

University Notes

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USI signs Educational Partnership with NSWC Crane

Crane Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC Crane) and USI have formed an educational partnership enhancing faculty research and student learning opportunities while enhancing research and commercialization of technology residing at Crane. The education partnership covers the Pott College of Science and Engineering and the College of Business. This process will be facilitated by the USI Center for Applied Research and Crane's Office of Technology Transfer.

"This is an important partnership for the University," said **President H. Ray Hoops**. "The partnership with NSWC Crane has great potential for USI to advance the time line for expanding our applied research capabilities and outreach to regional business and industry."

Dr. Scott Gordon, dean of the Pott College of Science and Engineering, said, "This partnership opens new doors to collaboration and technology transfer among scientists and engineers at USI and NSWC Crane. The focus both institutions have on applied research will not only benefit the region, but open doors to new learning opportunities for students in southwest Indiana. This is a win/win for all parties involved."

NSWC Crane, located in Martin County, is the third largest Navy installation in the country employing over 1,500 scientists, engineers, and technicians. NSWC Crane provides comprehensive support for complex military systems spanning development, deployment, and sustainment in three mission areas: electronic warfare/information operations, special missions, and strategic missions.

"NSWC Crane leverages our technical capabilities and those of our industry partners to provide rapid response and technical solutions to meet the mission needs of the war fighter," said **Captain Mark Welsh**, commander, NSWC Crane.

For more information about the education partnership agreement, contact **Dr. Sue Ellspermann**, director of the Center for Applied Research, at 812/461-5407.

Southern Indiana Japanese School honored

Japan Overseas Educational Services, a subsidiary of the Japanese government's Ministry of Education and Science, has awarded USI's Southern Indiana Japanese School (SIJS) with its School Award for the second year in a row.

Keietsu Nishimura, principal of SIJS, said that every student in the school's first through ninth grades entered the award contest in each area, including composition, poetry, haiku, and tanka (a traditional Japanese poem that is longer than a haiku).

There are more than 50,000 Japanese students studying abroad at 300 Japanese schools around the world, Nishimura said, and the School Award is given to only 16 of them. Sixty students ranging in age from 7 to 18 years old attend SIJS on 48 Saturdays a year. Students come from the Tri-state region and as far as Vincennes, Indiana, and Owensboro, Kentucky, to take classes at the school, which is located at Nativity Church on Pollack Avenue.

Nishimura said, "Since we started to participate in this contest in 1998, only our school and the Chicago Japanese School were given this award in the Midwest, including schools from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan,

Wisconsin, Illinois, Kansas, and Missouri. We are very proud of this."

USI opened the school in September 1997 at the request of Japanese companies locating in southwestern Indiana. SIJS enables students to smoothly integrate back into Japanese schools when their families return to Japan, usually within three to five years.

Before joining USI, Nishimura worked at the Japanese School in Indianapolis for seven years and was a high school teacher in Japan.

For more information about the school, go to www.usi.edu/extserv/outreach/japaneseschool.asp.

Accounting program adding quantity and quality

USI's Accounting program has grown by 25 percent in the last five years, due in part to events like USI Accounting Day, to be held Friday, November 16.

John Campbell, the Office of Admission's liaison to the College of Business, said the event attracts many students to the USI campus. Previously, the University sent a representative off-campus to meet with top students from local schools. "Then we decided to do something on our campus, and it has exploded," Campbell said. In 2006, 190 people attended.

This year's Accounting Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Carter Hall in the University Center. Lunch is provided and campus tours will be available.

Students interested in a degree in accounting will meet with USI's award-winning accounting team, accounting faculty, and members of USI's Accounting Circle, an advisory board comprised of senior executives in public and corporate accounting; learn about accounting internships and co-ops; and play a game of accounting "Jeopardy." Parents and high school counselors are also invited.

Dr. Brian McGuire, professor of accounting and chair of the Department of Accounting and Business Law, said, "We've gone from 320 majors including the post-baccalaureate certificate program to 400 majors from 2002 to 2007, which is about the time we started scheduling the high school days and the Accounting Extravaganza for college students in October."

USI Accounting students have won first place in the annual Indiana CPA Society Case Study Competition the last four years against IU-Bloomington, IUPUI-Kelley School of Business, University of Notre Dame, Valparaiso University, Purdue University, and Butler University. (Go to www.usi.edu/NEWSINFO/RELEASE/press_detail.asp?num=2565 for an accompanying story about the 2007 competition, held last Friday.) Last year, the team was featured in the *Journal of Accountancy* for having won the competition three years in a row.

Accounting students participated in the national finals of the Video Case Competition sponsored by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) where they finished in the final four the past two years. USI won the Alpha Kappa Psi regional competition in 2006.

"We're improving in quality and quantity," McGuire said. "And more students from greater distances are hearing about the accounting program. We're now getting inquiries in multiple states. It used to be most inquiries were from the Tri-State, but now it seems that the inquiries are coming from greater geographic distances, which again speaks to the quality of our program."

USI Accounting Day is sponsored by the Department of Accounting, the USI Accounting Circle, the College of Business, and the Office of Admission.

Accounting team wins state competition for fourth year

A four-member team of accounting students from the College of Business has won first place for the fourth consecutive year in the annual Indiana CPA Society (INCPAS) Case Study Competition.

The team made an oral presentation in Indianapolis November 2 and was recognized that evening as the winner of the competition at the organization's CPA Celebration at Historic Union Station. As first-place winners, each of the USI team members received a \$1,000 award from INCPAS.

The team from Valparaiso University finished in second place; the team from Saint Mary's College finished in third place.

The 2007 USI team included **Jacob Cottingham**, senior, of South Bend, Indiana; **Brad Greene**, junior, of Georgetown, Indiana; **Angela King**, junior, of Santa Claus, Indiana; and **Amy Oglesby**, senior, of Galatia, Illinois. Oglesby also was a member of USI's winning team in 2006.

Jeanette Maier-Lytle, USI instructor in accounting, was faculty coach of the accounting team for the fourth year.

The USI team qualified as one of six finalists to give an oral presentation after preparing a written case study. Other teams in the finals represented Butler University, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and Manchester College. Teams from Anderson University, Ball State University, Indiana University-Bloomington, Purdue University-Calumet, and University of Notre Dame also entered the competition.

The case study for this year's competition was on the topic of succession planning and business valuations. According to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, recent research indicates that a wave of baby-boomer CPAs retiring in the next 20 years, coupled with a shortage of management staff to take their places, could result in a buyers' market for firms. These conditions make it critical that current practitioners begin succession planning to secure their firm's future. In the coming years, many of today's college accounting students will be faced with deciding whether to build or buy a practice.

In the competition, students discussed the advantages and possible pitfalls of buying an existing practice, the roles and responsibilities of the retired partners, and factors to consider in determining a value for the firm.

The INCPAS case study competition is designed to challenge students with a practical project requiring them to use their knowledge, skills, and judgment. It provides the kind of practical experience they might use as CPAs in today's business world.

Norrick's handcrafted beer among the "Spirits in Harmonie"

Chris Norrick, senior graphic designer in Publishing Services, has President Jimmy Carter to thank for one of his favorite hobbies - making homebrewed beer.

In 1979, Carter signed a bill into law allowing homebrewers to produce small amounts of beer for the first time since Prohibition. It's still illegal to sell homebrew, but brewers can give it away, and that's just what Norrick will be doing at Historic New Harmony's Spirits in Harmonie event later this month.

Norrick is a member of the Ohio Valley Homebrewer's Association (OVHA), which will offer samples of their beers during the event, which will be held from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, November 24, at various historic sites in New Harmony. Live music, festive foods, and unique shopping will be available at several of the venues.

This is the first year OVHA has participated in the event. Norrick said selections will include Robust Porter, Belgian Witbier, American Amber Ale, Kentucky Bourbon Stout, and German Double Bock.

"When you say 'beer' people think of Bud, Miller, or Coors, but those brands all make one style of beer - the Light American Lager," Norrick said. "There are hundreds of styles of beer."

OVHA has about 25 members who meet monthly at the Germania Maennerchor to share and taste homebrews of a particular style. "There are tons of recipes within a style, using different ingredients and different methods," Norrick said. "It's all about the flavor and making things you can't normally buy. I have a Schwartzbier fermenting, which is something you can't often find."

OVHA co-sponsors the SWIRCA Craft Brewer's Festival and participates in the Evansville Museum Contemporaries' Brew-Ha-Ha and hosts two American Homebrewers Association events each year: "Teach a Friend to Homebrew Day" and "Big Brew." For more information, go to the club's Web site at www.ovha.net/.

Spirits in Harmonie will begin at the Athenaeum/Visitors Center with wine tasting by the New Harmony Wine Society. Next, Turoni's Main Street Brewery will have beer tasting and classical guitarist Tom Brown will perform at the 1775 Double Log Cabin. Hard cider will be available at the Schnee-Ribeyre-Elliott House.

OVHA will be at the Rapp-Owen Granary, with fair-trade items from A Greater Gift, a cash bar, and music by Swan Dive. Food provided by the Granary Auxiliary will be available at each site.

Tickets are \$22.50 in advance (and for seniors over 50 and AAA members) and \$25 the day of the event. You must be 21 to attend.

For tickets or more information, call Historic New Harmony at 812/682-4474 or 800/231-2168.

Names in the news

Welcome to the USI family

Jeff Sponn, buyer in procurement and distribution services, and wife **Cindy**, announce the birth of their daughter, **Ella Lee Sponn**, born November 6. Ella weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Welcome

David Prince has accepted a position as instructor in political science in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Kentucky. Prince was formerly employed as a visiting assistant professor of political science at East Carolina University.

Nafeesa Yunus has accepted a position as assistant professor of finance and economics in the College of Business. Yunis holds a doctorate from the University of Texas at Arlington where she was formerly employed as an instructor in finance.

Accomplishments

David Ritterskamp, instructor in mathematics, won a chance to play National Public Radio's Sunday Puzzle on November 4 on Weekend Edition. To hear the segment (and try to play against him!), go to www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=15877653.

The University of Southern Indiana was recognized by GLACUHO (Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers) with the President's Institutional Award in appreciation and recognition to the institutions that demonstrate commitment and support to GLACUHO. Two awards are given each year to a large and small institution. USI was recognized in the smaller institution category. This award is the highest recognition an institution can receive in the region.

GLACUHO held its annual conference in South Bend, Indiana from October 27-30. USI will be one institution in the state that will host the 2009 GLACUHO annual conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana. **Ryan**

Miller, area coordinator, was named as a co-host.

Conference sessions were presented by many USI staff. **Miller** and **Matt Gregory**, assistant director of Judicial Affairs, presented, "Use of Urie Bronfenbrenner's Peer Environment Ecology Model as an Alternative Assessment Tool of Core Housing Functions," **Laurie Berry**, director of Residence Life, and **Julie Payne Kirchmeier**, former director of Residence Life, presented two programs, "Zero Based in Not Just for Budgets Anymore" and "Develop Your Game Plan: Strategic Marketing for Housing Programs." **Berry** also moderated a roundtable for Women in Middle Management and will serve on the board of directors as the Gender Education Awareness Resource chair for the coming year.

FYI

Six \$1,000 scholarships available

Students can apply now for one of six \$1,000 scholarships in the USI/Epi-Hab Center for Disability Studies Scholarship Program. A student does not have to have a disability to qualify, but is asked to write an essay about his or her perceptions of disability in America. The application deadline for the 2008-2009 Epi-Hab Scholarship is Friday, December 7, 2007. The essay and two letters of recommendation are required. Applicants must:

- Be enrolled in a minimum of three semester hours at USI at the time of application and award (spring semester)
- Have completed at USI, or have had accepted for transfer to USI, a minimum of 12 semester hours
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.7 (undergraduates) or 3.0 (graduates)

A \$1,000 award is given to one student from each of the five colleges at USI, and a sixth one is available to either a student in the University Division or from the Bachelor of General Studies program. Students can download an application from the Epi-Hab Web site at www.usi.edu/extserv/outreach/epihabscholarship.ASP. For more information, call **Kitty Wustig** in Extended Services at 812/464-1863.

Basketball volunteers needed

Basketball season is quickly approaching and the Department of Athletics is looking for volunteers to assist in taking tickets during men's and women's home basketball games. Volunteers are an essential part of home basketball game day operations and help the event run smoothly. To volunteer at our basketball games, contact **Crystal Arnwine** at 812/465-7165 with your availability. The men's and women's basketball schedules are available online at www.usi.edu/sports. Volunteers may qualify for free season bench passes.

Need to learn PowerPoint?

Extended Services is offering a course called "Getting Started with PowerPoint 2003" on Wednesday, November 14. The course includes start-up basics for the popular presentation graphics package: how to design and develop text presentations from content outlines; adding clip art and scanned graphics; and editing the presentation master. The class will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Registration is \$49 but employees are eligible to take the class at no charge with a fee waiver. Fee waiver forms are available through the Human Resources Department. For more information or to register for the course, call Extended Services at 812/464-1989.

Wright Administration Building display space renamed

With the construction of the McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries, the display space in the Wright Administration Building has been renamed the McCutchan Exhibition Space by the University's Art Collection Committee chaired by **Annie Krug**, vice president for Advancement. Named for the late Kenneth P. McCutchan, this area was formerly called the McCutchan Art Gallery.

Men's cross country advances to nationals for third straight year

The USI men's cross country team finished third at the NCAA II Championships November 3 to earn a spot at the NCAA II Championships. Senior **Paul Jellema** (Dyer, Indiana) led the Screaming Eagles with a second-place finish and 10k time of 31 minutes, 36.83 seconds, while senior **Rey Alvarez** (Danville, Illinois) was 17th with a 10k time of 32 minutes, 20.15 seconds. Jellema earns All-Region honors with his performance. As a team, the Eagles finished with 134 points to secure their third consecutive trip to the NCAA II Championships, which will be Saturday, November 17 in Joplin, Missouri.

Alumnus receives state teaching award

Jon Carl '95 '98, a USI graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in social science secondary education and a Master of Science in Education, was awarded an Indiana's No Child Left Behind 2007 American Star of Teaching by the U.S. Department of Education in October. The American Star of Teaching "recognizes and honors superior teachers with a track record of improving student achievement, using innovative instructional strategies, and making a difference in the lives of their students." He also was honored at the 20th anniversary Technology and Learning Conference in Nashville and has been selected as one of the National School Board Association's "20 to Watch" educators for 2007.

USI vs. UE in International Club soccer match

USI is the defending champion in a second contest between the USI and University of Evansville International Club soccer teams.

USI will host UE in a match from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, November 11, at Strassweg Field. The two clubs held their first official match in spring 2007.

USI's team includes **Khalifa Al-Dughaisheem** of Kuwait, **Omar Bibi** of Tunisia, **Marty Liu** of Taiwan, **Fasool Al Yami** and **Khalid Almehri** of Saudi Arabia, **Firat Girgin** and **Taner Artkin** of Turkey, **Leonardo Fleck** of Brazil, **Reginald Egede** of Nigeria, **Endong Zhu** of Ecuador, **Michael Tepsic** and **Christoph Burger** of Germany, **Wen Cai** of China, **Hasan Odeh** of Palestine, and **Momodou Lamin Manneh**, **Brooks Cooper**, **Marc Lemond**, **Tyler Niedens**, **Scott Miller**, and **Joe Rayman** of the U.S.

Tickets are \$2.

For more information, contact **Amanda Jung**, president of the USI International Club, at 812/430-7493.

No classes on Assessment Day

USI students who are first-time, full-time freshmen, juniors who started their college career at USI, or seniors majoring in select programs will participate in testing during Assessment Day on Tuesday, November 13. No classes will be held and there will be no early registration that day. Testing will take place in the Health Professions Center, Liberal Arts Center, Forum Wing and Rice Library at 8:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 6 p.m. Students will be notified by mail and through email as to the time and place of their testing session. Students are required to participate. Those without an excused absence will have a hold placed on their pre-registration privileges, and will register during open registration.

"Assessment Day signals the importance USI places in the assessment and evaluation processes. The more we know about how our students are doing, the better we are able to strengthen academic programs to meet their learning needs," said **Dr. Linda Bennett**, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "We use the data to measure student performance across programs and for comparison with students at other universities.

For more information, contact the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment at instres@usi.edu.