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Huerta cheers first woman president of Chile

Teresa Huerta has reason to celebrate the January 15 election of Chile's first woman president, Michelle Bachelet.

Huerta, associate professor of Spanish, is a native Chilean. She came to the United States in 1987 to complete a Ph.D. in comparative literature from Purdue University and join her husband, **Guillermo Latorre**, USI professor of Spanish, in Evansville. The couple lived in Chile with their three small children when Augusto Pinochet seized power through a military coup in the early seventies.

"Michelle Bachelet is a brave and intelligent woman whose family was persecuted during Pinochet's dictatorship," Huerta said. "Her father, an air force general, died of a heart attack as a result of torture, and she and her mother were imprisoned and tortured in detention centers during the dictatorship."

Huerta recounted the day of the coup, September 11, 1973:

"I was living in Santiago very close to the secondary school for boys where I worked. After the election of Salvador Allende in 1970, the general conditions in the country had gradually deteriorated. There was a dramatic scarcity of basic products, and the country had come to a standstill as the result of widespread striking. I knew, as most Chileans did at the time, that something was going to happen, but I didn't know what, or when it would happen.

"The day of the coup I was walking towards the school where I worked when my neighbors stopped me to tell me that the presidential palace was surrounded by tanks, and that the air force was going to attack the palace if the president did not quit. I could not believe my ears when I listened to the Allende's farewell speech on the radio.

"My family and I were deeply moved and very concerned about the unpredictable turn of events. That evening, the hissing sound of isolated bullets could be heard. Later on that night the sound of machine gun combat was even more frightening, especially since electricity was no longer available. Running water had turned muddy, and we were afraid to drink it. We could not leave our house for a week, and we survived on a diet of lentils and onions.

"I was able to return to work in three weeks. I was tense and confused because some of my colleagues and students had not come back, and I didn't know if they were alive or dead."

Pinochet, 90, in poor health and under house arrest, awaits trial on human rights violations, tax evasion, and corruption.

"Pinochet's Chile was frightening," Huerta said. "There was not freedom of speech or press, and the military were everywhere: in the streets, at the universities, and in public institutions. There was no cultural activity, and a ruthless market economy was imposed from above. People from the lower classes were begging for food in the streets."

Along with her daughter, Carolina Latorre, a 1994 USI graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, and a master's

degree and Ph.D. in Latin American literature from Purdue University, Huerta will present "The Rise of Woman to the Presidency in Chile: An Analysis of the Political Discourse of Michelle Bachelet" at the Fifth Biennial Conference on Spanish and Latin American Literatures and Film at Florida International University in February.

The paper is written in Spanish, and the Spanish title is "El ascenso al poder de la mujer en Chile: un análisis del discurso político de Michelle Bachelet."

It establishes a relationship between the semantic and structural content of Bachelet's discourse and the cultural and political context of contemporary Chile. It underlines Bachelet's efforts to formulate an inclusive national policy opening up spaces for marginalized groups in Chilean society.

According to the abstract, "Bachelet's leadership is visualized as the starting point for an important cultural change that alters the tendency toward a growing masculinization of political discourse in Latin America during the nineties. Paradoxically, Bachelet uses her condition as mother and housewife in the private domain as a key element in her public image."

In addition to the Ph.D., Huerta has a Master of Science degree in foreign language education and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the Catholic University of Chile. She teaches humanities and elementary, intermediate, and advanced Spanish courses. She also coordinates the College of Liberal Arts Faculty Colloquia Presentations. She's been with the University since 1992.

"Godzilla" coming to USI's film series

You can see free films in their original formats three times a week at USI: Twice on Tuesdays in Introduction to Film, and on Fridays in the Friday Night in the Forum series.

Spring 2006 offerings include films from Korea, Germany, Russia, and Armenia; classic and contemporary films; a twenties silent film with a musical track ("Girl Shy"); and the uncut 1954 Japanese version of "Godzilla."

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

- "Lyrical Nitrate" – February 7
- "Girl Shy" – February 14
- "Roman Scandals" – February 21
- "Home in Indiana" – February 28
- "Rebel without a Cause" – March 14
- "Godzilla" – March 28
- "Schultze Gets the Blues" – April 4
- "All That Jazz" – April 11
- "The Life Aquatic" – April 18
- "Save the Green Planet" – April 25

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

- "Bridge on the River Kwai" – March 31
- "Schultze Gets the Blues" – April 7
- "Tycoon" – April 14
- "Vodka Lemon" – April 21

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.

Wolfe to present Cooper lecture

Susan Smith Wolfe, associate professor of German, will deliver the H. Lee Cooper Core Curriculum Teaching Award lecture at 3 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, in Carter Hall A in the University Center.

Wolfe was presented with the award at the Fall 2005 Faculty and Administrative Staff Meeting. It includes a generous stipend, a plaque, and additional faculty development support.

The title of her lecture is "From Black and White to Color: The 'Journey' Toward Learning and Teaching."

The event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

Focusing exclusively on teaching, the Cooper Award honors a USI faculty member whose work in University Core Curriculum courses has been especially creative and successful in furthering UCC goals. The award is named in honor of H. Lee Cooper, an Evansville philanthropist and long-time USI supporter.

Historic print pulling ceremony

Michael Aakhus, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and master printmaker, reenacted history for a documentary film crew on January 25 by pulling an impression from an engraved copper plate of naturalist John James Audubon's "Tell Tale Godwit" in the USI Art Studio.

Aakhus first made restrikes from the plate, part of the collection of the John James Audubon Museum in Henderson, Kentucky, in a ceremony in August, 2002. That event was the first time prints had been created from the plate in 160 years. It is one of only 78 remaining plates from 435 in Audubon's masterpiece, *Birds of America*.

The current and former curators of the Audubon Museum, Alan Gehret and Don Boarman, were on hand as Aakhus, assisted by instructor in art **Brandon Gardner**, pulled a print for the Florentine Films/Hott Productions crew, led by producer/director Larry Hott.

Hott's production company is making a documentary about Audubon for the PBS American Masters Series. "Audubon: Drawn from Nature" is scheduled to air in September.

Student volunteers offer free tax help

Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), USI student volunteers will provide free tax assistance on Saturdays, February 4-April 15 (except during spring break, March 6-10).

"This is a good opportunity for people who have reasonably simple income tax returns and want to avoid having to pay for professional tax preparation services," said **Brett Long**, associate professor of accounting and business law.

In VITA programs, the Internal Revenue Service partners with national and local organizations to provide tax services to low-to-moderate income individuals at no cost to the taxpayer.

Business students will interview and prepare the taxes of those students and relatively low-income taxpayers who make an appointment for this service. Your federal and state tax returns are prepared while you wait. Preparation of returns typically takes approximately 1 1/2 hours to complete.

The sessions will be held by appointment only in Room 2005 in the Orr Center on the following Saturdays: February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 18, 25; and April 1, 8 and 15.

Individuals will be required to bring tax information, photo identification cards, and Social Security cards for themselves and their dependents. The IRS encourages electronic filing and returns will be filed electronically for those who are eligible. Please bring copies of your 2004 tax returns if they are available.

To make an appointment, call the College of Business at 812/464-1718.

Week of events planned for Homecoming

Homecoming Week 2006 starts Monday, February 6, and ends with the Homecoming basketball game on Saturday, February 11. The Lady Eagles and the Screaming Eagles will host Rockhurst University of Kansas City, Missouri. The theme for Homecoming 2006 is "Dancing through the Decades."

Here is the schedule of Homecoming events:

Monday, February 6

Meet and Greet with 2006 Homecoming Court, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Carter Hall, University Center. Students, faculty and staff will have the opportunity to meet the 2006 Homecoming Court. Campus groups will decorate tables with a 1950s theme and promote their individual organizations.

Tuesday, February 7

Homecoming Week 2006: "The Price is Right" game, 9 p.m., Carter Hall, University Center. Sponsored by the Activities Programming Board.

Wednesday, February 8

Homecoming Week 2006: Comedian and hypnotist Dale K, 9 p.m., Mitchell Auditorium, Health Professions Center. Comedy hypnotist Dale K - often considered professionally insane by his fans - is an award-winning hypnotist whose unpredictable wit is just as impressive as his ability to mesmerize. Sponsored by the Activities Programming Board.

Thursday, February 9

Homecoming Week 2006: Tailgate Party, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Eagle's Nest, University Center. Free food, games, and a T-shirt. Sponsored by the Activities Programming Board.

Friday, February 10

Homecoming 2006 dance, 7-9 p.m., Carter Hall, University Center. Sponsored by the Activities Programming Board.

Saturday, February 11

Homecoming game: USI hosts Rockhurst University, Physical Activities Center. Women's game time, 1 p.m.; Men's, 3:15 p.m.

Homecoming 2006 coronation, Physical Activities Center, during half-time of the men's basketball game. Sponsored by the Activities Programming Board.

USI Alumni Association Homecoming 2006 party: "Dancing through the Decades," 5:30-7 p.m., Physical Activities Center Room 200. Free food and entertainment, cash bar. Must be 21. Party donors include BAR-B-Q Shack, Business Communications Solutions, Cookies by Design, Donut Bank, First Rate Real Estate, Hacienda Mexican Restaurant, Nick's Pizza & Wings, and Sam's Club. For more information, contact Alumni & Volunteer Services, 812/464-1928.

For more information about APB-sponsored activities, contact APB at 812/464-1872.

Free copies of local newspaper available for USI students in residence halls

The Newspaper in Education (NIE) program of the Evansville Courier and Press began providing free copies of the newspaper on a daily basis to USI students who live on campus in January.

Mary Dunham, director of Newspaper in Education, and Dwayne Bivona, circulation director, said the program is designed to enhance the learning environment of the campus through a daily newspaper program.

Bivona added that the objectives are to aid in understanding the world in which we live, to encourage the development of skills important for educated citizenship, and to develop a reading habit.

Copies will be placed in the four residence halls and in the Fair Residence Life Center. Each rack will receive 30 newspapers for a total of 150 newspapers per day.

NIE is funding the program.

Submit items for Evansville Courier & Press west side edition

The Evansville Courier & Press is going to publish a tabloid-style supplement focusing on the west side starting in February.

The insert will only be included in newspapers distributed on the west side of Vanderburgh County.

The newspaper is interested in publishing community-oriented features on any aspect of life at USI, but particularly stories about students and student organizations.

If you have a story idea to suggest, or a calendar item, please contact News and Information Services writer **Wendy Knipe Bredhold** at 812/461-5259.

Names in the news

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to Jeanne McAlister, administrative assistant in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, whose father Allan Docksteiner, died on Sunday, January 29. Services were held on Wednesday, February 1, at Gottenstraeter Funeral Home in Owensville, Missouri.

Welcome

Kimberly Adams has accepted a position as senior accounting assistant in the business office. She was formerly employed as a CSA at Schultheis Insurance.

Dianna Cooper-Bolinskey has accepted a position as a program coordinator in social work. She was formerly employed as associate director of experiential learning at Indiana State University.

Mark Zimmerman has accepted a position as assistant director of judicial affairs and conference services in residence life. He was formerly employed as an acting special agent for the Illinois State Police.

Accomplishments

"Integrity," an acrylic painting by **Carolyn Roth**, instructor in art, is on exhibit through February 17 in "Positive Negative Twenty One," the 21st National All-Media Juried Exhibition at East Tennessee State University Slocumb Galleries.

FYI

"A Conversation with the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Division of the U.S. Treasury Department."

Two federal agents who are based in Evansville will offer answers on alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and explosives at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15 in Forum I. The special agents are Robert Bindley and Matt Grimm and the question and answer session will be called "A Conversation with the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Division of the U.S. Treasury Department." The program is sponsored by the Political Science Society and is free and open to students, staff, and the public. Questions about the session can be directed to Greg Culver, instructor in political science.

Word wars

The Literacy Center is hosting its third annual Letters for Literacy SCRABBLE® Tournament on Saturday, February 18, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Ivy Tech State College.

Contestants can play solo or on a team of two, three or four people. Teams of four may register for \$50. Teams of less than four may register for \$15 per person. The tournament will consist of three rounds of competition. Prizes will be given to the top three overall scoring teams after three rounds of play. Sneak peeks at a dictionary may be purchased for \$1 a peek.

Funds raised through the tournament will benefit The Literacy Center, a non-profit agency whose mission is improving basic adult literacy in the community. Since 1966, The Literacy Center has been providing free reading tutoring for adults in the Tri-state area.

More information about Letters for Literacy or The Literacy Center is available by contacting **Rayna Kincheloe**, administrative coordinator, at 812/429-1222.

Dancing through the Decades

USI Alumni Association will sponsor the 40th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration following the men's and women's basketball games on Saturday, February 11, in the Physical Activities Center.

Complimentary food from local restaurants, cash bar and entertainment will be available. Those attending must be at least 21 years old.

Discounted basketball tickets at \$3.50 each will be available until Monday, February 6.

For more information contact the Alumni and Volunteer Services office at 812/464-1924.

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