



University of Southern Indiana

University Notes

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Vol. 36, No. 35 • April 19, 2002

RISC Showcase April 20

The expression of emotion, refrigerator air delivery, and interactive performance are a few of the topics under investigation by students participating in USI's first Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Creativity Showcase Saturday, April 20.

"From all indications it appears as though the work that will be presented on Saturday is of high quality and is the result of a lot of hard work and dedication by these undergraduates at USI," said Dr. Scott Gordon, RISC Committee chair and associate professor of biology.

"The accomplishments of these students will not only enhance their undergraduate experience at USI but also will increase their marketability and skills necessary for graduate work, professional schools, or the job market."

The public is invited to attend the Showcase that will begin at 9 a.m. in Forum I with a keynote address by Chicana muralist Judy Baca.

Student presentations will start at 10:30 a.m. in the Liberal Arts Center, and lunch will follow at 12:15 p.m. in Carter Hall. Dr. Charles Harrington, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, will discuss undergraduate research during the meal, and visitors are encouraged to purchase lunch in The Loft and join the presenters and project advisors in Carter Hall.

Established in the fall, USI's RISC Program is designed to encourage independent faculty-guided undergraduate research and creative projects. RISC grants provide funding to initiate or continue such projects, and funding decisions are based on a project's ability to enhance the student's development, impact learning, and correlate with educational goals.



RopeWalk featuring USI faculty, staff

Creative writing faculty and staff will share a selection of poems that have shaped their lives in the final program of the spring 2002 RopeWalk Reading Series Thursday, April 25. Presented in conjunction with the celebration of National Poetry Month, the event marks their series' debut.

"I thought it would be a nice way to introduce all of us, and given that it's National Poetry Month, I thought it would be an appropriate way to conclude the RopeWalk series," said Matthew Graham, associate professor of English.

During the program, Graham plans to read Philip Levine's "What Work Is" and Donald Justice's "Psalm and Lament."

"Levine was important to me because as a college student, when I first became interested in poetry, I didn't realize there were any living poets, and he was alive," Graham said. "He also wrote about things I knew something about – factories and blue collar labor – and I didn't realize you could write poetry about that kind of stuff. It opened a big door for me."

Justice was Graham's teacher at University of Iowa.

"He's just a big influence on me because of the precision and beauty of his language," Graham said. "I was fortunate to have him as a teacher in graduate school."

The program will begin at 7 p.m. in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center. Other readers will include: Patricia Aakhus, instructor in English; Leisa Belleau, instructor in English; James McGarrah, lecturer in liberal arts; Matthew Guenette, instructor in English; Ronald Mitchell, instructor in English; Tonya Northenor, instructor in English; and Paulette Roeske Reid, lecturer in English.

The RopeWalk Reading Series is made possible through the support of RopeWalk Writers Retreat, the Southern Indiana Review, USI Society for Arts & Humanities, Indiana Arts Commission, and USI Student Writers' Union. The series is free and open to the public.



Slavkin battling juvenile firesetting Arson Awareness Week May 6 through 11

Like the phoenix, Dr. Michael Slavkin's interest in preventing juvenile firesetting was born in ashes.

While working as a teacher and counselor of at-risk students at an inner-city school in St. Louis, one of the children he was counseling set fire to a paint closet in the building. The school was destroyed, and several students and teachers were injured.

"It was a wake-up call about the problem," said Slavkin, assistant professor of education at USI.

Disappointed by a lack of information available about juvenile firesetting at the time, Slavkin dedicated himself to learning more.

"After trying to find answers and not being able to, I thought this would be something I would be interested in studying. When I got my doctorate, that was my dissertation topic."

His dissertation, *Juvenile Firesetters: An Exploratory Analysis*, was published in 2000, when Slavkin earned a Ph.D. in educational psychology from Indiana University. His work on the topic also has appeared in a variety of publications including *Offenders with Developmental Disabilities*, *Adolescence*, *SOS FIRES*, *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing*, *Journal of Fire Intervention Response Education*, and *Fire and Juvenile Firesetter Prevention*.

When the assistant professor joined the USI faculty in spring 2000, he came to the community from Indianapolis, where he had served on the Governor's Task Force on Juvenile Firesetters. Finding no resources for families, children, and fire departments in Southern Indiana, Slavkin met with the Evansville Fire Department, and the Vanderburgh County Juvenile Firesetter Task Force was the result.

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"Most people don't recognize that more children under 18 are killed in juvenile-set fires than by child gunplay or use of narcotics," he said. "It is a serious problem."

Slavkin serves as coordinator of the not-for-profit corporation, created to provide effective intervention, education, and prevention services for juvenile firesetters and their families. Several USI students pursuing service-learning opportunities have been involved with the group since its inception.

"It is of benefit to the organization, but it also helps the student learn about what it means to be a teacher in the 21st century. Teaching doesn't just occur in the classroom. It occurs in the context of a community," Slavkin said.

In conjunction with Arson Awareness Week, the Vanderburgh County Juvenile Firesetter Task Force will host a display at Eastland Mall May 6 through 11. Hours at the event will be from 4 to 8 p.m. May 6 through 10 and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 11.

The task force booth will be located in the mall's main court and will offer a variety of activities, information, activity books for children, and free smoke detectors.

On May 4, the task force also plans to have a fund-raising chicken dinner from noon to 6 p.m. at the Newburgh American Legion. Tickets are \$6 and are available by calling Slavkin at extension 1858. Proceeds will benefit task force programming and counseling services.

"We've seen about 45 kids in the last year and a half," he said. "And I think we've just scratched the surface."



Fredrich helps hotel attain landmark status

Thanks largely to the efforts of Jay Fredrich, associate dean of the School of Science and Engineering Technology, and civil engineering technology graduate Keith Barnett, 2000, the restored West Baden Springs Hotel joined the Brooklyn and Golden Gate bridges, the Hoover and Grand Coulee dams, the Statue of Liberty, the Erie Canal, and 145 other American civil engineering projects as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark earlier this month.

Designated by the Board of Directors of the American Society of Civil Engineers, selection of National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks is based on nominations received from ASCE Sections across the nation. Nominated by the Indiana Section, the West Baden Springs Hotel is one of only two such landmarks in the state.

A member of the ASCE Committee on History and Heritage since 1998, Fredrich recognized that the West Baden Springs Hotel should be considered for landmark designation. He also was a member of the ASCE Indiana Section Board of Directors when the hotel was under consideration and suggested to the board that the Section nominate the structure for recognition.

Barnett was a senior civil engineering technology student at the time and agreed to undertake the research necessary to prepare the hotel's nomination package as his senior project.

Fredrich served as Barnett's faculty advisor on the project that was completed in December 1999. The nomination focused on the fact that at the time of its completion in 1902 the hotel was the largest domed structure in the world - a distinction it held until completion of the Houston Astrodome in 1965 - and the fact that despite its size and innovative nature it was constructed in less than 300 days.

The 200-foot-diameter dome covering the hotel and its atrium was designed by architect Harrison Albright and structural

engineer Oliver J. Westcott and built by Caldwell and Drake, a construction firm from Columbus, Ind.

The American Society of Civil Engineers recognizes the designation of National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks by the installation of a brass plaque identifying the structure and the reason for its designation. Barnett unveiled the plaque at the hotel's dedication ceremony.



Teacher fair April 23

More than 200 teacher candidates will meet representatives from nearly 40 school corporations at the Regional Teacher Recruitment Fair Tuesday, April 23, in Carter Hall.

Hosted by USI, University of Evansville, Kentucky Wesleyan College, and Brescia University, the fair is designed to help educational systems meet employment needs.

The event will include an Open Fair from 9:30 to 11 a.m., when alumni and undergraduates are welcome.

For more information contact LaDawn Buck, coordinator in Career Services and Placement, at extension 1865.



Grief the subject of national teleconference

USI will host "Living with Grief: Loss in Later Life," a national teleconference, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, in Carter Hall.

The USI Division of Extended Services and Department of Social Work are presenting Hospice Foundation of America's ninth annual "Living with Grief" teleconference in cooperation with the Evansville Chapter of The Compassionate Friends and Visiting Nurse Association Hospice.

The teleconference is designed to educate a wide variety of professionals who regularly deal with elderly clients as well as others who work with people who may be affected by the death of someone in later life.

Moderated by Cokie Roberts of ABC News, the teleconference will include panelists Robert Butler, M.D.; Kenneth J. Doka, M.Div., Ph.D.; Patricia Kelly, R.N.; Phyllis Silverman, Ph.D.; and J.R. Williams, M.D.

The program is free to those attending but not seeking continuing education credits, which are available for a wide range of professions. A \$25 recording fee will be applied for those obtaining credits.

More information about the national teleconference is available on the Hospice Foundation of America Web site: www.hospicefoundation.org.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, April 23. Online registration is available at www.usi.edu/extserv/socialwork/caregiving_and_loss.htm or by calling USI Extended Services at 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600.



Southwestern Indiana focus of 2002 lyceum

Historic Southern Indiana is among the organizations sponsoring "From Burgoon to the Bottomlands: People and Places in Southwestern Indiana," a lyceum including a variety of master classes April 27 and a guided motor coach tour May 11.

Presented by the Indiana Historical Society and Traditional Arts Indiana, the master classes, with fees ranging from \$25 to

\$55, will take place at various area locations and include "Fishing on the Wabash River," "Cooking Regional Favorites," "Southern-style Barbeque," "Tavern Fare and Vernacular Architecture," and "Japanese Traditional Arts."

The guided motor coach tour will highlight regional and ethnic cooking and traditional crafts. The fee, \$65 or \$75 depending on membership, includes transportation, local tour guides, lunch, food samples, a souvenir program, tote bag, and tote bag favors.

Other sponsoring organizations include the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana and the Vanderburgh County Historical Society.

For more information, contact the Indiana Historical Society, 317/233-5659 or 800/447-1830. Brochures are available from Historic Southern Indiana, Room 1068 in the Orr Center.



Names in the news

Achievements

■ Dr. Charles T. Barber, professor of political science, delivered a lecture about terrorists April 10 to the University of Evansville Wednesday Morning Literature Class. The class has focused on revolutionaries this semester.

■ Three instructors from the English Department presented papers at the 15th annual Rhetoric and Composition Colloquium at Murray State University April 5: Larry Gries, "Building Reading Rapport in the Composition Classroom: A Novel Approach to Writing;" Ron Mitchell, "Reading, Writing, and Lying: Rethinking the Narrative Essay;" and Dr. Nancy McNeely, "Taking it to the Street: The Benefits of a Literacy-focused Service Learning Project in the College Composition Classroom."

■ Dr. Leigh Anne Howard, assistant professor of communications, facilitated a discussion of how performance might be used as a pedagogical method at the eighth annual International Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed Conference in Toledo, Ohio, earlier this month.

■ Julie A. Payne, director of Residence Life, presented at the American Educational Research Association National Conference April 5 in New Orleans. She and Dr. Joshua Powers, Indiana State University, demonstrated a Web-based, time-revealed scenario, "A Community Response To Hate," and ways the tool can be used in the classroom to teach students about diversity, tolerance, and civility.

■ Ronald C. Roat, associate professor of journalism and director of the Scripps Howard Center for Media Studies, is one of 10 journalism professionals leading a moderated Internet discussion about the future of journalism and the news. The discussion, which began earlier this month, is on the Online Journalism Review Web site (www.ojr.org/ojr/future/index.php) at the Annenberg School of Communication, University of Southern California. It will change topics every two weeks, and the public is invited to participate. Roat was asked to join the discussion because of his weekly Web column covering mass media and other topics of interest in the Evansville Courier & Press (www.myinky.com/ecp/news_columnists).

Welcome

■ Stacy Brown has accepted the position of coordinator of theatre public relations and marketing. A resident of New Albany, Ind., she previously worked as box office manager at Derby Dinner Playhouse in Clarksville, Ind., and as administrative assistant at Clowes Memorial Hall in Indianapolis. She holds degrees in theatre production from Vincennes University and secondary education/English from Indiana University, where she also earned a master's in arts administration.

■ A USI alumna has accepted the position of senior administrative assistant in Foundation. Carolyn A. DeFur, Mount Vernon, previously worked in document control at Wartsila NSD.

■ Virginia E. Thomas has accepted the position of administrative assistant in Art, Music, and Theatre. The Evansville resident worked as a call-in at USI earlier this semester. She holds an associate degree from Olive-Harvey Community College in Chicago and also attended DePaul University and Chicago State University.

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to Marilyn Schmidt, director of Career Services and Placement, and her husband Richard Schmidt, executive vice president, on the loss of her father and his father-in-law, Wilbur F. Stanley, Kokomo, Ind., who died April 11.

Private funeral services are being arranged in Kokomo. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to the USI Foundation Presidential Scholarship Fund.



FYI

Tolling belle

USI Theatre will present a student-directed production of Christopher Durang's *For Whom The Southern Belle Tolls*, a parody of Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*, at 6 and 9 p.m. Thursday, April 25, and Friday, April 26, in the Mallette Studio Theatre.

Senior Amanda Grube is directing the one-act that features a fading southern belle and her hypochondriac son, who is preparing to meet a "feminine caller." Tickets, \$2.50 each, will be available at the door.

Southern hospitality

USI will host its final spring Southern Hospitality Day Saturday, April 20. Admission counselors and University students will be available to answer questions about admission requirements, the college application process, fees, financial aid, scholarships, and housing options.

Prospective students and their families also will have opportunities to tour campus facilities and hear faculty discuss major areas of study. For more information, call extension 1765.

Student leadership

The Student Leadership Awards and Recognition Ceremony will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, in Carter Hall. Each year, the Office of Student Development honors individual students

and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the University. For more information, e-mail connect@usi.edu.

Newsletter deadline

Friday, April 19, is the deadline for submitting information for the next online issue of *University Notes*. Submissions received after the deadline will be published at the discretion of the editorial staff.

Submissions may be made via e-mail to Libby L. Keeling, associate editor. Submissions for the "Marketplace" column should be sent to Karen Altstadt, online editor.

Online teaching

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence and Instructional Technology Services will present a Panel Discussion for Online Teaching and Learning Friday, April 26, and the University community is invited to attend the free event from noon to 1 p.m. in Carter Hall.

The presenters will include Dr. Edie McClellan, assistant professor of psychology; Michael Aakhus, professor of art; Dr. Michael Slavkin, assistant professor of education; Michelle Alvarez, assistant professor of social work; and Dr. Julia Galbus, assistant professor of English.

Choir concert

The USI Chamber Choir will present a Bon Voyage Concert at 2 p.m. April 28 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 613 Cherry St.

The concert will be the choir's final performance in the spring semester before it embarks on a tour of Ireland in May. The event is free and open to the public.

Working daughters

USI employees will celebrate Take Your Daughter to Work Day Thursday, April 25. The day's events will include a welcome at 8 a.m., campus tours at 8:30 a.m., work experience with parents at 9:30 a.m., and lunch at noon with a "Business Protocol" presentation by Nancy Bizal, instructor in administrative systems.

The deadline to register for participation has passed. For more information, e-mail Janet Johnson, senior administrative assistant in Human Resources, or call extension 1770.

Working sons

The University community is invited to participate in Take Your Son to Work Day for boys ages 9 to 14 May 2. Events will include a welcome at 8 a.m., campus tours at 8:30 a.m., work experience with parents at 9:30 a.m., and lunch at noon with a presentation by Dr. Dane Partridge, associate professor of management.

Permission slips are available at area schools and must be signed by the appropriate USI supervisor and returned to the school before May 2. The permission slips allow students to participate in Take Your Son to Work Day with an excused absence from classes. Supervisor's approval is required.

USI employees participating in the planned events should respond to Janet Johnson, senior administrative assistant in Human Resources, no later than Friday, April 26.



Marketplace

For sale

■ Home in westside subdivision near USI - 1,400 sq. ft., three bedrooms, two baths, great room with cathedral ceiling, skylights, wooden blinds, wood-burning fireplace, French doors leading to large deck, nicely landscaped, aggregate driveway and walkway. Includes stove, dishwasher, refrigerator, microwave, window blinds, and ceiling fans: \$124,500. Call 429-9240, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or 985-7522 after 5 p.m.

■ Home on Henderson's north side - charming cottage-style home; park-like setting with river view on quiet dead-end street; 1,600 sq. ft., three bedrooms, two baths, 16 x 20 family room with fireplace, living room with fireplace, carport, two outside storage areas, 1,900 sq. ft. new patio, partially fenced back yard: \$149,500. Call 270/826-4246 or Ext. 1893.

■ 1997 Ford Explorer XLT - 4 x 4, six-cylinder, 68,000 miles, loaded, new tires, cloth interior, cassette, light blue, \$13,000. Call 270/826-4246 or Ext. 1893.

■ 2000 Saturn SL2 - silver, sunroof, spoiler, custom stereo, 28K miles: \$10,800 Call 422-7525 or Ext. 1067.

■ Class-three trailer hitch for 1993 full-size Chevy van - hitch and all accessories included, \$50. E-mail tschaeffe@usi.edu.

■ Need stamps for a shower, wedding, graduation, or just for paying bills? Have several hundred 34-cent postage stamps to sell before postage increase June 1. Stamps in rolls of 100, but willing to sell in any quantity. Contact malbin@usi.edu, OC 3033, or Ext. 7030.

■ Bedroom suite - pecan color, queen size, like-new mattress, lighted headboard, dresser, \$350. Call 401-7103 for appointment.

For rent

■ Serene one-bedroom apartment in historic area of Evansville - hardwood floors, claw-footed tub, window treatment, some furnishings. Veranda and fenced, well-treed yard. Includes water, heat, and refuse: \$390/month. Call 423-8859.

■ Near Mater Dei High School - completely remodeled historic home built in 1820; 2,200 sq. ft., three large bedrooms, two full baths, laundry hook-up; walk-out deck overlooks woods; 9.4 acres of ground; \$1,200/month. Contact 468-8477 (day), 204-1021 (any time), or josse@qhaclaims.com.

■ Hillcrest Apartments - newly remodeled, one-bedroom apartments on Evansville's west side. Neutral carpet, drapes, stoves, refrigerators, garbage disposals. Water, sewage, and trash pickup furnished. Apartments are cable ready. Rent starts at \$325/mo. with a one-year lease and security deposit. Contact Barker Apartments, LLC, 476-3411 or llisk8@yahoo.com.

Free pet

■ Free cat to loving home - beautiful white, long-hair, declawed cat with great personality needs a good home (looks like Silver Tip Persian). For more information call Teresa Grisham, Ext. 1207 or 401-7285 evenings.

Friday, April 19, is the deadline for submitting information for next week's "Marketplace." Submissions may be made via e-mail to kaltstad@usi.edu.