

Synapse

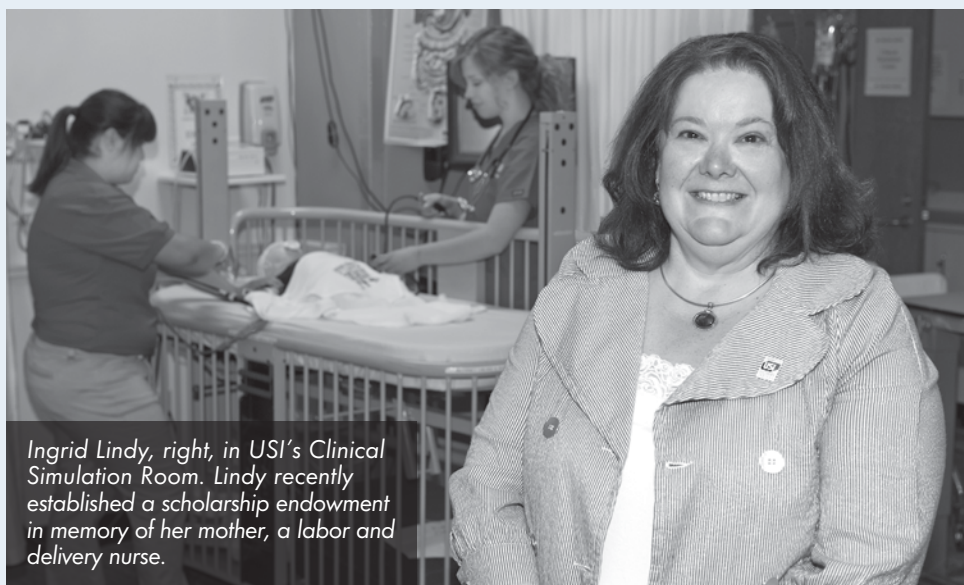
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Giving Back

Donors support next generation of students

USI faculty, staff, and students have all benefited in some way from their relationship with the University. Some of those, for varied reasons, and through the kindness of their hearts, are finding ways to give back.

The stories of generosity are inspiring, as donors help to create opportunities for the next generation of students in the College of Nursing and Health Professions.



Ingrid Lindy, right, in USI's Clinical Simulation Room. Lindy recently established a scholarship endowment in memory of her mother, a labor and delivery nurse.

Mother, Nurse, Inspiration

When **Ingrid Lindy's** mother passed away last year, she and her siblings decided that they wanted to find a way to remember their mother—something more than the traditional funeral flowers and gifts. “Those things don’t last,” says Lindy, manager of human resource information systems at USI.

In her memory, the family established the Patricia A. Schmidt Memorial Nursing Scholarship Endowment, a living tribute to **Patricia Schmidt**, who was a mother, a nurse, and an inspiration to her family.

Schmidt was a labor and delivery nurse at Gibson General Hospital for several years before taking a break from her vocation to raise a family. She returned to work when her youngest daughter, one of seven children, was born. When she was 46, she suffered a massive heart attack. Although she was unable to return to work, Schmidt went on to live a full and rewarding life to the age of 81.

“Nursing and medicine have come so far,” says Lindy. “Modern medicine let us have our mother for another 36 years, which is amazing. We thought this endowment was the perfect way to pay tribute to our mother.”

Once the endowment reaches \$12,000, a \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually for a nursing student. “We’re about a quarter of the

way there, which is really exciting,” says Lindy. “We’re getting there much quicker than I thought we would, and within the next year, we may have it entirely funded.”

In addition to family donations, the endowment has seen contributions from their mother’s estate, her high school class, siblings’ employers and in-laws.

Lindy hopes the scholarship will benefit a Gibson County student, and she plans for it to be a need-based award. “I have six brothers and a sister, and our parents put us all through college. We know there are people with great financial need.”

Once the scholarship is fully funded, Lindy and her siblings plan to start an engineering scholarship endowment at USI, in memory of their father.

For Love of Career

“You have to really love your profession and that’s what I do,” says **Dr. Martin Reed**, director of USI’s Radiology Program. “I love my profession. I love to work for people, help people, and challenge myself as much as possible. So, what the profession’s given me for more than 40 years, I’d like to give back to students and, hopefully, they’ll have that love, too.”

This year, Reed established the Martin A. Reed Radiology Scholarship Endowment to provide scholarships to students majoring in radiologic technology. He hopes to have it fully funded by

the time he retires in the next five years.

Reed has held his position with USI since 1997 and has been a radiology director since 1992. Before that, he served as an administrator at Eastern Illinois University for more than 20 years. He was inspired by scholarships he saw others establish, and liked the idea of creating a lasting legacy through an endowed scholarship.

“We have scholarships that are based on academics. I’d like to see this be less about grade point average and more about communication and good patient care,” he says. “I have the next five years to build the endowment and, hopefully, others will contribute as well.”

Educating Beyond Retirement

Even though he prepared for it, **Robert Hooper's** retirement from USI felt abrupt after 29 years with the University.

“I can’t say enough about USI,” he says. “It’s an institution that has grown, but still kept that community feel. When you’ve taught at an institution like this, there’s so much you’ve received beyond the monetary. You feel like part of a community of learning and you want to keep that feeling alive.”

Hooper and his wife Sharon found a way to stay connected and continue to influence education by establishing the Robert and Sharon Hooper Respiratory Therapy Award to help offset the cost

Dean's Notes



Inaction is not an option

While trying to catch up on my reading, I found an article titled "Inaction is Not an Option." That phrase really resonated with me as the College of Nursing and Health Professions is about to embark on a new journey. By June 2012, the second dean in the history of the College will be selected. In the meantime, we continue to move forward with several initiatives including:

- Continuing to provide quality educational programs.
- Continuing to develop and implement interprofessional learning opportunities for students. These team building experiences prepare our graduates to serve effectively as they enter the work environment.
- Providing health care services at the USI Glenwood Community Health Center. The Center is a collaborative project with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, St. Mary's Medical Center, and the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions. The clinic is rich in opportunities for the College and the entire University to make a difference in our community.
- Continuing to offer international experiences for faculty and students. Exposure to cultures and health care systems outside of our own broaden everyone's perspective.
- Submitting several grant proposals focused on expanding our clinical simulation, informatics, and gerontology initiatives.

Faculty, staff, and students have embraced these initiatives. We have seen excellence in teaching by all faculty including **Joy Cook**, assistant professor of radiologic technology and imaging science, who received the 2011 Outstanding Teaching by a New Faculty Member award from the USI Foundation.

Faculty continue to publish in professional journals, and to present papers at professional conferences. We also strive for further recognition of faculty. **Dr. Maria Shirey** and **Dr. Beth Bonham** received a grant to implement strategies to support junior faculty scholarship. Students also are involved in conducting research, submitting manuscripts for publications and abstracts for presentations. We have students representing USI on committees for several state student organizations and we recently had a student represent the College on the USI Student Government Association.

College faculty, in conjunction with the USI Foundation, is active in supporting scholarships for students enrolled in our College programs. The lead story in this issue of Synapse shares some of these scholarship efforts. The dedication and support of faculty and donors to our College is greatly appreciated.

For the College of Nursing and Health Professions inaction is not an option. We continue to move forward and embrace this new journey.

Ann White

Dr. Ann H. White
Interim Dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Giving Back

continued from page 1

of credentialing review exams for respiratory therapy students. Those costs can run as high as \$250 or more.

The award is given to two students each year—one selected based on grade point average and the other on financial need. The Hoopers began putting money into the fund in 2010, after Robert's retirement, and have encouraged others to donate as well. The first awards were made in 2011.

Promoting Compassion

Joy and John Cook lost their daughter, **Ava Marie Cook**, before she was born. While the event was traumatizing, the couple was struck by the level of care and compassion exhibited by those they encountered at the hospital.

Last year, while sitting in the Honors Day Program at USI, Joy, assistant professor of radiologic and imaging sciences, came up with the idea of establishing the Ava Marie Cook Memorial Scholarship for students who demonstrate care and respect for their patients.

The scholarship criteria say that "student should have a desire and passion to offer comfort and

professional care to patients and their families. Recipient should embody the principles of compassion in their daily clinical practice and exemplify it most when taking care of patients."

"The staff that took care of us that day were graduates of USI," says Cook. "Their ability and the patient care they exhibited was part of the reason we chose the criteria we did for this scholarship."

The Cooks contribute to the scholarship on a regular basis as well as accepting donations from friends and family. This April, the first three scholarships for diagnostic medical sonography and radiological technology students will be awarded totaling \$700. In the coming years, the scholarships will vary in number and amount based on the size of the scholarship fund.

Support for Peers

When the radiology class of 2011 found themselves with a lot of remaining money from their class fundraiser, they decided to establish the Radiology Student Alumni Scholarship to benefit a first-year radiology student.

In the past, classes had donated funds to various

organizations, but these students wanted to give back to other students. Scholarships were already in place based on grade point average and financial need and the class wanted to find a different set of criteria for awarding the scholarship.

"Ultimately, the scholarship became a 'most valuable peer award,' focusing on the impact that the students can have in each other's lives," said **Deborah Schmuck**, senior administrative assistant for Alumni and Volunteer Services.

Nominations are reviewed by a faculty advisor and the second-year class. The scholarship is awarded based on criteria, including the demonstration of enthusiasm and commitment to helping others and playing a supporting role within a peer group.

The scholarship will be awarded annually until the funds run out. However, the class hopes that future classes, as well as other donors, will contribute to the fund and make the scholarship available well into the future.

The first recipient was recognized at the April 3 College of Nursing and Health Professions Honors Convocation.

Doctor of nursing practice receives accreditation

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program was recently awarded initial accreditation, retroactive to April 2011, by the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The accreditation is the first for a doctoral program at USI. The DNP program received accreditation with no contingencies for a period of five years—the longest amount of time allowed for a first-time accreditation.

Students admitted to the DNP program select from two areas of study concentration: advanced practice and organizational and systems leadership. The program prepares experts in advanced nursing with emphasis placed on innovative,

evidence-based practice and research. The curriculum includes a minimum of 36 required DNP credit hours beyond the master's degree for a total of 78 credit hours.

The DNP program had its on-campus site visit in April 2011. Three representatives from the CCNE spent two and a half days talking to stakeholders, including students, faculty, administration, library staff, and service partners. A self-study was submitted six weeks before the visit.

The first DNP class to graduate, in May 2011, are recognized as graduates of a CCNE-accredited DNP program.



The first class to graduate from the DNP program received degrees in May 2011.

Grad student finds meaning in work on Chicago streets

Chicago-based graduate student, **Simona Hofman**, is enrolled in the distance education Master of Science in Nursing program. She is studying to be a family nurse practitioner and expects to graduate in July 2012. While working to fulfill her weekly clinical hours, she began assisting her clinical supervisor at a homeless shelter in downtown Chicago. The following is Simona's reflection on that work.

"This is my last semester prior to graduation. In order to fulfill my weekly clinical hours, I'm spending up to 13 hours a week in a primary care physician setting. For three hours each week, I work alongside a mobile healthcare team providing free care to the homeless in downtown Chicago. My clinical supervisor, **Dr. Victoria Purchit Lacuesta**, has been part of this program for more than five years, and her dedication and compassion for the less fortunate have been very inspiring to me. I join her every Wednesday night to care for the poor, while using my skills and knowledge acquired throughout my studies.

We go to LaSalle Street Church which has an outreach program called Breaking Bread. Every Wednesday night, volunteers serve a delicious restaurant-style dinner (with real plates and silverware), live music, free clothing, food, health services, and referrals, to more than 75 homeless people. Some come from shelters, like Pacific Garden Mission, to enjoy the hospitable atmosphere and free care, but most of them live on the streets and here they find encouragement.

We perform modified physicals and address acute care needs and chronic care management. We treat high blood pressure, respiratory infections, and colds. We monitor diabetic patients, perform wound care, and refer them to free



Simona Hofman, left, and clinical supervisor, Dr. Victoria Purchit Lacuesta, work regularly with the homeless in Chicago.

clinics or county clinics, where they can receive eyeglasses; x-rays, if needed; or dental care, for procedures which need further treatment in an inpatient setting.

We also give medication on the spot for high blood pressure, colds, and pain. They also have access to vitamins, inhalers, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. We strongly recommend that they come back on Wednesdays for another checkup, and let them know that we serve walk-ins on a first-come, first-served basis. No one is dismissed,

and we always find time for them, even if it's for a blood pressure check, or simply for prayers, which are comforting to all. They know that my clinical supervisor cares about them, and I care about them, too.

My work with the homeless not only positively impacts the needy (giving them care and attention when they normally face rejection), but it also gives me insight into how I can be involved and assist them in their needs. I can offer my humble knowledge and a caring, nonjudgmental heart."

Nursing

Online graduate program ranks high

The University of Southern Indiana online graduate degree nursing program was ranked 15th in the categories of Admissions Selectivity and Faculty Credentials and Training, in the 2012 *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. The program also ranked 25th for Student Engagement and Accreditation and 71st for Student Services and Technology. It's overall ranking was 127th out of more than 500 online graduate nursing programs.

Award reflects students' work with Deaconess Heart Hospital

A new program co-developed by Deaconess Gateway Heart Hospital and USI College of Nursing and Health Professions students was instrumental in the Heart Hospital's recent Health Care Excel honor for its participation in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Care Transitions project. The project, covered in the spring 2011 issue of *Synapse*, helped to improve patient coordination throughout their care.

Evansville was one of 14 communities nationwide selected for a pilot care-transitions program using a model developed by **Dr. Eric Coleman** to ensure a patient's successful transition to self-management at home.

Students and faculty earn Innovation Award

Dr. Maria Shirey, along with eight Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students, recently were awarded the first *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing (JCEN)* Innovation Award for their work on a manuscript titled "Showcasing Differences Between Quality Improvement, Evidence-Based Practice, and Research," published in February 2011.

The award is based on a review of journal articles published between January 1, 2011 and June 30, 2011, and recognizes "excellence in writing and evidence of the expansion and/or dissemination of knowledge in the field of nursing continuing education and professional development."

"It is exciting to share this honor with our DNP students," said Shirey.

DNP student co-authors included **Sheila L. Hauck, Jennifer L. Embree, Tracy J. Kinner, Gina L. Schaar, Lori A. Phillips, Shelley R. Ashby, Constance F. Swenty, and Isabella A. McCool.**

Institute for Alcohol and Drug Studies moves to USI

The 29th annual Institute for Alcohol and Drug Studies (IADS), formerly offered at the University of Evansville, has moved to the University of Southern Indiana.

IADS will continue to focus on current, effective alcohol and drug treatment and prevention. The two-day, inter-professional conference will provide practical tools and ground-breaking information related to successful intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment.

The Institute will take place May 17-18, in the USI Health Professions Center and University Center.

Food and Nutrition

Nutrition undergrad is published

Senior dietetics major **Jill Merkel** of Evansville recently had articles published in *Weight Management (WM)* quarterly newsletter and *Sports, Cardiovascular and Wellness Nutrition (SCAN)* quarterly newsletter.

For the SCAN newsletter, Merkel summarized a sports nutrition research article at the invitation of a research digest editor she met in the Food and Nutrition Department at the University of Utah, while on a school trip last summer.

"It was a wonderful opportunity," said Merkel. "After looking at past newsletters, I realized most people who contribute are graduate students, researchers, or professors. It was a great feeling of accomplishment when I saw my summary published alongside a graduate student and two master's-level dietitians."

The WM article was for the Student's Corner section on the topic of sports nutrition and how the field is growing. "It was a fun opportunity to share my love for sports nutrition with other students and provide them with advice on what steps to take to become a sports dietitian," said Merkel.

Merkel earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Indiana University in 2008.

Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center



Friona

Executive Director

Jane Friona, M.H.S.A.,

has been named the executive director of the Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center (SWI-AHEC). She was most recently grant writer and special projects coordinator in the Division of Outreach and Engagement at USI. SWI-AHEC is hosted by the College of Nursing and Health Professions.



Patterson

Academic Outreach Coordinator

Kersedia L. Patterson,

academic outreach coordinator with SWI-AHEC, previously served as developmental disabilities coordinator/utilization management team member for the State of North Carolina and as director of operations and director of community-based services for agencies serving individuals diagnosed with mental health and/or developmental disability concerns.



Dr. Stephen Becker, dean of the IU School of Medicine in Evansville, offers 49 family nurse practitioner students a session on evaluating orthopedic injuries and determining the best choice of imaging exams. The session marked the first time that a speaker from the IU School of Medicine-Evansville, located on the third floor of the Health Professions Center, spoke to USI nursing students. Becker's efforts promote interprofessional education.



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Conference to probe secrets of aging

What's the secret to a long life? How is aging approached in other cultures? These questions and many more will be addressed during the fifth annual Mid-America Institute on Aging to be held August 9-10 in the University Center.

The conference, sponsored by the College of Nursing and Health Professions, is a two-day multi-disciplinary conference for nurses, social workers, older adults, lay persons, and professionals working in the field of gerontology. National and local speakers will provide practical tools and ground-breaking information related to successful aging and gerontology.



Moss

Dr. Margaret P. Moss will deliver the keynote address, "American Indian Aging and Unintended Consequences" and a concurrent session, "Ethnography of Aging-Zuni Elders." Moss is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation. She is the first and only American Indian to hold both nursing and juris doctorates. Her main area of interest is American Indian aging.



Martin

Dr. Leslie Martin, coauthor of the book, *The Longevity Project*, will discuss "The Longevity Project: Surprising Discoveries for Health and Long Life from the Landmark Eight-Decade Study," as well as a concurrent session, "Running for Their Lives: Physical Activity and Longevity." She is a health psychologist and has studied pathways to health and longevity for the past 20 years. She received her PhD from the University of California and is currently chair of the Department of Psychology at La Sierra University in Riverside. In addition to her research on pathways to health and longevity, she studies clinician-patient communication and its relationship to patient outcomes.



Kind

Viki Kind is a clinical bioethicist, hospice volunteer, and the author of the award-winning book, *The Caregiver's Path to Compassionate Decision Making: Making Choices for Those Who Can't*. Her presentation is "Tools to Empower Caregivers Who Are Making the Difficult Decisions," and concurrent session, "Facilitating Difficult Conversations—Getting Through the Barriers." She is an honorary board member of the Well Spouse Association and has been a caregiver for many years for four members of her family.



Winakur

Dr. Jerald Winakur will present the closing conference, "Portrait of My Father: Ethical Caregiving in Aging America." Using the techniques of the medical narrative, he will discuss the demographic and ethical challenges our society faces—particularly caregivers—as our country ages. Winakur has practiced internal and geriatric medicine for 36 years. He is a clinical professor of medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and an associate faculty member at the center for medical humanities and ethics where he teaches in the care curriculum.

Other conference topics include long-distance care giving; integration of primary care with geriatrics and community-based social services; Social Security and estate planning; services for the visually impaired; motivational interviewing, and other topics of interest.

For speaker times, registration, and costs, contact USI Outreach and Engagement at 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600, or visit health.usi.edu/maia2012.

Help strengthen the College of Nursing and Health Professions

Your gift to the College of Nursing and Health Professions strengthens programs and provides support for students and faculty.

Apply my gift in the following way.

(You may choose more than one.)

- College of Nursing and Health Professions (where the need is greatest)
- Dental Assisting/Dental Hygiene programs
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Food and Nutrition program
- Nursing programs
- Health Services/Administration programs
- Occupational Therapy programs
- Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
- Respiratory Therapy program
- Nursing Alumni Scholarship
- Other (Specify _____)

Amount: \$ _____

Method of Payment:

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 - Enclosed is my matching gift form.
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Electronic checking, savings, and credit card deductions are available at www.usi.edu/onlinegiving.

Make your tax-deductible check payable to: USI Foundation, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712

A contribution of \$25 or more to any USI Foundation fund makes graduates active members of the USI Alumni Association.

Clip form and mail in envelope



German faculty to visit USI campus in April

From April 9-19, the College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) welcomed two visiting faculty scholars from the University of Osnabrueck in Germany.

Both faculty members are from the research university's Division of Nursing Science. The visit was arranged by **Dr. Kevin Valadares**, associate professor of health services/administration at USI during a November trip with graduate health administration students to Evansville's sister city of Osnabrueck.

Nadin Duthorn has been a lecturer in nursing education and curricular development at the University of Osnabrueck since 2007. Her research is focused on educational theories and professional development in nursing education and nursing competences in Europe.



Duthorn

Manual Zimansky has been a lecturer in the Division of Nursing Science at Osnabrueck since 2010. His research is centered on professionalization of nursing in an international comparison, and nursing science in the context of long-time care.



Zimansky

During their 10-day stay, they will present research finding, exchange research interests and experiences, guest lecture in several

departments, and promote study abroad and greater collaboration between the two universities and sister cities. In addition, Duthorn and Zimansky will participate as presenters at the CNHP Research Conference on April 11, participate during the Doctor of Nursing Practice intensives, and meet with Evansville community leaders.

"This is something we want to keep doing and something we have a lot of support for," said Valadares. "It's good to invite faculty to come here for a short amount of time and interact with our USI community. It's my hope that this will be part of an ongoing relationship and, at some point, we may have our faculty spend time over there as well."

USI dean emerita receives national and state awards



Coudret

Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean emerita of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, was presented one of the top awards in geriatric education from the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education at the group's annual meeting and conference in February, in Arlington, Virginia.

Dr. Coudret received the Administrative Leadership Award for her exceptional efforts in support of gerontology and geriatrics education. She served as dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions from 1988 to 2012.

State Award

The Indiana State Nurses Association (ISNA) recently conferred the Honorary Recognition Award to Coudret for her distinguished service to the Association and to the profession. She has been a long-time member of ISNA and has served in many positions, including ISNA President from 1983-1985.

A release from the ISNA said that "Dr. Coudret has influenced the education of nurses and other health professionals with her vision to provide quality educational programs, and she has served as an influential health care leader. Her career in nursing and nursing education is testament to her distinguished service to the nursing profession."

Honors project leads student to develop sports beverage

Sports and sports nutrition have always been both a hobby and a passion for **Andres Ayesta**, a native of Caracas Venezuela, majoring in dietetics at USI. Over the past two years, his passion has led to innovation as he nears completion of a multi-year project to create a sports nutrition supplement.

Ayesta transferred to USI in 2009 on a scholarship through the Study America Program and plans to graduate this May. While at USI, he began an honors project under the direction of **Dr. Juan Gonzalez** and **Dr. Bolivar Cevallos**, adjunct instructors in food and nutrition, as part of the food science course he was taking. Gonzalez and Cevallos also are employed with Mead Johnson and worked with Ayesta to find the resources he needed.

During the spring 2011 semester, Ayesta focused on the formulation of a whey-based sports beverage, completed research, and submitted a draft proposal.

"This project has been a challenge," says Ayesta. "But the knowledge I've acquired is invaluable. It's an experience that has changed my life."

During the summer of 2011, he was hired by Mead Johnson. The position was not related to his project, but did allow him access to people and resources that helped him.

"The collaboration between Mead Johnson Nutritionals and USI has been responsible for a lot of student innovation and success," says Ayesta. "I'm thankful to both for what they've allowed me to accomplish."

After completing the proposal portion of his project, Ayesta asked to continue his work.



Dr. Bolivar Cevallos, center, adjunct faculty in food and nutrition at USI and an employee of Mead Johnson Nutrition, works with Andres Ayesta, right, during a Principles of Food Science course.

"I wanted to actually make the product," he said. During the fall 2011 semester, he formulated the product and by December, had obtained a prototype and began testing it. He recently presented his findings for a nutrition course with **Dr. Julie McCullough** as part of ongoing work for his honors project.

Ayesta submitted his product to the Dairy Research Institute's New Product Innovation Competition. Three winners will compete at the national level in July.

He is applying for summer internships and plans to enter a graduate program in the fall. "Ultimately, I'd like to be a sports registered dietitian and work with athletes," he says.

Appointments

Mary K. Arvin, director and chair of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, has served as a faculty member in the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program since 2009. She previously practiced occupational therapy in hospitals, school systems, home health, and outpatient orthopedics.



Arvin

Roxanne Beckham, informatics instructor in the graduate nursing program, also is a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at USI, where her capstone area of interest is informatics and system design. She previously worked at Southwestern Healthcare as chief administrative officer for 11 years.



Beckham

Dr. Mary Cheatham, assistant professor in food and nutrition, previously taught nutrition at Western Kentucky University and Campbellsville University. She has also worked as a clinical dietitian in public health departments, hospitals, nursing homes, and private practice.



Cheatham



Delp

Jody Delp, instructor and director of clinical education for respiratory therapy, was previously a clinical simulation lab coordinator at USI. She has been employed as a respiratory therapist at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville for 16 years.

Susan Maier Hammock, instructor in nursing, has clinical experience in mental health case management and clinical psychiatric nursing practice for an Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment (IDDT) team for homeless and near homeless persons in two counties in North Carolina.



Hammock



Herman

Pam Herman, instructor in nursing, previously worked at St. Mary's Medical Center as a staff development specialist since 2009. She has been employed at St. Mary's for 30 years working in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit, Surgical Intensive Care Unit, and the Out Patient Cardiac Cath/PV Lab.

Sheri Kipling, instructor in dental assisting/dental hygiene, was previously employed with Henderson Community College as a dental assisting/dental hygiene instructor.



Kipling



Nunning

Jennifer R. Nunning, instructor and fieldwork coordinator for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, has been employed as an occupational therapist at Vibrant Home Health Care for four years and in the home health field in general for eight years.

Katherine R. Peak, instructor of diagnostic medical sonography and radiologic imaging sciences, was previously an adjunct faculty member for diagnostic medical sonography. She has been employed at St. Mary's Medical Center for the past 21 years and was previously the technical director of the vascular lab at Evansville Surgical Associates.



Peak



Smith

Robin E. Smith, instructor in nursing, was previously an adjunct faculty member at USI in mental health nursing, care of the elders, and community nursing. She has been employed at St. Mary's Medical Center on the pediatric/PICU unit for 10 years.

Joy A. Cook, assistant professor and clinical coordinator in radiologic technology, recently received the USI Foundation Outstanding Teaching by a New Faculty Member award. The award recognizes a faculty member who has been with the University less than six years. She received a \$1,000 cash stipend and a faculty development grant of \$1,000.

Dr. Maria Shirey, associate professor of nursing, is the author of "Nurse Manager Cognitive Decision-Making Amidst Stress and Work Complexity," to be published in July 2012, in the *Journal of Nursing Management*. The journal editors also plan an early advance online release.

Dr. Colleen Walsh, assistant professor of nursing, was recently elected secretary of the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses. She begins her three-year term in May at the annual meeting in New Orleans.

ALUMNI NOTES

Kelly Almously '08, will graduate in May with an MAE Student Affairs in Higher Education Certificate in International Student Services. She also is continuing her study of Arabic and Chinese with the goal of a career in international education and study abroad. Almously currently works in the Honors College at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky. She earned bachelor's degrees in health services and biology from USI.

Georgia Smith '12 DNP, dean of the School of Nursing and associate professor at Ivy Tech Community College, Madison and Lawrenceburg campuses, recently saw her program earn the Indiana Career and Technical Education Program Award for Excellence sponsored by the Indiana Department of Education.

"I attribute a large part of the progress I have made in my current position to the education and mentorship I have gained through my time at USI," said Smith, a 2012 graduate of USI's Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Darius Rowser '11, has been working as a health educator/telehealth coach with WebMd Health Services since July 2011.

"Our main focus at WebMd is to push behavior change with participants by giving them accurate health advice and setting realistic goals," said Rowser.

Rowser earned a bachelor's degree in health services, with a concentration in administration at USI.

Nursing and Health Professions Continuing Education

Workshops and Conferences

Continuing Education for the Faith Community Nurse, **April 21**
18th Annual Case Management Conference, **May 10**
14th Annual Advanced Practice Nursing Symposium, **May 11**
29th Annual Institute for Alcohol and Drug Studies, **May 17-18**
5th Annual Mid-America Institute on Aging, **August 9-10**
9th Annual Pharmacology for Advanced Practice Nurses,
September 28
Dental Ethics and Legal Issues, **September 29**
Tri-State Healthcare Information Technology Conference, **October 11**
16th Annual Nursing and Health Professions Educator Conference,
October 17
Healing Touch Workshop: Level 1 and 2, **October 20-21**
PEP Rally: A Perinatal Conference, **October 24**
Foundations of Faith Community Nursing
Part 1: Online, **September 28-November 2**
Part 2: Retreat, **November 7-9**

Customized programs: For programs tailored to meet the specific needs of your organization, contact Peggy Graul, coordinator of Continuing Education, College of Nursing and Health Professions, University of Southern Indiana, pgraul@usi.edu or 812/465-1161.

Certificate Programs (Internet-delivered instruction)

All certificate programs offered twice annually, except Anticoagulation Therapy offered five times annually.

Wound Management, eight weeks, begins **April 16, September 24**
Anticoagulation Therapy Management, eight weeks, begins **May 21, July 16, and October 1**
Hypertension, eight weeks, begins **July 30**
Pain Management, eight weeks, **August 6**
Diabetes Management, eight weeks, **August 13**
Oncology Management, eight weeks, begins **August 20**
Case Management, eight weeks, begins **August 20**
Clinical Simulation, four weeks, **September 10**
Lipid Management, eight weeks, **September 10**
TeleHealth for Home Health, four weeks, **September 10**
Alzheimer's Disease Management, eight weeks, **September 17**
Health Promotion and Worksite Wellness, ten weeks, **September 17**
Parish Nursing, six weeks, begins **September 17**
Stroke (New for 2012), eight weeks, **September 17**
Heart Failure Management, eight weeks, **September 24**
Anticoagulation Patient Self-Testing, three weeks, continuous independent study

Registration information: health.usi.edu or 812/465-1148