



University of Southern Indiana

University Notes

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Academic units are "colleges"

USI's five academic units, currently designated "schools," will be called "colleges" effective July 1, 2005 to better reflect the intent of the units.

The five units will be:

- College of Business
- Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services
- College of Liberal Arts
- College of Nursing and Health Professions
- Robert H. and Elaine H. Pott College of Science and Engineering

Linda L. M. Bennett, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said that the designation of "school" usually denotes a narrowly focused professional program with limited degree offerings.

The five academic schools at USI offer a complex array of undergraduate programs and four of the five schools offer graduate programs. The change to the college designation will offer greater flexibility in future organizational planning.

Each college is led by a dean who reports to the provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

The USI Board of Trustees, following recommendation by the Faculty Senate, the Academic Affairs Council, and **President H. Ray Hoops**, approved the change at the meeting in January 2005.

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Rusk and Campbell assume new responsibilities in Office of Admission

Mark Rusk, assistant director of Admission, has been named associate director of Admission, effective July 1.

As associate director of Admission, Rusk will help develop marketing and recruitment programs; be the liaison with faculty; coordinate scholarship programs with the USI Foundation and the Office of Financial Assistance; mentor and train new admission counselors; and manage the Office of Admission in the absence of **Eric Otto**, director.

Rusk was an admission counselor at William Penn University in Oskaloosa, Iowa, and at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, before joining USI in 1999. He is originally from Clinton, Iowa.

John Campbell, senior admission counselor, will take over as assistant director of Admission effective July 1. A 2000 graduate of USI with a Bachelor of Science degree in communications, Campbell is pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree

from USI. He joined the Admission office in 2000 as an admission counselor and was promoted to senior admission counselor in 2002. He is from Terre Haute, Indiana.

As assistant director of Admission, Campbell will advise the Student Ambassadors organization; create and implement Web-based recruiting efforts; and mentor and assist with training of new counselors. He also is Webmaster of the Admission Office Web site.

Rusk and Campbell are both active members of the Indiana Association for College Admission Counseling (IACAC).

"Both Mark and John have a willingness to take on extra projects and responsibilities," said Otto. "They lead by example, mentoring new admission counselors. They have both been highly successful in this field and are deserving of new responsibilities."

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Thirty years of service

Editor's note: The next three issues of University Notes will feature a support staff member who is celebrating his or her 30-year service anniversary in 2005. They will be among support staff honored for years of service at an Employee Recognition Banquet from noon to 1 p.m. August 16 in Carter Hall in the University Center.

Susie Kempf was attending a banquet honoring her 10th year of service when it was announced that the University had gained independence from Indiana State University in 1985.

"We were at the Petroleum Club, and they came in and announced it," she said. "That was one of those neat things that happened; everybody was excited about it."

Kempf is senior computer operator in the Computer Center. She will be honored for 30 years of service to the University at the Employee Recognition Banquet August 16.

After working at ISU in Terre Haute for five years, the Boonville native wanted to be closer to her family. She transferred from ISU to USI in 1980.

When Kempf joined the University, the Computer Center was located in the lower level of the Technology Center.

"The computer system was still connected to ISU," she said. "They had the mainframe system and we were attached to it with a PC."

Later the Computer Center moved upstairs, to the area that now houses the Art Department, and in Spring 1991 moved again, to the lower level of the Orr Center, where it remains.

Kempf said the Computer Center employed 10 people in 1980. Now, she said there are about 40 employees.

She has seen a lot of changes on campus in the past 25 years. When she came to USI, the Physical Activities Center had just been completed.

"It's really grown since 1980," she said. "When I came, there was the University Center, the library, the administration building, and a few apartments."

"It's been neat to see it grow."

Kempf is a graduate of Boonville High School, attended ITT, and has a Bachelor of Science degree from USI. She graduated in 2000 with a major in education.

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The New Harmony Theatre's first world premiere opens July 8

The New Harmony Theatre's first world premiere, Thom Thomas's *A Moon to Dance By*, opens Friday, July 8.

The romantic, poignant drama recreates a visit to D.H. Lawrence's widow, Frieda, and her lover, Angelo, by her estranged son on the eve of World War II.

Frieda abandoned her husband and three children – including 12-year-old Monty – for Lawrence, who was her husband's student. She began her affair with Angelo while she and Lawrence lived in Italy, inspiring him to write *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

After Lawrence's death, Frieda stayed in Taos, New Mexico, with Angelo and never returned to her family in England. *A Moon to Dance By* imagines the reunion between mother and son as they explore questions of forgiveness and love with humor and grace – all against the backdrop of the American southwest and impending war.

Thomas has written several other plays, as well as for film and television, including the Emmy Award-winning series "Hill Street Blues," "Hotel," "Mr. President" with George C. Scott, and a multitude of Movies of the Week, HBO features, and TV pilots. He currently has five films in development.

A Moon to Dance By runs July 8-24 at The New Harmony Theatre, Murphy Auditorium, 419 Tavern Street, in New Harmony, Indiana. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays; 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; and 2 p.m. Sundays. There will be an additional matinee at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 23.

USI employees are eligible to purchase tickets at the group rate (\$46/season, \$18/play, and \$20/musical). For tickets, call 812/682-3115 or 877/464-0029.

The play contains adult language and situations.

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Jeffersonville receives Historic Southern Indiana's 2005 Community Legacy Award

Jeffersonville is this year's recipient of Historic Southern Indiana's Community Legacy Award. The annual award recognizes a southern Indiana community for outstanding achievements in preservation, enhancement, and promotion of its distinctive heritage.

"With its strong commitment to preservation and the dedication of many business leaders and citizens, Jeffersonville truly exemplifies the character of the Community Legacy Award," said **Leslie Townsend**, program coordinator for Historic Southern Indiana.

Jeffersonville Mayor Rob Waiz accepted the award on behalf of the community during a brief ceremony June 24, in Warden Park in Jeffersonville.

Jeffersonville is the county seat of Clark County, bordered on the south by the Ohio River, and part of the Greater Louisville area.

As the 2005 Community Legacy Award winner, Jeffersonville received \$1,000 in support of heritage-related projects and a plaque of achievement for public display.

The community has undertaken a number of projects to revi-

talize its downtown, including:

- Concerts in the Park series
- Building restorations
- Farmers market
- Improved signage
- Beautification efforts
- Outdoor movie series
- Front Porch Project
- Streetscape improvements
- Greenway Project
- New zoning classifications

The recipient of the Community Legacy Award is selected by a panel of judges comprising the following organizations: Historic Southern Indiana; Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana; the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the Indiana Office of Tourism; and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology.

Previous recipients include West Baden Springs, Madison, Orleans, Rising Sun, and Aurora.

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"President Abraham Lincoln" not hanging up his hat

This year's production of *Young Abe Lincoln*, the last that will be produced by USI, will be **Dean Dorrell's** fifth portraying President Abraham Lincoln.

Dorrell began portraying the 16th president for schools and groups years before he was cast in *Young Abe Lincoln*.

When he heard that the actor who portrayed Lincoln in the outdoor drama was going to retire, "I went to the amphitheatre that night and told the managing director that I wanted the part."

It's become a mission in Dorrell's life to help people understand Lincoln, and southern Indiana's influence on who Lincoln became.

"It was a very hard life in southern Indiana at the time," Dorrell said. "People had to work hard just to survive. It was very democratic in that anybody who was willing to come here and work hard could get by as well as anybody else."

"Everybody was seen as equals, and I think that helped shape Lincoln's idea of democracy. The values of the people in his church and community ultimately were the values that the country needed at the time Lincoln became president."

While he teaches others about Lincoln, Dorrell also learns from him.

"I've got a better understanding of politics, of what works and what doesn't, and I've taken that into the way I deal with other people," he said. "I think part of his political philosophy was that he never held a grudge. I think that's a valuable lesson for people to learn. He didn't much care about the details and the small things; he was focused on keeping what's important."

Dorrell said that USI's involvement in *Young Abe Lincoln* is going to be missed.

"USI has done an excellent job of helping this production work well. It's quite unfortunate that the legislature didn't come up with the funding that was requested this year."

"The theater is such a wonderful place. I think it's important that this story continues to be told. It's as important today as it was more than 20 years ago when the Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association was founded."

Dorrell can be booked for appearances through his Web site, www.honest-abe.com.

USI's production of *Young Abe Lincoln* runs at 7:30 p.m. July 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, and 31; and 2 p.m. July 16 and 20 at Lincoln Amphitheatre, in Lincoln State Park, Lincoln City, Indiana. The companion play, *South Pacific*, runs at 7:30 p.m. July 1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, and 30; and 2 p.m. July 13 and 23.

University employees can purchase tickets at the group rate, \$12. For tickets or more information call 800/264-4ABE or go to www.usi.edu/lincolin/.

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Mercer returns to guide USI volleyball program

Former USI volleyball player **Leah Mercer** will take over as head volleyball coach from **Molly Alvey**, who has accepted an assistant coaching position with the University of Mississippi.

A native of Evansville and 2002 graduate of USI, Mercer served Loyola University as the top assistant coach in 2004. She helped guide the Ramblers to a 22-9 overall record and a 10-4 mark in the Horizon League. Loyola won the Horizon League Tournament championship and qualified for the NCAA Division I Tournament before falling to the University of Wisconsin in the first round last season.

Prior to her one-year stint at Loyola, Mercer spent a year as a graduate assistant coach at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She helped lead the Bobcats to a 28-5 overall record, the Mid-American Conference regular-season and tournament titles, and the program's first-ever berth in the NCAA Division I Tournament.

"Leah has helped develop every program she has been associated with into a winner," **Jon Mark Hall**, director of Athletics, said. "She was integral in the NCAA Tournament runs of Ohio University and Loyola University and she is going to help develop our program into a perennial NCAA Tournament championship contender."

"She knows this league and region very well, but most importantly, she loves this University and will work hard to make sure our volleyball program is a program the University community will be proud of. I can't tell you how excited we are to have her come back and lead our program."

Mercer, who started her coaching career as a volunteer assistant at Purdue University in 2002, was a two-time All-GLVC performer and helped lead the Eagles to a three-year record of 61-27, including a 49-14 mark as a junior and senior. She averaged 3.1 kills per game during her three seasons of collegiate volleyball. Mercer also averaged 5.9 points and 3.6 rebounds in two seasons with USI's women's basketball program.

"I am very excited to be coaching at the University of Southern Indiana and my alma mater," Mercer said. "I'd like to thank the administration for giving me this opportunity. It is great to be back in the USI community where we have so much support for athletics. It is comforting to know that everyone in the USI family is backing you."

Mercer, who has a bachelor's degree in Physical Education (Teaching K-12) and a master's degree in Recreation and Sports Science (Coaching Education), becomes the Screaming Eagles' 11th head coach in the history of the program. She inherits a squad that was 24-7 overall and 15-1 in the GLVC last season.

The Eagles, who return five starters and nine letterwinners, won the 2004 GLVC regular-season and tournament championships and defeated Ferris State University in the first round of the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region Tournament before falling to Northwood University in the semi-finals.

"I am going to do my best to continue the success that this program has had during the last five years," Mercer said.

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Forging New Ground at New Harmony Gallery

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art presents "Forging New Ground: Contemporary Landscapes" July 9-August 14. A reception for the artists will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 9, at the gallery, 506 Main Street, in New Harmony, Indiana.

"Forging New Ground" consists of four artists who share an interest in landscape art. Larry Graham most often captures the landscape in the digital medium. Sharon Howerton Leightty's often small-scale works render the landscape with graphite and oil on panel or encaustic. Nancy Nichols also works in small scale but her medium is oil on canvas or pastel. Brian Taylor works with acrylic on laminated wood. All four artists' work is two-dimensional and unique.

Graham taught art at Ball State University for 26 years before retiring in 1995. He lives and works in Muncie, Indiana. Leightty received her MFA from Indiana University, lives in Louisville, and teaches drawing at University of Louisville. Terre Haute-based artist Nichols received her MFA in painting from Indiana State University, where she also teaches painting. Taylor is an art professor at Shorter College in Rome, Georgia.

Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 812/682-3156 or go to www.nhgallery.com.

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Names in the news

In appreciation

"I would like to thank the USI community for their kind expressions of sympathy on the recent death of my mother, Helen Hisch. Thank you for all the cards, flowers and prayers. It meant a lot to me and my family in our time of sorrow." - **Kathy Mitchell**, senior administrative assistant, Library Services.

Promotions/transfers

Donald T. Andrew, from grounds maintenance worker to lead grounds maintenance worker for the Physical Plant.

FYI

USI team will spell for NIE at Corporate Spelling Bee

The University's team in the Corporate Spelling Bee will be comprised entirely of members of the Teacher Education Department.

Marlaine Chase, associate professor of education, **Joyce Hamon**, associate professor of education, and **Beth Otto**, instructor in education, will compete in the annual fund-raiser for the Tri-State Newspapers In Education Foundation.

Newspapers In Education, a program of the Evansville Courier and Press, makes newspapers available to schools in the Tri-state at reduced costs, and also provides materials and work-

shops for teachers. The focus is on increasing students' reading ability and knowledge of current events.

The Corporate Spelling Bee will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 7, at the Holiday Inn, 4101 U.S. 41-North. Hors d'oeuvres will be served prior to the event.

Anyone interested in attending and cheering on USI's team should contact **Tom Pickering**, dean of the Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services, at 812/464-1811 for tickets.

Traditional Fourth of July Celebration

New Harmony Kiwanis, Friends of the Workingmen's Institute and Historic New Harmony will present New Harmony's annual Independence Day celebration on Monday, July 4.

"The Fourth of July Celebration in New Harmony is over 190 years old and follows in the tradition of the Harmony Society," said **Jan Kahle**, Historic New Harmony's education coordinator. "It's a great way to celebrate the birth of our nation with family and friends in a traditional atmosphere. This celebration is a real community event for visitors and locals alike."

The festivities begin at 10 a.m. with a patriotic speech by the Rev. Doris Beckerman, patriotic music, and a reading of the Declaration of Independence at Thralls Opera House, and then move to Maclure Park for a community picnic from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with music provided by Bob Minnette and the Dixieland Society.

Throughout the afternoon, there will be children's games, a bicycle decorating contest, a golf cart decorating contest, traditional food, and free root beer. Bring a picnic basket, lawn chairs, family and friends, and enjoy a very special celebration of the birth of our nation.

For more information, contact Kahle at 812/682-4488.

"A Tribute to Country Legends" at Lincoln Amphitheatre

"A Tribute to Country Legends," honoring the musical legacy of Hank Williams Sr., George Jones, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn, Marty Robbins, and Roy Orbison, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 8, as part of the Live at Lincoln Amphitheatre concert series.

The legendary performers will be impersonated by experienced actors who look, sound, and act like the country stars, in a theatrical production that is much more than just a concert. Musician Hugh Louder will emcee and narrate the show.

Rising Star Promotions' Bill and Phyllis Duke have included the popular production in their repertoire for 15 years. "We've produced it in different places all over the country, and we've got it booked 10 more times this year for fairs, festivals, private functions, resorts - lots of different venues," said Bill Duke.

Tickets are \$20. For tickets, call the Lincoln Amphitheatre box office at 800/264-4ABE (4223) or go to www.lincolnamphitheatre.com.

Lincoln State Park is located in Lincoln City, Indiana. The Live at Lincoln Amphitheatre concert series is produced by USI.

"I Thought You Brought the Can Opener"

Dan Rodgers, a former lead grounds maintenance worker with the Physical Plant, has self-published a collection of his columns for *The Carmi Times*.

I Thought You Brought the Can Opener and Other Tales of

Outdoor Adventure collects Rodger's columns from 1997-2001. Rodgers has written the column since 1995.

Rodgers worked for the University from 2001 to 2004. He has associate degrees in forestry in technology and urban forestry from Southeastern Illinois College and completed 40 hours of biology classes while employed at USI.

The book sells for \$13. To purchase a copy, call Rodgers at 618/265-3225 or email earthart@midwest.net.

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www.usi.edu/newsinfo/unotes/index.asp