



Vol. 40, No. 7 » February 18, 2005

## Black Student Union holds BSU Week

Dr. Charles Nelms, vice president of Institutional Development and Student Affairs at Indiana University, will speak at 7 p.m. Monday, February 21, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center as part of the USI Black Student Union's first BSU Week activities.

BSU President NaCole Ball said that the organization asked Nelms to speak after seeing him give a lecture entitled "Speak to Me" at the national conference of the Association for Black Culture Centers in November 2004 at IU.

Inspired by Nelms' topic, the lack of face-to-face interpersonal communication on college campuses, BSU members created a "Speak to Me" campaign, which will be held during BSU Week, Monday, February 21, through Friday, February 25.

Throughout the week, BSU members will distribute buttons that say "Speak to Me." Ball compared the effort to the film, "Pay it Forward."

BSU members will give two buttons to five people they meet. "We'll have to verbally tell them why they're getting a button, and it will force us to speak to them," she said. "Then, the next time we see each other, it will be easier to say 'hi,' wave, or just look up rather than put our heads down in the hallways."

Ball said the campaign will improve communication on campus and also raise awareness about BSU.

"It's for any student to learn about black culture," she said. "We're trying to break down the barriers. You come to college to learn about everything, including other cultures and other people."

### Other BSU Week events include:

- A display showcasing the history of Hip Hop, to be unveiled on Tuesday, February 22, in the University Center.
- A Black Student Union awareness table from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, February 23, in front of the Multicultural Center in the University Center. A BSU meeting will follow, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., in Room 206 in the UC. Refreshments will be served.
- "Black Contemporary Issues in Higher Education," a panel of Indiana University students, including the president of IU's Black Student Union, Crystal Brown, at 8 p.m. Thursday, February 24, in Room 1015 in the Liberal Arts Center.

Nelms is a tenured professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, teaching courses in

higher education administration. Prior to his current appointment, he served as chancellor at the University of Michigan at Flint, and Indiana University at Richmond.

His many honors include the State of Indiana's highest civilian award, Sagamore of the Wabash, and Indiana University's highest alumni recognition, the Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

He earned his bachelor's degree in agronomy and chemistry from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and master's and doctorate degrees in higher education administration from Indiana University.

He is the author of *Start Where You Find Yourself - Lessons Taught and Lessons Learned*.

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## RopeWalk poet also is humanitarian

Richard Jackson has supported literature and humanitarian causes in the Balkans over the past two decades. His efforts were rewarded by the president of Slovenia, who presented him with the Order of Freedom Medal in 2000.

Jackson served on the Sarajevo committee of International PEN, the worldwide association for writers, and worked with groups to raise funds for refugees of the Balkan wars. He has edited two anthologies of Slovene poetry: *The Fire Under the Moon*, and *Double Vision: Four Slovenian Poets*, and edits an eastern European chapbook series, *Mala Revija*.

"He is not only a great poet, but also a great humanitarian," said Jim McGarrah, assistant professor of English. "He made the writers in that part of the world known to the world in general." McGarrah was Jackson's student in the MFA program at Vermont College in Montpelier, Vermont.

Jackson will read his poetry at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 24, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center, and lead poetry workshops during the RopeWalk Winter Retreat February 24-27 in New Harmony, Indiana.

"The thing that should appeal to people about Rick's poetry is that it's poetry that relates to society. It's accessible poetry; it's not dealing with obscure subjects," McGarrah said. "It's about war, love, and the human situations we find ourselves in as a people."

Jackson holds a doctorate in literature from Harvard University and is the author of nine books of poems, including *Half Lives: Petrarchan Poems*; *Unauthorized Autobiography: New and Selected Poems*; *Heartwall*; and *Svetovi Narazen*. He also is the author of the limited edition small press books, *Falling Stars: A Collection of Monologues*, and *Richard Jackson: Greatest Hits*, as well as several chapbooks of translations. His own poems have been translated into a dozen languages and have appeared in *The Best American Poems*, among others.

He is the recipient of Guggenheim, NEA, NEH, and Witter-Bynner fellowships, among other honors, and teaches at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, as well as the MFA program at Vermont College.

For more information, contact McGarrah at 812/461-5381 or e-mail at jmcgarra@usi.edu.

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## New theatre class reaches out to community

Students in THTR 499.001: Children's Theatre Production, which is being offered for the first time this semester, had to arrange their schedules carefully.

"This is a brand new class, and students have taken on a lot more than was anticipated," said **Jane Gilbert**, adjunct professor of theatre. "When they came the first day, I said, 'Get your calendars out and make sure you put these dates down.' We're doing a lot of off-campus work."

The 15 students in the class include social work, sociology, education, English, and theatre majors. They are often working in the Theatre Arts Department's costume and scene shops on Igleheart Avenue. Gilbert obtained an Indiana Campus Compact grant for the class to construct sets, create puppets, and make costumes for productions.

Her students have entertained children at Red Bank and Oaklyn branch libraries and will offer a workshop at Patchwork Central and a final production at Stockwell Elementary School in April. Gilbert, who also substitute teaches for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, said, "I see a need in our community for our college students to be mentors."

She designed class projects on the basis of her students' career plans. "Some people will go on to work in children's theater, some will go on to work in community centers, and some of the students are in education and will use this in their lesson plans."

She said there has been a lot of student interest in the class, and the Theatre Arts Department is planning on offering it again in spring 2006. "Students in the class who are theatre majors are doing special projects that they probably wouldn't get to do if they were not part of this class, like building a monster -- they probably won't get the opportunity to do that again."

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## Disability Awareness Month speaker and little person walks tall

Tiny in stature but huge in presence, **Peggy O'Neill** will present a program based on her book, *Walking Tall: Overcoming Inner Smallness, No Matter What Size You Are*, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, in Carter Hall in the University Center as part of the University's Disability Awareness Month observance.

The 3-foot 8-inch inspirational speaker and diversity educator also is the author of *Little Squarehead*, a self-affirming children's book. She believes that "with every challenge comes a gift." In her work, she shows people how to turn their uniqueness into an advantage.

For much of her life, O'Neill felt diminished by physical limitation and social prejudice. Triumphant over many difficulties, she now possesses confidence, resiliency, compassion, and wisdom. Today, she radiates these qualities in her work to inspire and lead others toward success and happiness.

"The discovery of my life is that outer stature is not what dictates happiness," she said. "Inner stature does."

Her "Walking Tall" program "provides guidance on how to connect with our inner support -- how to unleash our innate courage, optimism, determination, and resourcefulness. It shows us a way to deal with the biggest enemy of all in our troubled times: our own doubt and fear. It helps us stand united amidst our grand diversity and heighten both our inherent strength and

compassion."

Before becoming a speaker, O'Neill was employed as a body-centered psychotherapist. Through her work as a certified Hakomi psychotherapist, she has helped individuals to overcome their hardships and enjoy success and happiness in their lives.

O'Neill has a degree in education from Maharishi International University in Fairfield, Iowa, and in commercial photography from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

She and her husband Bradley Laise, whom she met at a Little People of America conference in 1995, live in Ojai, California.

Disability Awareness Month is sponsored by the Multicultural Center.

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## International Photo contest winners announced

The winning photographs in International Programs and Services' "Around the World" International Photo Contest will be on display during the International Food Expo, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, February 18, in Carter Hall in the University Center.

The panel of five judges who chose the winners included an art professor, an International Club Officer, an administrator, and two students, one of whom is an art major.

"We had 85 entries this year, and lots of beautiful photos," said Kara Pike, program coordinator for International Programs and Services.

The top winners in this year's contest are all students. They are:

### \$100 Grand Prize

Photo by: Tom Kinner

Title: Raindrops Keep Waterfalling on my Head

Location: Costa Rica

### \$50 1st Prize for Architecture

Photo by: Sara Rappee

Title: La Concierge

Location: Paris, France

### \$50 1st Prize for Global Landscapes

Photo by: Lori Harter

Title: Inside Sinkhole

Location: Ik Kil Ecoarcheological Park, Chichen Itza, Mexico

### \$50 1st Prize for People of the World

Photo by: Nathan Bright

Title: Abigail Smiles

Location: St. Louis d'Nord, Haiti

**Vivi Sondergaard, Amber Brattain, Laura Bordelon, Amber LaDonne Brandon, Jessica Kiesel, Steven Williams, Kelli Reidford, LaVerne Jones, Kate Liddle, Megan Kries, Rachel LeVine, Shanna Kramer, Angelica Meneses, and**

Jason Hardgrave all received Honorable Mentions.

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## History professor's book mirrors current events

When **Keith Zahniser**, assistant professor of history, began writing *Steel City Gospel: Protestant Laity and Reform in Progressive Era Pittsburgh*, he had no idea it would become a relevant treatise on American politics.

The book examines the connections between religion and politics in Progressive Era Pittsburgh, when evangelical Christians turned out in record numbers – and voted largely for Republican candidates.

"Churches and institutions were unwilling to become specifically involved in political reform, because they said it wasn't their role," Zahniser said. "They were, however, very involved through an activist laity.

"I think this technique was used by evangelical organizations in the last campaign. The Republican Party doesn't say how to vote, but the churches say, 'If you're a good Christian, you'll know how to vote.' That was a very common practice in the Progressive Era."

Progressive Era Pittsburgh was also the focus of Zahniser's dissertation, published in 1997. He focused on Pittsburgh because it was a large, industrial city with the typical problems of the time period, approximately 1880 to 1920.

*Steel City Gospel* is available through Routledge Press.

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## Names in the news

### In sympathy

**Robert E. Hayes Jr.**, father-in-law of **Theresa Hayes**, administrative assistant in career services, passed away on Wednesday, February 9. Services were held Monday, February 14 at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.

### Accomplishments

**Marc Bobro**, assistant professor of philosophy, had an article, "Leibniz on Causation," published in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

**Lori Saxby**, study skills specialist in Academic Skills, presented "The Three R's of Learning: Reduce, Rehearse, Review" to the after-school faculty at Howard Roosa Elementary School on February 9.

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## FYI

### Welcome new vice president for Business Affairs

There will be a welcome reception for **Mark Rozewski**, the new vice president for Business Affairs, from 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in Carter Hall in the University Center.

Rozewski was associate provost for Finance and Administration at the Camden, New Jersey campus of Rutgers University, a public research university with an international reputation for teaching, research, and service. He has been associated with Rutgers since 1978, both on the main campus and at Camden, and has held positions of increasingly greater responsibility in planning, physical plant, budgeting, major capital project planning, finance, and administration.

As vice president for Business Affairs, Rozewski will be the chief business and fiscal officer for the University; provide leadership to the University's administrative business offices; and work closely with **President H. Ray Hoops** and administrators to execute the University's mission.

**Susan E. Fetscher**, senior administrative assistant in Special Events, said that there will be no formal presentation at the reception. "It's a casual event, where people can come in and meet Mr. Rozewski and welcome him to the University community," she said.

Cake and punch will be served, and everyone is welcome.

## Philosophy and folklore

**Marc Bobro**, assistant professor of philosophy, will give a presentation on some folklore pieces and their philosophical significance at the third Philosophy Club meeting for spring 2005 at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in Room 1016 in the Liberal Arts Center. For more information, contact **David Beck**, president of the Philosophy Club at [Dibeck1at.usieagles.org](mailto:Dibeck1at.usieagles.org).

## Eating disorder screenings offered

The Counseling Center will conduct eating disorder screenings from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in OC 1051, during National Eating Disorders Week, February 28-March 4. All USI students, faculty, and staff are invited to take the screening, which will consist of a five-minute written self-assessment followed by a confidential meeting with a Counseling Center professional, if appropriate. For more information, contact **Mary Beth Weber**, staff counselor, at Ext. 1867.

## Irish Night rescheduled

The RopeWalk Reading Series Irish Night has been rescheduled. It will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, March 14, in Carter Hall in the University Center. Creative writing faculty will honor Irish writers during the program, and there will be Irish music provided by **Dan Craig**, assistant professor of music; the USI Chamber Chorus; and the Irish band Raven Tree. For more information, contact McGarrah at 812/461-5381.

## CPR: Heartsaver Class offered

A class in adult, child, and infant CPR is being offered from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 9, in Carter Hall in the University Center. All members of the University community, and family members over the age of 12, are welcome to enroll. Certification costs only \$2.50, payable the day of the class. Visit [www.usi.edu/extserv/training/schedule.htm](http://www.usi.edu/extserv/training/schedule.htm) for more information.

Friday, February 18, is the deadline for submitting information for the next "Marketplace." Submissions may be made by calling 812/465-1192.

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