



University of Southern Indiana

University Notes

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Two USI students are 500 Festival Princesses

Two USI students, **Jeanette Schafer** and **Chelsea Wright**, have been selected as 500 Festival Princesses, ambassadors for the 90th running of the Indianapolis 500.

The princesses attend 500 Festival events and volunteer programs throughout the month of May, in addition to performing statewide community outreach programs of their choosing. In addition, they are present at various Indianapolis Motor Speedway functions and participate in the Indianapolis 500 Victory Circle celebration.

There were 282 applicants to the princess program. The first set of interviews (two four-minute interviews with three judges in each room) narrowed the field to 66. The second set of interviews (two more four-minute interviews with eight judges in each room) narrowed the selection to 33 princesses.

Wright said, "I'm going to be reaching out to the community and explaining what the 500 Festival offers the state of Indiana. I'm going to be speaking to elementary schools and youth groups as well."

The princesses will promote 500 Festival Week, May 21-28, including events such as 500 Festival Kid's Day, 500 Festival Community Day, and the 500 Festival Parade. They participated in orientation in February, learning about the culture and history of the Indianapolis 500, and will travel there for events throughout March and April.

"It's just an overall great experience," Wright said. "I'm meeting girls from all over Indiana, getting information from behind the scenes of the Indy 500, and learning what it means to the state of Indiana."

A business administration major, Wright is treasurer of Colleges against Cancer and a member of Speaking Eagles, USI's student chapter of Toastmasters. She is a graduate of Central High School.

Schafer, a graduate of LaPorte High School in LaPorte, Indiana, saw the princess application in the Office of Student Development programs, where she works with the AMIGO program. The nursing major also is a student ambassador and a resident assistant on the Nursing and Health Professions floor in Ruston Hall.

"I'm really excited about it because I've always been open to meeting new people," she said.

One of the 33 princesses will be selected as the 2006 500 Festival Queen and receive a \$2,500 scholarship. The queen will be crowned May 20 during the 500 Festival Mayors Breakfast at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

For more information about the 500 Festival, go to www.500festival.com.

Distinguished Scholar Lecture

Nancy Tuana, director of the Rock Ethics Institute and

Dupont Class of 1949 professor of philosophy and women's studies at The Pennsylvania State University, will deliver the College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Scholar Lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 16, in Carter Hall in the University Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

In "The Women's Health Movement and Epistemologies of Ignorance," Tuana argues through the example of the women's health movement that "epistemologies of ignorance" are a crucial addition to traditional theories of knowledge.

Epistemologies of ignorance are processes, strategies and norms that produce and maintain ignorance.

"Feminist theorists who have looked at science have asked, 'Whose knowledge?' and the flip side of that is looking at what we don't know, theorizing ignorance as more than a simple gap in knowledge. Sometimes ignorance is cultivated," Tuana said.

In her paper, Tuana explores how feminist health activists uncovered the ways women's bodies had been ignored; examined knowledge that had been withheld from women and certain groups of men; reclaimed knowledge that had been denied or suppressed; and developed new knowledge freed from the confines of traditional frameworks.

"One of the key issues is to uncover knowledge and look at women's bodies and women's health, and what kind of forces keep that knowledge hidden," Tuana said. "You can't just identify facts; you look at what kinds of institutions keep those facts."

While at USI, Tuana also will present a student lecture, "Consuming Male Bodies: Advertising and the Sexual Sell" at 10 a.m. Friday, March 17, in Couch Renner Hall (Room 1101) in the Science and Education Center. In a multi-media presentation, she will demonstrate how the use of erotically displayed male bodies has recently moved into the U.S. advertising scene. The lecture is free and open to students, faculty, and staff.

Tuana's research and teaching specialties include science studies (especially issues in science and ethics), feminist philosophy and feminist theory, and environmental ethics.

Her books include *Feminist Interpretations of Plato* (Penn State Press); *Feminism and Philosophy: Essential Readings in Theory, Reinterpretation and Application* (Westview Press); *Engendering Rationalities* (SUNY Press); *Feminism and Science* (Indiana University Press); *The Less Noble Sex: Scientific, Religious, and Philosophical Conceptions of Woman's Nature* (Indiana University Press); *Revealing Male Bodies* (Indiana University Press); *Women and the History of Philosophy* (Paragon House); and *Race and Epistemologies of Ignorance* (SUNY Press).

She served as co-editor of *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy* and is currently series editor of the Penn State Press series *Re-Reading the Canon*. Tuana also is a co-editor of the feminist entries for the online Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy.

Tuana received her Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California, where she specialized in philosophy of science and wrote her dissertation on the work of William V.O. Quine.

For more information, contact **Maurice Hamington**, assistant professor of philosophy, at 812/464-1722.

Teleconference hosted at USI

USI will host a broadcast of the National Hospice Foundation's 2006 teleconference, "Pain at the End of Life: Bridging the Gap between Knowledge and Practice," from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, in Room 1027 in the Health Professions Center.

At the conclusion of the teleconference, participants should be able to describe four types of barriers (ethical, policy, psycho-spiritual, and educational) to effective pain control at the end-of-life and note ways to eliminate or minimize these barriers; discuss ethical issues such as double effect and terminal sedation and indicate the ways that these issues influence pain control; describe strategies for assessing pain at the end-of-life in varied populations including adults, children and persons with developmental disabilities and/or dementia; describe current and prospective strategies for the management of pain; and discuss the roles of physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains and clergy, hospice volunteers, pharmacists, families and patients in managing pain at the end-of-life.

Panelists for the program will include Yvette Colón, MSW, ACSW, BCD, American Pain Foundation; Kenneth J. Doka, PhD, Mdiv, College of New Rochelle; W. A. Drew Edmondson, Attorney General of Oklahoma; Kathleen M. Foley, MD, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; Kelli Gershon, RN, University of Texas MD, Anderson Cancer Center; William M. Lamers, Jr., MD, Hospice Foundation of America; Brad Stuart, MD, Sutter VNA and Hospice; Douglas J. Weschules, PharmD, BCPS, excelleRx, Inc. The program will be moderated by Frank Sesno, professor of public policy and communication at George Mason University and special correspondent with CNN.

There is no charge to attend, but there is a \$25 recording charge for those who want Continuing Education credits. Indiana Continuing Education has approved credits for licensed social workers (3 hours), registered nurses (3.4 hours), and funeral directors (3 hours).

For more information or to register, call USI Extended Services at 812/464-1989.

"The Day of the Dead"

The International Interdisciplinary Colloquium moves to Latin America this year with "The Day of the Dead: Ceremonies of Passage," on Tuesday, October 31, 2006, the first day of the worldwide Day of the Dead festival.

Pat Aakhus, instructor in English and director of International Studies, is project director for the colloquia. "We want to share experiences of global culture with the USI community and the Tri-state community, so we're looking at our cultural inheritance from different parts of the world," she said.

The colloquium is attended by approximately 2,500-3,000 students, faculty, and staff; high school students from throughout the Tri-state; and members of the community.

"We started out with one of the cradles of civilization, Athens, Greece, and then our inheritance from the Middle East in Mesopotamia. Now we're going to Latin America, and in the future we'll move to Asia."

"The Day of the Dead" will be the third annual International Studies colloquium. Past colloquia included "The Parthenon Project" in 2004 and "The Ram in the Thicket" in 2005. Faculty members present a series of 20-minute presentations from a variety of cultural perspectives, including art history, sociology, psychology, anthropology, and literature, as well as creative medias such as original poetry, literary essays and visual art.

"A subject doesn't have to be approached in just one way; we

can tap the richness of a subject by approaching it from different perspectives," Aakhus said. "Students get an interdisciplinary approach to learning, and faculty get to learn from each other."

The Day of the Dead is richly celebrated in Latin America, but the festival also is observed in other parts of the world. About half of the presentations will focus on Latin American culture. Examples from other cultures include The Tibetan Book of the Dead, Day of the Dead traditions in Ireland and Rome, and a discussion of "voodoo death" and the neuroscience of fear.

Aakhus said that though the colloquium will examine the culture of death, it's not morbid. "It's about celebrations and ceremonies of death, the idea of the spirit and return, and what different cultures have in common there," she said.

She said it's appropriate that the Day of the Dead colloquium be held on Halloween.

"The rituals of Halloween that we celebrate have their origin in ancient Day of the Dead ceremonies: the Roman Lemuralia; Samhain, from Ireland, Britain and France; and All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day in the Christian tradition. What they all have in common is reverence for the dead - in some cases an invitation to the departed spirits of family to visit, in other cases efforts to ward off unfriendly spirits. It's about boundaries, hospitality, and the idea that there is life after death."

The colloquium is sponsored by International Studies and funded through a grant by the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence.

Quad County Development Commission

The Southwestern Indiana Regional Development Commission (SWIRDC) is now known as Quad County Development Commission (QCDC), to recognize the four counties it serves: Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh, and Warrick.

Director **Nancy L. Burns** said the change also is intended to eliminate confusion with other organizations. "People tend to mistake us for an economic development agency, and that is not what we do," she said.

QCDC's services to the four counties include ordinance codification, research, grant preparation and administration, technical assistance for local governments, assisting with identification of state and federal programs for local economic development and natural resource conservation activities, Brownfield identification, and end-use planning.

Its affiliation with USI allows QCDC to collaborate with a variety of experts in many areas. "We work closely with communities to provide assistance at a nominal cost," Burns said. "QCDC partners with other organizations on projects beneficial to the quad-county area."

In addition to the name change, QCDC has relocated from its former location in the Orr Center to Room 114 in the Administrative Services Annex North. Phone numbers will remain the same, but the new fax number is 812/465-5275.

For more information, call Burns at 812/465-7067.

Names in the news

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to Margaret Skoglund, associate professor of art, whose mother, Ruth Skoglund, died on Friday, March 3. Services were held on Wednesday, March 8 at Benson Funeral Home in Chicago.

Welcome

Julie Brauser has accepted a position as training consultant in Extended Services. She was formerly employed as a telecommunications specialist at United Companies.

Bryan Morrison has accepted a position as manager of environmental health and safety in distribution services. He was formerly employed as safety and environmental manager at the University of Evansville.

Ellie M. Wright has accepted a position as admission counselor in the Office of Admission. She was formerly employed as an insurance clerk at Crick and Fife, LLP.

FYI

USI Alumni Association will tour the "Treasures of Italy" this fall

Tour the "Treasures of Italy" with the USI Alumni Association this fall. The trip, set for September 22-30, 2006, is available to alumni, families, and friends.

"Treasures of Italy" includes round-trip transatlantic air transportation to Rome; four nights' first-class accommodations in Chianciano, Tuscany, and three nights in Fiuggi, near Rome; Buffet breakfast daily; and other amenities.

The trip allows participants to custom design their own week so they can experience the exciting excursions along with fellow members of the group, or explore on their own.

From Chianciano, participants can tour the splendor of Tuscany, including the medieval cities of Siena and Pienza; Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance and a treasure trove of architectural and artistic gems, including Michelangelo's David at the Academy of Fine Arts; and Assisi, with the infamous Basilica of St. Francis.

There will be excursions from Fiuggi to the "Eternal City" of Rome, with monuments to its illustrious past at every turn, and to the legendary archeological site of Pompeii.

The "Treasures of Italy" tour, booked through Go Next (formerly Global Holidays), will depart from several locations, including Evansville, Indianapolis, St. Louis, and Chicago, among others. Cost from Evansville is \$1,899 per person, double occupancy, plus taxes.

For more information, call Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/464-1924. To make a reservation, call Go Next at 800/842-9023 or go to www.gonext.com. Space is limited.

Reservations required for graduates

Students who wish to take part in Commencement exercises will be required to make a reservation in order to participate this year.

Due to fire marshal regulations, the Office of Special Events must now have an accurate count of the number of graduate participants expected at Roberts Stadium.

Commencement exercises will be held Saturday, May 6, 2006.

To make a reservation, degree candidates can call 812/464-1930 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Students will receive email confirmation of reservations.

Commencement questions can be referred to the Office of Special Events at 812/464-1930.

Relay for Life USI

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is a fun-filled overnight activity that mobilizes communities across the country

to celebrate survivorship, remember those who lost their lives to cancer, and raise money for the fight against cancer. Start time is 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 25 at the Physical Activities Center. Registration is \$10. For more information contact Julia Krampe at 812/424-8281.

CERT training course

The new CERT training course will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:45 to 6:15 p.m., on March 20, 22, 27, 29, April 3, 5, 12, 17, and 19.

CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. Those who completed the training course offered in December can give you more information about what the course is like, or you can visit www.citizenincorps.gov/cert/.

For more enroll contact Linda Cleek at 812/464-1932.

USI Family Fund accepting gifts of support for Walker

The USI Foundation has reactivated the USI Family Fund in order to accept gifts of support for colleague and library associate Gina Walker, who is undergoing chemotherapy treatments for colon cancer. She has exhausted her paid-leave days and has exceptional need. Currently she is only able to work part-time.

Friends and colleagues who want to assist Walker with her medical expenses may make a contribution to the USI Foundation/USI Family Fund, with a memo indicating it is for Gina Walker. The entire amount will be made available to assist her. Please note that gifts to the USI Family Fund are not tax-deductible charitable gifts for income tax purposes and no receipts will be issued.

Contributions should be delivered to the Office of Business Affairs, WA 102 in the Wright Administration Building. For more information, contact the USI Foundation at 812/465-1658.

To cancel your print subscription to *University Notes*, contact Brandi Schwartz at 812/465-1192 or blschwartz@usi.edu.