

Paul Doss and the importance of 'good old science'

The bottled water you pick up at the store or from the vending machine is depleting groundwater and threatening ecosystems a state away. Dr. Paul Doss, associate professor of geology, was reminded of the problem while serving as a guest scientist with the U.S. Forest Service last fall.

Through GeoCorps America, a partnership between the Forest Service and the Geological Society of America, Doss spent the first part of a year-long sabbatical gathering data about the White River basin within Michigan's Huron-Manistee National Forests, where construction of a bottled water plant has been proposed.

"My work was born out of concerns related to environmental impacts of large-scale groundwater withdrawals from entities such as bottled water producers," Doss said. "The work also emerged out of the recently enacted Great Lakes Water Compact signed by Governor Daniels and other Great Lakes state governors, and signed into law by President Bush. The compact is the response to threats of inter-basin water withdrawals."

The White River, an important trout and salmon spawning stream and recreation resource for the national forests and the state, is sustained almost entirely by groundwater. "Groundwater, as a resource, gets developed," Doss said. "It's the hidden resource nobody thinks about."

In order to better predict the effects of any proposed groundwater withdrawals on the groundwater-dependent ecosystems of the forests, current data had to be collected and a baseline established. Doss designed and installed a network of groundwater monitoring wells around the headwater channels of the river. "The only way you can begin to make predictions is if you know how the natural system works, and you can only know how it works by measuring it and collecting the real data," he said.

During his employment with the Forest Service, Doss and his family lived in the Huron-Manistee National Forests for more than three months. His wife Heidi, a naturalist and outdoor educator, and son David served as field assistants. They were lodged near another example of a water-dependent industry - a frozen juice factory. In addition to its huge bottled water industry, Michigan also has a strong beer industry. "Beer is also water-intensive," Doss said.

"But from a political and social perspective, bottled water really raises the hackles of everybody. When you bottle water, you just 'steal' the water, is what the public feels. It's the one that gets the blood running." Several citizens groups have arisen to challenge the bottled water companies.

His work in Michigan reminded Doss of the linkages between science and what happens in the Statehouse or on Capitol Hill. "This is a classic example of the importance of plain old geology with respect to public policy and resource management. Here we are talking about bottled water but when you really get down to it, somebody is pumping water and maybe making trout die...how many people think about groundwater-dependent salmon when they buy grape juice?"

"I've come away with more ammunition about the importance of good old science in managing human society. Everything we do has an impact on our resources. Everything."

Doss will present preliminary results of his research at the annual conference of the Geological Society of America in April. "I hope to remain involved for the long haul. I hope to take students up and hopefully this research will expand."

He'll return to Manistee this summer, and also will teach his annual field seminars at Yellowstone National Park. USI students will join him in Yellowstone for GEOL 390: Geological Field Excursion, a course that is already full.

The business of transparency

UBlog written by Erin Gibson

The Shield created a bit of a buzz on campus when an advertising insert for Southern Illinois University Carbondale tumbled out of the Feb. 26 edition.

To complicate matters, the ad, which promotes SIUC's new offer of in-state tuition for students in Indiana and four other states, was placed on the stands just in time for another Southern Hospitality Days.

I spent the day seeking the answer to this question: "Should a university's student newspaper allow a competing university to advertise?"

I posed the question to my colleagues from the College Media Advisors, a national organization of student newspaper advisors to which I belong.

I received eight responses from advisors at state universities who said their newspapers accept advertising from other universities. One of those advisors even asked me for the contact information for the person at SIUC who placed the ad - her paper wanted the revenue.

An advisor at a private college was the only person who said the student newspaper had a policy against running ads for other schools.

I also learned the same ad that ran in *The Shield* ran in seven other student newspapers.

I turned to the Student Publications Policy Manual to see if the students had overlooked an existing policy. Here is the newspaper's advertising policy:

"All decisions regarding the types of advertising accepted by The Shield are at the discretion of the editorial board. The board may prohibit publication of any advertisement it deems inappropriate."

Until last week, we had only measured "inappropriate" advertising based on whether an ad is offensive, jeopardizes the health and safety of students, or is prohibited by law. To our knowledge, *The Shield* has not previously been approached by another school to advertise undergraduate programs.

In light of this new category - competition from other schools - *The Shield* editorial board convened Thursday afternoon to review the policy. (The editorial board is composed of the editor in chief, managing editor, the copy editor, and all section editors. The advisor is present for editorial board meetings but does not have a vote).

After a lengthy discussion and debate, they voted to leave the policy as is except for a procedural modification that clarifies how the advertising and editorial departments communicate about questionable advertising materials.

The policy as written allows future editorial boards (which change every academic year) to interpret what is or is not appropriate.

If you are interested in reading the student's rationale for their decision, you can find it on the opinion page in this week's edition of *The Shield* at www.usishield.com/opinion/staff_editorial-1.1595503.

One of the most common arguments *The Shield* makes when criticizing

decision makers is the lack of transparency in the decision-making process. I've seen them do it time and time again.

As an advisor, I always remind them they also wield a significant amount power – the power of the printed word.

So when they write an opinion, make a decision, or run a controversial ad, I'm quick to remind them to hold themselves to that same standard of transparency.

Local government reform workshop to be held at USI

Southwestern Indiana residents can learn about, discuss, and help forge approaches to Indiana's local government reform initiatives in a workshop titled "Speaking locally: Southwestern Indiana discusses the structure of local government," to be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, in Carter Hall in the University Center at the University of Southern Indiana.

In 2007, the Indiana Commission on Local Government Reform, a bipartisan panel appointed by **Governor Mitch Daniels**, delivered 27 recommendations for redesigning local government in Indiana. The recommendations addressed a range of issues, from school consolidation and the structure of county governments to library services and the method for funding child welfare services. Some of the recommendations have been implemented or are under consideration at various levels of government, including the Indiana General Assembly.

Citizens will hear details and a variety of perspectives on these reform measures, as well as a historical perspective on local government in Indiana. They'll also have opportunities to engage in conversations with elected officials, office holders, and advocates on all sides of the issues.

"Our goal is to expose citizens to information, background and points of view that will help them engage in the process of local government reform," said **Dr. Linda Bennett**, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "These are vital conversations, with a lot at stake, and citizens need the opportunity to raise questions, discuss concerns and make their voices heard."

Here's the schedule:

8:30 a.m.: Registration

9 a.m.: Welcome, introduction, history of government reform in Vanderburgh County: **Mizell Stewart III**, editor of the *Evansville Courier & Press*; History of Local Government: **Dr. James Madison**, Indiana University.

9:45 a.m.: Perspectives on local government reform: former **Governor Joe Kernan** and **Tony Wolfe**, president of the Gibson County Council and past president of the Indiana County Council Association.

11:30 a.m.: Lunch/services provided by local government panel discussion: Local township, city and county officials.

1:30 p.m.: Roundtable breakout sessions: Imagining the future of local government from multiple perspectives.

2:30 p.m.: Breakout session reports/wrap-up.

There is no charge to attend the events; however, there will be a \$10 charge for lunch and reservations are required. Register by Friday, March 6: call 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600; fax 812/465-7061, or email extserv@usi.edu.

Other workshops will be held in Jasper, Elkhart, Greensburg and Madison County. The workshops are presented through a program offered by the Bowen Center for Public Affairs at Ball State University and the Indiana Humanities Council. Their partners include the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Association of Indiana Counties, Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, and Inside Indiana Business with Gerry Dick.

Local partners include Growth Alliance of Greater Evansville (GAGE), Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana, Leadership Evansville, League of Women Voters of Southwest Indiana, *Evansville Courier and Press*, WNIN Public Television and Radio, **Dubois County Daily Herald**, Jasper

Chamber of Commerce, Dubois County Area Development Corporation, and Grow Southwest Indiana.

Award-winning teacher/historian to present Liberal Arts Alumni-in-Residence Program

College of Liberal Arts Alumni-in-Residence **Jon Carl**, a local historian and award-winning social studies teacher at F.J. Reitz High School, will present "Hands on History: Transforming Students into Historians by Making Documentaries," at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 19, in Kley Meyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

Carl holds Bachelor of Science in social science secondary education and Master of Science in Education degrees from USI. He was named Indiana's No Child Left Behind 2007 American Star of Teaching by the US Department of Education for his innovative class on historical documentaries called "Feel the History."

He also was named one of "20 to Watch" by the National School Boards Association, Caleb Mills History Educator of the Year by the Indiana Historical Society, and Teacher of the Year for 2008 by the Indiana Computer Educators Association. A team of his students won first place in the 2008 Adobe School Innovation Awards for their work in "Feel the History."

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact **Dr. Tamara Hunt**, chair of the Department of History, at tlhunt@usi.edu or 812/465-1202.

Students learn art of the interview

Mock interviews offer soon-to-be graduates practice job interview sessions. The Teacher Education Department at the University of Southern Indiana scheduled mock interviews for pre-teachers this spring with the help of local principals. The mock interview offers a student an interview experience in a realistic setting. Students learn valuable tips on interviewing style and protocol.

Mike Taylor of Daniel Wertz Elementary and **Lana Burton** from Harper School interviewed the USI pre-teachers on February 28 and March 2.

Taylor said the mock interviews can instill a confidence for the actual interview. "Students can learn the art of the interview—posture, eye contact, dress, and how to use the interview to sell themselves," he said.

Burton said she participates because USI is a partner with Harper School. She said, "USI sends students to support our after-school program. Now when the partner needs help, I'm available." She sees it as good practice for the students; practice with a goal in mind to get a teaching job.

Taylor said in the mock interview, he watches if the candidate is listening to the questions. Students who interrupt or students who don't have an answer, but try to invent one, will not do well in an interview. He said, "I'm looking for the candidate who is intentional and purposeful in the interview. If he or she doesn't know an answer, the better technique is to ask for the question to be rephrased or explain you don't know."

Burton said she is looking for a teacher who is flexible, willing to learn, and one who gets along with people.

Errick Lickey of Evansville is a USI senior who will be going through an actual interview in a few weeks. He is student teaching at Gibson Southern High School and Princeton Community School. His major is social science with a minor in special education and a middle school endorsement.

"During the mock interview, I was asked questions I didn't anticipate," Lickey said. "I was asked to identify three strengths and weaknesses of my teaching, and I could only think of two. I wrote notes after the interview in preparation for the real interview." He gained experience preparing a resume and planning his professional look in a suit and tie. "It was a valuable exercise for me." Lickey recommends participating in a mock interview to other students looking for teaching jobs.

Joyce Hamon, associate dean, arranged the mock interviews for students in the Bower Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services.

Business students win regional, going to national competition

A team of accounting students representing the USI College of Business placed first in the Chapter Sustainability category of the Deloitte Best Practices competition held during the 2009 Beta Alpha Psi Midwest Regional Meeting February 27-28 in Indianapolis.

The USI team included Beta Alpha Psi students **Kiersten Deig**, **Emily Shetler** and **Yekaterina Shirokova** of Evansville and **Anna Shade** of Henderson, Kentucky. Faculty advisors were **Dr. Brian McGuire**, professor of accounting and associate dean of the College of Business, and **Dr. Mehmet Kocakulah**, professor of accounting.

As winners of the regional competition, the USI chapter of Beta Alpha Psi received a \$500 award to support future chapter activities. In addition, the team will compete on the national level at the 2009 Beta Alpha Psi Annual Meeting August 6-8 in New York City.

In the regional finals, the USI team bested teams representing Ball State University, Eastern Michigan University, Indiana University-Bloomington, Kent State University, Western Illinois University, and Youngstown State University. The teams qualified for the finals based on abstracts submitted prior to the regional conference.

At the conference each team of finalists made a presentation to a three-member panel of judges comprised of professional accountants from public accounting, corporate accounting, and academia. The purpose of the presentation was to encourage chapters to develop and execute a strategy to ensure long-term sustainability, and each of the teams were required to review their current procedures and practices for sustaining success, identify areas that need attention, and develop and implement strategies in potentially weak areas. USI's team finished in first place, while Youngstown State University finished in second place and Ball State University finished in third place.

Other USI student teams have been successful in former Beta Alpha Psi regional meeting competitions, finishing in first place in 2007 and third place in 2008.

Beta Alpha Psi is an honor society available only to students enrolled in business schools accredited by AACSB International – the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The organization recognizes the outstanding achievement of students enrolled in accounting, finance, and computer information systems programs.

Two honorary degrees and President's Medal to be awarded at Commencement

An Evansville businessman known for his generous spirit and an educator who revived a southern Indiana higher education institution will be awarded honorary degrees at the 2009 University of Southern Indiana Commencement in May. The USI Board of Trustees approved honorary degrees for **Robert M. "Robbie" Kent Jr.** and **Dr. James W. Murray**, retired president of Oakland City University, during the regular March board meeting today.

Kent, a member of the first USI Eagles basketball team, built a distinguished career in the automotive industry. Through the support of his family, his affinity for automobiles, and his competitive nature, he owned and operated 11 automotive franchises. He was chairman and chief executive officer of Kenny Kent Toyota Lexus and Kenny Kent Chevrolet.

He understands the value of intercollegiate athletics and the challenges of funding these programs so he supported the USI Athletic Department with in-kind gifts to help meet transportation needs of the teams. He is a member of the Varsity Club.

During the first capital campaign at the University of Southern

Indiana, Kent served as honorary alumni campaign chair for the College of Business. His generous gift and his work as chair increased scholarship and faculty development opportunities. His wife Marguerite is a 1972 USI graduate.

USI also is honoring the leadership of Dr. Murray who retired in 2007 after 33 years as president of Oakland City University. With vision and dedication, he revamped the school from an unaccredited institution with 324 students, old buildings, and life-threatening debt to a university fully accredited by every appropriate educational agency upon his retirement. The OCU enrollment reached 2,000 students. During his administration, indebtedness was eliminated, new academic programs implemented, and an endowment established. New campus buildings dot the Oakland City University campus.

An ordained minister for over 60 years, Dr. Murray has lead churches in California and Illinois. He served in the United States Marine Corps and received three Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star for bravery. He has academic degrees from Shurtleff College, Chapman University, Oakland City University, and Walden University. Both men will be awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees.

Trustees also approved academic degrees for 1,500 students who are eligible to receive degrees at Commencement on Sunday, May 10 at Roberts Stadium. USI **President H. Ray Hoops** will deliver the Commencement address. He is planning to retire from USI at the end of the academic year in June 2009.

President Hoops announced that **Jamie Johnson** of Newburgh, the student trustee on the USI Board of Trustees, will be receiving the President's Medal at Commencement. The President's Medal is the highest honor given to a graduating senior for academic work and service to the university.

Johnson has excelled in the classroom, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average while majoring in chemistry. Last year she received the Barry M Goldwater national scholarship and has received the majority of the merit-based awards available to chemistry majors at USI. In addition to her work as a trustee, Johnson served on the Presidential Search Committee, which recommended candidates for the presidency of USI. She is active in student organizations serving as associate vice president of Academic Affairs for the Student Government Association and president of the Pre-Health Club. She has spent considerable time in community volunteer work and mentors younger students. A resident of Newburgh, she will continue her academic work at the Indiana University School of Medicine in the fall.

UC Expansion project construction contracts awarded at Trustees meeting

The University of Southern Indiana's architecturally innovative University Center Expansion project moved closer to construction today with the awarding of construction contracts to three Indiana firms during the USI Board of Trustees meeting. The \$18.4 million project incorporates a range of local products and artifacts to mark the building as one that is uniquely at home in Evansville and southwestern Indiana, and one that will have enduring special meaning for the University and the community. The project is intended to not only provide vitally needed space for the rapidly growing university, but also to celebrate its Evansville and southwestern Indiana roots in a permanent way, in the very heart of the campus.

Weddle Brothers Inc. of Bloomington was awarded the general construction contract in the amount of \$10,102,900.

Deig Brothers Lumber and Construction, Evansville, was awarded a contract for mechanical work related to the project for \$1,809,006, and Capital Electric, also of Evansville, was awarded a \$2,586,298 contract for project-related electrical work.

The \$14,499,104 in total contracts awarded is the bulk of the estimated \$18,400,000 cost of the project. The balance of the project cost is dedicated to future furniture costs, professional fees, and other project-related expenses.

Holzman Moss Architecture of New York City designed the expansion

project. Hafer Associates and Wilkie Structural Engineers are the engineering firms on the project. Sodexo, Inc. the university's long-time food service contractor, prepared the food-service design.

Construction is slated to begin in early April, with demolition of the existing conference center bridge occurring in May. The project is expected to be completed by the start of spring semester 2011.

Well over 100 construction workers will be employed to build the project over the planned two-year construction period.

The project is largely funded by a University bond issue completed in mid-February. The costs of supporting the borrowing are already incorporated into the University's budget and tuition, so tuition will not increase further as a result of the project.

The project converts the existing vacant former library building, which is attached to the existing University Center, into additional University Center space, and adds a central element, a 97 foot tall conical-shaped tower, to the campus landscape. The project reshapes the 60,000-square foot former library building into dining, meeting, and student organization space, and replaces the existing conference center bridge linking the old library and existing University Center with new dining and meeting space. The project adds a total of 17,785 of new space as well, increasing the total size of the existing University Center complex by over 77,000 square feet.

The tower element, which will be largely clad in Indiana limestone, contains a dining room on the first level, and a student lounge on the second floor. The design has evolved slightly from earlier versions. The top treatment is now more integrated into the overall shape of the tower.

The project is distinguished not only by its uniquely shaped centerpiece, but also by its extensive use of local building materials, applied, in many cases, in groundbreaking new ways.

Many new concrete columns in the building, for example, will be clad with vitrified clay pipe made by Can Clay Corporation of Cannelton, and Can Clay will also supply a clay block that, until this project, has had an exclusively industrial application, to line the walls of the building's central atrium.

The ceiling of the central atrium, which will be dome-shaped, will be decorated with 1,200 chair legs, from Jasper (IN) Chair Company's Series 508 chair, arranged in a geometric pattern.

The limestone on the tower will be a quarry-faced roughback product from BG Hoadley Quarries in Bloomington, Indiana.

Berry Plastics will be donating almost 3,000 square feet of digitally printed plastic sheeting usually used for the manufacture of plastic tooth-paste-type tubes for use as custom-designed wall covering in selected areas of the project.

Alcoa's Warrick Operations is working on a plan to supply a series of solid aluminum ingot ends that will be machined into benches for use in the lobby.

Finally, as has been previously announced, the limestone entry from the former Orr Iron Building, which was salvaged when the downtown building was demolished, will be a decorative element in the central atrium of the project.

When complete, the expansion will contain two new eateries, one specializing in salads and the other offering Mexican fare. Student organization space, now located in the basement of the existing University Center, will more than quadruple in size and move to a sunlit space in the new portion of the complex, with an expansive adjoining outdoor patio.

Dining area seating and lounge areas, which are critically needed, will be added.

New employees

Katie Mathew has accepted a position as accounting associate in Business Affairs. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree and an Associate of Science degree from USI. Mathew was employed as a staff accountant at

Casino Aztar.

Announcements

Trustees approve tenure, promotions, and retirements

The USI Board of Trustees approved tenure and promotion, effective August 24, 2009, for nine faculty members and promotions for two faculty members at the March 5, 2009 board meeting. The faculty approved for tenure and promotion are **Dr. Cindy Deloney-Marino**, **Dr. Adrian Gentle**, **Dr. Edith Hardcastle**, **Dr. Anton Maria**, and **Dr. Richard Ruhala** from the Pott College of Science and Engineering; **Dr. Mary Hallock-Morris**, **Ms. Xinran Hu**, **Ms. Nicole Reid**, and **Dr. Shannon Wooden** from the College of Liberal Arts. They will each have the title of associate professor.

Faculty members approved as professor are **Dr. Paul Doss**, Pott College of Science and Engineering, and **Dr. Martha Raske**, Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services.

Trustees also approved retirements for **Dr. Jeanne K. Barnett**, professor of biology, July 1, 2011; **Mr. William C. Henderson**, assistant dean of the College of Business and assistant professor of computer information systems, January 1, 2011; and **Dr. M. Edward Jones**, vice provost for Outreach and dean of Extended Services, July 1, 2010. Trustees also approved emeritus status for each.

"Through the Eyes of a Goddess" exhibit

Brandi Schwartz '02 M'07, editorial associate in News and Information Services, is exhibiting three pieces of art in the "Through the Eyes of a Goddess" exhibit at Penny Lane Coffeehouse located at 600 SE Second Street in Evansville. The exhibit will run through March 31.

Grow's book published

Liberty to the Downtrodden: Thomas L. Kane, Romantic Reformer, by **Dr. Matthew J. Grow**, assistant professor of history and director of the Center for Communal Studies, was published by Yale University Press in January. Grow will lecture about Kane on March 12 at Brigham Young University. He received his bachelor's degree from BYU and his doctorate in American history from the University of Notre Dame. Grow joined the University in fall 2008.

Americans with Disabilities Act seminar

Doug Goepper, ADA coordinator, will be the presenter at three business seminars for Work One in southwest Indiana on the topic of the Americans with Disabilities Act. He'll give an overview of the ADA with an emphasis on the obligations of businesses under ADA Title I and Title III. His first presentation is March 5 in the WorkOne Evansville office; others are March 12 and March 26 in Vincennes.