

# University Notes

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## Dashboard Confessional ticket prices will not change for USI community

Ticket prices for the SpringFest Dashboard Confessional concert Saturday night at the Physical Activities Center will remain the same for USI students, faculty, staff, and alumni. SpringFest 2008 starts tonight and continues through Saturday.

Previously, it was reported that advance ticket sales for USI employees and students would end Thursday, but a decision was made by organizers to keep the price the same for all but the general public.

Tickets are \$20 for USI employees and alumni and \$10 for USI students. The ticket price for the general public increased today from \$25 to \$40.

Purchase tickets in the Career Services office (Room 095) in the lower level of the Orr Center or call 812/465-1136. Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted.

If tickets remain on Saturday, the day of the concert, they will be sold at the Physical Activities Center. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Opening act Five Times August will play at 6:45 p.m. and Dashboard Confessional will take the stage at 7:45 p.m.

All other activities, including a carnival, USIdol, and Battle of the Bands, will take place in the Valley Lot (Lot K).

Carnival rides will be free for USI students, employees and their families, and alumni. Carnival ride tickets for the general public are \$1.50 each; 10 tickets for \$13; or a \$16 armband for unlimited rides both days.

The Battle of the Bands from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. each night will include 4-Seamer, Slick Nicholas, and Blind Image tonight, and Farewell to February, TGL, and Naked on Saturday. The Battle of the Bands is free to all.

The USIdol semifinals will be held at 6 p.m. tonight on the outdoor stage. Nine contestants will be whittled down to three finalists who will perform at 5 p.m. Saturday, and a champion will be named.

SpringFest 2008 is sponsored by the Student Government Association and Activities Programming Board. For more information, contact **Tim Buecher**, director of Career Counseling, at 812/465-1136.

## Distinguished Professor Award to Dr. Sherry Darrell

Colleagues chose **Dr. Sherry Darrell** to receive the 2008 Integra Bank Distinguished Professor award. The announcement was made at the College of Liberal Arts Honors program on April 12. Darrell, professor of English and director of Humanities, will receive the award during the 2008 Commencement ceremony in May. The award recognizes significant achievement in teaching, leadership, and service.

Among faculty, it is common knowledge that Darrell thinks going to class is far and away the best part of her job. According to a colleague, her daily goal is "to engage minds and help them become excited about great writing and great literature."

She has a love of the English language and literature, especially Shakespeare and the Greek tragedies. A fellow faculty member said, "Dr. Darrell has a gift for enabling her students to see connections between their own lives and the human condition displayed by central characters in great works."

Darrell, who has taught at USI for over 30 years, has demonstrated a lasting impact on alumni. One former student said the rigors of her expectations can push students to "places they did not believe themselves capable of going." In support of her nomination for this award, another alumnus wrote, "Dr. Darrell believed in me, taught me, encouraged me, opened doors for me, and she did all of that because of who she is: a master teacher, a friend, a colleague, and a lover of learning."

She has edited books, journals, and other publications, is the author of a number of published papers, and has presented papers at regional and national conferences. She is the founding sponsor of the Indiana Iota chapter of Alpha Chi national academic honor society.

Darrell has been director of Humanities for four years and has influenced curriculum, faculty development, planning, and assessment.

Her community service revolves around church and cultural nonprofit organizations such as the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus, Ohio River Writers' Conference, and YWCA discussions in literature. As an adult Sunday school teacher at Trinity United Methodist Church, she presents readings in literature, biblical scholarship, and world religions. She has served as a committee member and writer for the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, the Health Ministries Committee, and the administrative board.

She earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree and the Master of Arts degree at George Peabody College for Teachers. Her undergraduate degree is from McMurry College.

As Distinguished Professor, Darrell will receive a grant from Integra Bank, select a student to receive a scholarship in her name next year, deliver the Distinguished Professor lecture during the next academic year, and deliver the address at the fall Commencement in December 2008.

## Berger Award given to Maggie Felton for community service

**Margaret Felton**, instructor in psychology, is this year's recipient of the Sydney L. and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award acknowledging distinguished community service among USI faculty members.

The award winner is selected by the USI Faculty and Academic Affairs committee. It was announced during the Honors Program for the College of Liberal Arts. The recipient is given a plaque and a stipend.

Felton has volunteered at Cedar Hall Elementary School every week for the past 10 years, teaching classes in child development to young parents in Cedar Hall's Even Start Family Literacy Program. The program integrates early childhood education, adult literacy, parenting education, and interactive parent and child literacy activities for low-income families.

**Emma Jean Couture**, coordinator of Cedar Hall Even Start, said, "She is lovingly referred to by our parents as the 'Brain Lady.' Maggie builds brain models with our parents to assist in instruction about brain development, the parts of the brain that control various behaviors, and the importance of parent-child interactions in the early years."

Her impact on the parents goes beyond teaching them about child development. "Maggie's relationship with the parents and her respect for their life situations offer parents a new perspective. Parents get a sense of what classes are like at a higher education level, and some aspire to attend college as a result," Couture said.

Felton also commits time and energy to programs for young women. As a member of the Girl Culture Steering Committee, she was instrumental in bringing Lauren Greenfield's "Girl Culture" photography exhibition on young women and body image to the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science; helped bring Greenfield herself to USI; and arranged for USI students to serve as docents for the exhibition.

She has worked with the Girl Scouts of Raintree Council on several projects, including a service learning project with USI students exploring the effect of media on young girls.

**Dr. Julie Evey**, assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said, "Maggie Felton uses her knowledge and compassion to better this community. Not only does she devote her own time and expertise to important causes, she has literally involved hundreds of students in such endeavors."

Felton joined the University in 1998. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Villanova University and a master's degree in clinical psychology and post-masters specialist degree in psychology from the University of Evansville.

The Sydney and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award is made possible by the Bergers' son Charles and his wife Leslie.

## Communications, *Courier & Press* announce internship program

**Dr. Wayne Rinks**, chair of the Communications Department, and **Mizell Stewart III**, editor of the *Evansville Courier & Press*, announced a partnership this semester that provides regular internships for USI students at the daily newspaper. "This is a terrific opportunity for our journalism students to get some real-world experience with a quality publication," Rinks said.

The program was developed through a collaborative effort between the *Courier & Press*, Communications, and Career Services and Placement.

"The *Courier & Press* and USI have a long-standing relationship," said **Pam Doerter**, career coordinator for the College of Liberal Arts in Career Services. "Over the past 10 years, the University has placed 17 students in internships at the newspaper." With this new partnership, two students will intern with the newspaper each fall and spring semester.

The first two students selected for the program were junior **Sabria Dughaiash** and sophomore **Lindsey Ziliak**. Dughaiash works in the sports department and Ziliak, features.

"We're excited to be able to establish this partnership with the University of Southern Indiana," Stewart said. "The first students who have come through the program this semester have been outstanding and we look forward to maintaining and enhancing our working relationship so that we can really put students to work before graduation, giving them practical experience in the field."

Student interns are expected to work 20 hours per week for the newspaper. Their duties include writing, copy editing, online journalism, and design and layout. The students receive dual benefits

from the program: they enhance their journalistic skill, and they are rewarded with a scholarship equivalent to 15 hours of tuition reimbursement.

## Nominations sought for Rhodes Scholarship

Do you know a truly outstanding student who is about to complete his or her junior year at USI? If so, please alert that student the opportunity to become USI's nominee for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. A single USI student will be selected to apply for this highly competitive national scholarship in fall 2008. The scholarship supports up to two years graduate study at Oxford University after completion of the undergraduate degree.

**Dr. Adrian Gentle**, faculty mentor (and assistant professor of mathematics), said, "The Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest and most prestigious international fellowship. This is a fantastic opportunity for a bright, articulate student with demonstrated leadership potential."

Selection criteria include intellectual and academic distinction; demonstrated integrity; interest in and respect for others; leadership abilities; and high energy and aspirations. Prospective scholars must be academically gifted and active on campus and/or in the community.

The internal deadline for applications is Friday, April 25, 2008. Prospective nominees must submit a letter of interest, resume/CV, and two letters of recommendation to Gentle at [apgentle@usi.edu](mailto:apgentle@usi.edu). For more information, go to Academic Affairs' Nationally Competitive Scholarships page, under international study fellowships.

## Names in the news

### Welcome

**Susan Blue** has accepted a position as senior library assistant in the David L. Rice Library. She holds a bachelor's degree in history of the arts from the University of Kentucky. Blue was formerly employed as an interpreter at Historic New Harmony.

### Accomplishments

College of Business Computer Science major **James Gosnell**, Boonville, Indiana, received the second highest score (among 52 students) on the Institute for the Certification of Computer Professionals (ICCP) Associate Computer Professional (ACP) examination at this year's National Collegiate Conference. Computer Information Systems major **Ryan Greenlee**, Lynnville, Indiana, also passed the test. Both students now hold ACP designation, a credential that substantiates their level of computing knowledge and offers proof of that knowledge for potential employers.

Also, Computer Science major **Jason Nichols** and **Casey Cambron** received an honorable mention in the Application Development contest, in which 53 teams participated. Other CIS and CS majors who attended the conference were **Chad Barbre**, **Anthony Flamion**, **Danielle Knowles**, **Matt Lee**, and **Josh Sacket**. A total of 562 students, faculty, and professionals, with 74 colleges and universities represented, were at the conference.

**Ernie Nolan**, assistant professor of Computer Information Systems, and **Dr. Marvin Albin**, professor of Computer Information Systems, served as coaches for the students and accompanied them to this event.

**Ray Simmons**, sports information director, participated in an informative panel at the "Go for the Gold Workshop." The workshop provided information to girls and women interested in pursuing careers relating to sports and was sponsored by Youth First in

conjunction with the Girl Scouts.

## FYI

### Spring Faculty Meeting will be held April 21

The Faculty Senate's annual Spring Faculty Meeting will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, April 21, in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center. All full-time and part-time faculty are invited to attend. The meeting will include a summary of Faculty Senate activities completed and pending for the academic year; an announcement of Faculty Senate membership and Senate Committee membership for the 2008-2009 academic year; announcement of Senate membership; nominations for the at-large senate seat; and submission of committee charges for the 2008-2009 academic year. For more information, contact **Christy Baker**, president of the Faculty Senate, at 812/465-7116.

### Spring concert will kick off Chamber Choir tour of Ireland

The USI Women's Choir, Chamber Choir, and Rowan Tree, an Irish traditional group (featuring **Dan Craig**, director of music), will perform a spring concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 27, at Old North United Methodist Church, 4201 Stringtown Road. The concert is free and open to the public. The concert will open with the Women's Choir singing a selection of sacred and secular pieces, including Aaron Rosenthal's "Voices of Terezin," inspired by three poems written by survivors of the Terezin concentration camp. The Chamber Choir and Rowan Tree will perform early sacred music and Irish traditional music for choir and instruments. The performance will kick off the group's eight-day concert tour to Ireland, during which they will perform in Dingle, Ennistymon, and at the Galway Early Music Festival.

### USI hosts Geological Society of America meeting

USI's Pott College of Science and Engineering and the Indiana Geological Survey are sponsoring the 2008 meeting of North-Central Section of the Geological Society of America April 24-25. The meeting will include at least 11 field trips, including two to New Harmony, Indiana. There also will be a session addressing the legacy of New Harmony at the conference facility at Casino Aztar in downtown Evansville. Four hundred geologists from the region - which includes Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, and portions of Canada - are expected to attend. The keynote speaker is William DiMichele, a paleontologist with the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History. He will discuss a fossilized rainforest discovered in a coal mine near Danville, Illinois, in 2007.

### Travel policy addition

Several airlines have adopted a policy that requires the passenger to pay a \$25 fee to check a second piece of luggage. The University considers this expense to be personal, and therefore, not eligible for reimbursement unless:

The business period of the trip is greater than one week.

There are presentation/exhibition materials the traveler needs to transport.

USI travel policy can be found at [www.usi.edu/busoff/travel/policy2.asp](http://www.usi.edu/busoff/travel/policy2.asp).

### Student Alumni Association hosts 19th annual Breakfast with the President

The 19th annual Breakfast with the President will be held from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. Thursday, May 1, in Carter Hall in the University

Center. This annual tradition, created by the Student Alumni Association, brings students together with the president as well as with members of the administration and faculty.

All students, faculty, staff, and alumni are invited to gather for this informal breakfast with **President H. Ray Hoops**. Breakfast is free to all students who attend. A panel of six USI students will ask Hoops a series of questions about the University and campus policies. This year's panel will include a representative from each of the following organizations: Student Government Association, Activities Programming Board, Emerging Leaders Living Learning Community, Black Student Union, Alpha Kappa Psi, and Student Housing Association.

Students with a valid Eagle Access Card may pick up a free ticket at the Student Development Office, located in the lower level of the University Center. Others may call 812/465-1215 to make reservations for the breakfast. Tickets are \$6 for non-students. Reservations are required. For more information, contact **Lisa Schaefer**, assistant director of Alumni and Volunteer Services, at 812/465-1215.

### RopeWalk Reading on Thursday features two poets

Two Louisville poets, **Nickole Brown** and **Dr. Lynnell Edwards**, take the RopeWalk Reading Series podium on Thursday, April 24. Brown's debut collection of poetry, *Sister*, was published by Red Hen Press in 2007. A poet and fiction writer, she has given a number of readings, including events in the early '90s with Garrison Keillor at New York's Waldorf Astoria and with Gregory Corso and Allen Ginsberg at New York University. Edwards is the author of two collections of poetry, both from Red Hen Press: *The Highwayman's Wife* (2007) and *The Farmer's Daughter* (2003). She is the recipient of a 2007 Al Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council. This final reading in the spring 2008 RopeWalk Reading Series begins at 5 p.m. in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Center.

### USI Day at Churchill Downs is June 21

The Greater Louisville USI Alumni Chapter invites you and your family and friends to join them for a perfect view of the finish line at USI Day at Churchill Downs on Saturday, June 21 in Louisville. Gates open for the Stephen Foster Stakes at 11:30 a.m.; post time is 1:15 p.m. Cost is \$31 for adults, \$22 for children ages 12 to 4, and children ages 3 and under are free. Price includes admission, reserved seating in Millionaires Row-Level 4, lunch buffet, USI souvenir, race program, and tax and gratuity. A round-trip motor coach from USI will be offered for an additional \$20 per person. To make reservations, email [alumni@usi.edu](mailto:alumni@usi.edu) before May 15 to receive advance tickets by mail. For more information, call Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/464-1928.