

LAStory

Newsletter of the College of Liberal Arts

McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries opens to public



Faculty, students, dignitaries, and members of the community gathered to dedicate the Kenneth P. McCutchan Art Center/Palmina F. and Stephen S. Pace Galleries, an addition to the Liberal Arts Center, in September. The event included a ribbon-cutting ceremony, tours, a book-signing by artist Stephen S. Pace, and a documentary about the Paces. The inaugural exhibition featured work from USI's McCutchan and Pace art collections.

This spring, after many years at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, the annual Senior Seminar Exhibition will be held on the USI campus. Featuring the work of 39 seniors, the exhibition will be held for the first time in the McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries from January 20 to March 18. An opening reception for the artists will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, January 25.

Construction of the McCutchan Art Center is due in large part to a generous gift from Kenneth P. McCutchan, who died in 2002. A portion of a \$1.5 million gift from the Paces helped establish the galleries.

The McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 812/228-5006.



Powerful drama and family musical for USI Theatre spring season

The students, faculty, and staff in the Department of Performing Arts are looking ahead to the spring 2009 productions of *Master Harold and the Boys* and *Meet Me in St. Louis*.

Elliot Wasserman, chair of the Department of Performing Arts, said, "*Master Harold and the Boys* is a powerful drama that explores the pervasive power of racism in the relationship between a young white student and two black men in 1950s

South Africa. Their friendship is defined on both personal and social levels against the backdrop of apartheid, the formal government policy of segregation of the South African government." Wasserman will direct the play, by Nobel Prize-winning playwright Athol Fugard. It runs February 19–March 1 in the Mallette Studio Theatre.

Lenny Leibowitz's production of the charming, exuberant family musical,

Meet Me in St. Louis, with songs by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane and book by Hugh Wheeler, will complete the season. The musical is based on the 1944 movie starring Judy Garland, and features classic songs such as "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "The Trolley Song." It runs April 16–26 in the Mallette Studio Theatre.

Call the box office at 812/422-3970 for ticket prices and reservations.

Dean's Message

It's Official: Criminal Justice Studies major approved

Greetings from the Dean's Office. The ever-growing College of Liberal Arts recently received approval from the Indiana Commission for Higher Learning for our newest major. Yes, it's official. Beginning spring 2009 the College will offer Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in *Criminal Justice Studies*.

The program, housed in our Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and criminal justice studies, has been carefully designed to bring the highest educational experience and training for our students through a curriculum that blends courses in criminal justice, sociology, and political science. The combination of interdisciplinary coursework will provide students with an outstanding broad-based background that will maximize career opportunities in law enforcement, probations, community corrections, and private security, or for continuing graduate education in criminal justice, criminology, or law school.

The criminal justice studies major evolved from recommendations made by the USI President's Task Force on Workforce and Economic Development as well as high student demand. Its timely development coincides with a projected need for additional protective service professionals such as police and correctional officers

that is expected to grow by 10 percent during the next five years in southwestern Indiana. This is equivalent to an additional 1,080 job openings!

The excitement about our new criminal justice studies major has been incredible. In fact, several students have been taking the required curriculum during the past couple of years in anticipation of the state approving the program. These students have positioned themselves to be our first criminal justice studies graduates and will be eligible to walk across the stage and receive their diplomas during this May's Commencement exercises. Now that's good planning!

The development and offering of the new criminal justice studies major is another example of the College of Liberal Arts' dedication to excellence in education and responsiveness to the needs of our community. It is always a pleasure to share with you our ongoing achievements and progress.



Dr. David Glassman

Student media converge for 21st century coverage

USI's three student media outlets—*The Shield* student newspaper, 820 "The Edge" WSWI radio station, and Access USI, the student-produced television news program—are sharing content and converging talents and resources on new radio and television programs, as well as on the web. The convergence program addresses the multitude of skills today's communications professionals need. "Our students will need to know

about print, audio, and video, and this will give them that opportunity," said John Morris, instructor of radio/TV and WSWI general manager.

Erin Gibson, instructor of journalism and faculty advisor for *The Shield*, said, "We can't equip every student with every skill, but we can teach them the flexibility they will need. Print reporters are now armed with video and still cameras.

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College of Liberal Arts

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The LA Story logo was designed by USI graphic design student M. Eric Hill '03.



New faculty in the College of Liberal Arts



Kevin Allton has accepted a position as instructor in English. He holds a doctorate in creative writing from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Allton was employed as an instructor at Marietta College.



Karen Braselton has accepted a position as instructor in communications. She holds a doctorate in philosophy from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, a Master of Arts degree from Indiana State University, and a bachelor's degree from USI. Braselton was employed as an adjunct instructor at USI.

Michael Faber has accepted a position as instructor in political science. He holds a doctorate in political science from Indiana University. Faber was employed as an assistant professor at Millersburg University.



Gregory Justis has accepted a position as instructor in sociology, anthropology, and criminal justice studies. He holds a Master of Science degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University. Justis was employed as an instructor at Saint Catharine College.

Jill Kroeger Kinkade has accepted a position as instructor in English. She holds a Master of Arts degree in English from the University of Louisville and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Hunter College. Kinkade was employed as interim director at Patchwork Central Inc.



Yoon-Joo Lee has accepted a position as assistant professor of communications. Lee holds a doctorate in communications and information from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where she was employed as a graduate teaching and research associate.



Denise Lynn has accepted a position as assistant professor of history. She holds a doctorate in twentieth-century women's history and a Master of Arts from Binghamton University and a Bachelor of Arts from Lemoyne College. Lynn was employed as an instructor at Onondaga Community College and Columbia College.



Norma Rosas Mayen has accepted a position as assistant professor of Spanish. She holds a doctorate, a Master of Arts degree, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Purdue University. Mayer was employed as an assistant professor of Spanish at Saint John's University.



Garret Merriam has accepted a position as assistant professor of philosophy and political science. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California-Davis and a Master of Arts degree and a doctorate degree from Rice University. Merriam was employed as an assistant professor at Lonestar College.



Bascom Raulerson has accepted a position as instructor in psychology. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Armstrong Atlantic State University, a master's degree in

quantitative psychology from Illinois State University, and a doctorate from Saint Louis University.



J. Keith Saliba has accepted a position as assistant professor of communications. He holds a doctorate in mass communications, a Master of Arts degree in mass communications, and a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism from the University of Florida.



Joneen Schuster has accepted a position as assistant professor of psychology. She holds a doctorate and Master of Arts degree from Kent State University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Youngstown State University. Schuster was employed as a research fellow at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.



Robert Skinner has accepted a position as instructor in psychology. He holds a Master of Education degree and a Master of Psychology degree from the University of Evansville. Skinner was employed as a probation officer at Warrick Superior Court No. 1.



Stephen Spencer has accepted a position as chair of the Department of English and professor of English. He holds a doctorate from the University of Cincinnati and a Master of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Dayton. Spencer was employed as an associate dean of Academic Affairs at Wilmington College.

Doug Hubbell, “foundation” of USI theatre, retiring



For most of the 1980s, Dr. Douglas Hubbell, associate professor of theatre, was the theatre program at USI. Hubbell, who retires in June '09 after a spring sabbatical, has designed, built, directed, and performed in more than 100 USI productions in the past 28 years.

At a retirement reception in November, Elliot Wasserman, director of theatre, said, “Of the 211 plays that have been produced by USI since 1970, Doug has acted in or directed, designed, built, painted or otherwise had something to do with 124 of them. That’s almost 60 percent of them and includes the first 10 years of productions when he wasn’t even here.”

Some were at New Harmony Theatre, where Hubbell designed and performed in the first USI production (*Mass Appeal*) in 1988, and others at Lincoln

Amphitheatre, where USI presented summer theatre from 1989 to 2005. He has kept more than 20 intricately detailed scale models of his set designs. He plans to donate the models, along with technical drawings and prompt scripts, to the University Archives.

The depth of Hubbell’s experience in set design and construction is only exceeded by his knowledge of theatre history. When Wasserman interviewed for a position at USI in 1991, Steven Williford, former director of theatre, described Hubbell as “the most knowledgeable theatre historian he had ever known. There was simply no question you could ask him that he wouldn’t have an extensive answer to.”

Wasserman said, “Doug is a historian by education, but he can design sets and build models, illustrate programs, paint flats and drops, act, direct, and—in doing so—serve for years as the foundation of a program that will be forever in his debt.”

Hubbell grew up in Normal, Illinois, where he discovered a love of theatre in grade school. He earned a bachelor’s

degree in speech and theatre at the University of Iowa and a Master of Arts degree and Ph.D. in theatre at Indiana University. From 1968 to 1977, he taught at the University of Evansville. In 1980 he joined USI, where he was charged with resurrecting a dormant theatre program that had seen many directors come and go since it was established in 1970.

Keeping the USI theatre program running after a break in continuity is one of Hubbell’s proudest achievements, along with designing and performing in the first New Harmony Theatre production and helping develop the Humanities program in fall 1988. He’s seen the theatre program move from the Communications Department to the Department of Art, Music, and Theatre to the Department of Performing Arts. And in the last two years, he’s witnessed the birth of a program that has catapulted USI into an elite group of universities nationwide: the Repertory Project, which allows USI theatre students to perform with professional actors and earn points toward membership in Actors Equity Association.

Distinguished Professor Darrell retiring



Colleagues chose Dr. Sherry Darrell to receive the 2008 Integra Bank Distinguished Professor award. Darrell, professor of English and director of Humanities, received the

award during the 2008 Commencement ceremony in May. The award recognizes significant achievement in teaching, leadership, and service. Darrell is retiring in 2009 after 30 years with USI. She looks forward to a spring sabbatical in Greece, where she will refresh her ancient and modern Greek.

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.”

One former student said the rigors of Darrell’s 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.”

As Distinguished Professor, Darrell received a grant from Integra Bank, selected a student to receive a scholarship in her name, and delivered the Distinguished Professor lecture and fall 2008 Commencement address.

Graham and Dowhie: 2008 Artist and Arts Educator of the Year

The Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana acknowledged the accomplishments of two College of Liberal Arts faculty members in September, naming Matthew Graham, professor of English, Artist of the Year, and Lenny Dowhie, professor of art, Arts Educator of the Year.

Presenting Graham with the Artist of the Year award, Mary Jane Schenk, executive director of the Arts Council, said, "Matthew Graham is an exemplary poet who shares his own poetry, his knowledge of other poets' work, and his expertise in writing and publishing with his students, his colleagues, and the public."

Graham is the author of three books of poetry, *A World without End* (2007), *1946* (1991), and *New World Architecture* (1985). He is USI's director of Creative Writing, co-directs the RopeWalk Writers Retreat, and serves as poetry editor for the University's literary magazine, *Southern Indiana Review*.

His poems have been published in many anthologies and in *Harvard Magazine*, *Poetry Review*, *The Antioch Review*, and *The Missouri Review*, among others. His poem "Delicate" was read by Garrison Keillor on National Public Radio's "Writer's Almanac" and another, "Greta's Song" was read on NPR's "All Things Considered." Graham is the recipient of an Academy of American Poets Award, a Pushcart Prize, a Maryland State Arts Council First Book Award, two literary fellowships from the Indiana Arts



Lenny Dowhie and Matthew Graham

Commission, and a fellowship from the Vermont Arts Studio.

Presenting Dowhie with the Arts Educator of the Year Award, Schenk said, "Through Lenny's encouragement, his students participate in numerous local and regional art shows and competitions. He encourages and assists many in pursuing acceptance into graduate school programs. Lenny is a fantastic teacher and an accomplished artist, whose work is constantly undergoing change."

Dowhie's ceramics and drawings are represented in numerous national and international collections, including the Shigaraki Ceramics Cultural Park, Australian National University, American General Finance, and the

Smithsonian Institute of American Art, Renwick Gallery. Dowhie is a partner in Expressions of Culture, Inc., producers of International Exposition of Sculpture, Objects and Functional Art (SOFA) Chicago, Illinois; SOFA New York, New York; and SOFA Palm Beach, Florida. He is the recipient of numerous grants and awards. Since 1978, he has been a member of the National Council on Education of the Ceramic Arts.

Dr. David Glassman, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said, "The College of Liberal Arts is extremely proud of the accomplishments of Matthew and Lenny. They are master artists in their respective avenues of creative expression. It's wonderful that the Southwestern Indiana Arts Council chose to celebrate their work, an honor I believe well-deserved."

Student media coverage continued...

They have to tell stories in a different way. One of the most exciting aspects of the convergence of student media is that the students are going to learn from each other."

The first episode of the new radio show "Issues on the Edge" was a 30-minute interview with retiring USI

President H. Ray Hoops. Each media outlet posts video or audio of the interview on its web site, and *The Shield* staff reports on the interviews. "Impact USI" is a new television program in which a roundtable of student media from all three areas interview a USI newsmaker or discuss a campus issue.

"USI has strong opportunities in mass media for students and we are becoming stronger with these efforts," said David Black, assistant professor of broadcasting and faculty advisor for Access USI. "This is just the start of what should be a permanent working relationship between our student campus media."

Artist-in-Residence program leads to prestigious apprenticeship for student



The University community gathered for a lighting ceremony for the art installation in April.

An art installation by John David Mooney, an urban designer known for his large-scale public sculptures, beautified the USI Quad for a few weeks last spring. Mooney, artist-in-residence in the College of Liberal Arts in April 2008, chose senior art major Daryl Booth as project architect for the installation, a 1,740-foot spiral made of sawdust and hundreds of brightly-

hued flags that flapped in the breeze. Booth worked closely with Mooney, who offered him an internship.

For three weeks last summer, Booth lived and worked at the John David Mooney Foundation in Chicago. The internship provided him with hands-on experience in a professional artist's studio, free room and board, educational and



USI art major Daryl Booth, left, poses with artist John David Mooney.

cultural activities, and invaluable networking opportunities.

Booth graduated in December and will return to serve as an apprentice in Mooney's studio this spring. To view a photographic slideshow of the Mooney installation, go to www.usi.edu/newsinfo/photos/Mooneyart2008.

Ceramics moves into state-of-the-art facility

A new Ceramics Center is open for the spring 2009 semester. Located southeast of the Art Studio, the 3,310 square foot facility is equipped with 20 new pottery wheels and stools; glazing and clay mixing rooms, and a terrace providing outdoor work space, including room for a variety of kilns. Through a wall of windows, the Ceramics Center offers a view of Reflection Lake and the surrounding wooded area. "It's a great development," Lenny Dowhie, professor of art, said. "It will enable the students to do things they couldn't do before, and will give them more space and prepare them to do the things they need to know how to do, like kiln building." Dowhie instructs the students in kiln building every five years. He will offer the course, Kiln Design and Construction, within the next academic year.



Ceramics Center in later construction phase. The facility opens in January.

Election season motivates student and faculty involvement

Faculty in the College of Liberal Arts participated in the excitement generated by the 2008 presidential election with programs designed to encourage student involvement in the democratic process.

Dr. Leigh Anne Howard, associate professor of communication studies, organized an outdoor debate watch party, Debate-A-Palooza, on the night of the first presidential debate. Students were treated to live music and watched

the debate on two jumbo screens, breaking out into group discussions following the debate.

Dr. Ronda Priest, chair of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Studies, organized Vote USI, in which Liberal Arts faculty volunteered to drive students to the polls during the early voting period in Evansville.

The student media (*The Shield*, WSWI 820 AM, and Access USI) covered the

campaigns first-hand as Chelsea Clinton, Senator Barack Obama's foreign policy team, and Senator Hillary Clinton's healthcare team visited campus.

Political science professors were regularly called upon to comment on the election. In addition to providing analysis to media outlets throughout the campaign, Dr. Brian Posler and Dr. W.R. Mack analyzed returns on election night as experts for local television stations.

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Spring 2009 Calendar of Events

JANUARY 19

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Luncheon

JANUARY 20–MARCH 18

Senior Seminar Exhibition

JANUARY 25

Senior Seminar Exhibition Reception

JANUARY 28

Lincoln Symposium

JANUARY 29

RopeWalk Reading Series: Lee K. Abbott

JANUARY 31

Society for Arts and Humanities Toast to the Arts

FEBRUARY 17

One World Film Series: *Yesterday*
UCC Speaker Series: Dr. Kenneth R. Miller

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 1

USI Theatre presents *Master Harold and the Boys*

FEBRUARY 25

RopeWalk Reading Series: Molly Giles

MARCH 7–15

Travel Study Program: Peru

MARCH 9–13

Spring recess

MARCH 17

One World Film Series: *Irish Peace Process*

MARCH 22

Liberal Arts Honors Day

MARCH 28

39th Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition

APRIL 9

Vectren RISC Showcase

APRIL 14

RopeWalk Reading Series:
Norman Minnick

One World Film Series:
Nanking

APRIL 16–26

USI Theatre presents
Meet Me in St. Louis

MAY 10

Commencement

JUNE 7-13

RopeWalk Writers Retreat

LAStory

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Michael Aakhus

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