



University Notes

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Seven is chemistry instructor's lucky number

Harold McCarron earned a master's degree in the seventies and a PhD in his seventies – 73, to be exact.

The adjunct instructor in chemistry received his master's degree from DePaul University in 1976 and was a chemist for industry for more than 50 years before deciding to get his doctorate.

"I got all my kids through school, and then I talked to the wife and said, 'I'd like to go back,'" he said. He completed a PhD in chemistry from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 2003.

Though his primary goal was to acquire the degree and do research, he likes teaching. "I enjoy the contact with students and young people, and people who make you think," he said.

McCarron celebrated his 74th birthday just before he began teaching at the University in fall 2004. His son, **Craig McCarron**, instructor in mathematics, baked him a periodic table birthday cake, complete with 74 candles. The elder McCarron said unusual birthday cakes are a family tradition.

"When Craig was an All-American swimmer, we had a cake for one of his birthdays that looked like a swimming pool with lane lines, and we had stopwatches and that sort of thing, too."

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Student worker appreciates her job

Sophomore **Katie Baumgart** has been a student worker in Academic Affairs since August 2003. The business administration major also is activities chair for the student ambassadors; a member of the Red Zone pep organization; and is starting a chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars with her roommate and fellow North High School graduate, Marissa Brown.

The NSCS recognizes freshmen and sophomores who have a 3.4 or better GPA. Marissa, a student worker in the Pott School of Science and Engineering, is president of the new chapter, and Katie is executive vice president.

Katie likes working for the University because her supervisors understand that she is a student first. "They schedule work hours around my classes, and it allows me to be involved in extracurricular activities," she said. "And if I need time off to study for a test, they work with me."

"I've been able to meet and work with the vice presidents. I don't think many students get that opportunity," she said. "It's also improved my relationship with my advisor, since he's in the office frequently."

In the Academic Affairs office, she helps prepare Dean's List letters and cafeteria evaluations, tracks faculty travel, answers phones, makes copies, and performs other clerical duties.

She expects to graduate in May 2007. "However, I plan to add a second major in management, so that might add a semester to

my graduation date," she said.

USI Staff Council encourages all University departments to recognize student workers during Student Worker Appreciation Week, February 14-18.

"We would like all administrators, instructors, and staff to take a moment to say 'thank you' to our student workers for the valuable service and commitment they provide to USI," said Staff Council representative **Sheree Seib**, administrative assistant for Academic Affairs.

The University employed 707 student workers in fall 2004. Student worker pay starts at \$5.15 per hour. Students who seek employment on campus apply at Career Services, which is located on the first floor of the Orr Center.

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USI Theatre's Antigone

When Jean Anouilh's adaptation of Sophocles' Antigone was first staged in Nazi-occupied France, Antigone's struggle with her uncle, Creon, was interpreted to mirror the French Resistance movement against the Vichy government.

Anouilh's version has been produced at USI in times of war, during the Vietnam and Persian Gulf conflicts, but director Elliott Wasserman said that its central problem is ever-present.

"It's a war between idealism and pragmatism. It's a play that asks you to think about the broadest application to current events. That seeks an immediate relevance, but could we have done it five years ago or five years from now? Absolutely," he said.

"We didn't chose this play to protest (the Iraq) war. This isn't a liberal cry at all. This is simply an acknowledgement of an ongoing struggle between these two approaches: idealism, which is bound up in belief systems rooted in tradition; and pragmatism, which often seeks solutions at the expense of traditions. It will always be possible to see both of these tendencies, however contradictory they might seem, within the same person or within the same administration."

The story revolves around the conflict between the idealist Antigone and Creon, king of Thebes, over the proper burial of Antigone's brother, Polynices.

It will be presented in the Helen Mallette Studio Theatre in the Liberal Arts Center at 7 p.m. February 16-17 and 22-24; 8 p.m. February 18-19 and 25-26; and 2 p.m. February 20 and 27. Tickets are \$4 for USI students; \$8 for seniors and other students; and \$10 for adults. Click here for more information. <http://www.usi.edu/libarts/Arts/Theatre/USItheatre/tickets.htm>

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Civil liberties in the post-9/11 era

The Indiana Civil Liberties Union and Veterans Defending the Bill of Rights will sponsor a discussion of civil liberties in the post-9/11 era from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, February 17, in Rooms 203-204 in the University Conference Center in the University

- Center.

The panel will include Fran Quigley, executive director of the ICLU; Assistant U.S. Attorney Todd Shellenbarger; FBI Agent Tom VanWormer; and **Gary May**, associate professor of social work. May, a highly decorated former Marine who lost both of his legs during combat in Vietnam, is chairman of Veterans Defending the Bill of Rights. The discussion will be moderated by attorney Mark Miller, Evansville area representative to the ICLU board of directors.

The presenters will make brief opening statements, and then engage in a discussion examining the civil liberties implications of post-9/11 policies with the audience.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Miller at 812/425-1490.

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Budget hearing schedule set

The University budget hearing process begins this month and continues through March. The hearings are open to everyone on campus.

The schools, departments, and ancillary groups such as Staff Council and Faculty Senate, will present their funding requests in 15-minute presentations, with five additional minutes for questions.

There will be an additional presentation on Monday, March 28, during which **Linda Bennett**, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, will present a review of the prioritized and combined requests of Academic Affairs and the five academic schools.

Here is the complete schedule:

Friday, February 18, Health Professions Center, Room 1006:

- School of Business, 8:15- 8:35 a.m.

Monday, February 21, University Center, Room 201-202:

- Staff Council, 8:30- 8:50 a.m.
- Faculty Senate, 8:55- 9:15 a.m.
- Athletic Administration, 9:20-9:40 a.m.
- Pott School of Science and Engineering, 9:45-10:05 a.m.

Monday, March 7, University Center, Room 201-202:

- School of Nursing and Health Professions, 8:30-8:50 a.m.
- Bower Surheinrich School of Education and Human Services, 8:55-9:15 a.m.
- Student Affairs, 9:20-9:40 a.m.
- Academic Affairs, 9:45-10:05 a.m.

Friday, March 18, Health Professions Center, Room 1006:

- Governmental Relations, 8:15-8:35 a.m.
- Business Affairs, 8:40-9 a.m.
- School of Liberal Arts, 9:05-9:25 a.m.
- Advancement, 9:30-9:50 a.m.

Monday, March 28, University Center Room 201-202:

- Provost presentation - Academic Affairs/Schools, 8:30-9

a.m.

For more information, contact **Mary A. Hupfer**, director of University budgets and Foundation fiscal officer, at 812/465-1627 or e-mail at mhupfer@usi.edu.

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Harmoniefest: Party like it's 1815

Harmoniefest will be held on Friday, February 11, at Thrall's Opera House in New Harmony, Indiana. **Martha Raske**, associate professor of social work and president of Harmonie Associates, said the event was first celebrated in the early 19th century.

"It is an annual celebration originally held by the Harmonist society to commemorate their coming together as a community of believers," she said. "This was an annual time when they gathered and reaffirmed their membership in the community and celebrated with meals, music, and services. This was a very joyous time for them."

There will be a "pitch-in" dinner at 6 p.m., after which **Donald Pitzer**, professor of history and director of the Center for Communal Studies, will present "Unison, Harmony and Discord in the Harmonie Society."

"We are very proud to have him speaking about the two communal societies that came to New Harmony: first, the Harmonists, and then the Owen society," Raske said.

Admission is free. The public is welcome to attend and encouraged to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Historic New Harmony at 812/682-4488.

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"Wedding Bells" at New Harmony Gallery

"Wedding Bells," an exhibition by self-taught artist Alisa Singer, will open with a reception on Saturday, February 12, at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art.

That is also the evening of the New Harmony Winter Art Stroll, during which all of the galleries in New Harmony, Indiana, will be open from 4 to 7 p.m.

The exhibition, inspired by the Sunday New York Times Weddings/Celebrations pages, consists of highly stylized black and white paintings of wedding photographs from the newspaper with corresponding text on separate canvases. The result is a work that delves into the hierarchy within our society.

Singer, of Northbrook, Illinois, has exhibited her paintings in galleries in Chicago, New York City, Washington D.C., and Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and also has work in various private collections throughout the country.

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art is located at 506 Main Street in New Harmony, Indiana, and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information call 812/682-3156 or visit www.usi.edu/nhgallery/.

"Wedding Bells" will be on display through Saturday, March 26.

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Tsunami relief concert seeks volunteers

Volunteers from the University community are being sought to help out with a benefit concert, "No Greater Love: Evansville's Concert for Tsunami Relief," from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, February 13, at the Vanderburgh County 4-H Center.

The concert was the brainchild of Amy Johnston-Higgs, a

self-described "stay at home mom," who has booked Little Moe and the Atomic Two-Tones, The Browne Sisters, gospel group Christa Shore and Beyond the Veil, rock band Highway 41, and the Bible Center Cathedral Choir for the event.

Concert-goers will have the option of donating to either the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) or Samaritan's Purse, an organization headed by Franklin Graham, the son of evangelist Billy Graham.

"I didn't want it to be just a Christian thing, though I am a Christian," Johnston-Higgs said. "I wanted it to be something the whole community would feel comfortable attending."

Several local businesses have donated time, supplies, and money to the effort. Area churches will be selling food, and the profits will be donated to the cause. There also will be fried chicken dinners available for \$6, \$4 of which will be donated to tsunami relief.

Meteorologist Chad Sewich will emcee the event, and the mayor's chief deputy, Rose Young, will present a proclamation naming February 13 Tsunami Relief Concert Day.

The Tri-state Cultural Society of India, which has more than 200 member families in the area, will offer information about countries affected by the tsunami. There also will be activities for children. For more information about the event visit www.concert.the-cathedral.org/.

Volunteers are needed to take money at the door. Johnston-Higgs hopes that students volunteer to help distribute candles for a planned vigil. If you would like to volunteer, contact **Stacy Johnston-Thompson**, administrative assistant in the Office of Admission, at 812/465-7056 or sjjohnston@usi.edu.

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Names in the news

Achievements

Nicole Louise Reid, assistant professor of English, read from her novel, *In the Breeze of Passing Things*, at the University of Evansville's English Coffee Hour on February 3.

Maurice Hamington, assistant professor of philosophy, has had an article, "Embodiment, Care Ethics and the Same-Sex Marriage Debate," published in the second edition of the Prometheus Books anthology, *Same Sex Marriage: The Moral and Legal Debate*.

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FYI

Benefit Information: Anthem and TIAA-CREF reps to be on campus

Cheryl McKissic, Anthem representative for the University, will be on campus on Tuesday, February 22, 2005. Appointments are available from 2 to 4 p.m. Contact **Michelle Davis**, benefits supervisor, via email at mdavis@usi.edu or 812/464-1781 to schedule an appointment.

Keatrick Johnson, the University's new TIAA-CREF consultant, will be on campus to provide free 45-minute one-on-one counseling sessions from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, and Wednesday, March 2, in Room 091 in Human Resources, located in the basement of the Orr Center. Appointments must be made in advance online at www.tiaa-cref.org/mac.

Johnson will provide information on long-term investment strategies, investment allocations, new savings opportunities, lifetime income versus cash withdrawal options and other financial

planning topics.

For more information, call the TIAA-CREF Indianapolis office at 877/267-4507.

University Core Curriculum petitions

The University Core Council has received petitions to add English 255: British Literary History and English 265: American Literary History to Category B2: The Arts.

The council also has received a petition to add GEOL 132: Volcanoes and Eruptions to Category C3: Science.

Faculty wishing to examine or respond to the petitions should contact John Gottcent, University Core director and professor of English, at gottcent@usi.edu or 812/464-1750. The Council will act on the petitions 10 instructional days after this issue date of University Notes, February 11, 2005.

Von Fuhrmann to deliver Cooper lecture

Eric von Fuhrmann, associate professor of English, will deliver the 2004-05 H. Lee Cooper Core Curriculum Teaching Award lecture, "The Dumbing Down of American Higher Education," at 3 p.m. Monday, February 14, in Carter Hall in the University Center. Von Fuhrmann was presented with the award at the fall 2004 faculty and administrative staff meeting. It includes a generous stipend, a plaque, and additional faculty development support. Students and faculty are encouraged to attend. A reception will follow.

Annual Bluebird Trail Cleanup

Charles Price, professor of science education, will lead the 10th annual USI Bluebird Trail Cleanup at 9 a.m. Saturday, February 26. Participants will meet at the Grimes Haus on the Bluebird Trail at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Price at 812/464-1939. The Bluebird Trail is about 2 miles around the perimeter of campus. For a map, visit www.usi.edu/bluebird/.

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Girl's softball league registration

Girls ages 7 to 18 can make new friends, learn team work, and have fun playing softball by joining the West Side Athletic League. Sign-ups for the 2005 season are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, February 12, at Kuester Field, 4801B Broadway Avenue. The deadline for registration is Monday, February 28. For more information or a registration form, contact **Phyllis J. Oeth**, manager of conference and meeting planning, at pjoeth@usi.edu or 812/422-2468.

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Friday, February 11, is the deadline for submitting information for the next "Marketplace." Submissions may be made by calling 812/465-1192.

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www.usi.edu/newsinfo/unotes/index.asp

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