



University of Southern Indiana

University Notes

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Home Again anthology

Jim McGarrah and **Tom Watson** met while in the MFA program at Vermont College, but they both have Hoosier roots. Watson, online instructor of writing for Indiana University, grew up in Bloomington. McGarrah, USI assistant professor of English, is a Princeton native.

The two are co-editors of a new anthology of essays about living in Indiana. Published by the Indiana Historical Society Press, *Home Again: Essays and Memoirs from Indiana*, addresses what it means to make a home in the Hoosier State.

"We included the whole state," McGarrah said. "The idea is Indiana as the heartland, and not just its rural areas but its urban areas as well."

In their preface, McGarrah and Watson wrote: "At first we envisioned a collection that would celebrate Indiana as the crossroads of America, a place where there are both steel mills and mill ponds, congested cities and cornfields, high rises and microscopic hamlets. We sought to showcase the excellent writing talents of Hoosier writers. What we discovered while amassing the selections in this book was something larger and vastly more important than any mere catalog of essays reflecting upon Indiana from diverse points of view. We found we had tapped into themes relating to traditional American values, like home, family, security, and the Protestant ethic. We found our colleagues who submitted work to us wrote about quests for a better life, a life rooted in Indiana. We found the essays spoke about staying in Indiana to continue that quest, moving to Indiana and following that quest, or moving back to Indiana to bring closure to it. This book taught us valuable lessons about what we mean when we say we are home again."

In addition to McGarrah, USI faculty contributors are **Patricia Aakhus**, instructor in English; **Leisa Belleau**, instructor in English; **Matthew Graham**, director of Creative Writing, and **Dr. Thomas Wilhelmus**, professor of English.

"Pat Aakhus has a beautiful lyrical essay about hearing a choral mass at Saint Meinrad. Leisa Belleau has a really good essay about growing up in Rockport, Indiana, and being fascinated by James Dean as a young girl back in the 1950s. Tom Wilhelmus wrote the forward to the book, about ways of looking at home again as it relates to Indiana, and the book begins with a poem entitled *Indiana* from Matthew Graham's collection of poems, 1946. I wrote the title essay for the anthology about moving back to southern Indiana after living and working on race-tracks for a decade."

Other Evansville area contributors are **Scott Saalman '87**, **Melanie Culbertson**, winner of the Glimmer Train Press Short Story Award, and **Margaret McMullan** and **Dr. William Hemminger**, both professors of English at the University of Evansville.

The book ends with an essay on being a native Midwesterner by **Kurt Vonnegut** (*Player Piano*, *Cat's Cradle*, *Slaughterhouse-Five*, *Breakfast of Champions*), who is from Indianapolis.

Other essay authors include **Ed Breen**, **Les Edgerton**, **Rick Farrant**, **Michele Martone**, **Susan Troy Meyer**, **Alyce Miller**, **Deborah Zarka Miller**, **Susan Neville**, **Scott Russell Sanders**, and **Phil Schlemmer**.

Michael Steinberg, founding editor of *Fourth Genre: Explorations in Nonfiction*, said of the anthology, "By turns lyrical, nostalgic, hard-edged, and elegiac, the personal essays and memoirs in *Home Again* are in tone, spirit, and intent, a loving ode to the manners, mores, and idiosyncrasies that characterize the state of Indiana. At the same time, this fine collection is an evocative testimony to the longings and ambivalence all of us feel about the places we call home, be it the flat farmland and quite villages of rural Indiana, or the dissonant ambience of cities like New York and Los Angeles."

There will be readings and book signings for the anthology all over the state, including at the Evansville Borders on October 21. In January, the spring 2007 RopeWalk Reading Series will feature a reading by USI faculty who contributed to the anthology.

Home Again: Essays and Memoirs from Indiana is 206 pages and available at the USI Bookstore, the Indiana Historical Society's Basile History Market gift store, and at bookstores throughout Indiana for \$19.95.

Gulf Coast Update features Morris's images

The Wall Street Journal Online's Gulf Coast Update, an interactive feature about the recovery from Hurricane Katrina, includes photographs taken by **Dr. Mary Hallock Morris**, assistant professor of political science. The organization contacted Morris after finding her photos of the area on an image-sharing Web site. Taken this summer, the pictures depict boarded-up houses in New Orleans and frames of new houses popping up near Baton Rouge. Morris took the photographs in the Gulf area while doing research on the politics of coastal wetland loss in Louisiana.

A Faculty Research and Creative Work Award (FRCWA), a Summer Research Fellowship funded by the Lilly Endowment, and a College of Liberal Arts Faculty Development Award (CLAFDA), allowed her to do the research in the Gulf this summer, and a Liberal Arts Research Award will allow her to continue her work during the fall semester. "I am very happy that the University is supportive of junior faculty and our research goals," she said.

Morris has identified the concept of a "focusing event" that draws national attention to a problem and can help spur the national government to help pay to correct the problem. "So with Hurricane Katrina, the complete wiping out of New Orleans would be the focusing event," she said. Her research focuses on providing the money to rebuild the wetlands in Louisiana. "Right now they receive money through the Breaux Act - 40 million a year - but they really need more like 14 billion to help with the loss of coastal land."

"They lose so many acres of wetlands every year. They are losing a lot of land. A lot of it has to do with practices in the past to get oil out of the wetlands; part of it has to do with subsidence due

to flood control practices; and also sea level rise due to global warming."

Restoring wetlands is about a lot more than birds and plants, Morris said. "The pipelines come in through all those wetlands and as the wetlands become less healthy, the pipelines are exposed to more salt water, which can lead to corrosion. It's also a national security issue. In the future, what if a hurricane breaks one of these pipelines? We know our oil comes from Alaska and the Middle East, but how many people knew how much gas was coming from the Gulf until gas prices sky-rocketed last summer? It's not just gas for our cars, but natural gas to heat our homes that comes through Louisiana.

"It's also about the fisheries. If you like seafood, that's a huge nursery down there. As the wetlands continue to erode there will be a 'tipping point' where they won't be able to sustain a fishery."

Morris has lived in Florida and Louisiana, and she worked for the Southern Mutual Help Association (SMHA) a not-for-profit organization with a mission to eradicate poverty in rural Louisiana, before completing work on her Ph.D.

"I'd seen hurricane damage because I grew up in the south, but never this much. It's pretty much the whole coast of Louisiana. If it wasn't Katrina, it was Rita. What you see on TV doesn't begin to describe it."

Getting to Know...Samoa Hempfling

Before Hurricane Katrina forced her family to leave their home in Slidell, Louisiana, **Samoa Hempfling** was a fourth-generation employee of the University of New Orleans, where she worked as administrative coordinator for student teaching. Her mother is still with the university, and her grandmother and great-grandmother worked there as well.

Samoa joined USI in March as fee waiver clerk in Student Financial Assistance. She and her husband Matthew fled with their son Marcus to Montgomery, Alabama, (where Matthew's mother lives) the day before Katrina hit.

"It was a common experience, actually," she said. "You had a little kit prepared with your essential documents, and when it looked like it might be a higher category you made preparations to go somewhere else, either to Texas or Alabama. Just the year before, we evacuated for Ivan. It was a usual thing to evacuate when it seemed like a hurricane was going to come. For anything less than a category two, we'd get the whole family together and wait out the storm."

Matthew returned to Slidell on the Friday after the storm, but Samoa stayed behind with Marcus, who turned four months old on the day Katrina hit. "We couldn't expose him to the bacteria and the mold," she said.

In Slidell, Matthew found a house full of mud and mildew. "There was six feet of water in there for two days," Samoa said. "We had just gotten a white couch and loveseat, and my husband told me it looked like there were a couple of very large Dalmatians in the living room."

Marcus's crib had made its way into the living room. "Things had floated around and they were thrown all over."

Their home and belongings were a total loss, so the family made its way to Indiana. Matthew's father and stepmother live in Newburgh.

She said the biggest culture shock was the news. "The New Orleans news is full of crime, with somebody getting shot, and some big drug bust going down. It's so packed with crime that there is never any room for good news. Coming here and seeing that the news has time for birthdays and local community events – I'd never known that the news said anything but the bad things

that were going on in an area."

She was accustomed to working on an urban campus. "University of New Orleans is in the middle of New Orleans; the French Quarter is 10 minutes away. They don't have the beautiful grounds and landscaping. And with the technology that's here, anyone can be on a computer. It's definitely not like that there; you'd be lucky to find an empty computer on campus!"

She also noted a difference in efficiency between financial aid offices. "We are very customer service oriented. Not that University of New Orleans doesn't care, but it takes so much longer to get a response from individuals that work there."

And though she is not a drinker, she noted that they serve alcohol in The Galley (the equivalent of The Loft) at the University of New Orleans. "You can buy a Heineken."

She admits she misses the city. "New Orleans is so rich with the different cultures: the Creole, the French, and the Spanish. I don't think there's an individual in New Orleans who wouldn't think of themselves as a multicultural individual because it's such a mesh of different cultures. I take pride in that I'm from New Orleans, but right now it's not the city I remember. It has a long way to go, and it needs help to be the metropolis I remember. As a child I went to a city park where I would climb these beautiful 200-year-old oak trees. It's going to be a long time before we get back to that."

"I think that the community – and I also mean government officials that were appointed to look after the little guy – needs to come together and work to make New Orleans what it once was. A sad – but good – example is how the November 6 tornado here devastated so many people, but the community just came together. Citizens of surrounding areas and government officials banded together to do what they could for those who lost their homes and loved ones. When Gulf Coast area officials can come together with the inhabitants, that's when things will really start to get back on track. But I do miss it. I miss it a lot."

Samoa did not return to Slidell until January of this year. She still has a lot of family there, including her mother, brothers, and grandparents. "We're all very close, so being almost 700 miles away is really hard," she said. The Hempflings plan to stay in Evansville and are trying to persuade Samoa's mother to join them.

In addition to working at USI and parenting Marcus, who turned sixteen months old on the first anniversary of Katrina, Samoa is pursuing a degree in counseling from University of New Orleans through distance education, and wants to start a support group for Katrina evacuees in the Tri-state area.

Fall 2006 RopeWalk Reading Series

The Fall 2006 RopeWalk Reading Series features notable writers from Louisiana, Kansas, and Washington, D.C., reading from their work. All readings are free and open to the public and take place at 7 p.m. in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

Neil O'Boyle Connelly, September 21

Neil O'Boyle Connelly directs the fiction component of McNeese State University's MFA program in creative writing. His second novel, *Buddy Cooper Finds a Way* (Simon and Schuster, 2004), explores the connections between QVC, faith healing, divorce, asteroids, and professional wrestling, and was chosen by Amazon.com as a "Breakout Book." *St. Michael's Scales* (Arthur A. Levine, 2002), Connelly's first book, was listed as "Best of the Best 2002" by Borders. His short fiction has appeared in *The Yalobusha Review*, *The Southeast Review*, and *River City*, which recently nominated his story, "The Adventures of Ultimate Man," for a Pushcart Prize. Connelly and his wife Beth live in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Amy Fleury, October 19

Amy Fleury's collection of poems, *Beautiful Trouble*, won the 2003 Crab Orchard First Book Award and was published by Southern Illinois University Press in 2004. It was named a top 10 notable book of 2004 by the *Kansas City Star*. Her poems have appeared in *The American Life in Poetry*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *North American Review*, and *The Southeast Review*, among others. Her fiction has been published in 21st and *The Yalobusha Review*. Fleury has been a recipient of the Nadya Aisenberg Fellowship from the MacDowell Colony and a Kansas Arts Commission fellowship in poetry. She resides in Topeka, Kansas, where she is an associate professor of English at Washburn University.

Judith Harris, November 16

Judith Harris grew up in the suburban area surrounding Washington, D.C., where her parents worked for the government. She studied English and studio arts at the University of Maryland and she earned her M.A. from the Brown University Creative Writing Program under the direction of Michael S. Harper. Harris is assistant professor of English at Catholic University. She received her doctorate in English in 1993 from George Washington University. She has also taught creative writing at George Mason University and George Washington University. The author of four collections of verse - *The Bad Secret* (2006), *Atonement* (2000), *Song of the Moon* (1983), and *Poppies* (1981) - she resides in Washington, D.C., with her husband, the artist Walter Kravitz, and their daughter Alani Jane.

Authors will autograph their books following their readings. Publications by these authors are available to purchase at USI Bookstore and Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

For more information, contact **Jim McGarrah**, assistant professor of English, 812/461-5381.

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

Jeannette Walls to present Fall Lecture

MSNBC entertainment reporter and author **Jeannette Walls** will present the Office of Student Development Programs and USI Foundation's annual Fall Lecture at 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 27, in Carter Hall in the University Center. This year the event also is sponsored by Academic Affairs, University Core Council, and the Living Learning Communities.

Walls's acclaimed memoir, *The Glass Castle: A Memoir*, has been the featured work in the Bonding Through Books program for the past two years. In the program, Living Learning Community students, faculty, and staff discuss a book during Welcome Week.

The Glass Castle tells of the poor, nomadic childhood Walls shared with her three siblings, eating butter for dinner, making her own braces, and suffering the whims of her artistic, intelligent, and utterly selfish parents. The title of the book is taken from her gambling, alcoholic father's promise that he would build them a magical, perfect glass castle in which to live.

Walls eventually moved to New York, attended Barnard College, and began to rise up the journalistic ranks. She is a regular contributor to MSNBC and has worked at several publications including *Esquire*, *USA Today* and *New York Magazine*.

"I chose *The Glass Castle* because it's the story of a woman who really overcame great odds to not only survive, but to put herself through college," said **Dr. Edith Hardcastle**, committee

chair and assistant professor of biology. "I thought it would inspire students and give them a sense of perspective of what other people have overcome to go to school and succeed. She's become a great success in life despite all she had to go through. She uses humor very effectively, so the story doesn't drag you down, despite her difficult challenges."

A reception will follow the program, which is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact **Shannon Poling**, program advisor in Student Development Programs, at 812/465-7167.

One more chance to catch a free flick

This semester, you can see free films in their original formats four times a week at USI: three times on Tuesdays in ENG 258: Introduction to Film, and on Fridays in the "Friday Night in the Forum" series.

That's up one showing from past years, when the film course was offered twice on Tuesdays.

Fall 2006 offerings include two classics about May-December romances: "Harold and Maude" and "Manhattan," plus modern favorites such as "Kill Bill: Vol. 2" and "The Family Stone," and films from Germany and China.

Introduction to Film screenings are at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 6 p.m. The spring 2006 film schedule for ENG 285 includes:

- "Beauty Shop," September 5
- "Kill Bill: Vol. 2," September 12
- "Harold and Maude," September 19
- "Lyrical Nitrate," September 26
- "Beyond the Rocks," October 3
- "Manhattan," November 7
- "Sophie Scholl: The Final Days" (Germany), November 21
- "Happy Times" (China), November 28
- "The Family Stone," December 5

Films for mid-October will be announced later. There will be no showings on Tuesday, October 31.

"Friday Night in the Forum" films start at 7:30 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

- "Nashville," November 3
- "Moolaade," November 10
- "Sophie Scholl: The Final Days" (Germany), November 17
- "Caché," December 1

All screenings are held in Forum I in the Wright Administration Building. **Eric Braysmith**, lecturer in Liberal Arts, will lead a discussion immediately following each film. For more information, contact Braysmith at 812/464-1740.

New Athletic Hall of Fame

Nominations for the charter class of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame are being accepted with the first class to be inducted during the 2007 homecoming festivities. The deadline for nominations is October 7.

USI Director of Athletics **Jon Mark Hall** feels that after 36 years of sponsoring intercollegiate athletics the time is right to establish a Hall of Fame.

"Athletics at USI has established a strong history," said Hall. "The Hall of Fame will be a mechanism to recognize and reconnect with those student athletes, coaches, administrators, and supporters who created many memorable moments."

"The Hall of Fame also will be a way to help our current student athletes understand why we have such pride in our athletics programs."

Any Eagle fan is 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) also are eligible for nominations. Nominations can be made online through the Athletics web site at www.usi.edu/sports/halloffame/.

The selection committee will vote on the nominees and will select a class with a minimum of four student athletes and a maximum of one coach/administrator, special individual or team. The committee is **Nancy Johnson '83 M '95**, director of Alumni and Volunteer Services; **John Deem**, associate vice president for Student Affairs; **Ray Simmons**, director of Sports Information; **Jon Mark Hall**, director of Athletics; **Michael Roeder '89**, director of Corporate Communications, Vectren Corporation; **Dr. Alan Johnson**, orthopaedic surgeon, Orthopaedic Associates; **Dr. Jane Davis-Brezette**, Physical Education chair; **Randa Gatling '99**, assistant women's basketball coach; and **Dr. Scott Gordon**, dean of the Pott College of Science and Engineering.

Help improve the service culture on campus

Extended Services is offering an Employee Development opportunity to improve the quality of USI's service culture.

"Advanced Connections USI: Your Role in Building a Quality Service Culture" will be offered from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, September 18 in University Center Room 201, and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, October 23, in University Center Room 201.

"There are a number of good things we can do in terms of helping students, visitors, and vendors feel comfortable at USI," said instructor **Larry Bohleber**, manager of the Center for Human Resources Development. He includes coworkers among those who should be treated as we would treat a guest in our homes.

Bohleber offers five service recommendations in the course:

- Welcome the guest to your area or department
- Use the guest's name
- Take care of the guest's needs
- Thank the guest for being here
- Invite the guest back, if appropriate

"We want to give all of our visitors, students, and stakeholders a good experience so they'll come back, tell others, and spread the good word about the great service culture here at USI," Bohleber said.

To register for the workshop go to www.usi.edu/extserv/training/schedule.asp.

ADA audio conference

Join ADA-Indiana for its September audio conference, "Accessible Travel Options: By Land, By Air, and By Sea."

Access to hotels, air planes, and cruise ships continues to be one of the major barriers for people with disabilities. This session will explore the requirements for accessible travel, as well as the available resources for identifying accessible travel options.

The audio conference will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 19, in Science Center Room 1212 (SC1212). It should be of interest to transportation officials, travel planners, employers, advocates, people with disabilities, and

other interested community members.

For more information, contact **Gary May**, director of the USI/Epi-Hab Center for Disability Studies, at 812/465-1694.

Backpack awareness

Almost 400 children in elementary grades will learn the right way to pack and wear a backpack when students from the USI occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs visit nine Evansville-area schools September 20 on National School Backpack Awareness Day.

The USI College of Nursing and Health Professions is participating in the national day of awareness sponsored by the American Occupational Therapy Association.

USI students have devised games, skits, and other interactive activities to help children understand the proper use of backpacks and the health risks of misuse. The USI students will teach how to load a backpack correctly with the heaviest items closest to the child's back and how to wear the pack correctly with two straps over the shoulders. Children and their backpacks will be weighed to determine whether the load is appropriate to the child's weight. AOTA recommends that the backpack weigh no more than 15 percent of the wearer's body weight.

Depending on the school, students from third through sixth grades will be involved in the voluntary informational sessions. Backpack weigh-in data for fourth and sixth graders will be part of a national study conducted by AOTA.

According to AOTA, more than half of the 40-million children in the nation who carry school backpacks may be carrying too much weight. Overloaded backpacks can result in an aching back and shoulders, weakened muscles, tingling arms, or stooped posture.

USI has participated in National School Backpack Awareness Day since 2002 when 15 students taught a session at Corpus Christi School. This year the program will involve 92 USI students working in teams to visit the nine schools. Nationwide, more than 930 occupational therapy practitioners and students spread the word about proper backpack use last year.

St. Mary's Medical Center is joint sponsor with USI of the area event. Faculty members from USI's occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs, along with occupational therapists and nurses from St. Mary's, will accompany the student teams.

Dr. Barbara Williams, USI program director for occupational therapy, and **Susan Ahmad**, USI program director for the occupational therapy assistant program, said their students are excited about the event.

Katie Stratton, a senior in occupational therapy, participated in the awareness day last year and will work with children this year at St. Joseph School. She said the event is an excellent opportunity to educate young students and help them reduce risk factors that can affect the performance of daily activities.

While the children and faculty at each elementary school will learn from the USI students, families of the elementary students also will benefit from written information the children take home.

In addition to St. Joseph, participating schools are Holy Spirit, St. Theresa, Christ the King, Corpus Christi, Holy Redeemer, St. Philip, Good Shepherd, and St. Boniface.

International Day of Peace is Sept. 21

The International Day of Peace is Thursday, September 21. International Programs and Services and Religious Life will share

a table in front of the University Center, where they will distribute buttons that say "peace" in several languages. They also will display a PowerPoint presentation with peace-related quotes.

British filmmaker Jeremy Gilley launched his Peace One Day film project in 1999. "He had this idea that for one day in the year, there could be a world-wide cease fire, and it would be a day when there was peace in the world," said **Kristine Meier**, program coordinator in International Programs.

In September 2001, Gilley achieved a primary goal of the project: the United Nations General Assembly formally established an annual day of global ceasefire and non-violence on September 21.

"We want to make sure that people are aware this day exists, that there is such a thing as an International Day of Peace," Meier said. "We hope that little by little, each day, we can promote peace through what we do, whether it's promoting International Day of Peace or matching American students with international students in our Small World Global Friendship program."

The program matches American and international students and encourages them to do things together, such as go to lunch, see a movie, or attend an athletic event on campus.

"A lot of international students want to experience more of American culture – and it's a two-way benefit. It gives a student who grew up in southern Indiana who has never met someone from Saudi Arabia, a Muslim country, another way of viewing the world."

About 30 students are involved in the program, but more American students are needed. To get involved, contact Meier at 812/465-7183.

For more information about the International Day of Peace, go to www.peaceoneday.org.

Names in the news

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to the family of **Julie Bordelon**, administrative assistant in International Programs and Services, whose father **Lawrence Jangula**, died August 28. Services were held September 1 at St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral in Billings, Montana. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Association or Ronald McDonald House.

The University community extends sympathy to **Marjorie Jones**, instructor emerita in anthropology, whose mother, **Ruth Melvin** died September 2 in Evansville. Ruth Melvin was responsible for establishing the Duffus-Melvin Achievement Award Fund in Anthropology, Sociology, and Criminal Justice at USI.

The University community extends sympathy to **Dr. Charles Petranek**, professor emeritus of sociology, whose mother, **Clara Petranek**, died September 3 in Hurley, Wisconsin. Memorial contributions may be made to her home parish, Immaculation Conception Church, 303 Ascherman, St. Wakefield, Michigan 49968 to rebuild the steeple struck by lightning.

In appreciation

Michael Whipple, assistant treasurer and business office director, and his family wish to express their sincerest appreciation to all who helped during the recent passing of their father **Donald A Whipple**. Donald and his wife Ruth will always be cherished and remembered when the Donald & Ruth Whipple Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a deserving USI student.

Welcome to the USI family

Krissy Engelbrect, women's soccer coach, and husband **Jeff** announce the birth of their first child, **Aidan Christian Engelbrect**, born Thursday, August 31. Aidan weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Welcome

Vella Goebel has accepted a position as assistant professor in teacher education in the Bower-Surheinrich College of Education and Human Services. She holds a doctorate degree from the University of Louisville and a Master of Arts degree and Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Evansville. She was named Teacher of the Year in 2000 by the Evansville Courier and Press and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Delta Kappa. Goebel was formerly an English teacher at a Evansville Signature School.

Matthew Holcomb has accepted a position as lecturer in psychology in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a Master of Clinical Psychology degree from Mississippi State University. He is a member of the South Eastern Psychological Association and the Mississippi Psychological Association. Holcomb was formerly employed at Mississippi State University Meridian.

Jeanne Melton has accepted a position as instructor in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Health Administration from USI and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University. Melton was formerly the executive director of AIDS Resource Group of Evansville.

Jill Raisor has accepted a position as instructor in teacher education in the Bower-Surheinrich College of Education and Human Services. She is vice president of the Evansville Area Early Childhood Association and a member of several organizations including the National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Council for the Social Studies, and Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children. She holds a Master of Curriculum and Instruction degree from Indiana University. Raisor was formerly a first grade teacher at Holy Rosary Catholic School.

Connie Swenty has accepted a position as instructor in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Clarkson College. Swenty was formerly a wound nurse at Phelps County Regional Medical Center.

Kenneth Walsh has accepted a position as assistant professor of chemistry in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a doctorate degree in chemistry from the University of Bristol. Walsh was formerly a visiting assistant professor at the University of the South.

Carrie Wright has accepted a position as instructor in geology in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. She was the recipient of the Graduate Student Excellence Award at Wright State University in 2006 and is a member of Geological Society of America, National Association of Geoscience Teachers, and American Institute of Professional Geologists. She holds a Master of Science in Teaching degree from Wright State University and a Master of Science degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Miami University. Wright was formerly a geology instructor at Sinclair Community College.

Accomplishments

Carolyn Roth, instructor in art, judged the Owensboro Art Guild's 41st Annual Juried Exhibition. The exhibition opens September 16 and will run through October 14 at the Anna Eaton Stout Gallery on the campus of Brescia University in

Owensboro, KY.

Brandi Schwartz, editorial associate in News and Information Services, has several pieces of art on display at the first annual Heritage Days art show in downtown Princeton, Indiana. Her pieces include a linoleum print, a charcoal drawing, jewelry, photography, and paintings. The show will run through Sunday, September 17.

FYI

Depression screenings offered

The USI Counseling Center will conduct screenings for National Depression Screening Day. The screenings will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, October 5, in Orr Center Room 1051. The screening is for depression, bipolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder. All USI students, faculty, and staff are invited to take the screening, which consists of a 10-minute written self-assessment, followed by a confidential meeting with a Counseling Center professional, if appropriate. For more information contact **Brooke Orth**, staff counselor, at 812/464-1867.

Web tour of the USI Calendar

Web Services has developed a Web tour of the USI online calendar for those who are unfamiliar with how to use the calendar. There's no better way to get the word out online about an event you're sponsoring than by entering it into the calendar. Events that have been entered into the calendar routinely show up on the "Campus Events" section of the USI home page as well as on a number of other departmental sites - all of which helps spread the word about your event. To take the tour, go to www.usi.edu/webservices/calendar/tour.asp.

HLC Accreditation site team visit in September

The Higher Learning Commission accreditation site team will visit USI on September 25, 26, and 27, 2006. A team of seven consultant-evaluators consisting of administrators and faculty from various colleges and universities throughout the region will hold open meetings with USI groups and individuals across campus. Their goal will be to validate information provided in the self-study report and gain a better understanding of the culture at USI. A complete timetable of meetings and locations will be available closer to the site team visit. The self-study report presented to the Higher Learning Commission is available online at www.usi.edu/hlc2006 for faculty and staff to review. The self-study process is valuable in helping USI evolve in new directions, sharpen its planning processes, and establish new and better connections with our constituencies throughout the region, as well as maintain the high standards required for accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges.

"Institutional Snapshot" is online

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment has created an "Institutional Snapshot" that provides an overview of USI between 2001 and 2005 – including student demographics, recruitment and admissions, financial assistance for students, student retention, program productivity faculty demographics, information technology and financial data. This is the first step toward creating an annual USI fact book – a compendium of statistics about the University. The Institutional Snapshot is an excellent resource for basic statistics about the University and is available as a PDF on the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment Web site at www.usi.edu/depart/instires.

Disclose conflicts of interest

Under the Indiana "conflicts of interest" law, University employees are required to file disclosure statements stating any financial interest which the individual may have in any University contract or purchase. The responsibility for filing disclosure statements rests on the person with the potential conflict of interest. Copies of the Conflicts of Interest: Compliance Disclosure Requirements and the disclosure statements are available in the office of the vice president for Business Affairs, and may be downloaded from MyUSI under Indiana "conflicts of interest" law found in the Personal Announcements Section. If you have any questions concerning conflicts of interest and the statutory requirements, contact **Mark Rozewski**, vice president for Business Affairs, at 812/464-1849.