



University of Southern Indiana

University Notes

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Chemistry and math tutor named Volunteer of the Year

To better understand a topic he tutors, this year's Volunteer of the Year sometimes attends the same classes in which his students are enrolled. He's amassed 7,150 volunteer hours over a 10-year period, a modest estimate that in reality reaches a higher hour count. An administrator calls him a humble man who does not seek recognition for his invaluable contributions to student learning.

Dana Brooke is the 2006 Volunteer of the Year. He is recognized for the amount of hours he's contributed and for the impact he has had on student learning and achievement. The award was presented during the Volunteer USI recognition dinner held in August. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the University-wide volunteer management program.

During his first year of tutoring, Dr. Brooke aided 28 USI chemistry students in 60 tutoring sessions. Over the following year the number of chemistry students jumped to 50 in 160 sessions, and math students were added to the tutoring schedule.

This Academic Skills tutor now has students calling him to make appointments.

In a nominating letter, **Nancy Myers**, math specialist in Academic Skills, wrote, "Dana's hours have increased to the point that there are some days that Dana seems to get here when the staff shows up and is still here when we leave."

An engineering student who accepted tutoring told of Brooke's tenacious efforts to help students through the rough spots in academic work. **David Yohe** wrote, "Dr. Brooke has provided in-depth assistance to students struggling with advanced science classes. I'm not sure I would have ever passed Calculus II if he had not gone out of his way to teach me the math skills I lacked."

Brooke volunteered as a tutor after taking early retirement from his research position at Mead Johnson/Bristol Myers Squibb. He wanted to continue to be useful.

He joins nine other Volunteer of the Year award winners who generously give their time and talents away to benefit others.

President H. Ray Hoops said, "The University is appreciative of all volunteers who have spent their time to improve USI. Over 3,600 volunteers have given 812,235 hours of service to USI. Calculated at the national volunteer wage, a \$13.4 million cost has been covered by USI volunteers."

The Volunteer of the Year award is presented by the Volunteer USI Council and the USI Office of Alumni and Volunteer Services.

Getting to know...Linda Dillbeck

Linda Dillbeck was raised in the bustling city of Miami, but since joining Ohio Valley Search and Rescue about a decade ago, she has become an expert on wilderness navigation skills, first aid,

rescue, survival, search management tactics, and radio communications.

"To take this city girl out in the wilderness was a bit of a challenge," the administrative assistant in the College of Business said. "Now I feel more comfortable there than on the streets of the city."

Dillbeck has volunteered hundreds of hours with OVSAR. She and her Chocolate Labrador, Jenny, joined other search and rescue team members in searching for lost, missing, and deceased individuals through summer heat and icy winters; on land and in water; at all times of day and night; and in disasters natural and man-made.

The two became involved with OVSAR when Jenny was a puppy. "I was looking for something Jenny would love to do; something she was bred to do," Dillbeck said. Jenny had all the qualities of a good search and rescue dog. She was loyal to her handler, eager to please, affection-seeking, well-socialized, and friendly. "She worked out well for me, and for the community."

Until Jenny died last year, she and Dillbeck trained for hours each week on the USI campus and in other wooded areas. "Now I'm without a dog, but I can help others get their dogs ready," Dillbeck said.

During one of their first trainings at USI, Dillbeck learned to trust Jenny's instincts. The dog's mission was to find a "missing" man in the woods. Dillbeck told the man exactly where to stand, so she would know that Jenny was on his trail.

"Jenny took off in the wrong direction, and I was frustrated. Then she gave her bark alert telling me she had found the missing person. For some reason, he had moved. She was waiting for me to get to them so she could have her reward: a tennis ball on a rope. Jenny was happy with her reward and I learned a valuable lesson - to always trust my dog. She found the missing person in much less time than it would have taken a human being."

The dog handlers train four to five hours per week, in a wide variety of conditions. "We train at night or during the day, and no matter what the weather, because you don't know what the weather will be like in a real situation," Dillbeck said.

Handlers attend seminars and conferences, with and without their dogs. They have to know how to read a map, work a compass, test wind direction, determine how weather plays into a scenario, and analyze the behavior of a lost person.

Dillbeck is on the committee for Indiana Department of Homeland Security district 10, is a member of Kentucky's region three search team, and is a level four search and rescue instructor for Kentucky.

"It can be heartbreaking, but it's rewarding, as well, to help others."

For more information, go to www.ovsar.org.

If you would like to submit a faculty or staff member, or a student, for "Getting to know..." contact **Wendy Knipe Bredhold**, University Notes editor at 812/461-5259.

Exhibition features Waters' sabbatical work

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art will present an exhibition of the work of **Kathryn Waters**, professor of art and chair of the Department of Art, Music, and Theatre, August 26-October 1.

"At Home and Abroad" features paintings and drawings from Waters' recent sabbatical, during which she spent a semester in Harlaxton, England, and was artist-in-residence at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts in Amherst, Virginia, and at The Ragdale Foundation in Lake Forest, Illinois. Also, as the title suggests, there is work in the exhibition that was created in Evansville, as well.

During her more than 20-year career, Waters has had numerous exhibitions throughout the country and abroad. Her work is held in many private and public collections, including the Evansville Museum of Art, History, and Science; Mead Johnson Corporation; and First Federal Bank of Munster, Indiana.

A reception will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, August 26, to correspond with the New Harmony Art Stroll.

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. It is located at 506 Main Street in New Harmony, Indiana.

For more information, call 812/682-3156 or go to www.nhgallery.com.

RopeWalk Writers Retreat announces the creation of RopeWalk Press

In anticipation of its 20th anniversary, RopeWalk Writers Retreat announces the creation of RopeWalk Press.

Since 1988, RopeWalk Writers Retreat has given hundreds of participants the opportunity to attend workshops and confer privately with prominent writers in Historic New Harmony, Indiana, site of two nineteenth-century Utopian experiments.

Workshops at RopeWalk are consciously restricted to a dozen participants in order to retain a sense of intimacy between faculty and attendees in New Harmony's retreat-like atmosphere. RopeWalk Press shares those values of high quality and small scale.

Dr. Thomas Wilhelmus, a founding director of RopeWalk and professor of English, said, "Since we started the writers' conference, we've added several additional programs: the literary magazine, *Southern Indiana Review*, a winter weekend version of the conference, and an on-campus series of monthly readings. RopeWalk Press is another part of our continuing effort to enhance the creation and appreciation of the literary arts in this region as we approach our 20th year in 2008."

Borrowing the slogan of the National Endowment for the Arts, Wilhelmus said, "A great nation deserves great art," including great literature. We're interested in improving the quality of life and making Evansville and this region an attractive place to live, work, and enjoy the benefits of highly accomplished cultural activities, including those for people who appreciate reading and writing."

Matthew Graham, co-founding RopeWalk director and director of Creative Writing, said, "Starting RopeWalk Press is a logical extension of the RopeWalk umbrella. In our 20th year, we want to commemorate our accomplishments by introducing a 20-year anniversary anthology containing the poems, short stories and essays of all the writers who have participated in the conference over the years."

Twenty Years in Utopia: The RopeWalk Writers Retreat Anthology is slated for release in 2008.

The first release from RopeWalk Press is **Matthew Guenette's** *A Hush of Something Endless*. A graduate of Southern Illinois University's MFA program, Guenette was an instructor in English at USI from 1999 to 2002. He currently teaches composition, literature, and creative writing at Madison Area Technical College.

He said, "If there's a consistent theme in *A Hush...* I would say it's the very poetic tradition of a narrator wringing order from the chaos of desire and loss. My goal with these poems was to generate velocity and construct a voice that is both distracted and amazed by a world of strange, beautiful details that hint at a higher order. I also wanted to create a voice that finds humor in this world, as way of negotiating defeat."

Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio to perform for Core Curriculum Speaker Series

The University Core Curriculum Speaker Series brings the Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio to USI on Thursday, September 14. The three women who make up the trio, pianist **Erika Nickrenz**, violinist **Adela Peña**, and cellist **Sara Sant'Ambrogio**, will treat the University community to an educational performance at 7 p.m. in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center.

The performance is free and open to the public.

Dr. Mark Kraehling, director of the University Core Curriculum and associate professor of chemistry, said, "The Core Speaker Series brings people that are nationally and internationally recognized for their expertise and talent to the USI campus. This event will let the members of Eroica Trio share their music and their ideas about music with the students of USI."

"I am impressed with the variety of music today's young people have on their iPods. I haven't noticed a lot of classical music, but the Eroica Trio may be the perfect group to make the introduction. They play classical music with the passion of a rock band."

The trio took its name from Beethoven's Third Symphony, known as the Eroica, which is Italian for "heroic." They won the prestigious 1991 Naumburg Chamber Music Award, resulting in a successful Lincoln Center debut and have since toured the United States, Europe, and Asia. They have released six critically-acclaimed recordings which received multiple Grammy nominations.

They have appeared on numerous television programs, including ABC's "The View," CNN's "Showbiz Today," CBS and ABC News, the CBS "Morning Show" and "Saturday Morning," A&E's "Breakfast with the Arts," "The Isaac Mizrahi Show," "Pure Oxygen," and Fox's "The Crier Report." "Eroica," a documentary about the trio, premiered on the PBS series "Independent Lens" in 2003.

The group has been featured in such magazines as *Elle*, *Glamour*, *Vanity Fair*, *Detour*, *Marie Claire*, *Gotham*, *Entrée*, *Bon Appétit*, *Time Out New York*, *Gramophone*, *Piano*, *Vivace*, *Auditorium*, and *Chamber Music*, and have graced the covers of magazines as diverse as *Fanfare*, *Cigar*, *Strings*, *Tall*, and *Strad*.

The Eroica Trio performs at USI in advance of a concert with the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra's Opening Night Gala, Saturday, September 16, at the Victory Theatre.

"We are grateful that we could fit in this campus performance while the group is in Evansville to open the concert season for the Evansville Philharmonic, and we are hopeful that this event may lead to other collaborations between the Evansville Philharmonic and USI," Kraehling said.

A view of USI from above

It took **LaVerne Jones '05** about 20 minutes to drive from USI to Tri-State Aero and five minutes to fly back.

This summer, the News and Information photographer got a perspective of USI's growing campus few get to see – a view from above. Jones took a "photo hop" aboard a Cessna 172, a small four-seater piloted by Jeff Culligan of Tri-State Aero, in order to take aerial shots of the USI campus.

Jones has flown to Mexico, Central America, and Europe through travel study opportunities offered by College of Liberal Arts faculty, but had never been in a plane that small.

"I was nervous," she said. "When the planes are bigger you don't feel all the motion and turbulence."

She arrived at Tri-State Aero armed with mints to combat motion sickness, but after the plane took to the air, she soon forgot herself as she set to work photographing campus.

"It was jumpy and jerky but I never got motion sickness. After I got through the nervousness the rest was just fun."

Shooting in the cramped space was challenging. She had limited mobility and had to avoid shooting the wings and struts of the plane itself. Culligan allowed her to loosen the shoulder strap on her seatbelt after they were in the air.

The first thing that struck her looking down at USI was the light. She chose a day when there was little haze for better visibility. "The clouds were creating shadows on the ground so you could see light striking different parts of the campus," she said.

The bright white roof of the new David L. Rice Library stood out from other buildings on campus. According to **Gary Burgdorf**, construction administrator in the Physical Plant, the white color absorbs less solar energy and makes the library more efficient to cool.

Jones said another noticeable feature was the emergence of the quadrangle. "You can see how the buildings are starting to develop together; the quad will tie all of them in," she said.

Culligan flew around campus eight to 10 times at 800 feet. The whole trip took about 30 minutes.

Jones said that when she stepped foot back on solid ground, she still felt "high."

Connect with Southern Indiana, practicing skills for better community

USI is seeking a diverse group of individuals to apply to the Connect with Southern Indiana program that encourages and provides individuals with skills and confidence to nurture citizenship and strengthen critical thinking. The core of the program is to help participants learn about and strengthen their skills, their options, and their opportunities for involvement in community and regional projects, often transcending traditional boundaries of towns and counties, occupation, and demography.

Twenty-four people will be selected into the nine-month program. Applicants can be from a nine-county region in southern Indiana. Planners are looking for diversity by gender, race, interests, and occupation. A year's residence in the region prior to January 2007 is required. Those interested may apply for the 2007 class through October 9, 2006.

Connect with Southern Indiana has multi-purpose value. It is free to participants who are accepted because funding for the program is made possible by a grant from Lilly Endowment.

The program will be a forum to practice critical thinking skills. Tim van Gelder, a *College Teaching* magazine writer, shares this thought, "Everyone knows that mastering a skill takes prac-

tice and lots of it. "Practice makes perfect" is a nugget of folk wisdom that has been extensively investigated by science, and it has come out vindicated. You will not get better without practice. The skills of critical thinking are no exception." Connect with Southern Indiana programs will focus on

- community overview
- critical thinking
- personality profiles
- strategic planning
- project management
- public skills
- project planning, and
- government involvement.

This is the second year of a pilot program that began January 2006.

Also, persons in the program will have opportunities for collaborative problem solving. They will meet business and civic leaders and gain greater awareness of community and regional needs.

Residents of nine counties (Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick counties) will be eligible for the 24 positions in the nine-session program that starts in January and ends in August 2007. Because the program is free and openings are limited, applicants must indicate their willingness and ability to participate in all programs and the limited out-of-class assignments to be given. October 9, 2006 is the deadline for applications.

The program is sponsored by Historic Southern Indiana, an outreach program through USI Extended Services. More information about the program, the dates of the sessions, and an online application is available at www.usi.edu/extserv/connect.asp.

Names in the News

Welcome

Dr. Karen Brake has been named staff physician in the USI Student Health Center. A board certified family medicine specialist, she is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. She graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and trained in residency at Flower Hospital in Toledo, Ohio. Brake was formerly associate director of Family Medicine Residency at St. Mary's Family Practice Center. Health care providers at the USI Student Health Center are employed by Deaconess Hospital.

Amber Hughes has accepted a position as an advisor in University Division. She was formerly a school counselor at Smyrna West Alternative school.

Michelle Irwin has accepted a position as assistant women's basketball coach in Athletics. She was formerly employed as a graduate assistant coach at Ashland University.

Becky McGinnis has accepted a position as an assistant athletic trainer in Athletics. She was formerly employed as a graduate assistant athletic trainer at Northwest Missouri State University.

Dawn Whalen-Burghard has accepted a position as an accounting assistant in Library Services.

Transfers/promotions

Rebecca Ball, administrative associate in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, has been promoted to senior administrative associate in Business Affairs. She joined USI in 1996 as senior secretary to the dean. Prior to employment here, Ball worked in the Office of Teacher Certification at Purdue University. She is an Indianapolis native who now lives in Newburgh.

Dr. Abbas Foroughi, professor of computer information systems, has been named department chair of the Department of Management, Management Information Systems, and Applied Computer Science in the College of Business. Foroughi is a member of the graduate faculty and is widely published on topics related to e-business and the Internet. He received the Sydney L. and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award in 2002 for his work in the community.

Carey Franks, a 1993 USI graduate, is the assistant to the provost, a new position in the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs. In this position, Franks maintains annual budget lines, records, and reports for departments that report to Academic Affairs, and she serves as liaison with Business Affairs. She also provides support to the faculty tenure and promotion process, and she has responsibility for documentation required for personnel changes and new hires. Employed at USI for 13 years, Franks was in Business Affairs for 10 years. Most recently she was senior administrative associate there. She lives in Evansville.

Accomplishments

Mark Rozewski, vice president for Business Affairs, is on the 13-member Board of Directors for Indiana Higher Education Telecommunication System (IHETS). The board includes top administrators at public and private higher education institutions, state agencies, and nonprofit public-sector organizations.

FYI

Volleyball seeks "Little Screammers"

The USI volleyball team is looking for young volleyball fans and players (grades 1-8) to join its "Little Screammers" program.

USI's "Little Screammers" program is a series of three clinics (9/9, 9/23, 10/8) that allow children to try volleyball for the first time or enhance their skills with the USI volleyball team throughout the season.

In addition to the clinics, the "Little Screammers" program includes a Screaming Eagle volleyball t-shirt, a pre-game presentation at a USI home match, and a pizza party.

Clinics on September 9 and 23 are 5-6:15 p.m. (following USI's matches), while the clinic and pizza party on October 8 is 1-3 p.m. "Little Screammers" will be recognized prior to the SIU Edwardsville match October 17.

The cost to become a "Little Screamer" is \$50 and all proceeds go to the USI volleyball program.

For more information, contact Head Coach Leah Mercer or Assistant Coach Kyle Walton at 812/464-1789.

Sand Volleyball Tournament

The 6th annual "Day at the Beach 2006" sand volleyball tournament will be held at Wesselman Park on Sunday, September 10 at 8 a.m. The tournament will benefit Albion Fellows Bacon Center, a domestic violence/sexual assault center. Additional activities will include music by 106.1 KISS, food and beverage sales, raffle and silent auction items. The cost is \$20 per player. Click here to register your team or call 812/422-9372.

Employee Bible study

Bring your lunch and join employee Bible study on Wednesdays, starting September 6 from noon to 1 p.m. in UC205. The Bible study will begin with the book of John.

For more information contact Susie Kempf at 812/464-1793.

Race for the Cure

The University is organizing a team to participate in the 2006 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure at 9:30 a.m. September 17 at Eastland Mall. USI team members will receive an official Komen Race for the Cure t-shirt and a USI team t-shirt.

Registration forms are due by Tuesday, September 5 and are at the Recreation and Fitness Center.

For additional information call 812/464-1807.

2006-07 USI basketball season tickets on sale

Tickets for the men's and women's 2006-2007 basketball season are on sale. The home schedule includes 16 home dates (28 games) and nine GLVC doubleheaders. The GLVC schedule includes home dates with Kentucky Wesleyan College, Northern Kentucky University, and Bellarmine University.

Deadline for season ticket holders is September 15. For more information contact the USI Ticket Office at 812/465-7165.

EPD to offer Citizen's Academy

Twice yearly, the Evansville Police Department holds a Citizen's Academy for Evansville and Vanderburgh County residents who want to learn more about the police department. The seven-week sessions are held in spring and fall, and are designed to build citizen awareness about police policies and procedures. The fall 2006 session will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, September 12-October 24 at the Evansville Police Department, 15 N.W. Martin Luther King Boulevard. To register, contact Debbie Baird at 812/436-4948.