



# NEWS RELEASE

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Speakers at USI this week

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**Ms. Katie Koestner**, a young woman who received national attention as a victim of date rape while a freshman at the College of William and Mary, will focus her keynote address, "No-Yes", on communication between the sexes and taking responsibility for one's behavior when she speaks at 7:30 p.m. in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center at USI on Wednesday, October 23.

Koestner plans to discuss her personal experience with date rape, including the campus hearing and post-rape encounters with college administrators, police, health care officials, parents, friends, the media, and Congress. She will cover current facts about rape, prevalence and relationship to drugs and alcohol, and offer suggestions for prevention.

A 1994 graduate of William and Mary, Koestner earned degrees in Public Policy and Women's Studies, magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. She travels the country speaking at more than 250 schools in 30 states with a goal of making as much of an impact as possible while she is still young enough to be a "peer".

Earlier on Wednesday the HBO movie, *No Visible Bruises: The Katie Koestner Story*, will be shown at USI at 2 p.m. in L-100 of Rice Library, followed by a training session for USI resident assistants and peer educators on how to help someone who has been assaulted. The training will include a discussion of ways to reach students on the issue of sexual assault and cover programs currently in use on other colleges campuses in the United States.

NOTE: Mrs. Koestner can be available at 11 a.m. Wednesday morning, October 23 for interviews. Please call Kathy Funke, 465-7050 to arrange details.

The public is invited to hear **Dr. Charles F. Petranek**, professor of sociology, deliver a lecture on his world trip, "Lessons from around the world" for the Distinguished Professor Lecture series scheduled in a community forum at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 24 in Forum I in the Wright Administration Building at USI.

Dr. Petranek and his wife Diana traveled over 30,000 miles on an around-the-world trip visiting 10 countries in 47 days last fall. The trip included stops in Greece, India, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, Bali, New Zealand, and Australia. An ardent believer in experiential learning, that is learning by doing, Dr. Petranek finds the trip to be a useful reference in the classroom. The trip affirmed his philosophy of experiential learning. He said, "Books are good and bring you to a certain point. Pictures help. But neither can bring the smells, the motion, and the pace that comes to all your senses by being there."

Dr. Petranek was selected National City Bank Distinguished Professor by his USI colleagues in 1995, but was unable to deliver the lecture last academic year because of the world trip.