

**For immediate release
News from the University of Southern Indiana**

New employees hired at USI

Nancy Aguinaga has accepted a position as assistant professor in teacher education in the Bower-Surheinrich College of Education and Human Services. She holds a doctorate degree from the University of Central Florida. She is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children. Aguinaga was formerly a graduate research assistant at the University of Central Florida.

Allen Helmstetter has accepted a position as instructor in English in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a doctorate degree in English literature from the University of North Dakota. He is a member of the Modern Language Association and Pi Lambda Theta. Helmstetter was formerly a general education instructor at Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

Audrey Hillyer has accepted a position as instructor in English in the College of Liberal Arts. She holds a Master of Arts degree from DePaul University. Hillyer was formerly an adjunct English instructor at Wilbur Wright College.

Young Kim has accepted a position as instructor in economics and finance in the College of Business. He holds a doctorate degree from the University of Missouri Columbia. He is on the advisory board of the Department of Treasury and the Korean stock exchange. Kim was formerly an associate professor at Hansei University in South Korea.

Mary Beth Reese has accepted a position as instructor in communication studies in the College of Liberal Arts. She holds a Master of Business Administration degree from USI. She is a member of the Posey County Red Cross. Reese was formerly the director of Corporate Communication at Vectren/SIGECO.

Mary Ann Shifflet has accepted a position as instructor in economics in the College of Business. She holds a doctorate degree from Virginia Tech. Shifflet was formerly the director of statistics at Spencer Research.

Rex Strange has accepted a position as assistant professor of biology in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a doctorate degree in biology from the University of Alabama. He is a member of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Indiana Academy of Science, International Association of Great Lakes Researchers, and Society for the Study of Evolution. Strange was formerly a research associate at University of Toledo. He graduated from USI in 1992.

Michael Strezewski has accepted a position as assistant professor of anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a doctorate degree from Indiana University Bloomington. He is a member of the Society for American Archaeology and Midwest Archaeological Conference, and a board member of the Indiana Archeological Council and Friends of Angel Mounds. Strezewski was formerly a post-doctoral research assistant at IUPUI Fort Wayne.

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Nikki Combs has accepted a position as instructor in psychology in the College of Liberal Arts. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology. She is a member of several organizations including the Vanderburgh County Southwestern Indiana Network for Education, Evansville Literacy Coalition, and Psi Chi. Combs was formerly an adjunct faculty member at Ivy Tech Evansville.

James Hammerstrand has accepted a position as instructor in Spanish in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a Master of Arts degree from Purdue University. He won the Pickins-Queen award for outstanding teaching and is a member of Faculty and Course Development in International Studies and Modern Language Association. Hammerstrand was formerly a visiting assistant professor at the University of Evansville.

Mari Hopper has accepted a position as associate professor in biology in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. She holds a doctorate degree in physiology from Kansas State University. She is the recipient of the Starfish and National Institution for Staff and Organizational Development awards. Hopper was formerly an associate professor at Palo Alto College.

Tracy Kinner has accepted a position as instructor in nursing in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree from USI. Kinner was formerly a nurse practitioner at Saint Mary's.

Rob Millard-Mendez has accepted a position as assistant professor of art in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. He was named in Who's Who Among America's Teachers in 2006 and has won a variety of art exhibit awards. His memberships include the College Art Association, International Sculpture Center, New England Sculpture Center, New England Sculptor's Association, and American Craft Council. Millard-Mendes was formerly a full-time lecturer in foundations at Northeastern University.

Seungjin Park has accepted a position as assistant professor of management in the College of Business. He holds a doctorate degree from Oregon State University. Park was formerly an assistant professor at Merrimack College.

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Vella Goebel has accepted a position as assistant professor in teacher education in the Bower-Surheinrich College of Education and Human Services. She holds a doctorate degree from the University of Louisville and a Master of Arts degree and Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Evansville. She was named Teacher of the Year in 2000 by the *Evansville Courier and Press* and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Delta Kappa. Goebel was formerly an English teacher at Evansville Signature School.

Matthew Holcomb has accepted a position as lecturer in psychology in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a Master of Clinical Psychology degree from Mississippi State University. He is a member of the South Eastern Psychological Association and the Mississippi Psychological Association. Holcomb was formerly employed at Mississippi State University Meridian.

Jeanne Melton has accepted a position as instructor in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Health Administration degree from USI and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University. Melton was formerly the executive director of AIDS Resource Group of Evansville.

Jill Raisor has accepted a position as instructor in teacher education in the Bower-Surheinrich College of Education and Human Services. She is vice president of the Evansville Area Early Childhood Association and a member of several organizations including the National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Council for the Social Studies, and Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children. She holds a Master of Curriculum and Instruction degree from Indiana University. Raisor was formerly a first grade teacher at Holy Rosary Catholic School.

Connie Swenty has accepted a position as instructor in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Clarkson College. Swenty was formerly a wound nurse at Phelps County Regional Medical Center.

Kenneth Walsh has accepted a position as assistant professor of chemistry in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a doctorate degree in chemistry from the University of Bristol. Walsh was formerly a visiting assistant professor at the University of the South.

Carrie Wright has accepted a position as instructor in geology in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. She was the recipient of the Graduate Student Excellence Award at Wright State University in 2006 and is a member of Geological Society of America, National Association of Geoscience Teachers, and American Institute of Professional Geologists. She holds a Master of Science in Teaching degree from Wright State University and a Master of Science degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Miami University. Wright was formerly a geology instructor at Sinclair Community College.

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Lorie Manion has accepted a position as instructor in education in the Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services. She holds a master's degree from Indiana Wesleyan. Manion was formerly a first grade and reading recovery teacher at Cedar Hall Elementary.

Mark McKnight has accepted a position as assistant professor in business communication in the College of Business. He holds a doctorate degree in Workforce Education and Development from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, a Master of Science degree in Corporate and Professional Communication from Radford University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Virginia Tech. McKnight was formerly an instructor in workforce education at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Yalcin Sarol has accepted a position as assistant professor in mathematics in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a doctorate degree and Master of Science degree from Purdue University. Sarol was formerly a post-doctoral assistant at Iowa State University.

Katherine Sauer has accepted a position as assistant professor of economics in the College of Business. She holds a doctorate degree from the University of Colorado Boulder. Sauer was formerly a lead graduate teacher and instructor of economics at the University of Colorado Boulder.

John Stenerson has been named assistant professor in mathematics in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a doctorate degree from the University of Kentucky. Stenerson was formerly a computer programmer at MacKichan Software/TCI Software Research in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

9/11/06

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W. Everett Chesnut has accepted a position as instructor in English in the College of Liberal Arts. Chesnut holds a doctorate degree in philosophy from the University of Oklahoma and was formerly a professor of English at Reedley College.

Edward Conrad has accepted a position as instructor in management in the College of Business. He holds a Master in Business Administration degree from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Conrad was formerly the COO, CIO, and CFO of National Marketing Specialists in Arlington, Texas.

Khaled Elkhail has accepted a position as assistant professor of finance in the College of Business. Elkhail holds a doctorate degree in business administration from Louisiana Tech University and was formerly an assistant professor at the University of Texas at Brownsville.

Carlton Hastings has accepted a position as instructor in sociology in the college of Liberal Arts. Hastings holds a Master of Arts degree in sociology from Northern Illinois University and was formerly an instructor at Dalton State College.

Kimberly Hite has accepted a position as dental assisting program director in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Education degree from USI. Hite was formerly a dental hygienist/assistant at Morton Family Dentistry.

Jeremiah John has accepted a position as instructor in political science in the College of Liberal Arts. John holds a Master of Arts degree from the University of Notre Dame where he was formerly a teaching assistant.

Uisoon Kwon has accepted a position as instructor in political science in the College of Liberal Arts. Kwon holds a doctorate degree in political science from Western Michigan University where he was formerly a part-time instructor.

Russell Lohse has accepted a position as assistant professor of history in the College of Liberal Arts. Lohse holds a doctorate degree in history from the University of Texas at Austin and was formerly a visiting assistant professor at Saint Louis University.

C. Bryan Love has accepted a position as instructor in English in the College of Liberal Arts. He holds a doctorate degree from the University of Maryland. Love was formerly an in-house editor at Bruccoli Clark Layman, Incorporated.

Marie Palladino has accepted a position as advisor and recruitment coordinator in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Evansville. She is a member of American Academy of Professional Coders and Capitol Area Roundtable-Informatics in Nursing Group. She was formerly partner and vice president of information services at Evolutions.

Mamunur Rashid has accepted a position as assistant professor of engineering in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. Rashid holds a doctorate degree in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Utah where he was formerly adjunct faculty.