

University Notes

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Arts activist to speak at USI

Bold and brilliantly colored, artist Judy Baca's murals span great expanses of space, periods of time, and cultural differences.

An arts activist as well as a visual artist and professor of art, Baca will be the keynote speaker at USI's Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Creativity Showcase, the University's first undergraduate research symposium. Speaking at 9 a.m. April 20 in Forum I, her topic will be "Muralism and Community Cultural Development."

Best known for her large-scale public murals, Baca's chosen art form addresses multicultural audiences and involves extensive community organization and participation.

For the "Great Wall of Los Angeles," located in the Tujunga Wash Flood Control Channel in the San Fernando Valley, she designed a project incorporating 40 ethnic scholars, 450 multicultural neighborhood youth, 40 assisting artists, and more than 100 support staff painting a half-mile-long mural illustrating the ethnic history of California. Painted during five summers, the longest mural in the world describes the decade-by-decade contributions and struggles of California's diverse peoples from prehistoric times to the 1950s.

In 1988, at the request of Mayor Tom Bradley, Baca developed a new mural program in Los Angeles based on the successful "Great Wall." The "Great Walls Unlimited: Neighborhood Pride Program" has produced more than 83 murals in almost every ethnic community in L.A., making it one of the country's most respected mural programs.

The "World Wall: A Vision of the Future without Fear," one of Baca's current projects, is a 210-foot mural in seven parts that addresses such contemporary issues as war, peace, cooperation, interdependence, and spiritual growth. As the "World Wall" tours, seven additional panels created by artists from seven other countries will be included in the project.

She is the founder and artistic director of the Social and Public Art Resource Center in Venice, Calif., an organization committed to public art that reflects the lives and concerns of America's diversity.

She also founded the first City of Los Angeles mural program, which produced more than 250 murals and hired more than 2,000 participants in its 10 years of operation.

Recognized as the Hispanic Educator-of-the-Year, she was honored for involving the community, and especially at-risk youth, in developing the Los Angeles and World walls.

A professor of art at UCLA, Baca has started a new form of muralism called digital imaging, a technique allowing muralists to work on aluminum, which will have a longer life span than the average wall. She believes digital imaging will be cheaper than conventional murals and will bring muralism into the 21st century.

Her appearance at USI is co-sponsored by the University's Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Creativity Program, Community of Scholars, and USI Foundation. The lecture is free

and open to the public. More information about Baca and examples of her work are available online at www.gac.edu/~cgamble/.

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Willett earns state recognition

Skill, creativity, leadership, and dedication earned Dana Willett, production manager in Instructional Technology Services, statewide recognition for the outstanding service he provides to those who teach in distance education at USI.

He received the Indiana Partnership for Statewide Education Award for Instructional Support for Distance Education Teaching April 3 at the All Partners Conference sponsored by the Indiana Higher Education Telecommunications System at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Willett's name "is synonymous with service, competence, and commitment," according to one of the eight people nominating him for the honor.

A testament to the widespread high regard for his work, Willett's nominators include seven faculty members in departments across the campus as well as a member of his own staff.

Waxing eloquent, supporters lauded Willett's sensitivity to faculty concerns, creativity in suggesting technology solutions to pedagogical problems, leadership in helping the University plan strategically for instructional technology, expansion of services and hours of availability, unfailing good humor and follow-through on commitments, and skillful supervision in providing creative challenges for his student workers.

As winner of the award for Instructional Support for Distance Education Teaching, Willett also will receive a \$1,000 grant for professional development or expansion of his technology base.

"I see this as a reflection of our department rather than me as an individual because it really is all about the kind of team we have here in Instructional Technology Services, and I'm just honored to represent the team," Willett said.

He joined the University in 1999, holds a B.A. in English from USI, and anticipates receiving an M.B.A. in May, also from the University. Willett previously worked at WFIE-TV and the Southern Indiana Education Service Center.

The Indiana Partnership for Statewide Education is a voluntary association of Indiana's independent and public postsecondary institutions for collaborative development and delivery of distance education.

At the All Partners Conference, six additional USI faculty and staff members were recognized by peer nomination for their excellent and innovative work in teaching and instructional support using technology. The honorees and their award categories include:

- Dr. Scott Gordon, associate professor of biology - Teaching with Technology
- Cynthia Goodwin, instructor in nursing - Teaching in a Distance Education Program

- Michelle Alvarez, assistant professor of social work - Teaching in a Distance Education Program
- Dr. Saxon Reasons, manager of Instructional Technology Programming - Instructional Support for Distance Education Teaching
- Andrew Black, Distance Learning producer/director - Instructional Support for Distance Education Teaching
- David LeRoy, Distance Learning producer/director - Instructional Support for Distance Education Teaching

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May to be honored April 18

Gary May, associate professor of social work, will receive a 2002 Jefferson Award April 18 at the "Celebration of Leadership" reception sponsored by Leadership Evansville in Carter Hall on the USI campus.

Selected for the prestigious honor by *The Evansville Courier & Press*, May is being recognized for his efforts to ensure individuals with disabilities will have social, educational, vocational, and economic opportunities. The awards celebrate outstanding community and public service.

May joined the University in 1992 and has worked as director of the USI/Epi-Hab Center for Disability Studies. He is serving three-year terms on Gov. Frank O'Bannon's Planning Council for People with Disabilities and on the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission, which has oversight responsibility for protecting the rights of and advocating for Hoosiers with disabilities.

He is one of three individuals from the Evansville region to receive a 2002 Jefferson Award. One of the three will be selected by a national panel of judges to represent the Tri-State at the national Jefferson Awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Sponsored by the American Institute for Public Service, the national awards program has recognized the contributions of such individuals as Barbara Bush, Rosalynn Carter, Henry Kissinger, and Colin Powell.

The Evansville Courier & Press brought the Jefferson Awards program to the Tri-State in 2000, joining a nationwide network of 56 media affiliates from 40 states that honor individuals who are dedicated to making their communities better places to live.

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Jermakowicz named Goldwater Scholar

USI's 2002 Trustees Distinguished Merit award winner is now a Goldwater Scholar, one of four in Indiana selected for the honor by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation.

One of 309 Goldwater Scholars named for the 2002-2003 academic year, junior Walter J. Jermakowicz III was chosen from a field of 1,155 nominated undergraduate sophomores and juniors in the 50 states and Puerto Rico.

Selections are based on academic merit in mathematics, science, and engineering. Goldwater Scholars receive one- and two-year scholarships of up to \$7,500 per year to cover tuition, fees, books, and room and board.

The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in the fields of mathematics, science, and engineering. It honors Sen. Barry M. Goldwater, who served the country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman.

"I would like to thank both the faculty and the administration for the support they have given me. I am positive I would not

have accomplished this at any other university. The personal attention and academic opportunities are enough to bring out the best in any student," Jermakowicz said.

Majoring in biology, chemistry, and German, Jermakowicz maintains a 3.96 GPA and speaks fluent English, German, and Polish. Last month he presented a paper at the British Society for Developmental Biology in York, England, and this summer he has a research fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

A 1999 graduate of Reitz High School, he is the son of Dr. Eva K. Jermakowicz, USI associate professor of accounting, and the late Dr. Walter J. Jermakowicz, who also taught at USI.

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Boom Boom Room opening April 10

A ticket to David Rabe's *In the Boom Boom Room* provides passage to the disturbing world of a 1970s go-go club, where a young woman dreams of becoming a 'true' dancer.

The brutally poetic play, for mature audiences, opens Wednesday, April 10, at the USI Theatre, 3001 Iggleheart Ave.

"Chrissy, the shallow, conniving go-go dancer 'makes it' in the end by desperately trying to assert and empower herself through relationships and an abusive past," said Director Scott LaFeber, associate professor of theatre.

"Although the play takes place in Philadelphia and exploits the energy of the northeastern corridor, it is pertinent to our USI community through the theme of fears of young people and their inability to settle."

Jessica Corbett stars as Chrissy in the USI production. She is a senior, majoring in theatre, and is the daughter of Mark and Ronda Corbett of Evansville.

Local actor Steve Small also joins the cast that includes Susan Evans, Jami Wiseman, Erin Monahan, Rachelle Turner, Chad Blaylock, Jason McCord, Leo Kempf, Joe Geary, Selah Specht, and Aaron Bonds.

An award-winning playwright, Rabe also is the author of *The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel*, *Sticks and Bones*, *Streamers*, and *Hurlyburly*.

In the Boom Boom Room will be presented April 10 through 13 and 17 through 21. Curtain times are 7 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$9 adult; \$7 senior (60+), child, or non-USI student; and \$3 USI student. For information or reservations, call extension 3970.

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University mourning student's death

The University community mourns the loss of student Derek E. Shelton, 21, Henderson, who died March 29 after falling from the roof of Highland Elementary School.

The son of Edward and Diane Shelton of Henderson, he was a second-semester sophomore majoring in chemistry. He worked at TGI Friday's, was a member of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, and was a 1999 graduate of Henderson County High School.

Services were held April 2 at Rudy-Rowland Funeral Home in Henderson with burial in Roselawn Memorial Gardens.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Chapel Hill United Methodist Church's youth group.

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Africa Peace Tour coming to USI

The 17th annual Africa Peace Tour will bring a former prime minister and a human rights activist to University of Southern Indiana Tuesday, April 9.

Faustin Twagiramungu, former Rwandan prime minister, and Kary Tandia, an activist from Mauritania, will speak at 6 p.m. in Governors Hall.

This year's theme is "U.S. Africa Policy after September 11, 2001," and the tour's seminars, lectures, and discussions consider how U.S. trade and aid policies frequently result in more suffering and economic problems for African countries.

"Most Americans have many misconceptions about Africa," Tandia said. "For example, many think of African countries as poor, when in fact, they have valuable natural resources like coffee, gold, iron ore, and the dust-like product used in computers and game boys. What they need is a fair rate of exchange for those resources, which would reduce the outflow of Africa's wealth."

Tandia has been outspoken on the issue of slavery in Mauritania and the lack of southern representation in the Mauritanian government. He also has raised concern about land expropriation, physical abuse, and the forced exile of Africans and others who oppose the government of President Maaouya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya.

He was the key exile figure who worked to free imprisoned antislavery leader Boubacar Messaoud and also played a major role at the 2001 World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa.

A leading voice in the call for including the Rwandan Patriotic Front in the Rwandan government, Twagiramungu served as prime minister designate during the genocide.

Most of his brothers and sisters were killed, but Twagiramungu's immediate family survived. With the help of the U.S. Embassy in Kigali, he was rescued from a neighbor's home by an armored personnel vehicle. Twagiramungu left the country rolled inside a tarp the U.N. Mission in Rwanda had arranged to load onto one of their cargo planes.

After the genocide, he was named prime minister by the Rwandan Patriotic Front and served for one year before resigning. As prime minister, he again raised concern about the need to reign in extremists and work to end the violence in the country.

The Africa Peace Tour has offered speakers to American universities and communities since 1986. For more information, call Chellie Wallace, program coordinator, USI International Programs and Services, at extension 1248 or Jerry Herman, Africa Peace Tour director, at 856/307-9591.

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Names in the news

Achievements

■ Dr. Charles T. Barber, professor of political science, presented a paper, "An Emerging Mediterranean Community: Recent Progress Toward Integration," on the Comparing International Studies Panel at the National Convention of the International Studies Association in New Orleans in March. He also served as the discussant on the Diplomatic Theory and Practice Panel.

■ Dr. Iain Crawford, dean of the School of Liberal Arts, presented a paper, "Dangerous Liaisons, Dubious Rhetorics: The Corporate University and the University of Excellence," at the annual meeting of the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Chicago in March.

Welcome

■ CJ Regin has accepted the position of director of Special Events. The Newburgh resident previously worked as manager of Sales Services for Hudson Respiratory Care Inc. in Temecula, Calif. She holds a B.S. from Indiana State University.

In memoriam

George Elbert Russell

George Elbert Russell, 88, Evansville, died March 29. A USI basketball fan and former University employee, he had retired from the Physical Plant, where he worked as a stationary engineer.

Before joining USI he worked with Hoosier Cardinal Inc. and Shawnee Plastics Inc. He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps and had worked with the Illinois State Conservation Department to build state parks in northern Illinois.

A 50-year member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, he was a former member of the Knights of St. John at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife Lucille Perona Russell, four children, 12 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, two sisters, and two brothers.

Services were held April 2 at Pierre Funeral Home and Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church or the American Cancer Society.

W. Paul Torrington

Science pioneer W. Paul Torrington, 94, Evansville, died April 3 at St. Mary's Medical Center.

A generous donor who focused on helping provide state-of-the-art equipment for the Torrington Developmental Biology Research Laboratory and the Torrington Chemistry Research Laboratory, he continued to underwrite substantial purchases for both laboratories, which he initiated during USI's capital campaign in 1998.

He then established the W. Paul and Mildred Torrington Endowment through a charitable remainder trust to perpetually underwrite ongoing equipment purchases for the Biology and Chemistry Departments at the University. In addition, he established the W. Paul and Mildred B. Torrington Endowed Presidential Scholarship in 1998 to benefit students who major in medical and scientific fields.

The Torrington Trust also establishes the Rosemarie T. and John J. Albers Scholarships for students in the Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology.

A grateful University bestowed an honorary Doctor of Science Degree on him in 1998, and it was announced at the groundbreaking last fall that the Science Wing of the Science and Education Center, currently under construction, will be named the W. Paul Torrington Science Wing to recognize him as a science pioneer whose vision and resources will continue to inspire the school's students and faculty.

Active in civic affairs, he served as a director and vice president of the Evansville-Vanderburgh County Building Authority from 1961 to 1970, was a board member of the Indiana Manufacturers Association from 1958 to 1964, and served as a member of the St. Mary's Hospital Advisory Board from 1961 to 1966. He also was a member of the Evansville Country Club and the Kennel Club of Evansville.

Torrington was executive vice president and vice chairman of the board of directors at Mead Johnson & Co. when he retired in 1972. He also had worked for Intercontinent Gas Corp. and Emulsions Process Corp.

He was preceded in death by Mildred Barth Torrington, his wife of 63 years, in 1995.

Survivors include a daughter, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6, at Alexander East Chapel. The Rev. Stephen P. Lintzenich and USI President Dr. H. Ray Hoops will officiate. Entombment will be at Alexander Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 5, at Alexander East Chapel, 2115 Lincoln Ave.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to USI Foundation, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, Ind. 47712 or Madison County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 914 Chase St., Anderson, Ind. 46016.

Remembrances may be made online at www.mem.com

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FYI

Outback lunch

Evansville's Outback Steakhouse, 7201 East Indiana, will serve a fund-raising lunch benefiting USI Varsity Club programs, activities, and scholarships Tuesday, April 9.

During the special event, USI coaches and staff will be waiting tables to show their appreciation to Varsity Club members and all Screaming Eagles fans.

Tickets, \$20 each, are available from Varsity Club board members or from the Varsity Club Office. For more information or to purchase tickets, call extension 1973. The ticket purchase deadline is Friday, April 5.

Honors symposium

The USI Honors Symposium will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 7, in the University Center with welcoming remarks from University President Dr. H. Ray Hoops; Dr. Michael Given, instructor in English; Dr. Charles Harrington, vice president of Academic Affairs; and Dr. Iain Crawford, dean of the School of Liberal Arts.

The event will include an academic bowl in which students will compete as teams while answering questions drawn from faculty submissions, an awards ceremony, and a colloquium to discuss issues of concern submitted by students.

The University community is invited to attend the symposium, which will be followed by a dinner for the students being honored and their guests. For more information, call Given at extension 1222.

RopeWalk

The RopeWalk Reading Series will feature author Michael Kelsay at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 11, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center. A book signing will follow his reading.

Kelsay's novel, *Too Close to Call*, was published in 2001 by University Press of Mississippi. Publisher's Weekly hailed him as "a talented, funny writer [whose work] takes substance from its undercurrent of loss and regret." In 1993, the *Virginia Quarterly Review* selected Kelsay for the Emily Clark Balch Award for the year's best short story, and he received the Kentucky Arts Council's Al Smith Fellowship in 1995.

Newsletter deadline

Friday, April 5, 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.

ROTC march

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the USI ROTC 18-mile road march planned Saturday, April 6, in Posey County has been postponed.

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Marketplace

For sale

- 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, new 1,900 sq. ft. 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.
- 1948 International KB-3 long-bed one-ton pickup truck - complete, runs fine, good tires, never restored, same family for 35 years. NADA book prices - low retail: \$2,775; average retail: \$4,925; high retail: \$7,925. Will take \$3,500 OBO. Call Vince Frazier, 812/985-7309 (home), 812/464-1839 (work).
- Bedroom suite - pecan color, queen size, like-new mattress, lighted headboard, dresser, \$350. Call 401-7103 for appointment.
- Eight-place setting of Brick Oven stoneware - country blue duck pattern. Includes eight each: dinner plates, dessert plates, cups and saucers, cereal/salad bowls, matching place-mats, duck napkin rings; seven 16 oz. glasses; \$50. Contact lschenk@usi.edu or 465-1136.
- Old beat-up bicycle - \$5. Contact lcleek@usi.edu.

For rent

- West side home - 4500 Rodenberg, near Mater Dei High School. 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@ghaclaims.com.

Friday, April 5, is the deadline for submitting information for next week's "Marketplace." Submissions may be made via e-mail to kaltstad@usi.edu.

Read Notes ONLINE:

www.usi.edu/newsinfo/newnotes.asp