

University Notes

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President's Medal; finalists announced

The President's Medal winner and four finalists for the honor will graduate from USI on May 11. **Samuel C. Bowles** will receive the President's Medal, the highest honor given by the University to a graduate. This year's finalists for the honor are **Kyle Besing**, Newburgh; **Andrea Henke**, Mt. Vernon; **Rajeev Singh**, Greenwood; and **Todd Wannemuehler**, Evansville. All were selected from among 1,400 class members.

Recognition for academic excellence and service

Bowles will graduate summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree. An English/Secondary Education major, he was awarded the Robert E. and Judith E. Griffin Endowed Presidential Scholarship upon his enrollment. He is a four-year member and officer of the Honors Program. He also holds membership in Alpha Mu Gamma, a foreign language honor society, and in Sigma Tau Delta, an English honor society, which he served as vice president and president.

The Crawford County resident was secretary of the Residence Hall Council for one year, and he served as a student ambassador in the Office of Admission for two years.

He earned the All Campus Student Achievement Award and the Top Student Leader Award in spring 2007. For four years he was a student worker in the English Department. He values the relationships he built with support staff and faculty who served as teachers, mentors, and advisors.

After graduation, he plans to serve Hillview Christian Church in Marengo, Indiana, his home church where he currently serves as part-time ministry associate. He also will work in youth philanthropy for the Crawford County Community Foundation. Graduate school, divinity school, teaching, and the Peace Corps are future career options for Bowles.

Mathematics major

Besing will graduate magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics. This year he served as chief justice for University Court of Student Government Association, officer of Math Club, and member of Sigma Zeta and National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

He has been in instrumental ministry for five years. As a baritone saxophone player, he serves as soloist, section leader, and orchestra member for the Crossroads Church Big Band. He also has worked as an instructor for the Reitz High School marching band.

Besing holds the David Kinsey Scholarship. His long term goal is to earn a doctorate degree in applied mathematics and teach at the college level.

History major

Henke will graduate magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in history. She will join the National Park Service as a ranger at George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes. Selected from a pool of more than 80 applicants per position, Henke is fulfilling a life-long dream to be hired as a

ranger. She also plans to earn a master's degree in history.

At USI Henke has been a student ambassador, active in the Honors Program, Adopt-a-Spot, and executive board member of the Residence Hall Council. She received the 2007 Trustees Distinguished Merit Award for excelling in core curriculum classes. She holds the Donald E. Pitzer History Scholarship. She is active in History Club, Sociology/Anthropology Club, and Phi Alpha Theta.

Graduating with double major

Singh will graduate summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree and a double major in biology and history. He was enrolled as a Baccalaureate/MD scholar and has held a 4.0 grade point average throughout his college career. He is a member of the Student Advisory Board to the Pott College of Science and Engineering.

Singh has been a student ambassador, a member of Student Government Association, and an associate justice of the USI Supreme Court. Last year he received the Vice President of Student Affairs Outstanding Student Leader Award.

A participant in a service learning project in 2005, Singh led a three-month study to reform the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System. He has tutored students on a consistent basis in chemistry, biology, physics, and history for three years. He plans to study medicine and law after he graduates. He has a desire to change the health policy of the nation through the legislative process.

Biology major

Another finalist is Todd J. Wannemuehler who holds the Ralph and Harriet Carlson Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine (B/MD) scholarship along with a Lilly Scholarship. He will graduate summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. He plans to study medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine.

Wannemuehler is a member of Sigma Zeta honor society and the Biology Club. After developing a proficiency in lab, he worked in the microbiology lab coordinating other student lab workers, which required commitment and self-motivation. He served on the orientation staff for new freshmen. He also has served on the ministry team as lector and Eucharistic minister at Corpus Christi Parish. He has been on the honors list every semester and earned the Leadership Award from the USI Alumni Association.

Part of college for Wannemuehler included a summer session at Harlaxton College in Grantham, England, where he studied biology and toured Rome, Paris, Dublin, and London.

The honorees are selected by the Student Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate.

Patty Aakhus receives Scavone Award

Patty Aakhus, director of International Studies, received the 2008 Scavone Award in Medieval Manuscripts and Culture for her translation of Old French poet Chrétien de Troyes' *The Knight with the Lion*. A dramatic reading was provided by students in the Department of Performing Arts at an awards ceremony on April 23.

The Scavone Award was established in 2006 by **John Lawrence '73** in the interest of honoring **Dr. Daniel Scavone**, professor emer-

itus of history, who initiated Lawrence's love for medieval studies and inspired him to research and collect medieval manuscripts from throughout the world.

Scavone thanked Lawrence and members of the Liberal Arts faculty for "making rather esoteric medieval literature 'real' in the 21st Century" and "making me feel I have had some impact."

Scavone retired from USI in 1999 but continues to lecture about his research topics.

Aakhus is the author of three published novels, *The Voyage of Mael Duin's Curragh*, *Daughter of the Boyne*, and *The Sorrows of Tara*, based on epic poems she translated from Old Irish, as well as a personal memoir, *Rigoletto's Daughter*, and many contemporary short stories, essays, and poems.

She teaches courses in creative writing and humanities and organizes the International Interdisciplinary Colloquium each year.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre arts from the University of California at Santa Cruz and a Master of Fine Arts degree in writing from Norwich University.

Alumni Association announces 2008 award recipients

The USI Alumni Association will honor an administrator, a faculty member, and two alumni with awards on Saturday, May 10, at the Graduation Celebration Reception and Dinner.

Award recipients are **Dr. M. Edward Jones**, Special Recognition Award; **Dr. Jeanne K. Barnett**, Faculty Recognition Award; **Jamie L. Wicks '91, M '97**, Alumni Service Award; and **Wayne S. Trockman '81**, Distinguished Alumni Award. All are residents of Evansville.

Special Recognition Award

Dr. M. Edward Jones, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of Extended Services, has been at the center of the University's development since he joined USI in 1974 as founding director of Continuing Education. Serving 202 people taking non-credit courses in its initial year, Extended Services is a comprehensive regional engagement division today that provides programming for more than 15,000 Tri-state residents annually.

Jones has supplied the vision that fit perfectly with the USI mission of outreach and service to the region. Under his leadership, the following operating units in Extended Services have been developed: the Bachelor of General Studies Adult Degree Completion Program; Centers for Applied Research, Human Resource Development, Education Services; Continuing Education; Service Learning; Historic New Harmony; Historic Southern Indiana, Southern Indiana Japanese School; and Instructional Technology Services/Distance Education.

Partnering with a variety of community organizations and groups to promote regional economic and workforce development, Jones provides resources to the Growth Alliance of Greater Evansville (GAGE), Innovation Pointe, Metropolitan Evansville Chamber of Commerce, The Southwest Indiana WIRED District, the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana, and WorkOne.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to Continuing Education at USI and at the state and national levels, Jones received the prestigious University Continuing Education Association Walton Bittner Citation for Outstanding Service in 2000.

Faculty Recognition Award

Dr. Jeanne K. Barnett, professor of biology, is a dedicated educator whose caring personality, combined with her expertise as a teacher and advisor, have gained her the enduring respect of her students and colleagues.

Since she joined USI in 1989, Barnett has been instrumental in teaching and advising students in the areas of pre-medicine, immunology, and virology. In addition to her teaching and advising responsibilities, since 1990 she has been a coordinator for the successful Presidential Scholarship Program. Attracting and assisting Indiana's brightest students, she encourages these valedictorians and salutatorians to become academic pacesetters at USI. Barnett has been instrumental in mentoring the over 200 Presidential Scholars who have earned baccalaureate degrees.

Barnett also oversees the Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Scholarship program implemented in 2000. To increase the number of physicians providing medical services in southern Indiana, six pre-medicine students are selected each year to receive full-tuition waivers to complete undergraduate work at USI and graduate coursework at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Barnett holds a Ph.D. in microbiology (molecular virology) from Duke University Medical Center. Over the past 35 years, she has co-written many research papers published in national science journals and has presented numerous papers at professional meetings. Barnett is an engaging professor who integrates the results of her research into the classroom creating enhanced learning and enthusiasm among USI students.

Alumni Service Award

Jamie L. Wicks '91, M '97 personifies the Alumni Association's mission to serve and develop a committed body of alumni dedicated to promoting and enhancing the excellence and reputation of the University.

Wicks, 1991 business administration and 1997 Master of Business Administration graduate, served as president of the USI Alumni Association 2004-05 and Alumni Council member from 2000-06. A member of the USI Foundation Board from 2004-06, she is past chair of the Alumni Annual Fund Campaign, and a Phonathon volunteer. Additionally she has provided leadership to Alumni special events, Alumni Benefits & Services Committee, Alumni Travel Committee, and Advocates for Higher Education.

She is the immediate past president of the Junior League of Evansville, board member of ANEW, Evansville Estate and Financial Planning Council, and the Museum Guild, as well as volunteering for her church, the Komen Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, United Way, Girl Scouts, and Junior Achievement.

One of USI's most ardent cheerleaders and volunteers, Wicks continuously spreads the word of USI and its academic programs to the community and area students. Wicks is assistant vice president, trust officer at Fifth Third Bank.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Conferral of the Distinguished Alumni Award provides recognition to a graduate who has made outstanding achievements in career or in public service. This year's recipient, the Honorable **Wayne S. Trockman '81**, has distinguished himself as an innovator of court programs.

Trockman, a 1981 management graduate, was appointed to the Vanderburgh Superior Court bench in December 1998 by Governor Frank O'Bannon. He was elected to a six-year term in 2001 and was re-elected for another term in 2007. Trockman served as chief judge of Vanderburgh Superior Court from 2003-08.

In 2001, Trockman organized and implemented the first drug-treatment court in Vanderburgh County. The court serves as an intensive sentencing alternative for non-violent felony drug offenders who have committed crimes in the county. The program has been made successful in part by creative funding efforts by Judge Trockman. A non-profit foundation was established to seek private community support for the program, along with various state and federal grants.

Trockman is chairman of the Indiana Judicial Center Court

Administered Drug Program Committee, serving as chair of the Drug Court Sub-Committee. He is also a member of the board of Governors of the Indiana Judicial Center and remains active in the Evansville Bar Association. Trockman has received numerous awards including a 2004 Jefferson Award for Public Service from the American Institute for Public Service.

"Seep" reception coincides with Spring Art Stroll

An installation based on nature and the human body opens at New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art on Saturday, May 3. A reception for artist Elissa Cox's "Seep" will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. during the Spring Art Stroll and is free and open to the public. The exhibition runs through Sunday, June 15.

Both the human body and the natural landscape inspire Cox and inform the direction of her work. When she creates, manipulates, and molds materials into life-size organic shapes, the contrast and overlap of the beauty found in the natural environment and that of mortal anatomy creates a dynamic dialogue between configuration and surface.

In using a broad range of materials, Cox morphs elements from nature with organ-like structures. Utilizing complimentary forms constructed from cloth, wax, plaster and latex, she also incorporates craft-based materials such as sequins and artificial foliage into her installations.

Cox is visiting lecturer in the Department of Art and Art History at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Ohio University in Athens and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She also studied in Florence, Italy and Waihi, New Zealand.

She has been featured in numerous articles and received the Lancaster (Ohio) Festival's Wilkes Young Artist Fellowship in 2007. Her work can be seen in upcoming exhibitions in Pennsylvania, Kansas, and Ohio.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art is located at 506 Main Street in New Harmony, IN and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information call 812/682-3156 or visit www.nhgallery.com.

This exhibition was made possible by the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana Arts Commission.

Student athletes given top awards at banquet

In an evening that celebrates the accomplishments of USI student athletes during the last year, seniors **Kristin Eickholt** (softball), **Paul Jellema** (men's cross country/track), and **Kathy Wood** (softball) were recognized as the top student athletes at the sixth annual USI All-Sports Banquet sponsored by Integra Bank.

The Integra/USI Female Student Athlete of the Year, Eickholt is continuing her climb up the softball record books in 2008. The 2007 first team All-GLVC performer has moved into USI's number one slot all-time with 48 doubles and number two all-time in home runs and RBIs.

In addition to being named first team All-GLVC last season, Eickholt was named Academic All-GLVC for the third straight season. She also was named second team All-GLVC and All-Region in 2006.

Currently, the Van Wert, Ohio, native is third on the Eagles in hitting with a .331 batting average, third on the team with five home runs, and fourth on the team with 23 RBIs.

Previous winners of the award were **Shannon Wells** (2003, volleyball), **Jenny Farmer** (2004, cross country/track), **Heather Cooksey** (2005, cross country/track), **Laura Ellerbusch** (2006, vol-

leyball) and **Allison Shafer** (2007 cross country/track).

The Integra/USI Male Student Athlete of the Year, Jellema has become one of the most dominant runners in the history of the USI program earning All-America honors in both cross country and track.

The 2007 GLVC Cross Country Runner of the Year finished his collegiate career last fall by earning All-America honors at the NCAA Division II National Championships in November when he placed 21st. The All-America award was the fifth of Jellema's two-and-a-half year career at USI.

The native of Dyer, Indiana, also was named All-Region twice in cross country and All-GLVC seventh times in cross country and track during his USI career. Jellema graduated from USI in December with a degree in Mathematics.

Previous winners of the award were **Duncan Bray** (2003 and 2004, soccer), **Matt Keener** (2005, baseball), **Chris Thompson** (2006, men's basketball) and **Melvin Hall** (2007, men's basketball).

The winner of the Integra/USI Screaming Eagles Spirit award, Wood has been an integral member of the softball program the past four seasons and is what a collegiate student athlete is supposed to exemplify.

The Lynnville, Indiana, native, earned second team All-GLVC honors last season despite suffering a torn ACL midway through the season. She missed less than a month with the injury and came back to hit .429 in conference games and lead the team into the GLVC Tournament.

This season, Wood is second on the team with a .382 batting average with a team-best seven triples and 35 runs scored.

The Exercise Science major also is a three-time Academic All-GLVC and a 2007 second team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District V softball player. She is a candidate for the President's Medal, the highest USI student honor for academics and service by a graduating senior.

Previous winners of the spirit award were **Ginnie Roberts** (2003, softball), **Mike Arnold** (2004, men's basketball), **Brian Kendall** (2005, men's cross country/track), **Angie Davis** (softball, 2006), and **Geoff Van Winkle** (2007, men's basketball).

Applauded for engagement

More than 30 USI faculty and staff members from four colleges and two departments were recognized April 22 at a reception hosted by the USI Center for Applied Research. These individuals and teams, who have provided applied research, consulting and other service-related projects to companies, government entities, nonprofits, and community collaborations, performed above and beyond their teaching and research responsibilities.

Paul Doss, certified geologist, is engaged for a second year on coal combustion products oversight. Likewise, he has been able to include students in his water sampling work and recently submitted a research paper reflecting this work.

Ronda Priest, sociology, **Iris Phillips** and **Marie Opatrny**, social work, **Stephanie Bennett**, physical education, and **Mohammed Khayum**, business are completing a yearlong project for Habitat for Humanity considering the economic, neighborhood, and partner family impact of 300 Habitat Homes built in Evansville. Nearly 100 students assisted with surveys, interviews, and analysis.

Institutional Research, represented by **Katherine Draughon**, **Joe Wingo**, and **Michelle White**, has collectively completed four projects ranging from Downtown Traffic Surveys to the Tri-County YMCA Market Study. Several more projects are underway.

Jeff Seyler and **Mark Krahling**, chemistry, are providing lab

space and an undergraduate research assistant to Vigo Coal as they explore and test interesting properties in a unique coal deposit.

Paul Kuban, engineering, was recognized for his research resulting in a patent titled "Extension of Wired Controller Area Networks to Wireless Personal Area Networks." USI in partnership with Indiana University Research and Technology Corporation is pursuing the licensing of this technology for commercial use.

The mission of the Center for Applied Research is to mobilize the resources of the university to serve community organizations and businesses in southwestern Indiana conducting high impact applied research, consulting, and student engagement. Over the past two years, USI Center for Applied Research has completed 70 projects, engaged almost 80 faculty and staff and over 150 students in various activities and has brought over \$170,000 in additional revenue to the University.

Employees, relatives in class of 2008

Sherianne Standley, vice president emeritus of Advancement, will deliver the USI Commencement address at the 2008 Commencement Ceremony, which is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 11, at Roberts Stadium.

The following employees and their relatives are earning degrees from USI:

Amy J. Stills, administrative clerk in Student Financial Assistance will receive an Associate of Science degree in business.

Jason VanWormer, husband of **Julia VanWormer**, senior administrative assistant in the Development Office, will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and computer science.

Shawn M. Edwards, son of **Linda Edwards**, document imaging technician in the Computer Center, will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in history.

Leslie Townsend, interim director of Historic Southern Indiana, will receive a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree.

Kathy Carmichael, senior library assistant in the Rice Library, will receive a Bachelor of General Studies degree.

Erica L. Smith, daughter of **Ronnie Smith**, copy services supervisor, will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration.

Stephanie Norrick, wife of **Chris Norrick**, senior graphic designer in Publishing Services, will receive a Master of Public Administration degree.

Shari W. Miner, daughter of **Ginny Bryant**, assistant director of Development, Foundation Scholarships, will receive a Master of Science in Nursing (Acute Care Nurse Practitioner) degree.

Amy Moore, daughter of **Pam Moore**, administrative assistant in the College of Liberal Arts, will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in art, *summa cum laude*.

Ebony Eskridge, area coordinator in Housing and Residence Life, will receive a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree.

Jillian Myrick, daughter of **Kay Myrick**, administrative clerk in Extended Services, will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics.

These employees' relatives will graduate from other institutions:

Kendra Weber, daughter of **Jalane Weber**, administrative assistant in Nursing and Health Professions, will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Indiana University.

Jeremy Mann, son of **Carol Mann**, senior accounting supervisor in the Business Office, will receive a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions.

New Harmony's history subject of educational film

Ball State University filmmakers will be in Historic New Harmony this month making an educational film about the 19th century utopian community founded there by Robert Owen.

Owen, an industrialist and social reformer of Welsh descent, purchased New Harmony in 1825 in order to establish a model community where education and social equality would flourish. Although Owen's experiment dissolved in 1827, his utopian dream brought significant contributions to American scientific and educational theory, study, and practice.

Filming will take place in New Harmony May 5-9 and May 12-16. Other scenes will be filmed in locations throughout the state.

The film will also touch on The Harmony Society, New Harmony's first utopian community founded by George Rapp. BSU students and Posey County residents will portray Owenite and Harmonist community members, and interviews will be conducted with New Harmony scholars and descendants of Owen community members.

Exterior and interior shots of historical buildings dating from the era will be filmed in New Harmony.

One thousand copies of the film will be distributed to schools and libraries across Indiana, and it will be incorporated into the fourth grade curriculum for study of Indiana history.

The project was made possible through an Ohio River Teaching American History Project grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The filming will be overseen by **Dr. Ron Morris**, associate professor of history at BSU.

Names in the news

Starbucks will remain open this summer

The Starbucks in Rice Library will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. during the summer sessions. **Laura Dimmett**, Starbucks manager, said the coffee shop would be open this summer in response to customer requests. The Starbucks opened in August 2006. For more information contact Dimmett at 812/461-5448.

Employee Summer Social is May 21

USI Staff Council is hosting its annual Employee Summer Social from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, in the area between the Physical Activities Center and the Recreation and Fitness Center. There will be plenty of food, fun, games, and door prizes. Archie's Silent Auction will be resurrected, and each employee will receive five tickets upon arrival. With a donation to Archibald Eagle's Food Closet, you can receive five more tickets for the auction. (Due to the abundance of canned goods, please bring paper and/or personal care products, or \$5 food gift cards. For more information, contact council member **Lisa Staples** at 812/465-1084.

USI Day at Churchill Downs is June 21

The Greater Louisville USI Alumni Chapter invites you and your family and friends to join them for a perfect view of the finish line at USI Day at Churchill Downs on Saturday, June 21 in Louisville. Gates open for the Stephen Foster Stakes at 11:30 a.m. post time is 1:15 p.m. Cost is \$31 for adults, \$22 for children ages 12 to 4, and children ages 3 and under are free. Price includes admission, reserved seating in Millionaires Row-Level 4, lunch buffet, USI souvenir, race program, and tax and gratuity. A round-trip motor coach from USI will be offered for an additional \$20 per person. To make reservations, email alumni@usi.edu before May 15 to receive advance tickets by mail. For more information, call Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/464-1928.