



University of Southern Indiana

# University Notes

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## **Innovator a highlight of RISC Showcase**

No "virtual" renaissance man, Jaron Lanier is the real deal.

An internationally recognized computer scientist, visual artist, composer, philosopher, and scholar, Lanier also will be the keynote speaker at USI's 2003 Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Creativity Showcase April 26.

His free presentation will begin at 9 a.m. in Mitchell Auditorium, and the public is invited to attend.

A pioneer in virtual reality, Lanier co-developed the first VR glove and VR head-mounted displays. He also coined the term "virtual reality" and founded VPL Research, the first company to sell VR products.

He now serves as lead scientist of the National Tele-immersion Initiative, where studies focus on advanced applications for Internet 2, and is chief scientist of Eyematic Interfaces, where research explores computer vision.

Lanier's latest research, in what he calls "Phenotropics," concerns new ways of binding software components together to improve large-scale reliability.

His paintings and drawings have been exhibited in museums and galleries in the United States and Europe, and his first one-man show took place in 1997 at the Danish Museum for Modern Art.

A pianist and specialist in unusual musical instruments, Lanier has performed with a diverse group of musicians including Philip Glass and Sean Lennon. He composes chamber and orchestral pieces, and his recent commissions include a concert-length sequence celebrating the 1,000th birthday of the city of Wroclaw, Poland.

Lanier's writings embrace a variety of topics, including high technology business, the social impact of technological practices, the philosophy of consciousness and information, Internet politics, and the future of humanism.

His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Discover*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The Sciences*, *Wired Magazine*, and *Scientific American*.

A resident of New York City, Lanier holds no academic degrees but has several university appointments, including Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth; Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania; the Interactive Telecommunications Program, Tisch School of the Arts; and the Computer Science Department, Columbia University.

USI student presentations will follow Lanier's keynote address in the 2003 RISC Showcase and will continue throughout the day in the Liberal Arts Center.

The RISC Program is designed to encourage independent faculty-guided undergraduate research and creative projects at USI. For more information, call 812/465-7137.

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## **Springfest brings three days of fun to USI**

Celebrating spring is a three-day event at USI! Springfest 2003, organized by 35 student organizations, promises more food, more music, more activities, and more fun for students and the community.

Admission to Springfest is free, but festival-goers can bring a canned food item to help the Tri-State Food Bank and Archibald Eagle's Campus Food Closet. The majority of events will take place on the University Center Mall.

Grand Finale Concert admission is free to USI students with a valid Eagle Access card. Admission for the general public is \$10.

### **Springfest 2003 Calendar**

#### **Thursday, April 24**

3 p.m. - Carnival rides open.

3 p.m. - Rock-climbing wall.

4 p.m. - Crazy Olympics.

4 p.m. - Giant screen (11' x 15') video game. Players can test their game skills with Xbox's Halo.

6 p.m. - Family Feud, local high school team competition.

8 p.m. - Karoke.

#### **Friday, April 25**

9 a.m. - College Knowledge, Carter Hall: 700 elementary-age students visit campus for a chemistry demonstration and a "candy economics" lesson.

10 a.m. - Food booths open.

11 a.m. - Carnival rides open.

Noon - Music Festival. Featuring: Little Moe and the Atomic Two-Tones, Monkeyland, Army of Freshmen, USI Gospel Choir, USI Jazz Band, wellhello. Open microphone for USI students between bands will include vocalists, guitarists, a three-piece band, and DJ in the sky.

#### **Saturday, April 26**

9 a.m. - Registration for the Screaming Eagles Car and Truck Show. Awards at 2 p.m. Registration fee: \$15; \$10 for high school and college students.

10 a.m. - Food booths open.

11 a.m. - Carnival rides open.

11 a.m. - Music Festival. Featuring: Christa Shore and Beyond the Veil, Wasted Dayz, Haypile Pickers, Rukkus, Collaboration, Muckrakers, Element 110.

6:30 p.m. - Grand Finale Concert gates open. Concert begins at 7:15 p.m. Featuring: Jennie DeVoe, a blend of soul, rock, blues, and folk; and headliner Blessid Union of Souls ("I Believe" and "Hey Leonardo - She Likes Me for Me").

Springfest is in need of volunteers in a variety of areas, including Thursday's Fun and Games Night, in food booths, at the merchandise table, at the concert ticket and program table, at a registration table, and for the "Pizza Brigade." For more information, call 812/465-1136.

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## **USI's Slavkin wins state award**

Honored for providing leadership in technology-enhanced teaching, Dr. Michael Slavkin, assistant professor of education, was one of five Indiana educators recognized at the annual All Partners Conference held by the Indiana Higher Education Telecommunication System at Ball State University April 4.

IHETS is a consortium of all public and private higher education institutions in Indiana. The awards were sponsored by the Indiana Partnership for Statewide Education, the primary leadership committee within IHETS that focuses on program delivery and facilitation of e-learning courses and programs.

"We are proud to acknowledge these individuals for their outstanding contributions in developing e-learning opportunities," said Dave King, executive director at IHETS. "These are some of the most creative people working in e-learning in Indiana. Their efforts are examples for the state and the country to be proud."

Slavkin won the Teaching with Technology category of the Awards for Innovative Teaching and Instruction Support in a tie with Dr. George Weimer of University of Indianapolis. Each recipient received a cash award for further professional development.

With his practical teaching style and leadership in technology-enhanced teaching, Slavkin has served as an innovator and role model for other faculty. He also helps students identify the importance of technology in the classroom by infusing student-centered practices into his teaching.

Slavkin holds a Ph.D. from Indiana University and joined the USI faculty in 2000.

Several other USI representatives also attended the statewide conference. Kevin Valadares, assistant professor of health services/administration, and Jon Reidford, computer and Internet services coordinator for the School of Nursing and Health Professions, presented the session, "Assessment in Cyberspace: Strategies for Success with Online Testing to Improve Student Learning."

Dr. Martha Raske, assistant professor of social work; Michelle Alvarez, assistant professor of social work; and Kelly Alexander, social work graduate assistant, presented the poster session, "Evaluation of Course Modules for Professional Continuing Education."

Alvarez attended the session virtually while attending another national conference in Jacksonville, Fla., where she was an award recipient for her work in distance education.

Dr. Karen Bonnell, director of Instructional Technology Services, and Dr. Saxon Reasons, ITS program manager, served on statewide committees to plan the conference. Other USI attendees included Dr. Suzi Wolfe, associate professor of German; Beth Thompson, associate director of the Charles E. Day Learning Resource Center; Lori Suter, developmental educator in Academic Skills; Dr. Michelle Blake, assistant professor of social work; and Dr. Otis Stanley, lecturer in nursing.

USI's nominees for the awards program also included Slavkin, Alvarez, and Eric VonFuhrmann, associate professor of English, in the Teaching in a Distance Education Program category; Dr. Scott Gordon, associate dean of the Pott School of Science and Engineering, in the Teaching with Technology category; and

Reasons and Keith Kennedy, coordinator of instructional broadcasting in the School of Nursing and Health Professions, in the Instructional Support for Distance Education Teaching category.

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## **Lecture exploring 'emerging shape of America'**

An internationally syndicated columnist and author will deliver "The Emerging Shape of America at a Time of Conflict Abroad and Terrorist Threats at Home" April 23.

Tom Plate will present the University Core Curriculum Lecture at 7 p.m. in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center.

With experience in the major issues confronting our society for the past 25 years, Plate has interviewed presidents and many of the political figures shaping our times.

His columns have appeared in newspapers in Asia as well as the United States, and he teaches courses on Asia's media and politics and on business, government, and media ethics in the College of Letters and Science and in the School of Public Policy at University of California at Los Angeles.

Plate is the founder of the nonprofit Asia Pacific Media Network that is based at UCLA and serves as an international network for educators, media professionals, and government and business officials.

In his lecture, Plate will examine events of the past year that resulted in part from the terrorist attack that brought down the World Trade Center. He also will address security issues, personal freedom, and the possibility of future terrorist events.

For more information about the University Core Curriculum Lecture, call Michael Aakhus, professor of art, 812/464-1853.

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## **Communication expert speaking April 16**

A nationally known educator, author, and expert on communication will deliver "Building Community through Communication" Wednesday, April 16.

Dr. Judy C. Pearson's presentation in the Liberal Arts Speaker Series will begin at 7 p.m. in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

In the program, Pearson will define community, talk about the history of community and communication, and discuss ways to build community. She also will share some narratives of people who inspire community building.

A professor of communication, Pearson also is director of the doctoral program and associate dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at North Dakota State University.

Before her work at NDSU, she was director of the Northern Virginia Center, associate dean of the Graduate School, and professor of human development and communication at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

With research focusing on family and gender communication, Pearson has published nearly 50 articles and has written 23 books. She has shared her scholarship with national television audiences on CBS, NBC, ABC, PBS, and CNN and has appeared on such shows as *CBS This Morning*, *The Jenny Jones Show*, and *The Sally Jesse Raphael Show*. Her work also has been discussed in more than 250 newspapers and several magazines.

The lecture at USI is free and open to the public. For more information, call 812/464-1950.

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## Former assistant professor reading April 14

The RopeWalk Reading Series will feature Robert McDowell, a former USI assistant professor of English, at 7 p.m. Monday, April 14, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

McDowell is the author of three books of poetry: *On Foot, In Flames*, *The Diviners*, and *Quiet Money*. He is coauthor of *Sounds and Form in Modern Poetry* and *The Reaper Essays*, and his unpublished novel, *His Singing Cowboy Days*, is represented by The Anderson Literary Agency in New York.

McDowell also is the founding editor and publisher of Story Line Press and served as cofounder and coeditor of *The Reaper* magazine for 10 years.

He holds a B.A. from University of California Santa Cruz and an M.F.A. from Columbia University. For more than 14 years, he has lived and worked on farms in Oregon's Willamette and Rogue valleys.

The RopeWalk Reading Series is made possible through the support of RopeWalk Writers Retreat, the *Southern Indiana Review*, USI Society for Arts & Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, Indiana Arts Commission, and USI Student Writers' Union.

All readings in the series are free and open to the public. For more information, call 812/464-1735.

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## Symposium to consider gay marriage

Spectrum USI and the USI Civil Liberties Union will present a public symposium on gay marriage at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

The symposium will consider the constitutional challenge of restricting gay marriage, the importance of tradition, and marriage as a religious institution versus marriage as a social construction. Senior political science major Chad Crowe, president of USI's student chapter of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, will serve as moderator.

The speakers will include Dr. Stephen Sullivan, associate professor of philosophy; Rebecca Whisnant, assistant professor of philosophy; Dr. Bob Peppiatt, lecturer in political science and philosophy; and John Krull, executive director of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union. The symposium is free and open to the public.

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## Town Hall Meeting a chance to share ideas

Dr. Gary Stiler and Dr. Pam Taylor, assistant professors of education, will host USI's first Service Learning Town Hall Meeting at 3:30 p.m. April 21 in Room 2016 of the Orr Center.

The intent of the gathering is to develop ideas, resources, and networks that will better link the USI community to the greater Tri-state community.

USI faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend as are members of local communities, neighborhoods, agencies, and churches. The meeting will be an interactive session. People planning to attend are encouraged to be prepared to share ideas.

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## University, church choirs to honor soldiers

The USI Chamber Choir and Orchestra will join the Old North United Methodist Church Choir and the Bethlehem United Church of Christ Chancel Choir to present Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem Op. 48* April 27 in honor of fallen soldiers in

Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The concert will begin at 7 p.m. at Old North United Methodist Church, 4201 Stringtown Road, Evansville. It is free and open to the public.

"This setting of the *Requiem* text is one of the most beautiful and comforting works ever attempted," said Daniel R. Craig, USI assistant professor of music.

"The depth of harmony presented as well as the sensitivity to the text undoubtedly shows the pleasure that Fauré took in writing the piece. It is an excellent work to present in memory of our fallen soldiers."

The USI Chamber Choir, Orchestra, and Old North United Methodist Church Choir will be performing under Craig's direction. John Schmitt will direct the Bethlehem United Church of Christ Chancel Choir.

The performance April 27 will mark the first time the three Evansville choirs have combined to perform such a work.

Donations will be accepted to defray the cost of the performance. For more information, call 812/464-1735.

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## Names in the news

### Achievements

Dr. Michael D. Dixon, assistant professor of history, presented "The 'Spartan Savior' in Thucydides and Polybius" at the 99th annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South April 5 in Lexington, Ky.

Dr. Guillermo Latorre, professor of Spanish, is the principal author of two recently published articles. The first, "Semantic-discursive Components, Modalities of Enunciation, and the Image of the Superpowers in the *Diario Ilustrado* of Chile 1957-1962," was published in the 2002 issue of *Onomazein*, the linguistics journal of the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. The second article, "From Invective to Encomium: General Semantic Strategies and the Image of the Superpowers in the *Diario Ilustrado* of Chile 1957-1962," appeared in *Letras de Deusto* 96, the philology journal of University of Deusto, Spain. Part of an ongoing project, both papers explore aspects of techniques used by the right-wing press to construct an image of the United States and the Soviet Union. Another study from the perspective of the left-wing press is under consideration by a third journal. Latorre's research was conducted with the support of a Faculty and Creative Work Award from USI.

Dr. Leslie J. Roberts, associate professor of French, and her co-editor, Dr. Michael Chesson, professor of history, University of Massachusetts-Boston, recently won the Founders Award, an international award given every two years for the best edited edition of primary materials from the American Civil War or Reconstruction periods. The award is adjudicated by a panel selected by the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Va., and the jury is composed of three senior scholars of Civil War history. Roberts translated the 800-page journal of Henri Garidel of New Orleans from the French, and *Exile in Richmond: the Confederate Journal of Henri Garidel* was published by University Press of Virginia in 2001 (hardcover, 466 pp. ISBN 0-8139-2018-3). Thirty books published in 2001-02 were submitted by publishers, and *Exile in Richmond* was the unanimous first choice. This is the first time a professor of modern languages has received the award. Roberts and Chesson will be flown to Richmond for the award ceremony at the Commonwealth Club, a book signing, a presentation, and other festivities in late May.

## **In appreciation**

"I would like to thank the University community for its support and encouragement during the illness of my mother, Jean Schneider, senior accounting assistant in the Bursar's Office. She is doing much better and hopefully will return to work soon."

- Bobbi Drone, financial aid generalist,  
Student Financial Assistance

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## **FYI**

### **Disc golf**

USI's Disc Golf Course will officially open April 14 in the Screaming Eagles Valley Complex, a recently developed area that also includes a cross country course on the west end of campus.

In addition to a disc golf tournament, the grand opening of the Screaming Eagles Valley Complex will include a cross country run, individual disc golf contests, and a disc golf clinic. Registration for the disc golf tournament is closed, but on-site registration will be available for the cross country run.

Opening day events, which will begin at 2 p.m., are free. April 15 is the rain date for the opening activities, which also will include refreshments. For more information, call 812/464-1942.

### **Student art**

The 33rd Annual USI Juried Student Art Exhibition will be on display Monday through Sunday, April 14-20 in the University Conference Center.

The exhibit will open with a reception for the artists from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 13, and the awards ceremony will begin at 3 p.m. Exhibit hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. For more information, call 812/465-7047.

### **American Dreams**

USI Theatre will present Studs Terkel's *American Dreams* at 8 p.m. April 11 and 12; and 2 p.m. April 13.

Tickets are \$9, adult; \$7, senior and non-USI student; and \$3, USI student with a valid Eagle Access Card. For tickets or additional information, call 812/422-3970.

### **Newsletter deadline**

Friday, April 11, is the deadline for submitting information for the next online issue of *University Notes*. Submissions received after the deadline will be published at the discretion of the editorial staff. Submissions may be made via e-mail to Libby L. Keeling, associate editor.

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## **Marketplace**

### **For sale**

230 Faith Way - gorgeous Westside home, three bedrooms, two-and-one-half baths, West Terrace, Mater Dei, Reitz district: \$239,900.

Cub Cadet lawn tractor, model 1015 - geared transmission, 10-horsepower Kohler engine, electric start, mechanical power take-off. Mower deck is only 32-inches wide, so it stores easily and will go through standard gates in privacy and security fences: \$500. Contact Larry D. Goss, rlgoss@evansville.net or 963-0918.

MTD Yard Machine chipper/shredder - purchase price \$498, asking \$300 OBO. Call 985-9903.

Couch - brown and tan, SUPER COMFORTABLE, great condition, perfect for a college student or someone just starting out on their own: \$50. Moving...must sell! Call Kelly, 464-1768.

We're overrun with extra cell phone accessories - accessory package for Nokia 5165 (leather carrying case with swivel belt clip, yellow faceplate, vehicle charger, ear piece, and standard outlet charger): \$20. Accessory package for Nokia 3390 (leather carrying case with swivel belt clip, vehicle charger, ear piece, and standard outlet charger): \$15. Items either never used or in like-new condition. Contact dbalder481@aol.com or 985-2749.

Yard/patio fountain - three foot, faux gray stone, motor, purchased from Colonial for \$900, will sell for \$250. Call Ext. 1749.

Patio set - dark green iron table, four chairs (two rockers), two cushions, umbrella, and stand. Purchased from Colonial for \$1,100, will sell for \$350. Call Ext. 1749.

### **Rummage sale**

Welcome springtime in the country at its best - first Union Township rummage sale, April 25 and 26. Participating households will have signs at their mailboxes. Wide variety of items, including clothing, antique farm items, and used furniture. Contact Mary Ann, Ext. 1815 or mbernard@usi.edu.

### **For rent**

Newly remodeled one-bedroom unfurnished apartment - corner of Barker Avenue and Hillcrest Terrace. No pets, non-smoking, one-year lease: \$350/month, \$150 deposit. All electric. Water, sewage, and trash pick-up provided. Call 476-3411.

### **Theatre Wish List**

The New Harmony Theatre and Lincoln Amphitheatre have opportunities for in-kind gifts from anyone wishing to donate a piece of furniture or equipment in good condition. These gifts will be recognized in the season playbill if made by April 15.

The New Harmony Theatre is in need of the following for the actors' green room: two sofa chairs, one coffee table, and two end tables.

Lincoln Amphitheatre is in need of the following to clean cast costumes: two washing machines and one dryer. Contact Becky Warford, Ext. 1668, or Paul Miller, Ext. 7172.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Marketplace," a free service available to University employees and retirees, publishes information of a non-commercial nature that may include items for sale or rent, desired items or services, available services, free items, and fund raisers. The editorial staff reserves the right to decline any submission and to enforce the column deadline.

Friday, April 11, is the deadline for submitting information for the next "Marketplace."

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