



BASSAM SHAKHASHIRI TO ENTERTAIN AT USI

"Humanizing" science and the scientist and providing students with hands-on participation in problem solving, not dull lecturing, are among solutions offered in the growing national concern that the fields of science, mathematics, and engineering will experience critical shortages by the year 2000.

In an effort to enhance local awareness of the crisis, the University of Southern Indiana is sponsoring a visit by Dr. Bassam Z. Shakhshiri, an educator who has been "humanizing" science for many years. He is a former assistant director of the National Science Foundation who is best known to the public through his televised chemistry demonstrations.

He will entertain at 4 and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, January 31, in Forum I in a Community of Scholars program sponsored by the Schools of Science and Engineering Technology, Education and Human Services, and Nursing and Health Professions, and the USI Foundation.

Dr. Shakhshiri uses demonstrations to show how science can be communicated to all segments of society. University students and faculty, school children and teachers, parents, and community members are invited to come learn about combustion, exploding balloons, floating soap bubbles, polymers, and other spectacular scientific phenomena.

Dr. Shakhshiri is professor of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He describes himself as a "scientist by training, teacher and public servant by trade, advocate by conviction, optimist by nature."

As professor of chemistry, he finds outlet for all four attributes, to which he might add a fifth: entertainer by avocation.

He is best known to the public for his annual entertainment, "Once Upon a Christmas Cheery/In the Lab of Shakhshiri," seen on television throughout the country. The science-oriented "magic" show has played to packed houses at such varied places as the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the National Academy of Sciences and the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D. C., and Boston's Museum of Science.

Shakhshiri is known to science educators across the nation as co-writer of a series of three volumes on *Chemical Demonstrations: A Handbook for Teachers of Chemistry*. The series is acclaimed by science educators for helping them to bring the subject alive for their students.

The demonstrations are Dr. Shakhshiri's way of proving that "science is fun" (the legend on a T-shirt he dons for his show). By demonstrating how much fun it can be, he seeks to impart the joy of discovery that has aroused young minds throughout history. This excitement, he believes, will lure future generations to careers as researchers, entrepreneurs, and teachers on whom the nation's continuing economic health and national security will depend.

"We must develop a national will to enhance the quality of science education in America," Dr. Shakhshiri says. "We should interact strongly with the private

and public sectors and form effective alliances aimed at nurturing curiosity, developing talent, and enabling individuals to fulfill their human potential. The full participation of scientists, educators, parents, and other civic and business leaders is essential."

A native of Lebanon, Dr. Shakhshiri came by his scientific interest as the son of a physician who recently retired from the U.S. National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. The Shakhshiris -- father, mother, son, and two daughters -- came to the United States in 1957 when Bassam was 18 and had one year of college (American University of Beirut) behind him. He completed undergraduate work at Boston University with an A.B. in chemistry, served as a teaching fellow at Bowdoin College for one academic year, then earned master's and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry at the University of Maryland.

Dr. Shakhshiri spent a year in post-doctoral research and two years as a junior member of the chemistry faculty at the University of Illinois, Urbana, before joining the University of Wisconsin faculty in 1970. In 1983, he founded the Institute for Chemical Education.

He became assistant director of the National Science Foundation for Science and Engineering Education in 1984, serving as the principal education officer of the government agency chiefly concerned with research in the natural sciences and engineering. He was responsible for the design and administration of a wide variety of programs to improve all levels of

contd. on page 2

education in mathematics, engineering, and the sciences. He presided over the rebuilding of the NSF efforts in science and engineering education, which had been shut down in the early 1980s.

Dr. Shakhshiri is a member of many scientific and educational organizations including the American Chemical Society (ACS), and has held numerous leadership positions at local and national levels. In 1986, he was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in recognition of his scientific and educational achievements.

Among his many awards are the 1977 Kiekhofers Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the 1979 Manufacturing Chemists Association Catalyst Award. He is the youngest recipient of two of ACS's most coveted recognitions — the James Flack Norris Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Teaching of Chemistry (1983) and the ACS Award in Chemical Education (1986). In 1987, he was cited for distinguished public service by the District of Columbia Science Education Association, the National Science Teachers Association, the South Carolina Academy of Science, and the Boston University General Alumni Association. In 1988, he received a Doctor of Public Service from George Washington University and a Doctor of Humane Letters from Illinois State University, conferred for distinguished service to the science of chemistry and to the nation. In 1991 he will be awarded an honorary doctoral degree by Ripon College in recognition of his outstanding national contributions to science education.

NAMES IN THE NEWS. Dr. Gregory P. Valentine, assistant professor of business and director of the USI Center for Economic Education, will do in-service training January 18 for elementary and secondary schools in Warrick County.

Ms. Connie A. Weinzapfel, director of the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, and four USI senior art students -- Ms. Shannon Corrigan, Mr. Trevor Dunville, Ms. Elizabeth Snider, and Mr. Don Stahlke -- were special guests on 44 Main Street, the community events program on Channel 44. The program focused on the exhibition,

"Seminar Seven," which opened Sunday at the Gallery, the culmination of a new senior seminar class offered through the USI Art Department by Ms. Kathryn Waters, department chair. The exhibition also has been featured in The Evansville Courier, The Evansville Press, and The Mt. Vernon Democrat.

WELCOME. The University Community welcomes Ms. Susanne Stanley, administrative clerk in the Business Office. She has a B.A. from Ambassador College in Pasadena, California, and previously was corporate travel agent for WCG Travel in Pasadena.

NEW PROGRAMS APPROVED. The Indiana Commission for Higher Education has approved two new programs for USI, a baccalaureate major in geology and baccalaureate completion program in nursing in cooperation with Vincennes University.

TAX GUIDE AVAILABLE. The 1991 Tax Guide for College Teachers and Other College Personnel is available in the USI Library. It is designed to keep college teachers informed about the latest tax laws and rulings that apply to them, and to assist in filling out 1990 tax returns. Ask for the guide at the check-out counter, where it is available for a three-day loan.

FACULTY RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORK AWARDS. The Office of Grants and Sponsored Research has begun performing administrative functions for Faculty Research and Creative Work Awards. Faculty members interested in submitting a proposal this spring should contact Dr. Peggy

F. Harrel, coordinator, for a copy of the revised policy guidelines and a proposal outline. She will assist in preparing proposals. The USI Foundation is providing \$10,000 for this year's awards. The deadline for submission is Monday, March 18. Award recipients will be selected by the Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee, chaired by Mr. Curt L. Serbus, program director and assistant professor of Radiologic Technology.

GRADUATE FEE WAIVERS. As of January 1, 1991, graduate fee waivers for USI employees WILL NOT be taxable, due to a change made by Congress in Section 127 of the IRC. However, graduate fee waivers for dependents and spouses of USI employees are subject to social security, federal, state, and local taxes. The amount of the graduate fee waiver will be included in the employee's gross income and the appropriate payroll taxes will be withheld. The Payroll Department will notify employees as to the pay periods affected by the fee waiver. If you have questions, contact the Payroll Department, extension 7062.

APB TO SPONSOR PIANIST. Mr. Tom Hiel, a young Minnesota pianist who now lives in Los Angeles and works on writing music for films and television, will present a program of original piano/synthesizer selections at 9 p.m. Wednesday, January 23, in Forum I. The program is sponsored by the Activities Programming Board. It is free and open to the public.

Hiel's work has been called "New Age" and compared to that of George Winston, both of which he reluctantly accepts. "New

HEALTH NOTES from the Human Resources Department

Mental Illness - Mental illness is not the same as poor mental health. It is an illness that can affect anyone. Common mental illnesses include:

- Depression - profound or prolonged unhappiness
- Manic-depressive illness - periods of great excitement alternating with depression
- Schizophrenia - confused thinking, hallucinations, or paranoia
- Eating disorders - anorexia or bulimia, for example
- Alcoholism/drug dependency - uncontrollable abuse of alcohol or other drugs
- Anxiety disorders - behavior problems caused by fear that is out of proportion to the danger

Next week: The causes of mental illness.

Age' is such a big, overblown term right now," he says. "It kind of has a bad connotation to it, so in some respects, I don't like that title. I've stuck to the 'contemporary instrumental-slash-New Age' description. It's not jazz, it's not classical, and it's not pop. I think it's improvisational." His first CD, "Please," was released in 1989 and has received steady play on Jazz/New Age radio stations around the country. He recently released a cassette of synthesizer compositions entitled "Geometry."

STOCK MARKET GAME AWARDS.

A recognition program will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, January 15, in the UC Dining Room for the four-member Jasper High School team which placed first in the state and region in the Stock Market Game sponsored by the USI Center for Economic Education, the Securities Industry Foundation for Economic Education, and the Indiana Secretary of State's Securities Division. The team "earned" \$35,429 in their stock market dealings to take top honors among middle and high schools throughout the state in Indiana's first participation in the 10-week simulation. Some 300 students are expected to attend the January 15 ceremony, when the winning team and all southern Indiana participants will be recognized. Mr. Mark Maddox, director of the Indiana Securities Commission, will present certificates and trophies.

HOT SHOT COMPETITION. The first annual Hot Shot Competition -- a free-throw shooting benefit for Easter Seals -- is being held at Mattinglys' 23 at 1700 Morgan Center Drive. The registration deadline is 12 noon Thursday, January 10, with preliminary rounds starting Tuesday, January 15. You must be age 21 to enter either the men's, women's, or coed divisions; entry fees are \$15 for one division, \$25 for two. In addition to overall winners, there will be nightly drawings for prizes, including autographed items by Yankee Don Mattingly. For information, call 479-1411 or 473-4323.

SPORTS THIS WEEK -- Men's Basketball - USI at Ashland, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, January 10; USI at IU/PU-Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. Saturday, January 12.

Women's Basketball -- USI at Ashland, 5:15 p.m. Thursday, January 10; USI at IU/PU-Fort Wayne, 6 p.m. Saturday, January 12; USI at Oakland City, 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 15.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The following positions are available as of January 9, 1991. The University of Southern Indiana is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 11246 and is an Affirmative Action Employer. Interested individuals should contact the Human Resources Department, FWA174, extension 1844.

Each job is assigned a reference number. When applying for positions, please use the reference number.

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATIVE

Instructors in Nursing - F1018 - School of Nursing and Health Professions

Tenure-track positions in the following practice areas: chemical dependency, community health, gerontology, medical-surgical, and psychiatric mental health. Master's of Science in Nursing with two years of practice required; doctorate preferred. Rank and salary dependent on qualifications and experience. Send curriculum vitae

including the names of three professional references to: Dr. Nadine Coudret, Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions.

CLERICAL/SUPPORT

Administrative Secretary - B0054 - School of Liberal Arts

Full-time position 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; will provide secretarial support to the dean and faculty and coordinate various administrative support activities for the school; responsibilities include monitoring school and departmental budgets, preparing various budget reports, and coordinating activities of the clerical and student staff; will be required to maintain an awareness of departmental policies and procedures. Position requires a high school diploma with two years of college course work preferred and four years of secretarial and office experience; typing skills of 60-65 w.p.m. and experience with word-processing and spreadsheet programs required. Application deadline: January 7.

Maybe we should trade problems.

Everybody seems to know how to solve the other person's.

- Unknown

MARKETPLACE...

For Rent

Duplex - East Park area; 1 or 2 persons. \$225 a month plus gas/electric. Call 422-5543.

For Sale

West Side home - by owner; prime location; 3-4 bedrooms, 2 baths, central air, finished walk-out basement w/Franklin stove; fenced in rear yard; 10x16 workshop. \$57,000. Call 423-4514.

1989 Chevy van - Astra Tiara CS; raised roof; loaded w/extras; low mileage. \$16,995; will consider trade. Call 423-5328 after 6 p.m.

1987 Honda CRX - gets 45 mpg; excellent condition. \$5,400. Call 425-2121, ask for David.

Sofa/sleeper - Simmons, perfect for family room, camper. \$125. Call 423-7101.

Leather coat - size 12; full-length; bought at deJong's, worn only a few times. Call extension 1840 or 424-8547 after 5 p.m.

Wanted

Old beat-up upright piano - USI Theatre needs a piano. If you want to discard or sell one at a very low cost, contact Steve Williford of the Theatre Department, extensions 1609 or 1630.

House-sitting or subleasing - Retired couple living in Texas will return to Evansville for summer months and seek a house-sitting or subleasing arrangement. References furnished. Call extension 1902.