

University Notes

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Doctorate-level nursing degree at USI approved

A first-ever doctoral-level academic program at USI received approval in December by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. The new degree, expected to be implemented in fall 2008, is a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The College of Nursing and Health Professions proposed the nursing degree as the first doctoral program to be offered at USI. The program would serve Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) graduates who are currently practicing as nurse educators, nurse practitioners, or nurse administrators. The DNP is an alternative to research-focused doctorates in nursing and is comparable to practice doctorates in pharmacy and physical therapy.

Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at USI, said "It is the next natural step given the success of the master's degree program. The program is not a research doctorate. It is a practice-focused terminal degree. The approval of the degree speaks to the strength of the USI nursing program."

Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, said the doctorate will support the education, social, and economic growth of southern Indiana by providing expert nurse clinicians, educators, and administrators.

The DNP program is offered at 45 universities nationally and at Purdue University in Indiana.

The program will be offered through a hybrid approach to course delivery using online learning technology with on-campus intensives.

Coudret said, "The current graduate nursing program has had great success in delivery of course content through the use of advanced instructional technology. Employer evaluations and graduates' success in passing the national certification exam on the first attempt point to the success."

The DNP program would begin with 20 students, and it would offer the program for full-time and part-time students. Students seeking admission to the program must have completed an M.S.N. degree to be eligible to enroll. The curriculum will build on the current MSN program and include courses on advanced scientific principles for nursing practice, organizational and system leadership, informatics, cultural competence, health care policy, and evidence-based practice.

Stephen Woodall joins USI as director of security

Stephen Woodall of Evansville has been selected as director of security. Woodall was with the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office for 28 years, most recently as captain in the professional standards unit.

Woodall has significant experience in the areas of department management, law enforcement and public safety, and staff management and training, with 17 years of command-level experience and 10 years of investigative experience. During his tenure with the Sheriff's Office, he received the Meritorious Service Certificate and the Bronze Merit Award.

President H. Ray Hoops said, "Mr. Woodall will be a good fit

within the culture of the institution. He is an individual respected by his peers in the community and throughout the region and we expect him to build on the University's high standard of professionalism and service."

Woodall is a 1978 USI graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in sociology. He holds a Master of Science degree in public administration from Indiana State University.

A graduate of the FBI National Academy, he was president of his class at the National Sheriff's Institute and graduated second in his class from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.

Woodall replaces **Barry Hart**, who has retired after 17 years with USI.

USI Hall of Fame class of 2008 announced

In December, the Department of Athletics announced the 2008 class of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame, to be inducted during homecoming week in February. The class of seven individuals was selected by the 10-member USI Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Any Eagles fan was eligible to nominate student athletes or teams on the 10th anniversary of their last season of competition or a coach/administrator who has been separated from the Department of Athletics for two years. Special individuals (e.g., Varsity Club members) were eligible for nominations.

This year's class includes **Chris Bowles** (men's basketball 1990-94), **LeAnn Freeland** (women's basketball 1993-97), **Stephen Jackson** (men's basketball 1983-87), **Sheri Kaiser** (volleyball/women's basketball 1990-93), **Todd Niemeier** (baseball 1992-95), **Bruce Pearl** (men's basketball head coach 1992-2001), and **Ruth Waller** (women's basketball, softball, tennis, cheerleading head coach 1976-1985).

Chris Bowles '94 of Madisonville, Kentucky, was USI's first Player of the Year for Division II Basketball. He was named All-American three times, All-Region four times, and All-GLVC four times. Bowles also was named GLVC Player of the Year in 1994, GLVC Newcomer of the Year in 1991, and the NCAA II Great Lakes Regional Most Outstanding Player in 1994. After his final game in the 1994 NCAA II Tournament Championship game, Bowles ranked number two in scoring and first in rebounding at USI. He also ranked in the top five in games played, field goals made, free throws made, and blocks. He also holds the single game scoring record of 45 points on the road at Northern Kentucky University. After leaving USI, Bowles played extensively as a professional in Europe and South America.

LeAnn Freeland '97 of Sims, Illinois, is one of the most decorated female student athletes in USI history and was one of only twenty nominees for the NCAA Division II 25th Silver Anniversary Team. Freeland was a three-time Women's Basketball Coaches Association/Kodak All-American and was named College Sports National Player of the Year as a sophomore. In 1997, she led the USI women's basketball team to the NCAA National Championship game. She was the first USI athlete to be named Academic All-American twice by the College Sports Information Directors of America and was the first USI athlete to be awarded a prestigious NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, which she used at USI. This year, Freeland became the head women's basketball coach at the University of Indianapolis.

Stephen Jackson '95 of Fort Wayne, Indiana is USI's all-time leading scorer with 2,216 career points and is only one of two Eagles to score over 2,000 career points. He still is the USI all-time leader in field goals made and holds the season record for field goals made. Jackson was the GLVC Player of the Year in 1985; was the Newcomer of the Year in 1983; was named All-Great Lakes Region three times; and earned All-GLVC honors three times.

Sheri Kaiser '94 of Corydon, Indiana was USI's first Academic All-American, earning third team honors in 1993 and also was named GLVC Player of the Year in 1992 and 1993. She finished her career holding the all-time volleyball records for kills, solo blocks, and block assists. Kaiser still holds the career blocks records and the USI single-match record for kills and block assists, as well as the single season record for kills. She was named All-Great Lakes Region in 1993, All-GLVC in 1992 and 1993, and Academic All-GLVC in 1991, 1992, and 1993. Kaiser also was a member of the USI women's basketball team from 1990-93.

Todd Niemeier '95 of Evansville is USI's all-time leader in wins (25) and was a two-time preseason All-American, a three-time All-Region and a four-time All-GLVC selection. He also was Academic All-GLVC three straight years. He holds the all-time record for innings pitched and is tied for the season record for wins. The left-handed hurler also ranks second all-time in strikeouts and winning percentage; fifth in appearances; and fourth in complete games. Niemeier was a member of the USI baseball teams that made three NCAA II Tournament appearances, won the GLVC title in 1993, and won 40 or more games twice. He was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in 1996 and later went to Indiana University Medical School, becoming an Optometrist.

Bruce Pearl helped put USI into the national spotlight by leading the Eagles to the national championship in 1995 and the finals in 1994. The winningest coach in the history of men's basketball with 231 wins never had a team with less than 20 wins and made nine NCAA II Tournament appearances. USI also was ranked NUMBER ONE nationally for the first time under his tenure as was ranked in the top spot during five different years. He has gone on to have success in Division I at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Tennessee. In addition to his coaching duties, he laid the foundation for athletics department fundraising and community awareness.

Ruth Waller was instrumental in the birth of women's athletics at USI. Waller coached the women's basketball team for nine of the first 10 years, when women's college basketball was in its infancy. She began the USI softball program, coaching the squad for 10 years and posting 100 victories. During her tenure as softball coach, USI was a major force in the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, the predecessor to women's athletics in the NCAA. In this association, USI was on the same level as many of Indiana's Division I programs. Waller also was the first women's tennis coach. She has gone on to build one of the strongest intramural programs of all the Indiana state institutions, servicing more than 5,000 students each year.

"The class of 2008 continues to show the strong athletic history USI has established," said Jon Mark Hall, director of Athletics. "Each member of this class made significant impacts on their respective team and distinguished themselves as a student athlete or coach."

The induction ceremony will be held on the evening of February 8.

Spring meeting session

The spring semester general meeting of University faculty and administrative personnel will be held Monday, January 7, in Carter Hall in the University Center. All faculty and administrative staff are expected to attend.

New faculty and administrators should sit in the special section

reserved for them in the front section of Carter Hall.

Faculty training sessions will be held from 9:45 a.m. to noon in the Liberal Arts Center and Rice Library. A total of seven workshops will be offered. Descriptions of the workshops are online at www.usi.edu/extserv/springtraining. Registration for the workshops is at the link.

Dr. Lorilee Sandmann, associate professor in the Department Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy at the University of Georgia, will offer a presentation for deans, department chairs, program directors, and Tenure and Promotion Committee members at the University and College levels from 9:45 a.m. to noon in Carter Hall.

Her presentation, "Documenting Engagement and Scholarship for Promotion and Tenure," focuses on how to present information on engagement and scholarship when seeking tenure and promotion.

She will repeat the presentation for all faculty members from 12:45 to 2:30 p.m. in Carter Hall. Time will be allotted for a question and answer period.

Another afternoon option, "Tapping Online Reference Resources for Academic Instruction," will be presented by **Joanne Artz**, reference services librarian, and **Phil Orr**, distance learning librarian, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Rice Library's Lab A on the first floor. This afternoon session was added after the morning session filled. It will introduce faculty to online reference resources in a wide range of subject areas, including arts/humanities, business, health/life sciences, science/engineering, and the social sciences. Subscription and free resources with emphasis on the CREDO database will be included as well as a discussion on the use of Wikipedia as a reference source for student research.

Here's the schedule:

7:30-8 a.m.: Coffee and rolls in the concourse outside of Carter Hall

8-8:30 a.m.: Remarks from **President H. Ray Hoops**

8:30-9 a.m.: Welcome, introductions, and announcements from **Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett**, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs

9:30-9:45 a.m.: Break

9:45 a.m.-noon: Spring training sessions for faculty, Liberal Arts Center and Rice Library; Session for deans, department chairs, etc. with **Dr. Lorilee Sandmann** on tenure and promotion, Carter Hall.

Noon-1 p.m.: Luncheon in The Loft and the Eagles Nest.

12:45-2:30 p.m.: Faculty session with Dr. Lorilee Sandmann on tenure and promotion, Carter Hall.

1:30-2:30 p.m.: Faculty session with Rice Library staff on online reference resources, Rice Library Lab A.

If professional responsibilities will keep you from attending the meeting, your absence must be approved by your dean.

Graphic design professor will lead 11-day trip to China

Xinran Hu, assistant professor of graphic design, will lead a once-in-a-lifetime trip to China May 12-22, 2008. A deposit of \$350 is required upon sign-up in early January to secure a place on the tour, which is limited to 20.

The tour will begin in China's capital, Beijing, and also visit the cities of Xi'an, Guilin, and Shanghai.

In Beijing, the group will visit Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), the Temple of Heaven, the Great Wall, the Ming Dynasty Tombs, a jade factory, the Summer Palace, Kunming Lake, and Peking Normal University.

Xi'an is known as one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals of China,

and includes the 2,000-year-old burial site of Emperor Qun Shi Huang with his incredible army of 8,000 terra cotta soldiers, positioned in military formation to protect him in his afterlife. The USI group also will visit the Wild Goose Pagoda. Built in 652 during the reign of Emperor Gaozong of the Tang Dynasty, the temple was influential in the spread of Buddhism. That evening, a 20-course Chinese dumpling dinner will be followed by the colorful Tang Dynasty Culture Show.

After a visit to the rural countryside, the group will cruise through the scenic peaks of Guilin, past bamboo groves, boat villages, and cormorants. They will visit the haunting landscapes of Guilin at Reed Flute Cave, Elephant Hill, and Fubo Hill.

Next they will fly to Shanghai, a city of 16 million with rich historical and modern architecture. Major attractions include a spectacular acrobatic show, Nanjing Road, the Jade Buddha Temple, and the famous Bund, situated on the city's waterfront.

Before leaving China, the group will board the fastest train in the world and travel to the airport at 267 miles per hour.

The tour price is \$2,575 per person double occupancy and includes four- or five-star hotel accommodations, most meals, deluxe coach transfers, international airfare and domestic flights, sight-seeing admissions, entertainment, and English-Chinese speaking tour guides. The price does not include passport and China visa fees. Full payment via cash or check is due 90 days prior to departure.

Hu joined the University in 2004. She was previously an assistant professor at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. She earned an M.F.A. from Minneapolis College of Art and Design in 2002 and is a member of the College Art Association and the American Institute of Graphic Arts.

For more information, call 812/465-1296 or email xhu@usi.edu.

USI News Stand

The Fall issue of *The Periodic Review* from the Pott College of Science and Engineering is online at www.usi.edu/science/07-5156%20Periodic%20Review%20WEB.pdf.

Read about

ABET accreditation

STEM Education summer program

Pott College Hall of Fame

PLUSS program

Tri-State Science and Engineering Fair, and more.

The Fall issue of the College of Nursing and Health Professions Synapse is online at health.usi.edu/newslets/synapse/syn_fall07.pdf.

Read about

Doctorate of Nursing Practice program

Clinical Simulation Center

Distinguished Nursing Alumna, and more.

Names in the news

Welcome

Jane Friona has accepted a position as grant writer/coordinator in Extended Services. She holds a Master of Health Services Administration degree from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing from the University of Indianapolis. Friona was formerly employed as an independent contract worker.

Cindy Resing has accepted a position as senior administrative assistant in Human Resources. She holds an Associate of Applied Science degree from Indiana Vocational Technical College. Resing was formerly employed as an administrative assistant at Zev Cohen and Associates Incorporated.

Laurel Wilson has accepted a position as computer services technician in the David L. Rice Library. She holds a Bachelor in Liberal Studies degree from the University of Evansville. Wilson was formerly employed as a computer lab manager at Mt. Vernon Senior High School.

Passings

Collin Daniel Lynn, infant son of Emily Lynn, supervisor in the University Center, died December 23. Private services were held.

Accomplishments

A novel excerpt by **Nicole Reid**, assistant professor of English and creative writing, entitled "Some Other Sort of Hunger" was a finalist in the 2007 Gival Press Short Story Award. Her piece "Like Paper Snow" won second prize in *Newport Review's* Flash Fiction Contest and is published at newportreview.org/nreid.htm. Her story "Bellow" appears in the latest issue of *Copper Nickel* and prose poem "How Trees Sleep" is published in the latest issue of *Green Mountains Review*.

FYI

USI and Chamber offer Candidate School

USI and the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana will lead a candidate school from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, February 1, at Innovation Pointe, 318 Main Street in downtown Evansville. If you've ever thought about running for political office, here's a chance to explore what it takes to become a successful political candidate. Candidate school will provide practical advice from experienced campaigners, public servants, political scientists, and party officials. Topics will range from why you should run for office to defining yourself as a candidate, election law compliance, and media relations. The registration fee of \$40 includes materials, breaks, lunch, and parking. To register using Visa, MasterCard, or Discover, call 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600. Send a check or money order payable to USI to USI Extended Services, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712. No employee fee waivers apply.

CareerLINK is for all students

The spring CareerLINK Internship/Co-op, Full-Time, and Graduate School Fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 27, in Carter Hall in the University Center. CareerLINK connects seniors and graduates with employers and graduate schools, and undergraduates with employers seeking summer and fall internships and co-ops. For a list of recruiters that will be on campus, go to www.usi.edu/careersv. For more information, contact **Rene Koressel**, recruiting supervisor in Career Services, at 812/464-1865.

Museum exhibit includes USI's early years

"Evansville in the 1960s," an exhibit currently on view at the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science, includes a section dedicated to USI's early years. The exhibit will run through February 3, 2008. It examines key happenings in Evansville during the turbulent decade and highlights topics including education, commerce, and city infrastructure of the period, as well as successes in athletics. For more information, go to www.emuseum.org/history/history.html.