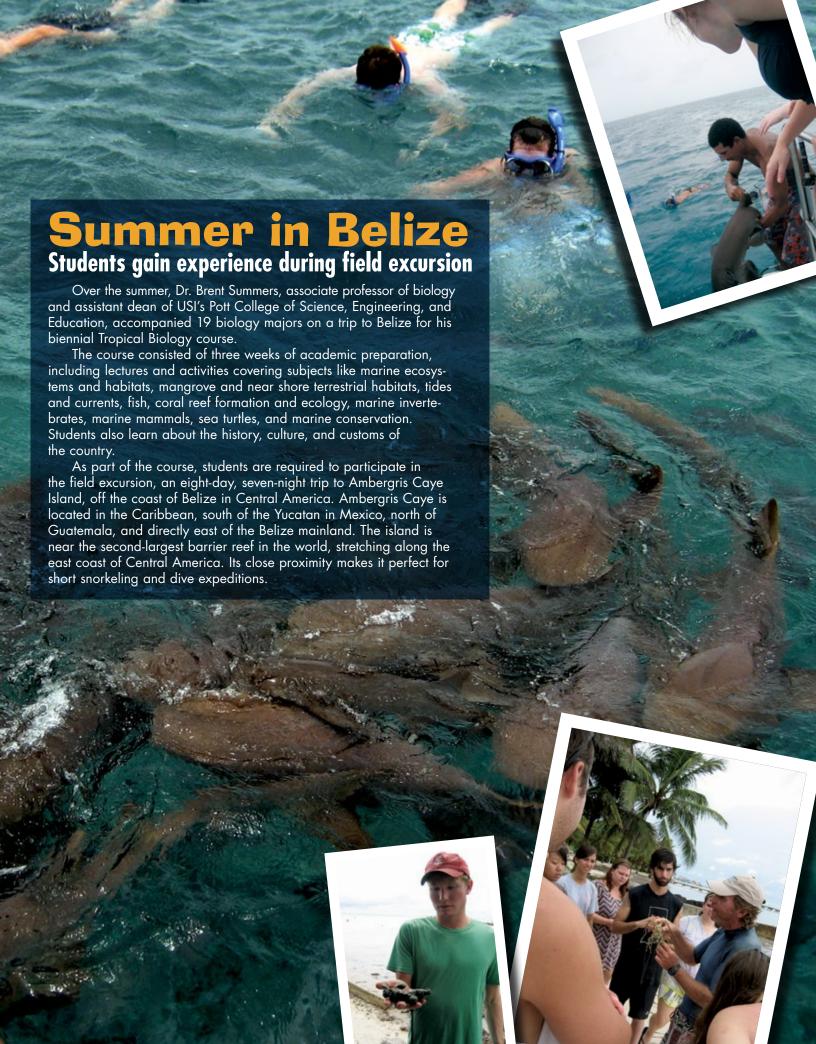
Dr. Hawkins teaches courses like technical and professional writing. "One of the things I do in my job is keep abreast of what employers want from their employees," she adds. She also teaches an upper-level English course on writing for professions and courses geared toward teacher education majors.

Career Services and Placement

The Office of Career Services and Placement at USI works with students to find internships and career opportunities and to develop skills for a successful job search. In addition to one-on-one counseling, job fairs and other services, Career Services and Placement visits upper level classes across all majors to talk about job skills, good resume writing, and interview preparation.

Community outreach

USI's River Bend Writing Project recently received a \$20,000 SEED grant from the National Writing Project to develop a new professional development initiative for kindergarten through grade 12, and college teachers in the Tri-state area. The program is geared toward high school teachers and helps them become more effective at teaching writing in public schools. Hawkins says that translates into better writers coming in at the college level. Over the past three years, the River Bend Writing Project has received more than \$128,000 in funding for the project. River Bend is the only National Writing Project site in Indiana.



March Madness begins in Evansville this year

University of Southern Indiana men's and women's basketball teams know where they'll be during March Madness, with the return of the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament to Evansville at the Ford Center in 2013. The announcement was made during a press conference in August.

The quarterfinal, semifinal, and final rounds of the 16th annual GLVC Basketball Championship tournaments will be held at the Ford Center March 7-10, marking the first time the conference has returned to Evansville since it was held at Roberts Stadium from 1999-2007.

The USI men's team is the defending tournament champion. The Eagles also captured tournament crowns in 2005 and 2007. The women's team won the tournament championship three times in the first five years.

"The Great Lakes Valley Conference has a storied tradition of crowning its annual men's and women's basketball champions in Evansville in front of large crowds that are passionate about NCAA Division II basketball," said GLVC Commissioner Jim Naumovich. "GLVC basketball called Evansville its postseason home for nearly a decade and now has the opportunity to return and compete in the Ford Center."

Tournament winners receive an automatic berth to the NCAA Division II National Championship tournaments for both men's and women's basketball. The 2013 tournaments will feature 12 men's and 12 women's teams and will be played over two weekends.

The Ford Center, which opened in November 2011, will be the fifth venue to serve as a neutral host site for the



tournaments. In addition to playing at Roberts Stadium, the GLVC hosted its postseason events on the campus of the University of Illinois Springfield in 2010, Maryville University in 2011, and the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois, last year.

"This will be something our team will post on the bulletin board to start the year," said men's basketball Head Coach Rodney Watson.

"We're very excited to have the tournament coming back to Evansville, where we have had great success and have won it three times," added Rick Stein, women's basketball head coach.



Go for the Goal

The men's soccer team celebrated its first win over Lewis University in nine years with a 3-2 overtime victory. The Screaming Eagles wore gold jerseys and shoelaces in association with Go 4 the Goal, an organization raising awareness of childhood cancers through soccer.

Eaton joins Athletics staff



Alex Eaton is the new associate director of Athletics, replacing Jay Newton, who left USI to join the Vanderburgh County Prosecutors Office as a deputy prosecutor.

As the associate director of Athletics, Eaton will monitor and ensure compliance with all NCAA, Great Lakes Valley Conference, and University rules and regulations by USI's 15 varsity programs. She also will be the senior women's administrator

and assist with game management activities.

"Alex will be an outstanding addition to our department," said Jon Mark Hall, director of Athletics. "She's been around intercollegiate athletics her entire life and really understands what the coaches and student athletes are dealing with on a daily basis."

Eaton comes to USI from the University of Maryland (College Park, Maryland) where she was the assistant director of compliance for the NCAA Division I institution. She earned a bachelor's degree in general business from the University of Maryland in 2007 and a master's degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 2010.

Basketball programs name assistant coaches

USI announced the hiring of Stetson Hairston as a men's basketball assistant coach and Stephanie Gehlhausen '12 as women's basketball assistant coach.

Hairston

Hairston replaces Derrick Tilmon, who accepted an assistant coaching position at Missouri State University. Hairston comes to USI from the University of Montevallo, where he helped direct the Falcons to the 2012 NCAA Division II national championship game during his only season with the program. He also spent time at Lincoln Trail College, Southwestern Illinois College, and Chipola College.

Gehlhausen

Gehlhausen was recently promoted from student assistant to full-time status. She replaces Michelle Irwin, who left USI to explore other career opportunities. After playing 49 games during two seasons at USI, Gehlhausen spent two years as an assistant for the team. She began her playing career at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. A native of Newburgh, Indiana, and a graduate of Castle High School, she helped lead USI to the NCAA Division II Tournament as a junior in 2010. She graduated in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology.

Engelbrecht makes MVC Hall of Fame



The Missouri Valley Conference will induct Krissy Engelbrecht, USI women's soccer head coach, into its Hall of Fame on March 8, 2013, in St. Louis, Missouri. An Evansville resident and native of Noblesville, Indiana, she is the first women's soccer player and Evansville athlete to be inducted into the MVC Hall of Fame. She is entering her 10th season as head coach at USI.

She is the only three-time MVC Player of the Year in league soccer his-

tory (men's or women's). She continues to rank second in MVC career goals (45) and total points (106) and powered the University of Evansville Aces to NCAA Tournament appearances in 1998 and 1999. She also led the Aces to MVC regular-season titles in 1997, 1998, and 1999 and MVC Tournament Crowns in 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999. She was inducted into the UE Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006.

Cheaney to lead men's golf

Jim Cheaney of Evansville has been selected as the fourth head coach in the history of USI's men's golf program. He replaces Mark Grundman, who stepped down after two years with the team to concentrate on business interests. Cheaney takes over the program after directing Evansville's Mater Dei High School boys' golf team for the last two years.

"I'm excited to have Jim join our staff and I know our men's golf program will make great strides forward under his leadership," said Jon Mark Hall, director of Athletics. "He has a definite passion for golf, especially in the Evansville community."

A part of Evansville amateur golf since the 1960s, he played for Evansville Rex Mundi High School and the University of Evansville. He also has played in the Evansville City Tournament more than 40 times, winning the 2009 Evansville City Senior Golf Championship. He is the vice president and a member of the board of directors for the Helfrich Men's Golf Club, where he won championships in 2007 and 2008.

Cheaney retired in 2010 after 32 years with the financial division of Mead Johnson & Company.

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Jackie Tussinger
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Darcy White
Biology (Pre-Med)
Greenwood Community High School
Greenwood, Indiana
W. Paul and Mildred Torrington
Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Deans Scholars



Haley Fisher
Occupational Therapy
Central Community High School
Breese, Illinois
Melville Paul and Emma A. Gorby
Deans Scholarship



Erin Goldschmidt

Nursing
Gibault High School
Smithton, Illinois
Edward F. Harrison
Deans Scholarship



Kimberly McTigue
Biology
Incarnate Word Academy
St. Louis, Missouri
Edward F. Harrison
Deans Scholarship



Courtney Potter
Accounting
Home School
Rising Sun, Indiana
Aline Nunn Renner
Deans Scholarship



Melia kowiana
Accounting
Madisonville North Hopkins High School
Madisonville, Kentucky
Raymond B. Preston Family Foundation
Deans Scholarship



Alyssa Sventeckis
English
Park-Tudor School
Fishers, Indiana
Margery F. Kahn Memorial
Deans Scholarship



Shelby Tarantino
Occupational Therapy
Mount Notre Dame High School
Loveland, Ohio
Melville Paul & Emma A. Gorby
Deans Scholarship



Landen Tennant Business Management Fairfield Community High School Fairfield, Illinois William E. and Rebecca N. Couch Deans Scholarship



Alyssa Tripp
Food and Nutrition
Anna-Jonesboro High School
Anna, Illinois
Welville Paul and Emma A. Gorb
Deans Scholarship



Korinne Williams
Nursing
Sterling High School
Sterling, Illinois
Edward F. Harrison
Deans Scholarship

Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Scholars



Megan Ashby Biology (Pre-Med) Reitz Memorial High School Evansville, Indiana Henry and Hazel Bennighof B/MD Scholarship



Aaron Fein Biology (Pre-Med) Francis J. Reitz High School Evansville, Indiana Thomas E. Topper Endowed B/MD Scholarship



Kayla Robinson Biology (Pre-Med) Signature School Evansville, Indiana Edward F. Harrison B/MD Scholarship



Sarah Wagmeister Chemistry (Pre-Med) Castle High School Newburgh, Indiana Ethel Reed Endowed B/MD Scholarship

Alumni Council 2012-2013

Officers

Mark A. Chandler '01 President

Kyle S. Wininger '01 President Elect

Jennifer L. Titzer '00 '08 M'10 Secretary

Andy J. Lemon '05 *Treasurer*

Jina L. Campbell '01 M'03 Immediate Past President

Ronald D. Romain '73 Alumni Trustee

Tarrie Kendall Crist '94 Indianapolis Chapter

Brian E. Pauley '00 Louisville Chapter

Autum R. Byrd '01 M'03 Neil J. Fortwendel '05 Mandi D. Fulton '06 M'10 Sally A. Gries '02 Randall L. Haaff '84 Ashley M. Hancock '10 John C. Havill '04 Charlene F. Kaufman '09 M'12

Douglas A. Knight '72 Rebecca S. Korba '95 Susan V. Kroupa '08 M'11 Lauren C. Lesher '04 M'05 Kacheyta K. W. McClellan '10

Bradley D. Morton '92 Kenneth W. Schnautz '11 Eileen M. Weber '98

University Staff

Janet L. Johnson M'05 Director of Alumni and Volunteer Services

Sherri A. Miller Assistant Director of Alumni and Volunteer Services

Deb C. Schmuck Senior Administrative Assistant

2012-2013 **Alumni**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 4 USI Day at the Colts

1 p.m., Lucas Oil Stadium

November 10 USI Night with the IceMen

7:15 p.m., The Ford Center

November 13 Alumni Council Meeting

5:45 p.m., USI University Center East 2206

November 19 Lighting a Tradition

7 p.m., USI University Center East/Fireside Lounge/Quad

December 8 Fall Commencement

10 a.m., College of Business and Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education; reception follows 1 p.m., College of Liberal Arts, College of Nursing and Health Professions, and Division of Outreach

and Engagement; reception follows USI Physical Activities Center

January 8, 2013 Alumni Council Meeting

5:45 p.m., USI University Center East 2206

January 19 Varsity Club and Alumni Association

Soup and Hot Dog Supper

5-7 p.m., US I Physical Activities Center

February 8 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

6 p.m., USI Carter Hall

February 9 Homecoming 2013, Alumni Party and Greek Reunion

5:30-7 p.m., USI Physical Activities Center

February 14 Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter Pizza Gathering

6-7:30 p.m., University of Indianapolis Nicoson Hall

March 12 Alumni Council Meeting

5:45 p.m., USI University Center East 2207

March 20 Breakfast with the President

7:45 a.m., USI Carter Hall

March 21 USI Eagle Hour

5-7 p.m., Location TBD

All alumni are invited to attend these events.

1970s

Stephen Markin '76, finance, has taken the position of assistant vice president, branch relationship banker/ manager at First Federal Savings Bank in Evansville.

1980s

Mark Schultz '82, marketing, has joined Smith & Butterfield as a sales representative in Evansville.

Donna Cook Culley '83, psychology, was promoted to director of Child and Family Services at Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., in Evansville.

Phillip Teer '83, accounting, is a regional account manager for Aztec Tent with offices in Torrance, California.

Tamara Fleischer Caliendo '88, elementary education, has taken the position of senior marketing assistant/ corporate sales manager at Tracy Zeller Jewelry in Evansville.

Michael Carroll '88, accounting, has been appointed president and chief executive officer of Southwestern Healthcare, Inc., in Evansville.

1990s

Ron Sweeney '91, accounting, is vice president of Consumer and Small Business Sales at Cincinnati Bell in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Tracy Murphy Lorey '92, elementary education, is the superintendent of Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools in Jasper, Indiana.

Chad Erwin '94, communications, is a digital print manager for The Jackson Group in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Catherine Fanello '95, accounting, has joined Umbaugh, a financial advisory firm to local governments, as a senior associate in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Thomas Burkhardt '96, communications. is the general manager at C.H. Robinson Worldwide in Newburgh, Indiana.

Reduce energy, build the Alumni Scholarship Fund



USI Alumni Association is participating in a community outreach and enrichment program with Energizing Indiana to reduce energy costs and increase scholarship dollars for USI students.

Energizing Indiana provides free residential home energy assessments to lower energy bills, improve in-home air quality, and increase your home's value. The initiative is a united effort by participating utilities and residents to decrease energy costs across the state.

For each home that enrolls through the USI Alumni Association, \$25 is donated to the USI Alumni Scholarship Fund. The energy assessment kit includes energy saving measures, such as:

- Replacing traditional light bulbs with efficient compact fluorescent bulbs
- Installing low-flow faucet aerators
- Installing low-flow shower heads
- Water heater insulation wrap

To sign up or find out more about the program, contact USI Alumni and Volunteer Services at alumni@usi.edu or 812/464-1924.

Cary Conley '96, Master in Education, has been promoted to director of advising and assessment in the Admissions Department at Henderson Community College in Henderson, Kentucky.

Gena Kingen Turner '97, communications, is the owner and manager of This Little Soap of Mine in Evansville.

Ienny Medcraft '98, computer information systems/German, retired in June from USI after 10 years of employment. She was awarded the title of computer systems analyst emerita.

Douglas DeWig '99, sociology, is a probation and parole officer for the State of Kentucky in Morganfield, Kentucky.

Kawn Watters '99, business administration, has been hired by Old National Bank as contract manager in Evansville. Rex Ragsdale '99, Master of Business Administration, is vice president and chief medical officer at Cerner Corporation in Kansas City, Missouri.

Christianna Scott Smith '99, psychology, is an admissions coordinator for Kindred Healthcare in Appleton, Wisconsin.

2000s

Ryan Flener '00, elementary education, '09, Master in Education, has been promoted to assistant principal at Castle High School in Newburgh, Indiana.

Rebecca Pike Glines '00, public relations and advertising, and Eric Glines '00, nursing, '07, Master in Nursing, welcomed Avery Elise, June 3, 2012

Carrie Rudolph '00, computer information systems, has joined Keller Schroeder's Microsoft Applications Group as a Microsoft consultant in Evansville.

A Perfect Fit

Matthew Rowe finds calling at Reitz Home Museum

As executive director of the Reitz Home Museum, Matthew Rowe '05 is a grant writer, development director, and event planner—and that's not all. "We have a very small staff here—one fulltime and one part-time person besides myself," he said. "On any given day, I may be making curatorial decisions, handling collection items, or working on exhibits."

Rowe organizes two major fundraisers—the Mystery Gala and the Derby Party—as well as smaller events throughout the year. He's also the manager of the Reitz Home's gift shop and is charged with preserving the mansion, maintaining its period antiques and fine art, and conducting a series of lectures on the Reitz Home Museum's mission.

The Reitz Home Museum is a French Second Empire-style mansion built by John Augustus and Gertrude Reitz, one of Evansville's founding families, in 1871. It hosts about 6,000 visitors a year—a third during "Victorian Christmas" tours in December.

Rowe's Bachelor of Science degree in art history from USI suited him well for the position. "In art history there is a heavy emphasis on architectural history and architecture," he said. "That aspect of art history was appealing and fun for me."

Before completing his degree at USI, the Newburgh, Indiana, native worked with professional artists and art galleries in the Venice neighborhood of Los Angeles, California. He worked both as an artist's model and assistant.

When he returned to Evansville. he studied at USI and took advantage of travel study opportunities, accompanving Michael Aakhus, dean of the College of Liberal Art, on several of his Maya art tours, and Dr. Margaret Skoglund, associate professor emerita of art, on a trip to Italy.

His mentor was Dr. Hilary



Alumnus Matthew Rowe poses at the gates to the Reitz Home Museum in Evansville. His love for the arts and an art history degree from USI make him a natural fit for the landmark's ongoing preservation.

Braysmith, associate professor of art history. Now he serves at her side on the Public Art Commission, as well as on the steering committee for Sculpt EVV, a nationally-advertised, juried outdoor sculpture exhibition that Braysmith directs. "She supported me through so many phases of my career path," he said.

"On any given day, I may be making curatorial decisions, handling collection items, or working on exhibits."

Former Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel appointed Rowe, a resident of the historic district, to the City of Evansville Commission for Historic Preservation. on which he serves as vice-chairman. That appointment led to his participation in the Victorian Society of America's London Summer School, for which he received a full scholarship, and which solidified his interest in preservation. He also worked in the reference department at Evansville's Central Library for 11 years.

He is the president of the Evansville Museum Contemporaries, an auxiliary fundraising organization of the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science, where he sits on the board of trustees and serves on the executive committee and art committee. He also has served on the board of Alhambra Theatre, Inc., and will assume the presidency of the Friends of Willard Library in November.

London and Paris: USI Alumni Association trip

June 27–July 5, 2013 Nine days with 11 meals: six breakfasts and five dinners

Tour operator: Collette Vacations and Lifestyle Tours





Tour Highlights

Enjoy the best of London and Paris on this eight-day leisurely tour. All of the top sights are included, as well as plenty of free time for your own discoveries. See Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London, Big Ben, and St. Paul's Cathedral. Enjoy a London theatre performance. Cross the Channel on the high-speed Eurostar Train, where you will dine at the Eiffel Tower and cruise the River Seine at night. Finish your trip with a thrilling dinner and cabaret show at the Paradis Latin Cabaret.

Essential Experience

Spend July 4 visiting Normandy and the Memorial Peace Museum.

Please Join Us!

RSVP to Janet Johnson, 812/464-1924, or alumni@usi.edu. Visit www.alumni.usi.edu and select Alumni Travel for additional trip information. Proceeds from alumni travel fund scholarships for USI students.





www.alumni.usi.edu

Josh Miller '01, business administration, has taken the position of net developer with Keller Schroeder's Microsoft Applications Group in Evansville.

Kent Stackhouse '02, business administration, has joined Baker & McKenzie as an associate attorney in Washington, DC.

Holly Horne Smith '03, marketing, has been named director of market research and planning for St. Mary's Health System in Evansville.

Lauren Hennessy Mackey '05, accounting and professional services, has been promoted to controller at Highland Mining Company, LLC, a division of Patriot Coal Corporation in Waverly, Kentucky.

Tyler Bunch '05, engineering, is a research engineer at Cook Medical in Bloomington, Indiana.

Nikki Warner Davis '06, public relations and advertising, was the recipient of the Junior League of Evansville Community Volunteer of the Year award.

Josh Harris '06, finance/economics, has been hired as a mortgage banker for Kirkston Mortgage in Evansville.

Kimberly Ottilie '06, political science, has joined the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana as vice president of public policy.

Dustin Smith '06, sociology, joined Plunkett Cooney as a member of the firm's banking, bankruptcy, and creditors' rights litigation practice in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jason Goodwin '07, social science teaching, is the advisor to the Junior State of America Club at Kofa High School that was recognized for finishing third in the nation for the National Civic Impact Award in Yuma, Arizona.

Jennifer Vanderzee Singleton '07, social work, has been promoted to vice president of Manager Deposit Operations for First Federal Savings Bank in Evansville.

Matthew Spanner '07, public relations and advertising, has joined First Federal Savings Bank as operations manager in Evansville.

Erin Ennes '08, public relations and advertising/Spanish, was promoted to lead recruiter at Absolute Consulting, Inc., in Navarre, Florida.

Jaime Hess '08, journalism, has taken the position of behavioral health technician at Southern Hills Counseling in Tell City, Indiana.

Brittaney Oeth Johnson '08, marketing, has joined The Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana as Posey County administrative director in Mount. Vernon, Indiana.

Andrew McGuire '08, accounting and professional services, was promoted to senior associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mallory Minor '08, marketing, has joined AXIOM as an assistant media buyer in Evansville.

Jamie Johnson '09, chemistry, is a student at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Traci Kalies '09, public relations and advertising, has joined Oswald Communication, Inc., as an account executive and director of social media in Evansville.

Heather Richey '09, public relations and advertising, has taken the position of marketing and communications manager at Christel House International in Indianapolis, Indiana.

2010s

Abigail Williams '10, kinesiology, is an administrative assistant for the Indianapolis Colts in Indianapolis, Indiana.

William Barnes '11, social work, has been hired as a behavior supports specialist for Evansville ARC.

Shelby Brock '11, accounting and professional services, is a pricing specialist at Citadel Plastics in Evansville.

Paige Dossett '11, public relations and advertising, has joined Tracy Zeller Jewelry as an apprentice, in Evansville.

Molly Elfreich '11, Master in Health Administration, has joined Holly's House as a forensic interviewer/associate director in Evansville.

Kevin Foster '11, individual studies, has been promoted to sales manager with the Pantry Corporation in Evansville.

Daniel Osborne '11, art, has joined Oswald Communications Inc., as a web designer in Evansville.

Stacy Woodall Gladish '12, health services, is a patient access supervisor at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville.

Michael King '12, individual studies, is a senior operator at Marathon Petroleum Company in Findlay, Ohio.

Marriages

Nancy Dauby '99, elementary education, '07, Master of Public Administration, and Heath Meyer, April 14, 2012

Betsy Davis '04, international studies/ Spanish, and Ryan Revell, April 20, 2012

Roneshia Clark '09, psychology, and Christopher Evans, September 1, 2012

Kristin Schapker '09, dental hygiene, '10, health services, and Tim Vetter, November 5, 2011

Joshua Orem '10, history, and Lindsey Young '10, nursing, August 7, 2010

Raul Ramirez '10, biology/Spanish, and Amanda Yochum '12, early childhood, April 14, 2012

Wendy Johnson '11, radiologic and imaging sciences/health services, and Paul Broughton '08, health services, May 12, 2012

Sheena Julian '11, elementary education, and Christopher Baumgart, July 21, 2012

Desiray Hoffman '12, elementary education, and Brett Tison, a USI student, June 30, 2012

Births & Adoptions

Sarah Huey Wiley '98, communications, and Mark welcomed Autumn Elyse, November 15, 2011.

Benjamin Justice '05, sociology, and Tara Hudson Justice '03, elementary education, welcomed Grady Benjamin, April 3, 2012.

Brittaney Oeth Johnson '08, marketing, Matthew Johnson '09, exercise science, welcomed Amelia Sue, August 13, 2012.

Andrew Martin '10, social work, '11, Master of Social Work, and Jessica welcomed Ruth Elizabeth, March 19, 2012.

Four recognized by Alumni Association

Four distinguished members of the USI community were recognized this fall at the Founders Day luncheon hosted by the USI Alumni Association. The 2012 Alumni Association Award winners are:



Special Recognition Award
Kenneth R. and
Nancy L. Johnson '83 M'95
Nancy: Director Emerita of USI
Alumni and Volunteer Services
Kenneth: Owner, Shrode
Insurance and Real Estate



Faculty Recognition Award
Daniel R. Craig
Associate Professor of Music
and Director of Musical
Activities



Alumni Service Award
John L. Schutz '82
Senior Vice President with
J.J.B. Hilliard, W.L. Lyons
Instructor, USI Office of
Outreach and Engagement

HELP FUND THE USI ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT AND SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT

Take Your USI Spirit on the Road!

It's easier than ever to tag your car with a red and blue USI License Plate. Ask for a USI License Plate at your local Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. BMVs state-wide will collect your \$25 tax-deductible contribution in support of the Alumni Scholarship Endowment and forward it to the University.

When you purchase or renew your License Plate, you will pay the state assessed fees. a \$15 BMV processing fee, and your \$25 scholarship contribution directly to the BMV. You can request a USI License Plate from the BMV by mail, at your local license branch, or online through the BMV web site at www.state.in.us/bmv.

For more information. call the Alumni Association at 812/464-1924.

Get rolling today with a collegiate license plate!





In **M**emoriam

Cyrilla Eberhard Goedde '71, elementary education, of Evansville, died July 4, 2012. She taught at Saint Wendel School from 1966 to her retirement in 1989.

Brent Bender '78, sociology, of Patoka, Indiana, died August 10, 2012.

Steven Moore '80, management, of Keller, Texas, died August 5, 2012. He had a successful professional career in sales and was an award-winning athlete.

Betty Lou Swenson '83, art, of Evansville, died July 1, 2012. She was a homemaker and sang in the Evansville Philharmonic Choir.

Brent Endsley '92, English/history, '09, Master of Liberal Studies, of Boonville, Indiana, died August 23, 2012. He served 22 years in the United State Army and Special Forces units of the Kentucky National Guard. Brent's unit was one of the first to conduct special operations on the ground in Afghanistan after the attacks on September 11, 2001.

Linda McDonald Hall '95, social work, '96, Master of Social Work, of McDonald, Tennessee, died May 19, 2012. She was a social worker until her disability.

Karen Christman Wojciechowski '97, biology, of Dryden, New York, died May 26, 2012. She worked as a lab technician in several businesses and academic settings, the most recent at Cornell University in the Dairy Science Division.

Bobby Steward '98, sociology, of Mount Vernon, Indiana, died August 10, 2012.

Vicki Bradley Kelly '00, social work, '02, Master of Social Work, of Marion, Arkansas, died June 16, 2012. She proudly served in the United States Navy.

Leah Greene Otto '06, nursing, of Milledgeville, Georgia, died June 29, 2012. She was a college instructor at Central Georgia Technical College in Macon, Georgia.

Faculty/staff In Memoriam

Paul Edmond Bennett, 88, USI professor emeritus of electrical engineering technology, died July 16, 2012, in Evansville. He earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Massachusetts and his master's degree at Pennsylvania State University. He worked at the Underwater Sound Lab in New London, Connecticut, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. During the Cold War, he worked for several research and development firms in Central Pennsylvania. This work was highly classified, including electronic detection equipment flown on satellites and detection devices for submarines. In 1976, he came to Evansville to teach electrical engineering technology, a new program at what was then ISUE, and

later USI. He retired from USI in 1992. Memorial contributions may be made to the William F. Bennett Memorial Scholarship in the USI Foundation or to the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus.

Dr. Glenn LeRoy Kinzie, USI Professor Emeritus of Education died September 14, 2012, in Evansville. He earned his bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. He also served as an officer in 511 Airborne Infantry Regiment of the United States Army, including two years of service in the American Occupation Forces in Augsburg, Germany. He taught and coached for four years at schools in Idaho and Washington. His university teaching career included three years at the University of Nebraska Lincoln, five years at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, and twenty years at the University of Southern Indiana, where he retired. His primary interest during his college tenure was minority and human relations. He received several federal grants for training in African studies and school desegregation. Memorial contributions may be made to It Takes a Village Canine Rescue or PAAWS.

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.

Send to: Alumni and Volunteer Services Office 8600 University Boulevard Evansville, IN 47712 phone 812/464-1924 FAX 812/464-1956 email alumni@usi.edu

Floyd named Volunteer of the Year

Yvonne Floyd, retired senior administrative assistant in Athletics at the University of Southern Indiana, was named the 2012 Volunteer of the Year at the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner on August 29.

Floyd was recognized for her 639 volunteer hours to Volunteer USI in 2012.

A founding member of the Volunteer Advisory Council formed in January 1995, she played an instrumental role in creating Volunteer USI. Sixteen years later, volunteers have donated more than 1.2 million service hours as a part of the program to benefit USI and the Evansville community.



"I was surprised and honored to be named the Volunteer of the Year," said Floyd. "I believe in the mission of USI and want to give all the support I can to the students and personnel. While I was employed at the University, volunteers made my job easier so I knew I wanted to give back after retirement."

Floyd received a crystal bowl and her name will be engraved on the permanent plaque displayed outside of Carter Hall in the University Center.

Fellowship lands USI grad in Jordan



Brent Mullen '10 is living with a host family in Jordan for two months this fall, teaching English and improving his Arabic. He also hopes to volunteer with a nonprofit group in the health field.

Mullen, an Evansville native who graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology, received an America's Unofficial Ambassadors Mosaic Fellowship to Jordan. According to Dr. Silvia Rode, chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, the AUA Mosaic Fellowship is a highly competitive program that is increasing the number of unofficial ambassadors who represent America to the Muslim world. Each year, the program provides fellowships to support a small number

of highly dedicated Americans volunteering with an AUA Directory-listed organization in a Muslim-majority country. The fellowship provides up to \$5,000.

Mullen is pursuing a master's degree in biology through the University of Nebraska. His goal is to attend dental school at New York University and earn a master's degree in international health.

Michael Nouri, instructor in Arabic, said Mullen has been one of his most outstanding students in the study of Arabic language and culture. He has taken three courses in Arabic at USI, tutored students in USI's English as a Second Language International program, and participated in the Small World Global Friendship Program, partnering with students from Saudi Arabia.

He said Nouri encouraged him to apply for the fellowship. "He's an awesome professor, and ever since I met him he's encouraged me to continue and has been willing to work with my graduate school schedule."

An Iraq War veteran, Mullen wanted to return to the Middle East. "I had a lot of contact with Iragis while I was there," he said. "That was the first time I'd been overseas. I was only 19, and I liked meeting all those people. I've had a continuing interest in the Middle East."

Dedication earns Ramirez a spot with the Evansville Police Department

Getting there was a hard road, but perseverance paid off for Christopher Ramirez '10, who was sworn in as an officer with the Evansville Police Department this summer. He graduated from USI with a degree in psychology and a minor in criminal justice.

After graduating from high school in 2005, Ramirez enlisted in the Evansville National Guard, and in 2007 began a two-year deployment to Iraq. During that time, he was able to take correspondence and online classes at USI but wasn't able to enroll full-time or take courses on campus until 2009–2010, when he returned.

"When I came back from Iraq, I jumped back into school," Ramirez said. "I wanted to figure out what was going to take the place of the military in my life. I loved it, but there was nothing comparable on the civilian side. Law enforcement was something that seemed close."

He continued to serve in the National Guard and was assigned a leadership role for a unit in New Albany, Indiana, where he helped soldiers returning from Iraq with mental assessments. "I was helping others cope and, on top of that, I had my studies. It was more work than I anticipated. I was making multiple trips to New Albany. I'd sometimes leave right from school and then have to drive back for class the next morning. I got little sleep."

Professors and counselors at USI helped guide Ramirez along the way, and he gives them a lot of credit for where he is today. "Being at USI and having that experience gave me perspective on a lot of things," he said. "It helped shape where I ended up. The rewards at the end outweigh any sleepless nights or cramming for tests. It's something you can be proud of."

Even with his full work load, Ramirez found time to volunteer with Latino Unidos, a community outreach group organized through USI's Multicultural Center. He also has taught dance for 10 years in the community, most recently with a



local swing dance club, coached a women's roller derby team, and assisted with the local Honor Guard at funerals for veterans.

Ramirez plans to return to USI to work on a master's degree in psychology. He wants to continue the work he started with Latinos Unidos—building bridges between Spanish speakers, law enforcement, and others in the community. "There's a large Spanish-speaking population out there and a lot of times they don't know what's available to them or they feel cut off. I want to help make everyone feel welcome. I have the opportunity, at least in some small way, to make that a reality."

What's New?





We want to stay in touch and hear what's new in your life. The best time to update your information is NOW!

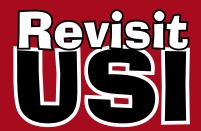
> Update your records by visiting www.alumni.usi.edu

If you prefer, email, phone, or send snail mail with your preferred email address and telephone number, mailing address, current job title and company, and name of spouse and children.

> Office of Alumni and Volunteer Services alumni@usi.edu 812/464-1924 8600 University Blvd. Evansville, IN 47712







Looking forward to the University's 50th Anniversary The University of Southern Indiana will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2015. In anticipation of that milestone, USI Magazine takes a look back at some of the events, people, and experiences from years past. Watch for this Revisit USI

A royal occasion

column in every issue.

USI's oldest tradition



MADRIGAL FEASTE

An undated photograph from the archives of the University's most enduring musical tradition, the Madrigal Feaste. This December will mark the 42nd annual Feaste heralding the start of the holiday season. A reenactment of a 15th-century royal feast, the event showcases members of the USI Chamber Choir, who don period costumes and entertain with selections of old English and Irish Madrigals, folk songs, and holiday choral selections. Entertainment includes dancing and other merriment. The annual event is a collaborative effort, partnering talented faculty and students with University Dining Services. If you know when this photo was taken, or who is in it, we'd love to hear from you. Send information to the editor at usi.editor@usi.edu.





More than 10,000 students are enrolled in University of Southern Indiana this fall. Some arrive with career plans clearly in mind, while others hope to uncover their potential. Either way, the next few years will dramatically shape their lives and provide opportunities for realizing their dreams—and at USI they'll get the edge on turning those dreams into reality. Connect with USI today and Get the Edge.

USI.edu

University of Southern Indiana

